

NAVAL ORDER

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Fair Winds and Following Seas



LtCol John Stevens and his wife, Jody Stevens – Page 12



James D. Hornfischer (left) – Page 31
(with Companion RADM Tom Andrews, SC, USN (Ret.))



Senator John Warner – Page 28



Dr. J. Phillip London – Page 29

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THE NAVAL ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES

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Allan Cruz, Commander General

My fellow Companions,

As I see it, the Naval Order has three core missions. They are respectively: Promote, Preserve and Celebrate."

Promote

Promote supports our mission to preserve the history

of our sea services by keeping it alive for every generation. Promoting history increases public awareness of the battles, service, and sacrifices that are part of the nation's sea services. This was established at the founding of the Naval Order through a pledge "to promote by every proper means American commerce and navigation, with (the) requisite strength of the Naval Services."

Preserve

The founders of the Naval Order banded together as "survivors and descendants of participants of naval conflicts" for the express purpose of preserving the memories of those events and passing those memories to posterity. It was their desire to preserve "the illustrious deeds of the great naval commanders, their companion officers in arms, and their subordinates in the wars of the United States."

Celebrate

Celebrating the nation's naval history is a natural extension of our promoting and preserving objectives. We celebrate the deeds of our sea

services because we are a fraternal order.

We also celebrate to support the objective outlined in our constitution that "it is well and fitting that the illustrious deeds of the great commanders, their companion officers in arms, and their subordinates in the wars of the United States should be forever honored and respected." Through the establishment of annual events such as the Battle of Midway dinner or events that celebrate specific anniversaries such as the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812, we endeavor to keep naval history alive through the generations; we have done so since 1890.

A virtual Congress is now a tool that we can use regardless of the weather or the restrictions from a virus. We have had Companions attend from Hawaii to the Eastern Seaboard. We have already attended meetings, listened to speakers from across the country, toured a museum, and attended a change of command. Let us continue to explore the new technologies and find out what we can and can't do. We are only limited by our imagination.

Our second virtual Congress will be hosted by the Continental Commandery. Please look for more information in our fall newsletter and on our website.

We all have our personal stories to tell. Each of us can contribute the knowledge and memories from our own experiences in the maritime services to fulfill these mission objectives.

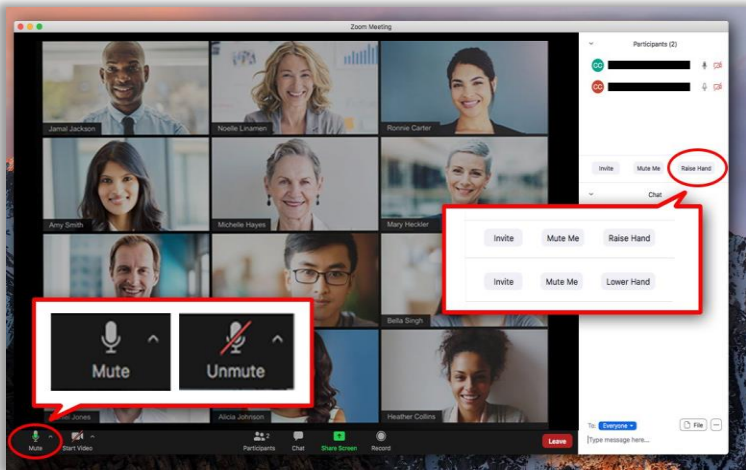
As we protect the past, let us remember to look to the future. Can we take advantage of the additional tools we use? What trends and changes do we see in our future?

What will the Naval Order of the United States look like when we are 150-years old? What will your commandery look like then?

Submitted by Allan F.P Cruz, MC (Ret.)

2021 CONGRESS PREVIEW

The 2021 Congress will be hosted by the Continental Commandery, the Naval Order's virtual, national Commandery, using collaboration software easily downloaded from the Internet. Training /practice sessions will be provided in the preceding months to familiarize Companions with the use of the collaboration software.



The events leading up to our 2021 Congress are important for all companions. They involve our various committee meetings and essential business of the Order. A timeline is provided for Pre-Congress activities; inputs and comments are still welcome.

Our Congress this year, will again, be held in a virtual environment. The Congress endeavors to deliver the same level of information on the business of the Order and educational opportunities as professional and rich as at past Congresses. The key to success is YOU.

Your participation in our advance training in mid-September and other test opportunities to make sure your equipment works prior to the Congress is critical. Please sign up! We have a sign up (registration) page, and those registering will receive a very nice 2021 Congress challenge coin (for the nominal fee),



but your commitment to your Commandery as soon as possible ensures that the virtual environment is sized, planned, and readied for the Congress.

Reading the business reports, which were posted prior to Congress 2021, and forwarding any comments or questions to the chairperson or to



nouscongress@outlook.com so that your questions could be addressed in advance, is most helpful.

Those reports will remain posted for two months after Congress in the same Dropbox. There will be some time to address questions during the Congress. However, when questions do arise, they will be forwarded to the emcee via chat on the Zoom conference. Questions will be answered as best as possible, and if needed, can be addressed at the next General Council meeting.

The Meeting URL for the survey for the Congress 2021 will be posted to the web site, navalorder.org throughout the Congress; the Zoom event code will have the same password.

If you do not have internet or computer access, please contact us at nouscongress@outlook.com or contact your Commandery Commander and we will do our best to accommodate your needs. A Kindle with all reports and briefs can be provided to Companions (on a limited basis). The Zoom event can be accessed from a computer or smartphone.

Follow the web site for up-to-date information. The tentative schedule is on page 26. More information will be in the Fall Newsletter.

Submitted by CAPT Aaron Bresnahan, USN (Ret.)

The Continental Commandery has been very busy during the past few months.

Our Virtual Lecture Series has continued with full force, and of special note, we were able to share insights from CDR John Breaux in April and Master Chief Hospital Corpsman Marc Hacala.

For more details about the status of America's war dead or missing in action during the 20th Century, please send a message to the Missing in Action (MIA) Recovery web site at miarecoverynetwork.com.



For more information about Master Chief Hacala's historical commentary and insights, please view his Sea Chest of videos about key moments in Naval History in You Tube at "Master Chief's Sea Chest."



Remember the Maine



Challenge Coins



U.S. Navy Personal Medals and Decorations



Commodore Perry and the Opening of Japan

The Continental Commandery had the pleasure to support the Michigan History Day program again this year.

Five wonderful projects were selected as best in class

representing the finest scholarship related to maritime history at the high school and junior high levels. Our sincerest congratulations are given to each entry. The following students received a \$100 award:

Senior Award: Maren Barfuss & Virginia Weykamp

Junior Award: Brent Wohlfield

Youth Award: Bodie Bencik & Malek Elshaarawy



Finally, I recently received a nice card from SKCM Larry Garofalo, USN (Ret.), currently based in Pisgah Forest, North Carolina. It is becoming increasingly rare to receive a hand-written note from anyone anymore. Therefore, I was extremely touched by the effort he took to share his thoughts about a small museum, The Veterans History Museum of the Carolinas, he supports in North Carolina, which is dedicated to highlighting the heroism and valor exhibited by Americans from World War I to the recent Gulf War. For the good of the Order, I wanted to share his message with all of you. He states:

"Captain Bresnahan, Thank you for your interest expressed in the May 21st email regarding our museum. A photo article of the operation would most certainly generate interest in the site while travelers are touring in the area. Along with a large National Forest (Pisgah), over 200 waterfalls and cascades (one 411 feet high, the tallest East of the Mississippi, and groves flowering rhododendron, mountain laurel, azaleas, etc.). there is a lot more to draw the attention of a visitor than a compact museum in the center of town.

Continued on next page...

I have conferred with the curator and Operations Manager regarding the article, which you generously suggested. They are very receptive. However, we have become almost overwhelmed at the museum. Groups of visitors and individuals are dropping off artifacts, documents, photos, etc. by 'the carload,' seemingly. We are straining to identify, age, describe and catalog them, while trying to run the program.

Tomorrow, we have a Quilts of Honor gathering, and next week a photo-journal session with Korean War and Vietnam War vets as guests. Then, there are 2 lectures by 'derring-do' former combat pilots, one for whom a book has been published by our publicist, Janis Allen, in conjunction with Michel Robertson.

Memorial Day, we will be holding a program on the green, in front of a monument to those who have served and perished over generations. At this juncture, I do not believe that a suitable, smoothly developed and edited article can be completed in time for the Commandery deadline. However (sic), it will be worked on, finished and forwarded for approval as soon as we can get the text, photos, any titles (etc.) fully prepared, perhaps later in the year. In the interim, please try our video, narrated by General John Brown.

-Yours very truly, LJG"

If you are ever driving through Pisgah Forest, NC, please be sure to stop by the museum and say, "hello," and then be sure to take advantage of the wonderful waterfalls nearby. I even recommend getting a copy of the book "We Shall Come Home Victorious." Stories of World War II Veterans, by Janis Allen, as a memento of your visit.

theveteransmuseum.org

Submitted by CAPT Aaron Bresnahan, USN (Ret.)



U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY NAVAL ORDER ESSAY AWARDS

Each year, the National Capital Commandery, acting on the behalf of the Naval Order of the U.S. conducts a student essay contest through the Humanities Department of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. Our companion, Commander Rick Campbell USN (Ret.), supervised this year's ceremony on 26 May 2021. While faculty members attended, the usual audience was not present due to the restrictions of COVID-19.

This year's awards were as follows:

- The Naval Order of the United States CAPT James F. Brooke, III Memorial Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Award went to Midshipman First Class Maeve Murphy for her essay: *A Study of NATO in Afghanistan, Libya, and the Baltic States.*



Midshipman First Class Maeve Murphy receives the Captain James F. Brooke, III Award



Midshipman First Class Maeve Murphy

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- The Naval Order of the United States Senior Division History Award went to Midshipman First Class Jacob Kinnear for his essay: *To Preserve the Honor of our Country: Contextualizing the Navy's premature seizure of Mexican California.*



Midshipman First Class Jacob Kinnear

- The Naval Order of the United States Junior Division History Award went to Midshipman Third Class Jen Sun for her essay: *Fleet Problems and Integrity.*



Midshipman Third Class Jen Sun

Each recipient received a ceremonial sword, a clock, and a plaque. The plaques were delayed in the mail and sent to the recipients after the ceremony. The National Capital Commandery sends the essays forward for consideration in the *International Journal of Naval History*, edited by our companion Dr. Charles Chadbourn of the Naval Historical Foundation.

By **CDR Rick Campbell, USN (Ret.)**
and **Judy Pearson, Ph.D.**

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS VETERANS' HISTORY PROJECT

How can we honor and preserve the history of the U.S. sea services, given the current COVID-19 restrictions that prevent gatherings and meetings?

This was the question the Executive Committee of the National Capital Commandery asked in the autumn of 2020. After much discussion, we agreed that collecting oral histories from some of our senior companions would be the answer. I was given the assignment to investigate various oral history programs to help the committee decide the best method for implementing an oral history program in our commandery.

I looked at the National Public Radio Story Corps program, but it was not focused on veterans and didn't provide the in-depth interviews we wanted. Then I compared the oral history programs at the Naval Historical Foundation, the U.S. Naval Institute, and the Library of Congress, finding that the latter provided the most guidance for interviewers and interviewees alike. This was the program our commandery decided on. The Library of Congress program seemed the best way to capture, for posterity, the stories of some of our older companions: their accomplishments, achievements, and perspectives relevant to their military experience.



ABOUT THE VETERANS' HISTORY PROJECT

The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project (VHP) in 2000 as part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. The VHP collects, preserves, and makes accessible the firsthand remembrances of U.S. military veterans from World War I through the more recent conflicts. Anyone, including students ages 15 or older, can volunteer to participate as an interviewer.

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The Library of Congress maintains the VHP collection, and its contents are available for research and education. Users can access the collection online (content is limited) and in person. The collection contains audio or video recordings of interviews with individual veterans, and/or 20 pages or more of original, unpublished memoirs, journals, or diaries, and/or 10 or more original photographs, letters, or two-dimensional artwork for each interviewee. The VHP also accepts memoirs, diaries, and photos of deceased veterans from family members as well as histories from members of Gold Star Families (families who have lost a service member to combat). The VHP website, loc.gov/vets displays a Biographical Information and Service History record for each veteran who contributes. This page includes the veteran's name, military service details and donor/interviewer affiliation.

REQUIRED FORMS

The VHP website provides a Field Kit (a downloadable PDF) containing instructions for interviewers, as well as the necessary forms. Interviewers can also download the individual forms from the website. The required forms include the veteran's Biographical Data Form, release forms, a recording log, a photo log, a manuscript data sheet, and a cover letter to accompany the contribution (completed by the interviewer upon delivering the completed interview and materials to the VHP). The VHP provides an instructional video for interviewers through website links and YouTube.

MEDIA REQUIREMENTS

The interviewer must complete a 30-minute (minimum) interview using a camcorder, tape recorder, or digital video or audio recording device. The Field Guide specifies the technology requirements for video and audio recordings. According to a VHP representative who spoke to me by phone, Zoom recordings are considered "a last resort" due to possible technical issues and poor sound quality.

CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW

The Field Guide and the VHP website give the steps for interview preparation, including an Interview Outline that lists sample questions and topics to



Rishi Sharma interviews World War II veteran William Hahn, at his home in Los Angeles (2016).

discuss. Preparation includes completing the required forms, selecting and testing the recording device, preparing the questions, scheduling the interview, and

ensuring that the interview location is quiet and free of distractions. The Field Guide gives instructions on how to open the interview and how to ask about the veteran's early days of service, wartime service, experiences at the end of military service, and personal reflections. The interviewer must then ensure all the required forms are completed.

SUBMITTING THE INTERVIEW AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

The VHP requires interviewers to submit unedited, original materials to the Library of Congress in Washington, DC via a commercial carrier such as FedEx or UPS (use of the U.S. Postal Service is prohibited). Sponsoring organizations are allowed to maintain a copy of the interview for their archive. The Cover Letter must accompany all submitted materials. Hand delivery is also permitted during business hours. The VHP processes each contribution, taking up to eight months. The process includes review, acknowledgement via post card to the Interviewer, data entry, archiving, and creation of an online record.

I conducted the commandery's first interview in June 2021 with our companion Dr. William Dudley. We plan additional interviews over the coming months with additional companions volunteering as interviewers. Each veteran we have contacted is thrilled to be honored and to have his or her service remembered in this manner. We hope other commanderies will feel encouraged to participate in the VHP and establish an oral history initiative to record the exciting stories that their senior veterans have to tell.

Submitted by Judy Pearson, Ph.D.

Here is a story of a lucky find. One of my NOUS projects is to use geospatial mapping of data of our companions to see where people live. My rationale is that companions from other commanderies may live nearby in the Metro area, and we would like to invite them to our events.

I planned to visit my sister in Maine and my map told me that there is a companion living on Peaks Island, Maine; Gustav "Cap'n Gus" Karlsen, USN (Ret.) -- a Life Companion of Continental Commandery (insignia #8483). This year, he turns 84. I wrote to him and said I hoped to meet him while I was there. He agreed to join my sister, Melinda Lynam, and me for lunch. We also invited him and his wife Ann to join us for fireworks and sea stories.

Dr. Judy Pearson has initiated the "Library of Congress - Veterans History Project (VHP) in our commandery to capture the oral history of our companions. I decided I would try to use that program to record an interview with "Cap'n Gus" during my visit. (See the website loc.gov/vets for information on the VHP) The map data helped me find him.

The VHP gave me a mission. I contacted CAPT Aaron Bresnahan, Commander of the Continental Commandery, and he encouraged me to visit Gus while I was there. We wanted him to know that he is a valued companion of our Order, and we hoped to hear from him, as he stands watch on the North Atlantic from his front door. Gus agreed to help with my on-the-job training on how to conduct a VHP interview. I learned that advance preparation is important. Having outlines for 5-6 five-minute stories in advance really helps. The next step will be another practice run followed by a plan to interview our older (aged 90+) companions if they are willing. As our companion, VADM James Sagerholm, USN (Ret.) said, "Hurry up! I'm already 93!"

I'll return to Peaks Island next year and look forward to hearing that Cap'n Gus (as he is known among the local Merchant Marine circles) and Ann are still standing watch on the northeast edge of the United States.

**Submitted by CAPT William Steagall, USN (Ret.)
with help from Judy Pearson, Ph.D.**

MIDSHIPMAN DALE COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY, BERMUDA

Midshipman Richard Sutherland Dale was the last U.S. naval officer to die in the War of 1812. Buried in the churchyard of St. Peter's church, his is the only known U.S. war grave in Bermuda.

In 2016 the National Capital Commandery led the project to replace the original gravestone, which was badly aged.

In normal times, the town of St. George's, Bermuda holds a wreath-laying and speeches by dignitaries in a memorial ceremony.

CAPT John Rodgaard and I have attended this ceremony as representatives of two naval history organizations: The 1805 Club and the Naval Order. Due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to travel to this year's

subdued wreath-laying ceremony on 20 February. Both the 1805 Club and the National Capital Commandery arranged for wreaths. The event continues to represent the friendship of Bermuda, Great Britain, and the United States.



Acting Consul General of the U.S., Alan Purcell, laid the wreath for the NOUS.



The Rev. Thomas Slawson of St. Peter's Church intoned, "We commemorate the young Midshipman as one of the last known American casualties of the battles of the sea of the war between the UK and U.S., begun in 1812. We give thanks to God that the enmity of those times has been supplanted by long-lasting and mutual relations."

Submitted by Judy Pearson, Ph.D.

NORTHWEST COMMANDERY: A SUCCESSFUL COVID ZOOM EXPERIENCE, NOW TRANSITIONING BACK TO “NORMAL” 2021, POST COVID

Looking back over the past year of COVID-required social distancing, the NOUS Northwest Commandery has successfully managed to thrive using the new Zoom meeting technology. So much so, that we now have a new challenge: To continue to draw in far flung companions in our three states who have become regular participants in our meetings.

Before the pandemic, commandery meetings were accessible only to those living or visiting in the Everett, Washington area. More currently, a recent Zoom meeting included nine individuals who live an average of 268 miles from the Everett area.

So now with the same determination we had in holding our commandery intact during the COVID experience, we are now planning on the concept of “hybrid” Zoom meetings.



We are committed to returning to the traditional face-to-face meeting camaraderie while allowing companions who cannot attend to also be drawn to our events with equal enthusiasm. This challenge seems to be a widespread phenomenon as post-COVID businesses and organizations begin their transition from home to office. We will be benchmarking others' efforts in this regard to continue to grow our overall membership and participation.

A SUCCESSFUL QUARTER OF ZOOM MEETINGS

During the Spring 2021, NOUS Northwest fully utilized our Zoom capabilities to feature speakers from both coasts. We were also joined throughout the quarter by numerous NOUS companions and distinguished guests from across the country.

On 27 March, twenty companions were on-screen to hear fascinating talks by Honorable John F. Lehman, former SECNAV (1981-1987) and ADM Thomas B. Hayward, former Chief of Naval Operations (1978-1982). Both speakers described their personal experiences beginning with service during Vietnam through the times of their respective leadership tenures. A lively question and answer session followed, capping a most insightful and interesting meeting.

On 9 April, thirteen companions joined in to hear a presentation by CAPT Jim McGinnis on the capabilities, limitations, and operations of the Navy's Littoral Combat Ships (LCS). CAPT Brian Quin then followed as a guest speaker. Currently serving as Chief of Staff, Expeditionary Strike Group Three, CAPT Quin recalled his personal experiences on active duty while also providing an overview of the Navy's amphibious fleet.

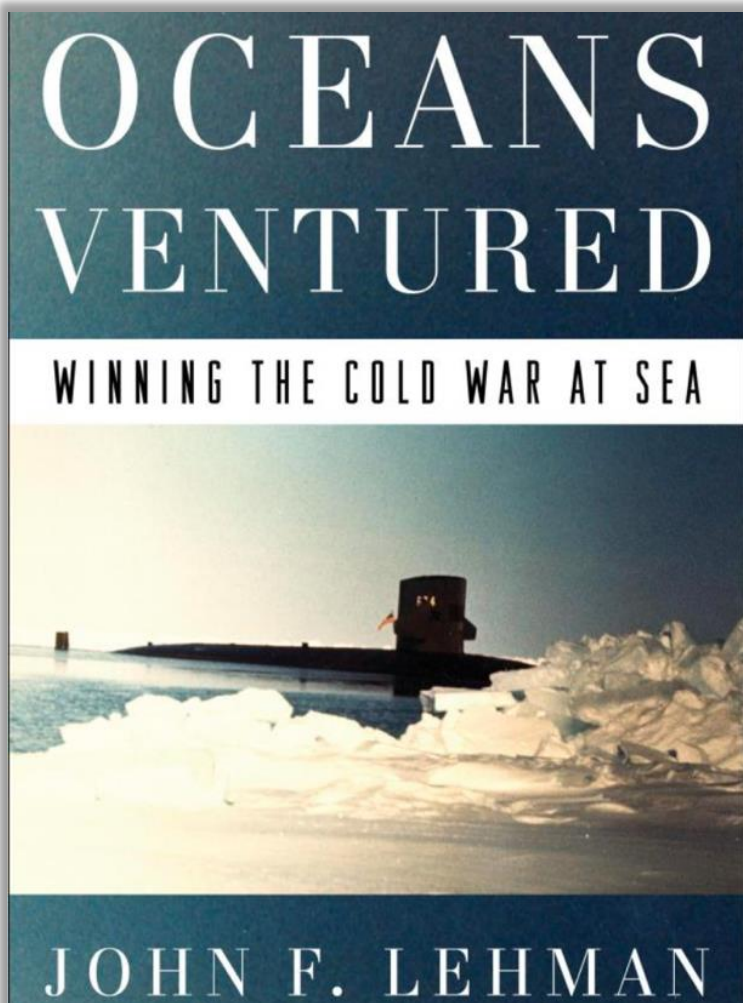
CAPT Joe Valenta then spoke about the USS *Oklahoma City* CL-91/CLG-5/CG-5 and his service aboard her, including some of the important dates during the early period of the Vietnam war. CAPT Valenta was followed by another guest, Mr. Jim Quin, who then updated us on the Navy League, what they are about, and some of the different things that they do in the Denver branch, which he heads. A short business meeting concluded the meeting.

On 19 April, fifteen companions tuned in for a Zoom meeting with a theme of the “Naval Reserve Officer Training Program” (NROTC). We began with CAPT Ron Withrow, Commanding Officer, Yale NROTC, who gave a very informative brief on the current state of the officer training program. He also provided great insights for applying for the program as well as an idea of the different classes each person must take, once accepted. CAPT Withrow also touched on the history of Yale's NROTC program, and a Q&A session followed.

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Moderator CAPT Jim McGinnis (U. of Washington) was then joined by fellow NROTC graduates in attendance to speak about their experiences: CAPT Dick Griffin (Miami University), CAPT Brian Quin (Northwestern), Companion Curt Maier (Notre Dame), CAPT William Steagall (UCLA), Mr. Martin Menez (Marquette) and CAPT Joe Valenta (Yale).

The final meeting of this quarter was held on 17 May when fifteen Northwest companions and guests again enjoyed the presence of Honorable John F. Lehman who reviewed his book, **Oceans Ventured: Winning The Cold War At Sea**. Dr. Lehman described pivotal aspects of his time as SECNAV, including his strategic role in advocating a 600-ship fleet. Again, a lively and insightful Q&A followed.



CAPT Jim McGinnis then gave a report and answered questions on the different unmanned vehicles (UMV) currently in use or development for use by the U.S. Navy. These vehicles “of the future” can be used for reconnaissance, linking dispersed forces, ASW, and even attacking enemy forces.

THE 2021 NATIONAL HISTORY DAY SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED

The Northwest commandery's support of National History Day (NHD), led by CAPT Dick Griffin, was described in the Spring 2021 newsletter.

Recalling the organization's website, “every year National History Day frames students' research within a historical theme. The theme is chosen for the broad application to world, national, or state history and its relevance to ancient history or to the more recent past.” The theme for 2021 was *Communication in History: The Key to Understanding*.

Besides providing volunteer judges in each of our three states, Northwest companions also annually recognize the best student presentations relating to our maritime history.

This year we had five winners, including two students in Washington (Owen Felt and Anthony Zhang of Timbercrest Middle School: “Miracle at Midway: How Communications Changed the Course of a War”) and three students in Oregon (Fiona Zou and Emily Song of International School of Beaverton and Elise Yu of Lincoln High School, Portland, Oregon: “Shaping Communication At Sea, Naval Flag Signaling”).

NORTHWEST COMMANDERY UPCOMING EVENTS

Planned upcoming events are listed on NOUS Northwest's website at nousnorthwest.org. Each meeting is led by NOUS Northwest Commander CAPT Jim McGinnis, MSC, USN (Ret.). NOUS Northwest Commander CAPT Jim McGinnis, MSC, USN (Ret.) leads each meeting.

Chapter Contacts:

NOUS Northwest Commander: CAPT Jim McGinnis, MSC, USN (Ret.) at jmcginnis28@comcast.net and 360.980.2782

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Submitted by CAPT Solon Webb, USN (Ret.)

SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY - HISTORY, HERITAGE AND THE FUTURE

Companions from the San Francisco Commandery are involved in multiple "History and Heritage" projects in the greater Bay Area. They range from the Moffett Field Museum to the USS *San Francisco* and Korean War Memorials. The latter two were both initiated and founded by members of our Commandery. Members of our Commandery actively serve on the board of directors of both.

Recently, many of us worked on, or donated to, the USS *Oakland* (LCS 24) Commissioning this past April (see separate article).

Every year during Memorial Day Weekend we gather at the USS *San Francisco* Memorial to remember the sailors and marines who fought and died aboard her during the Naval Battles of Guadalcanal (earning a record four Medals of Honor). This year's ceremony was, once again, virtual. Our special speaker was San Francisco Historical Society CEO and Executive Director, Kevin O'Brien, who reflected on the heroism of the USS *San Francisco* crew. Also speaking was Japanese Consul General Maeda Toru.

The USS *San Francisco* sails under the Golden Gate Bridge as she returns home for repairs after battle.



The commemoration was dedicated to the memory of the founder, Richard Jongordon, better known as "Chief Johnny" Johnson. It was an especially poignant affair. Leadership of the foundation has passed to companion John McKnight. Commandery Commander Maj Gene Redding, USMC (Ret.) gave a somber eulogy for Chief Johnny (text at end of this article) reflecting on his life and dedication to the cause. Chief Johnny was the last survivor of the *San Francisco*'s wartime crew.

In the week preceding the USS *San Francisco* Memorial Service, we were also saddened by the passing of LtCol John Stevens, USMC (Ret.). LtCol Stevens, like Chief Johnny, was a veteran of the Pearl Harbor Attack. Both had been fixtures at the memorial commemoration and our luncheons until the infirmities of age laid them low. LtCol Stevens was also a veteran of "Frozen Chosin" during the Korean War and was an instigator of the Korean War Memorial in San Francisco. As with the nearby USS *San Francisco* Memorial, many companions have donated money and hard work to keep memories alive of those who served their country so faithfully and honorably all those years ago. This year's commemoration at the Korean War Memorial on 25 June was dedicated to the memory of LtCol Stevens (see obituary at end of this article).

As we pause to remember those companions who have crossed the bar, we continue to remember those companions who are on the binnacle list and encourage each, and every companion to make sure they are remembered.

On a more positive note, the Covid restrictions have been largely mitigated and we have made tentative plans to resume our in-person meetings in August. Although virtual meetings have enabled speakers from across the country to join us, many of our companions miss the camaraderie and fellowship we shared when we met face to face. We have scheduled our Pearl Harbor Day dinner and after 17 months, are all looking forward to a renewal of personal contact.

Our guest speaker for April and June was Mr. James Zobel, Archivist of the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia. June's presentation was about General MacArthur during the Korean War – especially timely due to the upcoming commemoration of the 71st Anniversary of the "never ending" war's start. In May, we were honored and privileged to have CAPT James "Chris" Rentfrow, Ph.D., USN (Ret.), director of the National Museum of the United States Navy, who told about the on-going museum expansion and upgrade which will ultimately lead to new (and much larger, more accessible) facilities. See the article on Page 24 for more information on the museum.

Continued on next page...

LT. COL. JOHN R. STEVENS - BY SAM WHITING, SAN FRANCISCO, CHRONICLE

The Korean conflict is known as "the Forgotten War," but one veteran who never forgot it was Lt. Col. John R. Stevens, U.S. Marine Corps.

Lingering pain from frostbitten toes were a regular reminder of his part in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir, fought in -40 degree weather in 1950.

Stevens earned a Bronze Star in Korea, a war that technically never ended. After his retirement, he got involved in another war seemingly without end — the long slog to get a Korean War memorial built in San Francisco.

Every year after, Stevens marked the anniversary of the start of the war, on 25 June, by giving a speech at a ceremony there and laying a wreath on the memorial wall. This year's ceremony will be more somber than the others: It will be in memory of Stevens himself. He died May 25 at his home in San Francisco. He was 100.

"The Korean War Memorial would never have happened without John," said Don Reid, who also served in Korea and co-founded the memorial foundation with Stevens. "He was a true Marine, the total package. He stood for pride, commitment, dedication, virtue, honesty, loyalty and patriotism."

Stevens was also on the ground during the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the eventual defeat of Japanese combatants at Okinawa. For his valor under fire, he received his first Bronze Star.

"John was at Pearl Harbor, the Battle of Okinawa, the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon Landing, the liberation of Seoul, and the Chosin Reservoir," said Gerard Parker,

executive director of the Korean War Memorial Foundation. "From the beginning of World War II through the first crucial year of the Korean War, John had a knack for turning up in these key battles."

Through it all, Stevens was soft-spoken, modest, and dry, using no more words than the setting required. Once asked by an interviewer what it was like to be surrounded by 100,000 enemy troops at Chosin, he responded, "Lots of targets."

After 23 years in the Marines, he went on to work 35 years in business, mostly in telecommunications and information technology companies. He started as a systems engineer at IBM and went on to start four companies. One of these, Centex, went public in 1987 and became a case study at Harvard business school, as an example of "how to run a successful IPO," said his son, John R. (Steve) Stevens II of Lafayette.

"My father was an inspirational leader who touched many individuals over his long life," said Stevens, who is CEO at Jopari Solutions, a Concord health care IT company that was another of his father's ideas. "He was kind, ethical, humble, and he always finished what he started. He said he was going to live to be 100 and he finished that, too. He made it by a month."

John Richard Stevens was born 22 April 1921, in Butte, Montana, where he grew up. The gloom of the Great Depression hit by the time he was a teenager, and after working stints as a baker,

Continued on next page...



lumber jack and firefighter, he caught a train to Salt Lake City, hoping to join the U.S. Navy for the steady pay. He failed the eye exam and was headed to the train home when a recruiter for the Marine Corps spotted him.

“A man in a blue uniform with a red stripe on the leg caught me by the arm,” he recalled in an interview for the Korean War Memorial newsletter. “I didn’t know what the Marine Corps was, but I didn’t want to go back to Butte. The rest is history.”

Assigned to the 1st Defense Battalion, Stevens was a 20-year-old sergeant on duty at Pearl Harbor when Japanese bombers made their surprise raid on 7 December 1941.

After three years in World War II, he’d made He was pulled from the front lines to prepare for the secret amphibious landing at Inchon on Sept. 15, 1950. Arriving by landing craft, Stevens managed to lead his rifle company off the beach and over the seawall under steady fire.

Stevens went on to lead troops as they fought in the streets of Seoul. He survived that and the Chosin Reservoir Campaign, and was finally sent home in late

November 1950. In two wars in the Pacific, he’d been in six of the biggest battles, many in command of a rifle company, which made him a preferred target. He earned 14 service awards and medals and got out with only three frozen toes on his right foot.

Those toes bothered him the rest of his life, but not as much as the fact that there was not a memorial to the Korean conflict in the city where he’d made his home and built his business career.

One day in 2009, Stevens was having lunch at the Marines Memorial Club with Reid and Man J. Kim, a Korean American restaurateur, when Stevens asked in a voice barely above a whisper, “Why don’t we have a memorial here?” No one had a good answer and by the time they walked out to Sutter Street, the Korean War Memorial Foundation had been started. They already had an office, the one where Stevens did consulting work. He cleared off his desk and got started. Reid was the treasurer, and Stevens was the secretary. They knew they needed a bigger name to

serve as president, and for that they recruited former Rep. Paul N. “Pete” McCloskey, who was awarded the Navy Cross for his heroism leading a platoon in six bayonet charges in Korea. Stevens tracked down McCloskey on his tractor at his farm in Rumsey (Yolo County).

“Pete joined the memorial board as president because of John,” said Reid, a retired banker at Wells Fargo. The Presidio Trust offered them a site across from the San Francisco National Cemetery. The promontory has a view of the Golden Gate, through which Marines sailed when returning from the war before disembarking at Fort Mason.



The Korean War Memorial, which received major funding from the government of South Korea, was dedicated on Aug. 1, 2016, and Stevens was back at his desk the next morning. Now that the memorial was in place, he had to get people to visit, and he had to continue raising funds for its upkeep. He kept that office until his death and was working there until a few months ago.

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SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY

The memorial includes images of the war laser-etched onto a granite face. The dominant image depicts a platoon in Stevens's command going over the Inchon Wall. The platoon leader fell on a grenade to protect his Marines and Stevens made sure that he received the Medal of Honor posthumously.

Last year there was no anniversary ceremony because of the COVID-19 pandemic, so Stevens went alone to lay a wreath at the wall. This year the anniversary returned on 25 June, with the public invited. Stevens's widow, Jody, and Reid will place a wreath at the wall, in honor of all who served and sacrificed in the Forgotten War, especially Stevens.

"John is gone," said executive director Parker, "but the memorial he built will last forever."

Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Joanne (Jody) Stevens of San Francisco; daughters, Carole Anne Clark of Great Falls, Mont., and Sherry Wilson of Colfax; sons, Mitch Stevens of Benicia and Steve Stevens of Lafayette; seven grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

Sam Whiting is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. Email: swhiting@sfchronicle.com Twitter: @samwhitingf



Korean War Veterans and their families gather in front of the Korean War Memorial with Korean Consul General Yoon Sang-soo and Korean Community leader Man J. Kim (r)



Korean War Veterans, Companions Chuck Paskerian (l) and Don Reid with photo of LtCol Stevens at the Korean War Memorial



EULOGY FOR CHIEF JOHNNY BY MAJ GENE REDDING, USMC (RET.) DURING THE 2021 USS SAN FRANCISCO MEMORIAL EVENT

When Chief Johnny Johnson was born in 1922, life dealt him a bad hand: His father abandoned his mother before he was born. He grew up in the poverty of the depression.

Chief Johnny turned that bad hand of cards into one full of face cards and aces because of his resourcefulness, love of fellow man, and patriotism.

So, I'm going to go over 4 lessons I learned from Chief Johnny that made me a better man.

Lesson 1: How Not To Go Hungry

As a young pre-teen and teen, Chief Johnny roamed his small Minnesota town of Wheaton. He was looking for work, food, and fun. He found at least two of them with the town's butcher, Carl DeBoom. He learned how to weigh cattle just by looking at them, then how to slaughter and dress the animals outside and provide extraordinary value to Carl. He got to eat meat in scarce times by providing this value and enthusiasm to a most important person in town.



Chief Johnny still talked about that relationship deep into his 90's.

Lesson 2: Never Pay Full Price

In 1936, Chief Johnny was 14 and the nation was in the teeth of the depression. But Chief Johnny didn't know that times were hard. They were the only times he knew.

He bought his first car at age 14. He was helping someone in town loading potatoes. That person had a car for sale and Chief Johnny traded loading sacks of potatoes for the purchase of the car.

In fancy negotiation courses this is known as trading items of unequal value. For Chief Johnny, it was business as usual.

Lesson 3: Take Care of Your Crew

History has recorded the violence and death of the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal. Chief Johnny has spoken on the topic. My favorite line has been the description of the enemy searchlights illuminating his ship that night. "They were so close I could feel the heat from the searchlights". The Battle commences and concludes, and his ship is damaged and his friends and shipmates dead and wounded.

Chief Johnny gets the keys to all the ships compartments to rescue the living, care for the wounded, and give dignity to the dead. He can get into the kitchen and makes sure all surviving hands steering the ship and keeping her afloat have coffee and companionship as he patrols his beloved ship until dawn's early light.

Lesson 4: Serve Your Country When You're Out of Uniform

Chief Johnny loved his family (brothers, sisters, daughters, and wife Felicia) and he loved his country. Where citizens gathered, Chief Johnny would tell his story: From Pearl Harbor in '41, to Iwo Jima in Feb-March '45, and Tokyo Harbor at the Surrender, he would share his story.

That poor, hungry boy who came to the Navy with nothing became a combat veteran and an eyewitness to sacrifice, suffering, and victory in America's greatest test of the twentieth century.

These stories inspire loyalty to our flag and pride in our country. This was Chief Johnny's final mission. And he executed that mission flawlessly for the next 75 years.

Now he rests easy. The race is run. And we gather to salute the runner. Chief Johnny.

Fair Winds and Following Seas my friend. Keep the coffee warm Chief, we'll share that cup when we meet again.

Submitted by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.)

USS Oakland (LCS 24) Commissioning – There is Hope!

We commissioned the USS *Oakland* (LCS 24) on Saturday, 17 April, at the Port of Oakland. It was a wonderful event, attended by a few hundred people, most in their cars, most watching on big screens while they listened to the ceremony on FM radios. They got out of their cars and put their hands over their hearts while Dr. Yvonne Cobbs sang the National Anthem, and reverently bowed their heads when the Bishop of Oakland, CAPT Michael Barber, CHC, USN (Ret.) gave the Invocation and Benediction.

The audience included 101-year-old QMCS Mickey Ganitch, a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor nearly 80 years ago. He was already in his football uniform when the Japanese attacked. His USS *Pennsylvania* team was supposed to play the USS *Arizona* team that very morning. He ended up fighting a different enemy that day, and the game with the USS *Arizona* would never come to be.

Also in the audience was Naval Order Companion CDR Dean S. “Diz” Laird, USN (Ret.), who celebrated his 100th birthday this January. Diz is the only Navy fighter pilot “ACE” to shoot down enemy planes in both the European and Pacific theaters of the War. He has received a Congressional Gold Medal.



CDR “Diz” Laird and QMCS Mickey Ganitch share sea stories prior to the commissioning of the USS *Oakland* (Photo by QMCS Kasey Warner)

The last remaining plank owner of the previous USS *Oakland* (CL 95), BK1 Robert Alquist, attended remotely. Yes, they had a “Baker” rating in the Navy during the War. BK1 Alquist addressed the crew and wished them good luck, after which a long glass was presented in his name to the First Watch on the new USS *Oakland*. The mast of that heroic ship is maintained nearby in Jack London Square.

In keeping with the tradition of the ceremony, the speakers were notable and brief. Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf gave a heartfelt welcome to the crew and proclaimed the day as USS *Oakland* Day. She gave the Skipper a flag of the City of Oakland to fly on the mast’s yardarm.

Naval Academy Superintendent Vice Admiral Sean Buck represented the Chief of Naval Operations. VADM Buck talked about the significance of the ceremony and the role of the ship in the fleet. Acting Secretary of the Navy, Thomas Harker, a graduate of University of California at Berkeley, commented on the effort that went into building the ship and the process that led up the moment of commissioning. He gave the order to put the ship into commission followed by the Ship’s Sponsor, Kate Brandt, Google’s Sustainability Chief and the former Energy Advisor to the Secretary of the Navy, who gave the order to “Bring this ship alive!”



Separated from the crowd within social distancing protocols, special guests and speakers gather on the rostrum for the commissioning ceremony.

Canons roared, bells rang, whistles screamed, turrets turned, and the ship came alive. *Oakland* was now ready to serve – the newest ship in the Navy with the crew she deserved.

It was from the crew that I drew my inspiration. After the commissioning ceremony, we hosted a barbeque for the crew in the foul weather tent under

Continued on next page...

the giant Port of Oakland cranes. At the end of the meal, we held a ceremony where we recognized the crew as plankowners – the first crew of the ship. It is a special designation, one earned by very few sailors over the course of their service. It's a big deal. I was a bit concerned at first at the challenge of handing out over 70 plaques; but the crew made the moment inspirational. From the get-go, the crew celebrated every one of their shipmates with hoots and hollers, whistles and cheers – every single one of them! The energy was incredible. I had a lady handing me the plaques, and, with every crewmember, she would tell me something amazing about the person I was about greet. We had new Chiefs, meritoriously promoted Petty Officers, A-School Honor Graduates, newly rated sailors (very few non-Petty Officers, to my surprise). There was a story for every one of them, and this lady knew them all. She had a Cal sweatshirt on, so I assumed she was part of the wardroom. One of the last plaques was hers, and that is when I found out that this Cal grad was a Petty Officer Second Class. Fortunately, I also found out that she was applying for a Navy commission as an Intel Officer. She was just another in a long line of exceptional sailors.

And their names were not Smith and Jones. In fact, there was not a Smith or Jones in the entire crew. They came in all shades and persuasions: men and women, gay and straight, white and black and every shade in between. Their names were Ramlakhan and Liberato, Welch and Baraoidan, Jaskowiak and Gutierrezmartinez. The Skipper was a Mustang; one who came up through the enlisted ranks and now was in Command of the Navy's newest warship – CDR Francisco X. Garza, a man with a bright smile and Command presence, the Crew's biggest fan.

But it was the esprit de corps of the crew that impressed me the most. It was palpable. It was honest. It was sincere. They genuinely loved and respected each other, and they were honored to be in each other's company. It was a far cry from my active-duty days, where racial tension was high, and drugs were big.

The whole day gave me hope . . . the Navy is in good hands, from the bottom up.

**Submitted by RADM Tom Andrews, Chair,
USS Oakland Commissioning Committee**

USS Oakland sails under the Golden Gate Bridge (Photo by Jim Coleman)

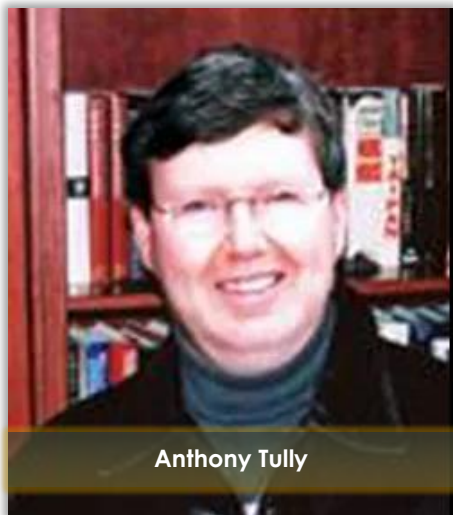


**TEXAS COMMANDERY VIRTUAL
BATTLE OF MIDWAY COMMEMORATION**

The Texas Commandery held its annual Battle of Midway Commemoration on 9 June 2021 virtually through a ZOOM presentation. For many years, the TC has held the Battle of Midway Commemoration at a luncheon of companions and guests, often with a guest speaker with insight into the historic battle that changed the direction of the war in the Pacific.

Previous guests of note were Craig Symonds, author of *Battle of Midway* and Anthony "Tony" Tully, co-author of *Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of The Battle of Midway*. As we were unable to hold the 2020 Battle of Midway Commemoration luncheon due to COVID-19 restrictions, we decided to hold the 2021 commemoration as a virtual presentation providing an added benefit of opening the presentation not only to Texas Commandery Companions that live away from the Houston area, but also to all Naval Order commanderies as well as other interested individuals and friends of the Naval Order.

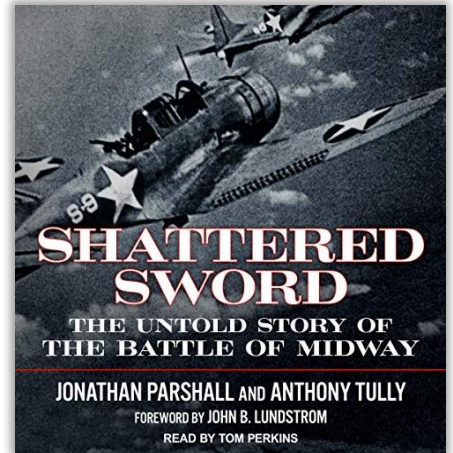
We were fortunate to get Tony Tully to be our guest speaker for this virtual event. In addition to his talk, he provided Power Point slides illustrating different tactical scenes that are part of *Shattered Sword*, including some newly discovered information that was not available when the book was published in 2005. Although Tony's co-author, Jonathan Parshall, did not actively participate in the presentation, we were honored that he was present in the audience for Tony's presentation along with approximately 40 other guests...a great turnout.



Anthony Tully

Texas Commandery Commander CAPT Woe King began the meeting by welcoming guests and giving brief introductory remarks. Then Texas Commandery Historian, Don Kehn, introduced Tony

to the audience. Tony's presentation was approximately one-hour as he discussed the battle primarily from the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) side—the primary focus of the book. His use of Power Point slides of drawings and photographs from



Shattered Sword transformed his words into visual understanding of the tactics that were deployed during the battle.

The following paragraph is quoted from the book's website (shatteredwordbook.com) and provides the basis of the uniqueness of the book, i.e., the author's extensive research on actual Japanese documents that other American historians had not seen.

"Throughout the book, the authors make extensive usage of new Japanese primary and secondary sources that have not been utilized in prior studies. These include the official Japanese War History series (Senshi Soshō), the translated carrier air group action reports of the four Japanese carriers involved in the battle, the comprehensive Japanese casualty figures found in Sawachi Hisae's groundbreaking volume on the battle (Midowei Kaisen Kiroku), and many others. The result is an account that is grounded less on first-hand personal accounts (although these are found in plenty as well), and more on concrete operational data. This shift in focus has led to many important, and potentially provocative, re-interpretations of the conventional wisdom on the battle."

Following the presentation, members of the audience submitted questions through the chat function of ZOOM. The approximate 30-minute Q & A session following the presentation was still going strong when we came to the end of our ZOOM time.

We gratefully acknowledge all the NOUS Companions and friends that joined this inaugural, virtual event on this historic battle. We appreciate that Jon was able to drop by, and we especially thank Tony for another outstanding presentation.

Submitted by CAPT Woe King, USN (Ret.)

TEXAS COMMANDERY SUPPORTS TEXAS NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

National History Day (NHD) is a judged research and presentation event in all 50 states for junior and senior high school students. The purpose is best described in a 1948 speech by Winston Churchill to the House of Commons where Churchill paraphrased philosopher George Santayana when he said: "Those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it."

The NOUS has a program to support NHD as it pertains to maritime history. National NOUS supports commanderies that participate in their state's NHD program by contributing \$300 as prize money. In 2021, the NOUS Foundation added another \$100 to the state's prize for a total of \$400 in prize money. Since many states merely award ribbons for prizes, this is a significant add-on to the state's program.

Texas became aware of the program in 2020 just as the virus hit and the Texas program went through the tribulations of going virtual. TC-NOUS followed closely but chose to remain on the sidelines in 2020. We geared up in 2021 by arranging for an NHD coordinator, CDR Bob Frazier, and the enthusiastic support of the TC-NOUS leadership. In preparation, the coordinator had to distinguish how NOUS would be different from the Nimitz Museum and the National Military Museum to the NHD overall leadership. We were approved to get ready.

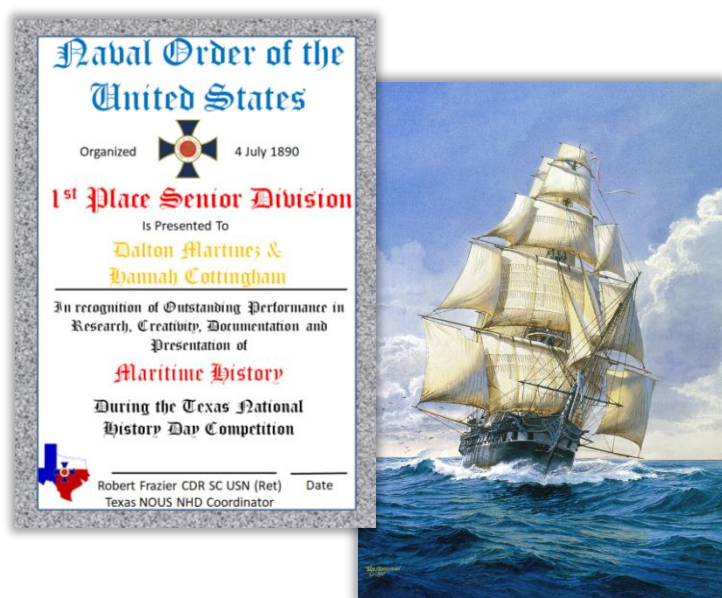
Three highly qualified TC Companions, RADM Pete Andrus, RMC Paul Winslow, Mr. Don Kehn, and one alternate, CAPT Chuck Hewell, were recruited as judges. We knew the approximate start date and that the judges would have a week to review and judge a paper, a web site, or a presentation from each participant on this year's history theme: **Communication in History: The Key to Understanding.** Texas had 12 nominees in the Junior Division (grades 6-8) and two nominees in the Senior Division (grades 9-12) for judging the Special Award for the Naval Order. With this year's Communication theme, Navajo Code Talkers seemed an obvious choice for the participants.

The list came out with links on a Friday in early April and judges were asked to submit their decisions by 0800 the Monday after next (about

days), so the judges had some work to fit into their busy schedules. Our judges did a fantastic job, often reviewing the same general story from multiple contestants while giving positive, encouraging feedback to all. A huge BRAVO ZULU to RADM Andrus, CHIEF Winslow, and Mr. Kehn. Each judge brought unique skills to bear, but most important was their commitment. According to the judges, the winners were very impressive, considering their ages. Fortunately, it was easy to reach consensus on the best entries.

Great job to all. This is a great community and youth centered program. Thanks to Bob for all the coordination and behind the scenes work to make and keep this program a class act.

An individual Texas NOUS certificate was made for every prize winner and honorable mention that goes with the check. The certificate was printed on parchment paper with a preprinted silver border and the USS *Constitution* placed back-to-back in a color print stable holder.



The Texas NHD coordinator said the winning participants were very happy and excited to get the checks and certificates. Thanks to National and the Texas Commandery for an exceptionally successful participation in our first and what we hope to be many future NHD events.

**Submitted by CDR Bob Frazier, SC, USN (Ret.)
CAPT Woe King, USN (Ret.)**

The Odyssey of the Old Crow – The Story of LT Thomas L. Andrews, Jr. and His Journey to the Battle of Leyte Gulf (Part 3)

(This story is excerpted from a presentation RADM Thomas L. Andrews, III, made at the National Congress of the Naval Order of the United States in October 2019, and reprised in two installments to the San Francisco Commandery in June and July of 2020. This month covers the “Battle of Leyte Gulf.”)

The “Battle of Leyte Gulf” spanned four days, during which there were five major engagements:

- 1) the Interdiction off Palawan,
- 2) the Battle of the Sibuyan Sea,
- 3) the Battle of the Surigao Strait,
- 4) the Battle off Samar, and
- 5) the Battle off Cape Engano.

The Japanese had a plan for the defense of the Philippines – the portion of the SHO-GO plan known as SHO-1. There were three major movements involved in SHO-1 – the feint by the Northern Force to draw away 3rd Fleet, the spear of the Center Force through the San Bernardino Straits and the spear of the Southern Force through the Surigao Strait.

SHO-1 was initiated when it was learned that the next invasion by the allied forces was going to be at Leyte Gulf. Ironically, the Northern Force was the only force that was intended to be “found”; however, it was the last to be found, which led to the late action

Halsey to pursue them on the 24th.

VADM Kurita was the Japanese Commander in charge of the Center Force – the main attack force of SHO-1. On the 23rd, the subs *Darter* and *Dace* took out the heavy cruisers *Atago* and *Maya*, and severely damaged the *Takao*. The *Atago* was Kurita's flagship and he lost half of his key communications staff when the *Atago* went down. The *Takao* was ordered back to Brunei escorted by two destroyers. So, before even entering the Straits, Kurita had already lost five ships.

The sub force continued to monitor Kurita's Center

Force as it proceeded into the Sibuyan Sea, and reported their sightings to Third Fleet. ADM Halsey sent out search planes on the morning of the 24th and the Force was sighted at 0800. Over the next seven hours, Third Fleet would send out four strikes against the Center Force. The super-battleship *Musashi*, seen below, was a primary target of the strikes, and she was sunk during the fourth strike after taking 18 torpedoes and over 20 bombs. She went down with 1,026 officers and men. The heavy cruiser *Myoko* was also damaged and



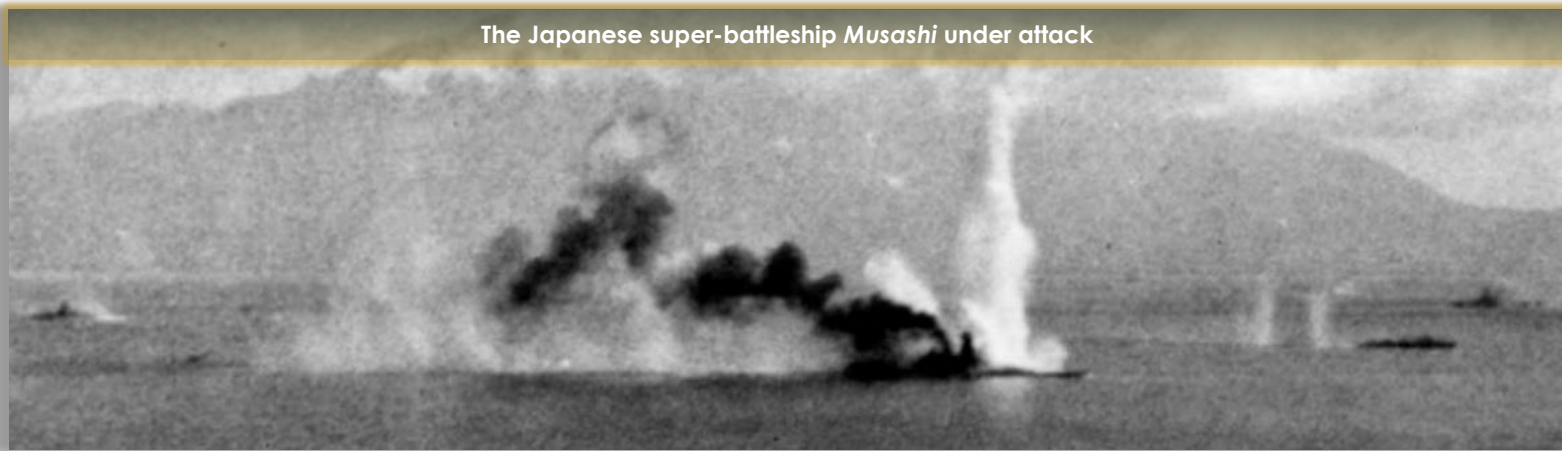
ordered back to port escorted by one destroyer. Two destroyers were also sunk. Two days and ten ships lost. The American losses totaled 18 aircraft.

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Late that evening, Kurita reversed course and headed west out of the Sibuyan Sea. Third fleet reconnaissance aircraft reported this movement back to Third Fleet, bringing Halsey and his staff to the conclusion that the Center Force no longer represented a threat. About the same time, VADM Ozawa's Northern Force was detected, which led Halsey to believe that this was the main thrust of the

supposed to engage the Americans, VADM Nishimura took his Southern Force Van into the Surigao Strait, only to be met by the might of the Seventh Fleet. The American Battleship Force crossed the "T" of the Japanese Fleet and, with flanking efforts by cruisers and destroyers, wreaked havoc on the Southern Force. All but one of the Van would be sunk, with VADM Nishimura going down with his ship.

The Japanese super-battleship *Musashi* under attack



Japanese attack. VADM Kurita explained his course reversal to ADM Toyada, the IJN CINC, who responded to the move with the message, "With confidence in Heavenly Guidance, the entire force will attack." With that, Kurita reversed course once again and headed into the San Bernardino Strait, at this point in time, undetected.

At 2022 that night, Halsey made the decision to take his Fleet and chase down the Japanese Northern Force, which he believed to be the main Japanese assault force on Leyte Gulf. The messages that were sent out were mis-interpreted by Seventh Fleet and left them believing that a Task Force of Fast Battleships – Task Force 34 – was remaining behind at the mouth of the San Bernardino Strait to protect the northern flank of Leyte Gulf. No such Task Force was ever formed. Halsey took his Fleet and left.

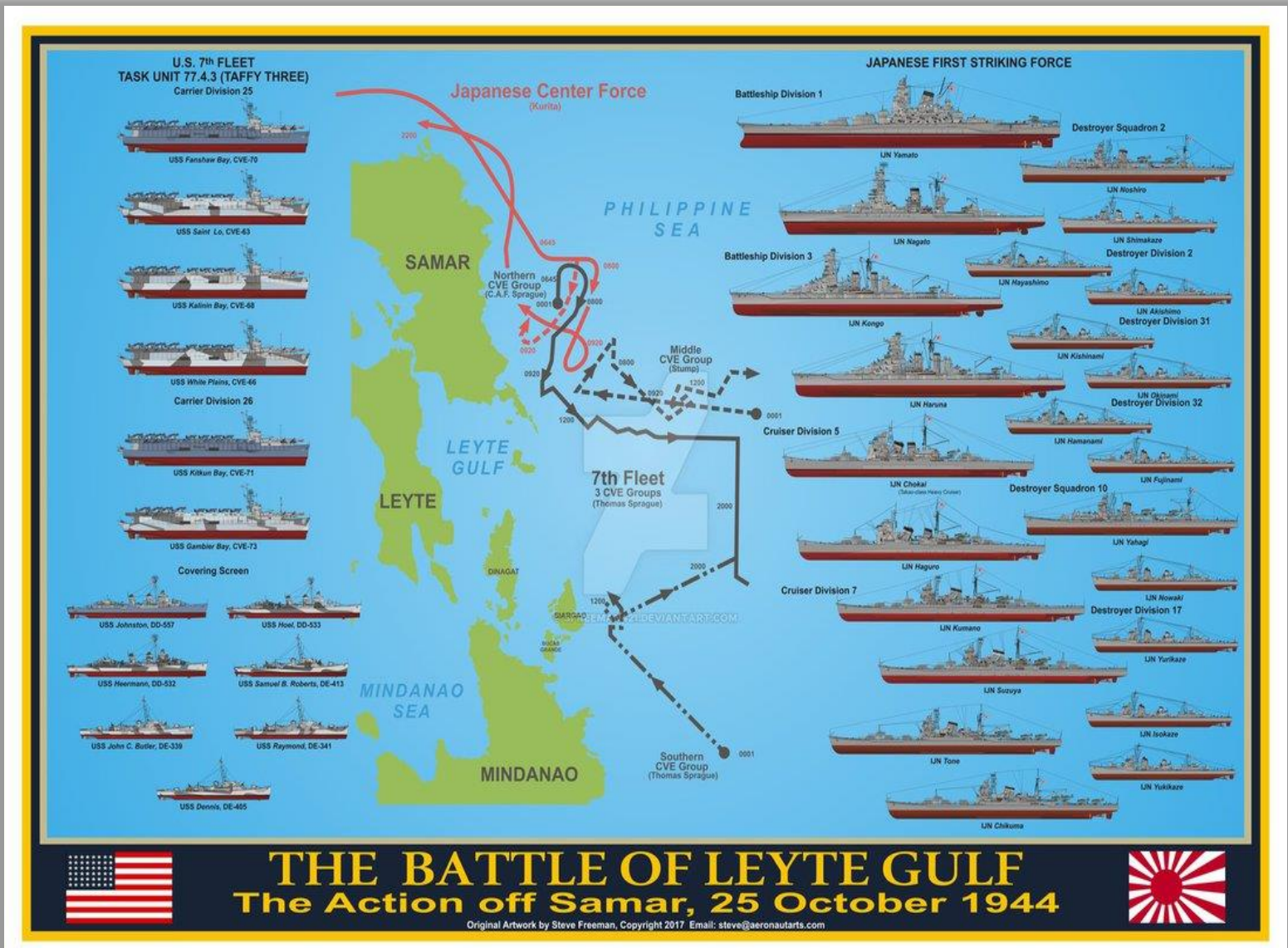
Meanwhile, to the south, another engagement disastrous to the Japanese Fleet was taking place. The two elements of the Southern Force, the Van and the Rear, were led by Vice Admirals who did not see eye to eye, and, accordingly, did not coordinate their efforts prior to engaging. Seventh Fleet knew of the approach of the Southern Force and engaged them first with PT Boats even prior to the Southern Force entering the Strait. Six hours ahead of when the combined effort of the Japanese Fleet was

VADM Shima, following 40 miles behind the Van, encountered the one fleeing Van ship, the *Mogami*, and, recognizing that he was outgunned, decided to retreat, but not before colliding with the *Mogami*, causing damage to both ships. The *Glorious Opportunity* touted by VADM Kurita in his earlier message to the Strike Force was being lost.

Just past midnight on the 25th, VADM Kurita exited the San Bernardino Strait fully expecting to be met by the American fleet. When no battleships appeared on the horizon, he then expected to be met by submarines. Again, to his relief, nothing was there. He then contacted the Southern Force admirals and ordered them to meet him off the southern tip of Samar at 1000. The debacle of the Surigao Strait had not yet befallen the Southern Force. The rendezvous would not occur. At 0300, the Center Force turned southeast at 20 knots.

Taffy 3, which was my Dad's Task Unit of which the *Kitkun* Bay was a part, was never intended to be a first line of defense against a surface force. They were an invasion support group. The Group consisted of six Casablanca Class Escort Carriers, three Fletcher Class Destroyers and four Butler Class Destroyer Escorts. Between the six carriers, they carried 71 TBM Avenger

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Torpedo Bombers and 97 FM-2 Wildcat fighters. All thirteen ships were outfitted with 5" 38's, though the destroyers had the advantage of having an analog fire control computer system which accepted radar input. This was certainly an advantage over the spotting techniques of the Japanese fleet.

The Center Force was comprised of 23 ships, including four battleships, six heavy cruisers, two light cruisers and 13 destroyers, including the *Shimakaze*, the only ship of her class, who alone carried six 5" 50 caliber guns and fifteen 24-inch torpedo tubes, exceeding the firepower of the six carriers combined. And at 71,000 tons, the Yamato alone displaced more than the six American escort carriers combined!

But we had the planes.

So that brings us to 0630 on 25 October 1944. Both Taffy 3 and the Center Force are blithely unaware of each other. RADM Sprague has just ordered Taffy 3 to secure from General Quarters and set Condition 3, normal underway watches. Both forces are sailing in circular formations designed to protect the capital ships from air and submarine attacks. The sun has been up for 16 minutes and the weather is spotty, with scattered but extensive rain squalls and considerable haziness.

And here we leave it. Tune in next quarter for the story of the "Battle Off Samar Island," as told by Byron Como, Robert Cox, LTJG Charles Spaulding and LT Thomas L. Andrews, Jr.

Submitted by RADM Tom Andrews, SC, USN (Ret.)

PRESENTATIONS

In an effort to keep people connected, learning, and entertained during the pandemic, the Naval Order of the United States has been offering a speaker series over Zoom that is available to all companions.

In June, Brent E. Jones, author of *Days of Steel Rain* and winner of the 2017 Mayborn Literary Conference Personal Essay prize gave a presentation on his book, *Days of Steel Rain*.



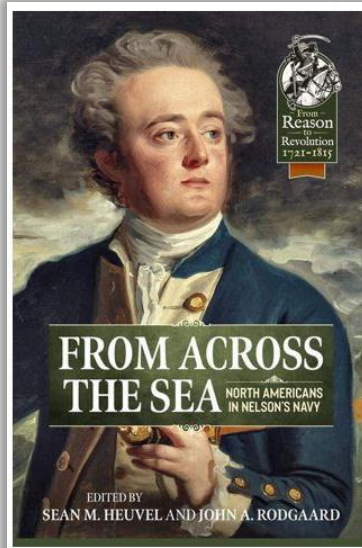
An intimate true account of Americans at war, *Days of Steel Rain* is an epic drama about an unlikely group of men forced to work together in the face of an increasingly desperate enemy during the final year of World War II.

Sprawling across the Pacific, this untold story follows the crew of the newly built "vengeance ship" USS *Astoria*, named for her sunken predecessor lost earlier in the war. At its center lies U.S. Navy Captain George Dyer, who vowed to return to action after suffering a horrific wound. He accepted the ship's command in 1944, knowing it would be his last chance to avenge his injuries and salvage his career. Yet with the nation's resources and personnel stretched thin by the war, he found that just getting the ship into action would prove to be a battle.

Throughout, Brent Jones fills the narrative with secret diaries, memoirs, letters, interpersonal conflicts, and the innermost thoughts of the *Astoria* men--and more than 80 photographs that have never before been published. *Days of Steel Rain* weaves an intimate, unforgettable portrait of leadership, heroism, endurance, and redemption.

In July, the NOUS hosted another virtual presentation

with Companion, CAPT John Rodgaard. USN (Ret) co-author of *From Across the Sea: North Americans in Nelson's Navy (From Reason to Revolution)*.



Our Guest: CAPT John A. Rodgaard

“...Audiences from naval history scholars to students to those just interested in the naval heritage of the United States, Canada, and Great Britain will find the book enjoyable and enlightening.”

-Book Review
International Journal of Naval History
Stanley D.M. Carpenter, Ph.D.

CAPT John A. Rodgaard has over 41 years of naval service, including 12 years as a petty officer and 29 years as a commissioned naval intelligence officer. He is a published author and contributes to the Discovery Channel. He co-authored *A Call to The Sea: Captain Charles Stewart of The USS Constitution*, and authored *A Hard Fought Ship: The Story of HMS Venomous*. He holds a B.A. in History and Political Science; an M.A. in Political Science and is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College.

From Across the Sea: North Americans in Nelson's Navy explores the varied contributions of North Americans to the Royal Navy during Great Britain's wars against Revolutionary and Napoleonic France. In this edited compilation, top historians contributed essays as well as biographical essays on North Americans from both the officer ranks and the lower decks. Many of the individuals had not been the subjects of previous research. The central focus is to challenge the common assumption that the Nelson-era Royal Navy was manned exclusively by British sailors and officers. Instead, Royal Navy personnel often hailed from many countries.

All were welcome to attend the presentations. For more information, including links to join in on future Zoom presentations, please contact Bill Schmidt at williamhschmidt@verizon.net

Submitted by CDR Lou Orsini, USCG (Ret.)

Navy Plan to Build New Museum

Navy History and Heritage Command (NHHC), located at the Washington Navy Yard, is responsible for the preservation, analysis, and dissemination of U.S. naval history and heritage.



RADM Samuel Cox, USN (Ret.) speaks during the official announcement of plans for the new National Museum of the United States Navy

Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Kenneth J. Braithwaite announced on 20 October 2020 at the Washington Navy Yard that the U.S. Navy intends to build a new National Museum of the U.S. Navy (NMUSN).

During the announcement, Braithwaite, together with NHHC Director, RADM Samuel Cox, USN (Ret.), unveiled renderings for the new NMUSN campus and emphasized Navy's connection to the American people.



Rendering of the new National Museum of the U.S. Navy

"It is vital that the American people understand the importance of a strong and viable naval force. As a Maritime Nation, our future depends on it," said Braithwaite.

The current NMUSN, which falls under Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC), is located inside the Washington Navy Yard. The ideal site for the new

Navy museum is in the vicinity of the Navy Yard, but the actual location is not yet finalized. It is hoped that the new NMUSN campus will give the public unfettered access to U.S. Navy history and heritage.

During the announcement made on the Navy's 245th birthday, NHHC Director, RADM Cox remarked on the importance of celebrating Navy's service and the tangible tribute to the service and sacrifice of our Sailors.

"On behalf of the United States Navy, and with deepest gratitude to every one of our great partners, it is my honor to announce plans for a new campus for the National Museum of the United States Navy. The new museum campus will serve as an educational, inspirational, cultural and ceremonial center for those who have served, and are serving in the Navy today. The exhibits in this advanced museum will demonstrate the critical role the Navy has played in the defense of our Nation."



Rendering of the new National Museum of the U.S. Navy

"Naval History and Heritage Command's mission of preserving and presenting an accurate history of the U.S. Navy to the American public is essential to honoring those who have served and are serving the Navy today," said Cox.

NHHC will serve as the Navy's lead for coordinating the building of the new museum. The museum will be an advanced, campus design that brings to life the human experiences of serving in the U.S. Navy, delivers leading-edge engagement to amplify Navy priorities and operations, showcases the history and heritage of all Navy communities, and creates a memorial to our heritage and the service and sacrifice of American Sailors.

Continued on next page...

NEW NAVAL MUSEUM

Master Chief Petty Officer of the U.S. Navy, Russell Smith, provided video remarks. "Giving the public better accessibility allows us to share a deeper understanding of our rich history and heritage with the American people," said Smith. "This is important, because our history is America's history."

To raise funds for the new museum, the Navy partnered with a registered 501(c)(3) organization that seeks to preserve, commemorate, and share the history of the U.S. Navy. The estimated funds required for the construction of the state-of-the-art facility are \$204M for phase one of the project with opportunities for spiral development of additional phases.

NHHC located at the Washington Navy Yard, is responsible for the preservation, analysis, and dissemination of U.S. naval history and heritage.

NHHC is composed of many activities including the Navy Department Library, the Navy Operational Archives, the Navy art and artifact collections, underwater archeology, Navy histories, ten museums, the USS *Constitution* repair facility and the historic ship *Nautilus*.

**Submitted by CAPT James C. Rentfrow, USN (Ret.),
National Capital Commandery
Executive Director of NMUSN**



TENTATIVE 2021 VIRTUAL CONGRESS SCHEDULE

Pre-Congress Presentation and Preps

September Date – TBD Test session

Thursday - 16 October 2021

2000-2100 EDT Presentation TBD

Thursday - 21 October 2021

14:00-16:00 – Gathering and Equipment Checks.
Congress Theme: **“Always Faithful and Holding Fast”**

Business Day

Friday - 22 October 2021

14:00-15:00 - Gathering and Equipment Checks.

15:00 – Strike Six Bells

- Call to Order (CGE) as EmCee

- National Anthem

- Pledge of Allegiance (CGE)

- Invocation - (Chaplain) “Father Mike” CDR

Michael P. Zuffoletto, CHC, USN (Ret.) - TBD

- Companions Lost since 2020 Virtual Congress

Reading of names of those we lost to ‘Ringing of the Bell’

15:15 - Commander General’s Welcome and State of the Order

Note: for the following Committee / Officer presentations, the reports will have been previously provided. If you intend to ask questions, please have the courtesy to have read the report prior to the Business Meeting. Link to the Dropbox will be sent following registration.

These reports will be 10 minutes long (maximum 4 slides) including questions and answers.

15:30 – Credentials Committee (at the beginning of the National Congress)

15:40 – Financial Review and Audit Committee

15:50 – Investment Committee

16:00 – National Awards Committee

16:10 – Site Committee

16:20 – Foundation Status and Financial Report

16:30 – Break

16:40 – Recorder General – Confirmation of Actions by the GC since last Congress (*Requires Vote of the Congress by delegates - process for voting will be forwarded to designated delegates prior to Congress*)

16:50 – Commandery Support Committee

17:00 – Membership /Registrar & Retention

17:10 – Historian General / Archiving

17:20 – Break

17:30 - Presentation of the CAPT Jan Armstrong Award - CG COL Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.)

Commandery - TBD

17:45 – History Presentation: ‘Presentation TBD’

18:30 – Q&A

18:45 - Presentation of the Admiral Dewey Award - CG COL Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.)

18:55 – Suspend for the Day

19:00 – Optional Social Hour – no host Local Happy Hour (if desired).

Business Day

Saturday - 23 October 2021

1400 – 1900 EDT - **“History Day & Change of Command”**

14:00 – Pre-meeting Check-in and equipment sound checks

15:00 – Call to Order /Reconvene

- Admin Remarks

15:15 – History Presentation: **“Reflections on the Cuban Missile Crisis – 60 Years Later”**

16:15 - History Presentation: ‘Battle of Midway’

17:00 – Break

17:15 – Presentation of the LCDR Lee Douglas Award - CG COL Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.)

Commandery - TBD

17:30– History Presentation: ‘Presentation TBD’

18:20 - CG Awards Presentation

18:30 – Change of Command

18:55 - Official Adjournment – Close Congress (adjourn until Oct 2022 in Washington DC)

19:00 – Optional Social Hour – no host Happy Hour (at local sites).

Please Fill out a survey regarding last year’s Congress: [surveymonkey.com/r/FRCKG8X](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FRCKG8X)

Be candid so we can improve for next year!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Since 1 January to this writing of 24 May, 47 people have inquired via our web site about membership in the Naval Order along with seven others that have been referred by our companions, totaling 54 prospective members. That continues our long-time experience of one prospective member every 2.7 days. Navy leads the pack with 30 prospective members, followed by 12 Marines, nine descendants, two Coast Guard, and one associate.

Projecting our current experience for the entire year shows we can expect to see about 134 inquiries and referrals. With a 70% "join rate" that would produce about 94 new members which would just cover our "attrition" with a few left over. The Continental Commandery seems to be the greatest beneficiary of these prospective members, followed by National Capital, Texas and San Francisco.

What we need more of is activity at the local level, which is spearheaded by the LOCAL COMMANDER and MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN. A coordinated effort by the aforementioned to reach out by phone, text, e-mail and yes, in person to extend the privilege of NOUS membership to someone you know. They're out there by the thousands!!

Oh yes, a BIG THANKS to those companions who took the time to send in those referrals. If all our companions sent in a referral...well, you can imagine the results.

While a Referral Form is sent to you each year with your dues invoice, (except for life members), there is no need to wait for that. You can simply send the prospective members contact info to me at the address below and I will do the rest.

Standing by...

**Submitted by Donald W. Schuld, USN
Naval Order of the United States
Vice Commander General-Membership
3 Mildred Terrace, Flanders, N.J. 07836
H- 973-584-9634 Cell 201-874-0730**

Charleston

CMDCM David Lee Anderson, USN(Ret.)

Continental

LtGen Lawrence de Gris Nicholson, USMC (Ret.)

Maj George Calvin Shields, II, USAF

Florida First Coast

FCCS Wayne Joseph Dietel, USN (Ret.)

National Capital

Ms. Taylor Kiland

ISCM David Allen Mattingly, USN (Ret.)

LCDR Mary Elizabeth Sweeney, NC, USN

Dr. Anthony Roland Wells

San Diego

Col Victor Eugene Bianchini, USMC (Ret.)

Mr. Paul Bolleau Evans, Jr.

San Francisco

LCDR Eduardo César Gerding, MD, Argentine Navy

Mr. Douglas James Gilham, Jr.

PNCS(SW) Gregory Dwight Owens, USN (Ret.)

SSgt Lono 'A'a Holoua Stender, USMC (Ret.)

Texas

CAPT Tyson Jeremy Brunstetter, MSC, USN (Ret.)

LtCol Frank Louis Keberman , III, USMC (Ret.)

Rev James Timothy Payne

Mr. Alexander Bernard Wathen

Send all contact info changes to:

CAPT M. K. Carlock

6205 7th Ave N

St. Petersburg, FL 33710

M.K.Carlock@gmail.com

415-725-2101

IN MEMORIAM – SENATOR JOHN WARNER

Virginia Senator John Warner and Life Member of the Naval Order passed away on May 24 at the age of 94. The following tribute is excerpted from an article posted on the web site for the Naval Historical Foundation.

I first met the Senator in his office on Capitol Hill for a riveting discussion on his first trip to Moscow in April 1971, a reciprocal Soviet Navy visit to the United States, and the final trip to Moscow in May 1972 to sign the accord.

I was able to complete my doctoral dissertation on this subject at American University in 1998. Published by the Naval Institute under the title *Cold War at Sea* in 2000 and again as an expanded version in 2017 rebranded as *Incidents at Sea*, my study identifies then Secretary of the Navy Warner as a key

figure in an effort to mitigate interactions between opposing navies that could escalate into an unforeseen conflict. It was an honor in 2012 when Senator Warner and I had the opportunity to address the delegations of the U.S. and Russian Navies as they met at the Naval Observatory for their annual review of the behaviors of their respective navies.

With Warner and Holloway, who served together as SECNAV and Chief of Naval Operations, the banter on their service certainly entertained the large audience of veterans and their families.

The Library of Congress later asked me to do an individual sit down with Senator to talk about his service in World War II as an enlisted Sailor in the U.S. Navy and as a Marine officer in Korea. I asked him "Where were you on December 7?" That threw him off script and we got into other topics.

As the interview entered its second hour his assistant kept breaking in to say, "The VCNO is still waiting in your office," to which he snapped back "Tell him to keep waiting." After about 75 minutes I escorted him

back to his office and he asked if there was anything he could do for his friend Admiral Holloway at the Naval Historical Foundation. With that, Senator Warner would arrange for an appropriation of \$3 million to support the Cold War Gallery of the National Museum of the United States Navy.

In 2014, I had the privilege of interviewing the Senator for a fourth time at the National Museum of the United States Navy in a pairing with former NHF President Vice Adm. Bob Dunn to discuss the impact of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Captured on C-SPAN, both gentlemen spoke of the impact of the war in their home cities of Washington and Chicago and their motivations to join the service.

Actually, for me the highlight of the evening was driving the Senator home and stopping at Balducci's

in Old Town Alexandria to pick up a few grocery items and watch him work the room as if he were running again for the Senate. He called out the baker and the butcher by their first names and let everyone know he appreciated their good service. Here was a man who really liked people.

Over the years Senator Warner's support of maritime heritage was demonstrated by his attendance at National Maritime Historical Society Washington Awards dinners where I often found myself as his date and at receptions the Naval Historical Foundation.

Many will eulogize Senator Warner as the type of consensus-building get-things-done politician that Washington is sorely lacking, while some will note his legacy as Liz Taylor's seventh husband. I will always remember him as a patriot, a champion of the sea-services, a believer in the importance of heritage, and a friend.

**Submitted by David F. Winkler, Ph.D.
NHF Staff Historian and member of the
National Capital Commandery**



Admiral George Dewey Awardee, J. “Jack” Phillip London, Naval Officer and Entrepreneur

Sometimes we witness a human life so brilliant, it's like a meteor streaking across the night sky: stunning, awe-inspiring, and gone too soon. That was the life of Dr. J. Phillip “Jack” London, our companion who died on 18 January 2021 at the age of 83. He led an outstanding life as a naval officer, businessman, entrepreneur, ethicist, and philanthropist.

Dr. London was best known as the founder of CACI in 1962, today a \$5.7 billion IT company with approximately 23,000 employees in 155 offices worldwide. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer from 1984 to 2007, before moving on to Executive Chairman.

Dr. London was born in 1937 in Oklahoma City. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science in naval engineering, and the Naval Postgraduate School in 1967 with a master's in operations research. He served twelve years active duty in the U.S. Navy from 1959 to 1987 as an officer, naval aviator, and carrier helicopter pilot with the Navy's “hunter-killer” task forces against the Soviet Union's nuclear submarine threat. He had thirty-three at-sea deployments in the North Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Caribbean. He was in the airborne recovery team for Col. John Glenn's Mercury Program space flight in Friendship 7 in the Caribbean, on 7 February 1962 aboard the USS *Randolph*, CVS-15. At the height of the Viet Nam War, he was Aide and Administrative Assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Material Command, 1969 to 1970. From 1971 to 1983, in the US Naval Reserve he

served as an aeronautical engineering duty officer and commanding officer of reserve units in the Naval Air Systems Command, retiring with the rank of captain.

He earned a doctorate in business administration conferred with distinction from George Washington University in 1971, with the university's Alumni Achievement Award (1996). He also received the Alumni of the Year Award from the university's School of Government and Business Administration in 1987 and CEO of the Year Award from the Executive MBA Program in 2003.



For his patriotic support of America's defense, Dr. London was recognized with the John W. Dixon Award from the Association of the United States Army (2003); Albert Einstein Award for Technology Achievement in the Defense Fields (2004); Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Award from the U.S. Navy League (2007); Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award from the Naval Order of the United States (2012); Nathan Hale Award from the Reserve Officers Association (2013); Semper Fidelis Award from the U.S. Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation (2014); Leadership in Technology Award from the U.S. Navy League (2016); the Distinguished Service Award from the Naval Historical Foundation (2017); the Meritorious Citation from the U.S. Navy League (2018); the Distinguished Graduate Award from the U.S. Naval Academy (2019); and the U.S. Navy Memorial Lone Sailor Award (2019).

He received over twenty awards in business and industry including Outstanding Corporate Growth Award from the Association for Corporate Growth

Continued on next page...

IN MEMORIAM – J. PHILLIP LONDON

(2002), Entrepreneur of the Year from Ernst and Young (2003), Executive of the Year from the Greater Washington Government Contractor Awards (2005), Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Corporate Growth (2008), and the Corporate Leadership Award from the TechAmerica Foundation (2014). In 2010, Dr. London was inducted into the Washington Business Hall of Fame and in 2012 the Greater Washington Government Contractor Awards Hall of Fame.

He was a nationally recognized authority on organizational ethics, honored by the Human Resources Leadership Awards of Greater Washington, which established its Ethics in Business Award in his name. In 2014 he was named by the Ethisphere Institute as one of the Most Influential People in Business Ethics. He authored ***Our Good Name: A Company's Fight to Get the Truth Told about Abu Ghraib*** and co-authored ***Character: The Ultimate Success Factor***, about ethics in business success.

He gave unstintingly of his time and knowledge, serving on many boards, executive committees and advisory councils for: The George Washington University School of Business, and Marymount University, U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, Naval Historical Foundation, Friends of the National WWII Memorial, U.S. Naval Institute, and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association.

"Jack," to many of us who knew him, was a member of the Naval Order of the United States, National Military Intelligence Association, Intelligence and National Security Alliance, Navy League, U.S. Naval

Institute, American Legion, Association of the U.S. Army, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Robert Means Thompson Society, and the President's Circle of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation. He saw to it that CACI contributed to these organizations with sponsorships and donations.

To commemorate his heritage, he was a member of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati and in 2009 received the Cincinnati Foundation's inaugural Cornerstone Freedom Award. He was the 100th President of the District of Columbia Society for the Sons of the American Revolution from 1998 to 2000, a member of the Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, the Saint Andrew's Society of the District of Columbia, and a past Governor of the Society of the Colonial Wars in the District of Columbia.

He leaves behind his wife, Dr. Jennifer Ellen Burkhart, and their three young sons, as well as two adult children and six grandchildren. Those of us in the National Capital Commandery who admired his accomplishments and cherished his warmth, integrity, and friendship will sense his absence. Memorial services were held in June at the U.S. Naval Academy Chapel and Washington National Cathedral. Dr. London's burial took place at Arlington National Cemetery on 23 July 2021.

The Naval Order thanks Dr. Jack London for his indefatigable generosity to the Nation.

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson



One of the greatest Naval historians has passed, but that accolade, only begins to tell the incredible life story of James D. Hornfischer, the faithful and devoted son, husband, father, and friend.

Born in Salem, Massachusetts to David and Elsa Hornfischer, his early boyhood was spent in Amherst, MA. He loved playing hockey and baseball, and with true foreshadowing, asked to join a Military History Book Club at age ten.

Over time, the family moved to Litchfield, CT where Jim graduated high school, lettered in varsity baseball, and took up trombone.

When visiting colleges, Colgate was love at first sight. He honed his intellectual curiosity with a double major in International Relations and German. Jim was executive editor of the college newspaper, *The Colgate Maroon*. His other campus activities included the marching band and the social fraternity Phi Tau.

Jim graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Colgate University in 1987 and headed to New York City, where he entered the publishing industry as an editor at McGraw Hill, and later Harper Collins. It was there he met his wife, Sharon Grace Simmons, whom he married in 1993.

They made their home Austin, TX where Jim became one of the first literary agents in the state capital. Jim served as a nonfiction agent with a specialty in developing compelling stories about men and women in service, whether it be historical accounts of military veterans, a diverse range of politicians, patriotism, or current events. Jim quickly grew his client list and became known as a tireless champion and mentor for many budding authors.

Jim and his wife were blessed with three children:

David James, Grace Ann, and Henry Hutchins. Jim earned consecutive degrees at The University of Texas at Austin: an MBA from the McCombs School of Business and then a JD from their School of Law. Jim and Sharon took their next step by founding Hornfischer Literary Management (HLM). Jim shepherded hundreds of books into fruition all while creating lasting relationships with authors. From bestsellers to award winning books known for their truth, accuracy, and artistry, Jim carefully curated the clients and projects he invested himself in and was proud of each book and the writers whom he helped. Fellow author and Naval Order Companion James Scott said, "Jim was a tremendous historian and even better friend. He was always so generous with other emerging writers, helping them in any way possible. I personally benefited from his great generosity, expertise, and friendship."



Jim's first book, ***The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors***, is widely considered a classic of naval history. For his first effort, he received the Samuel Eliot Morison Award by the Naval Order of the United States. He went on to author three other indelible WWII histories, all with Bantam Books: ***Ship of Ghosts***, ***Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal***, and ***The Fleet at Flood Tide: America at Total War in the Pacific, 1944-1945***. He received the Commodore John Barry Book Award and the John Lehman Distinguished Naval History Award for ***The Fleet at Flood Tide***. Each of his books have been placed on the Chief of Naval Operations Required Reading List.

Recently, in his home surrounded by family, friends, and Navy Admirals, Jim was presented "The Navy Distinguished Public Service Award," for all his work presenting pivotal Naval history, increasing the

Continued on next page...

professionalism and knowledge of Navy personnel and his extraordinary success at telling the Navy's story.

Jim sang in the Tarrytown United Methodist Church Choir, and famously lead Christmas caroling adventures.

Despite his illness, Jim continued to be productive and wasted no time. Jim completed his most recent projects and will soon have three new books published posthumously: ***Destroyer Captain: The Last Stand of Ernest Evans***, with his son David J. Hornfischer, ***Who Can Hold the Sea: The US Navy in the Cold War, 1945-1960*** and ***The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors: A Graphic Novel Adaptation***.

Jim's greatest joy and priority was his family. He is survived by his wife and devoted partner, Sharon, their children David, Grace Ann, and Hutch, his parents David and Elsa, sister Amy Signorino along with many other family members, friends, readers, and colleagues that love and will miss him endlessly.

Jim's Celebration of Life service was held at Tarrytown United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas. Burial followed at The Texas State Cemetery. Fair Winds and Following Seas, Jim.

The family has requested donations can be made in Jim's memory to: The National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, TX, where a permanent tribute is being planned in his honor. Admiral Nimitz Foundation, 328 E. Main St., Fredericksburg, TX 78624. tributes@nimitzfoundation.org or (830)997-8600 Ext 220; pacificwarmuseum.org/join-give/donations



NOTE: Jim's archives are housed at the National Museum of the Pacific War, in Fredericksburg. 311 E. Austin Street, Fredericksburg, TX 78624.

We note the passing of our fellow Naval Order Companions. May their memories be a blessing.

CAPT Raymond Walter Addicott, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6881)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 02 December 1991
Died 23 November 2018

Edmund Kirk Badgley, Jr.

(Certificate 6903)
New Mexico Commandery
Joined 18 April 1992
Died 21 May 2010

CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6094)
New Orleans Commandery
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Died 28 February 2021

CDR Thomas Edward Blount, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6457)
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Died 1995

CDR Leroy Allen Brown, USN (Ret.)

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Hampton Roads Commandery
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Died 30 April 2011

RADM Lyle Franklin Bull, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6483)
Florida Keys Commandery
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Died 04 May 2018

VADM Paul Donald Butcher, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6464)
Florida Keys Commandery
Joined 19 October 1989
Died 02 August 1992

CDR George Robert Carlson, USN (Ret.)

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Southwest Commandery
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RADM David Emil Ciancaglini, USN (Ret.)

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Arizona Commandery
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Died 24 January 2017

CAPT Walter Lewis Clarke, Jr., USN (Ret.)

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Died 15 August 1993

BMCM Kenneth Ray Cook, USN (Ret.)

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Died 17 December 2019

CAPT Michael Bruce Edwards, USN (Ret.)

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Died 05 July 2016

Wallace Federate Forbes

(Certificate 9202)
New York City Commandery
Joined 15 March 2012
Died 06 June 2019

CAPT Donald M. Fulton, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6782)
New Mexico Commandery
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Died 15 November 1992

CAPT Anthony Wayne Gibbs, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5966)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 19 July 1987
Died 18 May 2021

CAPT Charles Philip Gibfried, SC, USN (Ret.)

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Monterey Commandery
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National Capital Commandery
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Died 17 February 2010

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(Certificate 6460)
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Died 08 October 2013

Guy Dunning Graves

(Certificate 6852)
Texas Commandery
Joined 30 January 1992
Died 07 May 2007

RADM Charles David Grojean, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6857)
Texas Commandery
Joined 15 February 1992
Died 08 December 2008

LTC Louis John Grosso, USA (Ret.)

(Certificate 6938)
New York City Commandery
Joined 10 June 1992
Died November 1992

Robert William Heslop

(Certificate 6486)
Southeast Florida Commandery
Joined 13 November 1989
Died 25 March 2006

CAPT Robert Lou Hobson, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5204)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 01 November 1976
Died 08 March 2021

CAPT William Weissman Huss, Jr., JAGC, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6935)
Long Beach Commandery
Joined 05 August 1992
Died 26 November 2008

CDR Timothy Howard Jackson, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 9048)
Newport Commandery
Joined 09 November 2010
Died 07 May 2021

VADM Michael Peter Kalleres, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6956)
Florida First Coast Commandery
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Died 07 July 2010

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(Certificate 6404)
Florida Keys Commandery
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CAPT James William Kehoe, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6871)
National Capital Commandery
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Died 18 July 2017

Baine Perkins Kerr, Sr.

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Texas Commandery
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Died 20 May 2008

CAPT Steve Francis Kime, USN (Ret.)

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(Certificate 6498)
National Capital Commandery
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Died 21 February 2018

Melvin Kowal

(Certificate 9174)
Arizona Commandery
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Died 04 December 2019

Dr. Lee Albert Krimmer

(Certificate 6856)
New York City Commandery
Joined 03 February 1992
Died 29 October 2005

RADM James Benjamin Linder, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6452)
Hampton Roads Commandery
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Anthony Carmen Markette

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Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Commandery
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Died 11 February 2009

CAPT Stephen Jay Masse, USCG (Ret.)

(Certificate 6401)
Massachusetts Commandery
Joined 30 August 1989
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(Certificate 6859)
San Francisco Commandery
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Died 10 August 2008

CAPT Roger C. Metz, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6980)
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Died 20 November 2020

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Philadelphia Commandery
Joined 30 May 1992
Died 15 August 2017

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Florida Keys Commandery
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Died 27 November 2007

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Illinois Commandery
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Died 19 April 2012

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(Certificate 6499)
Southwest Commandery
Joined 11 November 1989
Died 24 December 2020

CAPT Keith Montgomery Ott, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 9828)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 06 August 2018
Died 24 May 2021

CAPT Richard S. Reade, Jr., USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6937)
New York City Commandery
Joined 10 June 1992
Died 16 June 2003

Dr. Frederick Edgar Reed, Jr. MD

(Certificate 9164)
Charleston Commandery
Joined 03 February 2013
Died 12 December 2019

CDR Salvador Romo, USCG (Ret.)

(Certificate 9209)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 15 May 2012
Died 30 September 2019

CAPT Peter Skerchock, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6866)
New York City Commandery
Joined 02 March 1992
Died 17 January 2021

Samuel Anders Sorenson

(Certificate 9189)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 05 August 1992
Died 01 June 2013

John X. Stefanki

(Certificate 6883)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 02 December 1991
Died 22 December 2011

LtCol John Richard Stevens, USMC (Ret.)

(Certificate 8665)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 07 May 2007
Died 25 May 2021

CAPT Rodney Lee Stewart, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6943)
New Mexico Commandery
Joined 17 August 1992
Died 11 October 2018

CAPT Benjamin Thomas Sutherlin, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6933)
Long Beach Commandery
Joined 28 July 1992
Died 23 October 2013

LCDR Harvey Albert Taylor, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6445)
Illinois Commandery
Joined 29 September 1989
Died 15 March 2000

CAPT Billy Banks Traweek, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6419)
Texas Commandery
Joined 01 August 1989
Died 19 January 2011

CAPT David Mathieson Walker, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6858)
Texas Commandery
Joined 03 February 1992
Died 23 April 2001

The Honorable John William Warner, III

(Certificate 8940)
National Capital Commandery
Joined 14 October 2009
Died 25 May 2021

LCDR Thomas Clinton Winant, USN (Ret.)

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San Francisco Commandery
Joined 07 Mar 2014
Died 17 September 2020

Elizabeth Williams Wulff

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Joined 28 September 1989
Died 23 January 2016



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sew-on	_____	\$30.00
• Naval Order Flag (3' x 5') two sides	_____	\$85.00
• Naval Order Banner (3' x 5') one side	_____	\$50.00
• NOUS Baseball Cap - plain bill	_____	\$20.00
• NOUS Ball Cap "eggs" 05/06	_____	\$22.00
• NOUS Ball Cap "eggs" Flag Officer	_____	\$25.00
• NOUS Pima Cotton Golf Shirt _____Black _____White _____Royal Blue Size S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____	_____	\$40.00
• Aloha Shirt Men's - Size S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ Women's - Size S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____	_____	\$40.00
• NOUS Polo Shirt-Light Blue, Picqué Cotton (clearance)	_____	\$10.00
• Padded presentation folders, horizontal or vertical	_____	\$10.00

	Quantity	Price
• Naval Order Medallion (4" diameter, brass) with mounting post	_____	\$35.00
without mounting post	_____	\$35.00
• "Navy Heroes of Normandy" DVD	_____	\$ 5.00
• Challenge Coin 2010 commemorating 100 Years of Naval Aviation	_____	\$ 8.00
2013 Charleston	_____	\$ 8.00
2015 New Orleans	_____	\$ 8.00
2019 Boston	_____	\$ 8.00
• NOUS Window Decal (shipping included)	_____	\$ 2.00
• NOUS Coffee Mug, two sides	_____	\$20.00
• Commander General's medals (large)	_____	\$20.00
• Commander General's medals (small)	_____	\$15.00

Past and Present National Officers and Commandery Commanders only:

• Naval Order Blazer Patch w/Crest pin-on	_____	\$35.00
sew-on	_____	\$35.00
• Naval Order Cross with Neck Suspension Ribbon (Large medal, 1 1/4" 2 sides, worn with formal attire only)	_____	\$35.00

California Residents add 8.66% sales tax

If total order is \$5 or more, ADD SHIPPING.

\$6.00 within USA; \$15.00 international

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____

Email _____

Street _____ Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Commandery _____