

NAVAL ORDER

of the UNITED STATES

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Colonel Allan F.P. Cruz assumes duties as **Commander General** of the **Naval Order of the United States**

Col Cruz is the first Marine to take the helm of the Naval Order in over 20 years, and only the second in our long history.

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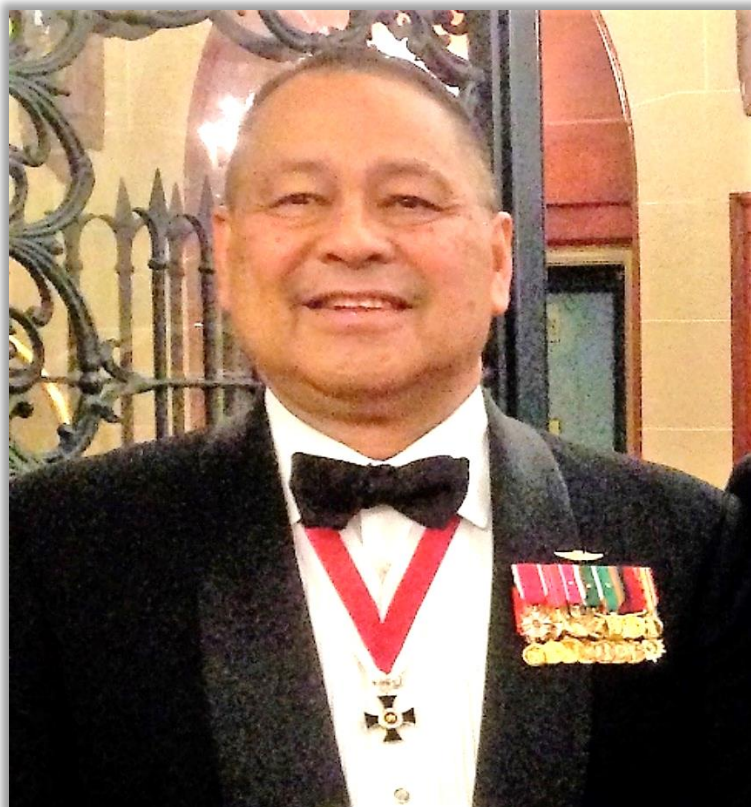


Judy Pearson, Vance Morrison and John Shanahan below decks during tour of the USS Constitution.



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Dear Companions,

I would like to start by thanking CAPT Paul H. Crissy, USCG (Ret.), our immediate past Commander General, for his hard work and leadership over the past two years.

I would also be remiss to not acknowledge CAPT Michelle H. Lockwood, USN (Ret.) and CAPT Vance H. Morrison, USN (Ret.), both previous commander generals, who have helped me understand the responsibilities of my new role as the Commander General of the Naval Order of the United States of America.

The heart and soul of the Naval Order is the local commandery. Each individual commandery tells our unique story. Each member's service highlights everything that the Maritime Services have accomplished.

There are three areas that I will concentrate on during my tour.

- The first is recruiting. I will continue our efforts to increase our membership across all categories. Our WWII veterans are in their nineties. Our Vietnam era veterans are in their seventies. Our challenge lies with the generations that have followed.
- The second area is our succession planning. I have named CAPT Robert Whitkop, USN (Ret.) as the Commander General-Elect. I intend to involve CAPT Whitkop at every level of our efforts. We are actively looking at our former commandery commanders and others and creating the pool of potential leaders at the national level.
- The third area is to ensure that all commanderies are current with the new requirements of the Internal Revenue Service and their local state governments.

The 2020 Congress next October will be held in Buffalo, New York. More information will be provided by fellow Companion Commander Michael P. Zuffoletto CHC, USN (Ret.).



On behalf of your Naval Order leadership I wish each companion and their loved ones a very happy new year!

Colonel Allan F.P. Cruz, USMC (Ret.)
Commander General

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON THE BOSTON CONGRESS

I had a great time at the Boston Congress. This was my fourth Congress and I hope to be in Buffalo next year. Congresses are a lot of hard work and require months of planning and coordination beforehand and during the Congress itself. As we say in the sea services, Bravo Zulu to the team that did all the heavy lifting. You all did a fantastic job.

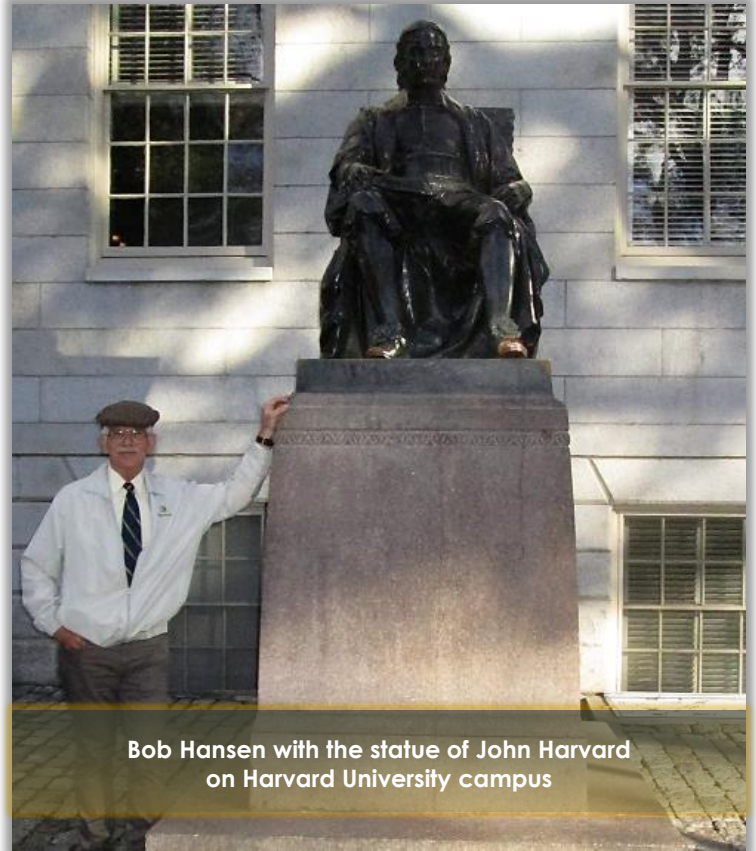
It had been 40 years since my last visit to Boston. I wanted to see the USS *Constitution*. I knew the ship's history and had been gifted with both a *Constitution* challenge coin and necktie from shipmates who had been there recently. Fellow San Francisco companion, CAPT Tom Snyder, was on the same flight. Our connecting flight in Houston was delayed for several hours and after they sorted things out, we were gifted with a voucher for a future flight. We shared a ride and arrived at our venue at a reasonable hour.

Our venue was the Constitution Inn. It was originally built as a YMCA in 1917 at the Boston Naval Shipyard. The historic Shipyard, opened in 1801, was closed in 1975. Now the Boston National Historical Park, its mission is "to interpret the art and history of naval shipbuilding." While being upgraded and repurposed, it is used to berth the museum ships USS *Cassin Young* (DD 793) and the USS *Constitution*. The Inn itself is being rehabilitated. As the shipyard transitions, and infrastructure and facilities are improved, the Inn should reap the benefit and develop into a prime facility.

The meat and potatoes of the Congress started on Wednesday with committee reports. The registration table was set up in the same large function room used for committee reports and our official events. We found a Dunkin Donuts and 7/11 with a deli in a building up the street. Some of the donuts made their way to our workspaces in short order. Hard at work while we made our reports were Lou Orsini and Bob Whitcop taking minutes and working audiovisual respectively.

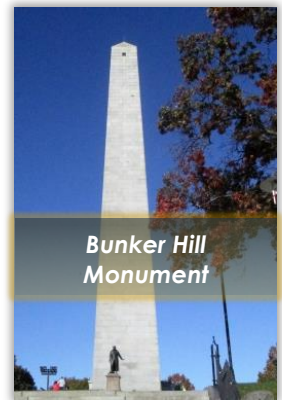
After I finished my reports, I searched out the Massachusetts Transit Authority. Friendly locals helped me navigate the system. After a couple of missteps, I exited at Harvard Square, walked around the campus until my cousin, who lives in the suburb of Cambridge, picked me up.

My cousin MariPaz, and her husband Earl, both hold doctorate degrees and are very prominent in their respective fields. After a nice meal with their daughter and granddaughter, they were kind enough to drop me back at the Constitution Inn.



Bob Hansen with the statue of John Harvard on Harvard University campus

Thursday we had more committee meetings (and donuts). Many of us took the opportunity to walk the Freedom Trail, a unique collection of churches, meeting houses, burial grounds, parks, and historic markers that tell the story of the American Revolution and beyond. The walk starts with the USS *Constitution* itself. Later in the afternoon we toured the USS *Constitution* museum and had a private tour of the *Constitution* – the Naval Order's flagship.



Bunker Hill Monument

The private tour took us below decks to places that usually aren't shown to visitors. Many companions bumped our heads multiple times on the overhead.

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PERSONAL REFLECTIONS...



Constitution crewman shows companions around below deck

Overlooking the *Constitution* and the start of the Freedom Trail, is the historic Commandant's House. The house, which dates to 1804, was the home of the Commandant of the Boston Navy Yard and subsequently the Commandant of the First Naval District when headquartered in Boston. During the Congress, it hosted the Commander General's reception. The reception was a great opportunity for companions to meet and make friends, and enjoy the ambience of the historic structure.



Companions Lou Orsini, Anthony Atwood, Aaron Bresnahan, and Joe Valenta enjoy each other's company at the Commander General's reception

The Commander General's reception was the prelude to the real business of the Congress. On Friday morning, companions gathered in the large function room for the official opening of the Congress with the presentation of colors by the USS *Constitution* Color Guard in their period uniforms. The National Anthem was played, invocation was given, and the bell tolled to remember companions who had passed.

After administrative remarks, I gave the Credentials Committee Report. We had a quorum and could proceed with the business of the Naval Order.

The reports were given apace. Outgoing Commander General Paul Crissy recognized many companions who had contributed to his successful tenure. Special lifetime achievement awards were given to Lou Orsini, Joe Valenta, and Bill Waylett.



CAPT William Waylett, USN (Ret.)



CDR Lou Orsini, USCG (Ret.)



CAPT Joe Valenta, USN (Ret.)

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Charleston Commandery companions receive CAPT Jan Armstrong Award from RADM Bill Merlin



San Francisco Commandery companions pose with LCDR Lee Douglas Award

During the luncheon that followed, Charleston and San Francisco were recognized for their efforts during the past year and the Distinguished Sea Service-Senior Enlisted Award was announced for Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Reserve, Eric L. Johnson, USCG (Ret.). Unfortunately, Master Chief Johnson could not attend, and presentation of the award was accomplished by National Capital Commandery during their Pearl Harbor Commemoration.

Highlights of every Congress are the historical presentations and lectures. After lunch, Companion CAPT Marc Liebman spoke on *“Naval Lessons Learned of the American Revolution.”* CAPT Liebman was followed by author James L. Haley who spoke on *“Naval Fiction and Historical Literacy: CAPT Putnam’s Most Desperate Adventure.”* Haley’s forte is works of fiction, using real events and real individuals. CAPT Liebman is a prolific author in his own right. He and Mr. Haley both took the time to offer autographed copies of their books for sale to interested companions.



CAPT Marc Liebman, USN (Ret.)



Mr. James L. Haley

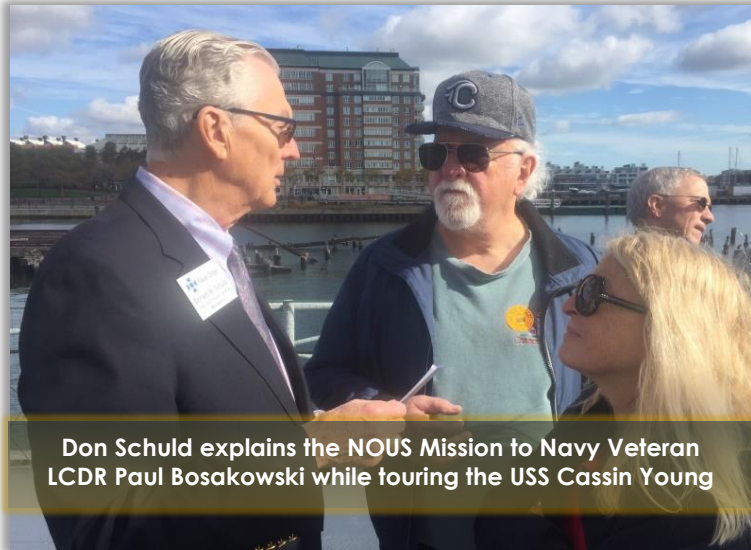
Friday evening was free for companions to socialize and sample Boston’s culinary fare.

Saturday was more committee reports. It was announced that CAPT Robert “Bob” Whitkop, USN (Ret.) would be the prospective Commander General and would succeed Col Allan Cruz as Commander General in 2021. It was also confirmed that next year’s Congress would be in Buffalo, New York. San Diego would be the site in 2021. Also, under consideration is the Washington D.C. metro area and somewhere in the Northwest. Planning for Buffalo is well along and everything is on track for a fantastic Congress. The other venues are still in the evaluation stage.

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PERSONAL REFLECTIONS...

Before lunch, many companions took the time to walk back to the Constitution Museum to pick up souvenirs and revisit exhibits. The museum ship USS *Cassin Young* (DD 793) is berthed nearby and many of us took time for a tour of the historic Fletcher class destroyer. Several tourists asked us about the Naval Order and Companion Don Schuld was happy to share information.



Don Schuld explains the NOUS Mission to Navy Veteran LCDR Paul Bosakowski while touring the USS *Cassin Young*



Naval Order companions pose for the camera in front of *Cassin Young*

Saturday's lunch honored ADM James Robert Hogg, USN (Ret.), who received the ADM of the Navy George Dewey Award. ADM Hogg will receive his award during the Newport Commandery's Pearl Harbor Dinner.

After lunch, San Francisco companion RADM Tom Andrews, (SC) USN (Ret.) spoke on the 'Battle of Leyte Gulf'.

This was a timely presentation since the Congress took place during the 75th anniversary of the battle itself. Also, RADM Andrews' late father fought in the actual battle. RADM Andrews talked extensively on his father's service and rued the fact that his father didn't share more details of his experiences and his service on a destroyer. Destroyers are not always given their just due in accounts of the battle that focus heavily on Battleship and Carrier action. The Battle was the last in which Battleships executed the classic "crossing the T" maneuver.



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

CAPT Liebman returned to make another presentation on a subject that has been very much in the news recently – North Korea. He called his presentation "North Korea—the Threat, the Truth, and Our Options." He posited options for dealing with the situation vis a vis the Kim regime. Although it's impossible to draw absolute conclusions, he did note that Kim Il Jun was educated in the west, probably speaks English and has no intention of giving up his nuclear capabilities. All the diplomatic posturing is just that – posturing and he expects nothing will be resolved.

Saturday evening was our Distinguished Sea Service Award (DSSA) banquet. It gives us the opportunity to put on our finery and celebrate the formalities of a traditional "dining out." Gold was abundant as we honored ADM Mark Ferguson III, USN (Ret.) for his service and added him to our membership roster. It was also at the DSSA banquet that the proverbial torch was passed from CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.) to the newest Commander General Colonel Allan F.P. Cruz, USMC (Ret.) in a traditional Change of Command ceremony. Col Cruz is the first Marine to take the helm of the Naval Order in over 20 years, and only the second in our long history.

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Commander General Crissy presents the DSSA award to ADM Ferguson as his wife, Lauré, looks on

It was a rainy Sunday morning as we gathered in the lobby of the Constitution Inn to check out. I said goodbye to my fellow companions as we headed home. On the way, I noted the various attractions along the way that I would have liked to see but didn't get around to visiting. The trip home was by way of Kansas City with a change of flights in San Diego. The flight up the coast was torturous – the worst turbulence I had ever experienced. Everyone on the aircraft breathed a sigh of relief when it finally touched down.

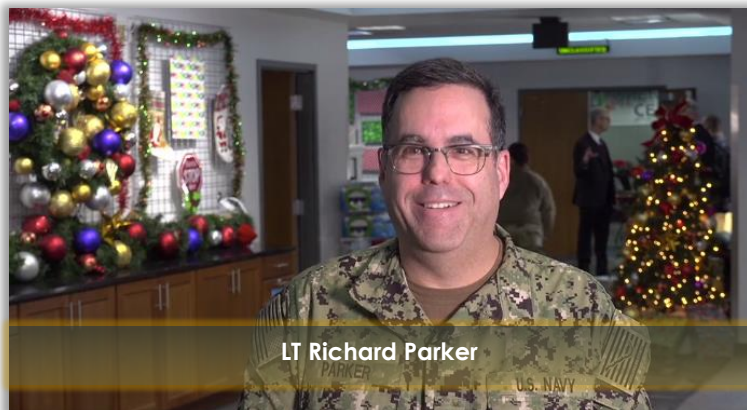
I left a lot of incidental details out. Even while we were in Boston there was a lot of action behind the scenes and spirited discussions about suggested policy changes. Lou Orsini took minutes (see navalorder.org for details). For more photos, see pages 34 & 35, and our website and Facebook pages. For video clips of the oral presentations, check the links listed below. Thanks to prospective Commander General, Bob Whitkop, for audio visual services.

- Battle of Leyte Gulf: tinyurl.com/wctcuz9
- Lessons from the American Revolution: tinyurl.com/ygjdkk3z
- Devil in Paradise: tinyurl.com/ydkl7fyw

Hope to see everyone in Buffalo next year!

**Submitted by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.)
Vice Commander General for Communications**

This past fall, LT Richard Parker served as the Project Officer for "NORAD Tracks Santa" at Peterson AFB, Colorado.



LT Richard Parker

As Project Officer, he was responsible for personnel and logistical oversight of more than 1500 volunteers who worked on the project and helped coordinate with more than 30 corporate partners, that assisted in making one of the DOD's biggest outreach programs a huge success. In addition to his duties as Project Officer, he also appeared in three on-camera interviews and a radio interview. You can find one of the interviews on the DOD's website: tinyurl.com/yeoc3sdf.

NORAD has been tracking Santa since 1955 when a young child accidentally dialed the unlisted phone number of the Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD) Operations Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, believing she was calling Santa Claus after seeing a promotion in a local newspaper.

Air Force Colonel Harry Shoup, the commander on duty that night, was quick to realize a mistake had been made, and assured the youngster that CONAD would guarantee Santa a safe journey from the North Pole.

Thus, a tradition was born that rolled over to NORAD when it was formed in 1958. Each year since, NORAD has dutifully reported Santa's location on December 24 to millions across the globe.

Each year, the NORAD Tracks Santa Web Site receives nearly fifteen million unique visitors from more than 200 countries and territories around the world. This year, "NORAD Tracks Santa Operations Center" answered more than 154,000 calls from across the globe.

Submitted by Aaron Bresnahan

Old Saying – Once a Sailor, Always a Sailor!

Sailors not only just serve aboard ships. Many also serve in specialized units such as deep-sea diving and underwater demolition. These sailors form the “crew” of that specialized unit. The personal bonds of the individuals in that kind of crew, makes them “special” shipmates.

Years ago, some friends gave me a handmade, wooden plaque of a ship. On it was a brass plate that read: “Shipmate-Fellow Seafarer, Trusted Family Member - like a companion and friend in fair weather and foul.”

A second definition would simply be: Petty Officer First Class William F. McLoughlin, USN (Ret.).



Petty Officer First Class William F. McLoughlin

The term Shipmate is not something that just anyone can use or have applied to them - they must have served together in some manner; from small units to large ships, wearing the Navy uniform, and been a sailor in our Navy. We refer to each other as shipmates.

As the definition says, shipmates look out for one another and for each other's families. For career sailors, this is more than a simple way of life. It is ingrained in us. It is how we think; every hour, every day. When we retire, intellectually we know that the relationship between ourselves and our Navy cannot, and will not, be the same. However, in our hearts, what we really, really miss most, is being part of a crew. We are now outsiders to the active duty Navy and its sailors. We can watch, but we cannot stand the watch! It takes some adjusting and the transition kind of hurts - until - until - one figures out how to continue being a shipmate to those standing the watch for us today.

I suspect that Bill went through that transition and loneliness as he started on his career in “Civie Street”, and he looked for a way to continue to be a shipmate to those on active duty.

Bill, like many of us, found the Navy League!

And so, on 1 February 1985, Bill joined the Navy League in Rochester, New York (we think).

I don't know what he did in those early years, however I have a pretty good idea of what he did here in the Mayport Council area - at least after I met him in 1999 when I joined Bill in the retired community and the Navy League.

Bill worked tirelessly within the Mayport Community, enabling the various activities that supported our local Sea Services and their families.

Bill served as the Northeast Florida Navy League Area President, guiding the leadership of the Mayport, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, and other area Navy League Councils. Bill served on the National Navy League Executive Committee in 2011 and 2012 and as a Navy League National Director for well over a decade.

Bill was designated a Navy League National Director Emeritus on 1 November 2012.

Now all of that is good general information, but you ask, what did he really do - let me give you a couple of examples:

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When the Mayport Council was the sponsor for the annual Battle of Midway Dinners - black tie events with some 800 plus attendees - Bill worked tirelessly to promote the event, ensure that the state and national flags were always present, and that the evening was superbly executed to honor both the heroes of that epic battle who gave their lives, and also to ensure that those Midway Veterans who were still with us and attending were given superb recognition. These were huge events and Bill was an integral part of the crew that made it happen.

Closer to the waterfront, Bill led the Mayport Navy League Council Team that met every ship returning to their Mayport homeport from a major deployment, over 175 ships! These teams present small American flags to everyone on the pier, from little bitty babies to great grandmothers, so when the ship came alongside the pier, the crew was greeted with a sea of waving American flags. Bill met hundreds of ships, and his teams handed out tens of thousands of American flags to the families of our Mayport sailors waiting to greet their loved ones.

The famous poet, Maya Angelou, had a beautiful saying: *"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."*

Bill put smiles on so many faces and made them feel good. Because of that, we, and many, many others, will not forget Bill. 1 On 18 July, the day after Bill sailed on, I led our Mayport Navy Leaguers as we greeted the USS *Fort McHenry* (LSD-43) as she returned home to Mayport.

With Bill looking down on us to make sure we did it right, we continued his legacy and handed out hundreds of our, your, American flags to Fort McHenry families.

Bill made his final voyage on 17 July 2019. Eighty-nine well lived, well-loved, and well-served years for God, Country, Family, and Friends. Well Done in Navy signals is the flags B, or Bravo, and Z, or Zulu. Bravo Zulu, Shipmate, Companion, and Tough Dude, Bill!

Submitted by RADM G. Huchting, USN (Ret.)

Historical Markers and the Timucuan Preserve

The Florida First Coast Commandery is forming a partnership with the National Park Service in Jacksonville to help preserve the History of the St. John's River and its Native, as well as French and Spanish, heritage and history. A key to this historical preservation is the preserve located along the banks of the river.

The Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve was named in honor of the Timucua Indians who inhabited the St. Johns River valley for thousands of years and were settled in the area at the time of first contact with Europeans. Today, it is one of the remaining unspoiled Atlantic coastal wetlands. The Preserve encompasses 46,000 acres of diverse biological systems within the city limits of Jacksonville, the largest city in area in the continental United States. The St. Johns River, which passes through the Preserve, has been recognized with both "American Heritage Rivers" and "America's Great Waters" designations. With over 200 archeological sites providing evidence of over 6,000 years of human habitation, as well as numerous historic structures, the park offers a rich visitor experience in the natural and cultural history of the area.

Shell middens and ceremonial shell rings serve as archeological evidence of early American Indian occupation of the region and provide insight into the lives of the Timucua and other pre-European contact civilizations. The history of French, Spanish, English, Union, and Confederate control of the area has also been documented and interpreted for visitors.

Throughout its expanse, the Preserve encompasses a diverse variety of sites and structures that tell a number of unique stories. The Ribault Monument consists of a stone column memorial commemorating the landing of Jean Ribault near the mouth of the St. Johns River in 1562. Ribault erected a stone column bearing the coat of arms of King Charles IX to claim the land for France. The original site of the landing is believed to be in the area where Naval Station Mayport now stands.

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The Mayport Ship Basin is formerly known as Ribault Bay.



Monument to Jean Ribault near the Timucuan Preserve HQ overlooking the St John's River
(Photo: National Park Service, Timucuan Preserve)

The 600-acre Theodore Roosevelt Area of the Preserve can be experienced through hiking and bicycle trails. The Cedar Point boat ramp is a launch site for private boats and provides fishing, hiking and bird-watching opportunities.

Kingsley Plantation is a 60-acre site nestled alongside the Fort George River, also within the Preserve. It is home to one of the most extensive collections of tabby slave quarters in the nation; 25 out of the original 32 buildings. The historic site also possesses a barn, kitchen house, and plantation house, all dating from Spanish Florida's period of slavery and plantation agriculture. Kingsley Plantation represents a microcosm of both Spanish and American slave systems, as illustrated by the lives of Zephaniah Kinsley and Anna, his Senegalese wife.



Beautiful Wetlands on the St John's River making up part of the vast Timucuan Preserve Round Marsh

Federal ownership of the Timucuan Preserve amounts to 8,430 acres, just 18% of the land is within the boundaries. The Park Service works toward a goal of continued preservation and protection in partnership with other landowners, including the State of Florida, City of Jacksonville, and U.S. Navy, as well as over 300 private land and homeowners.

The First Coast Commandery is embarking on a partnership project to identify sections of the preserve, within the bounds of Naval Station Mayport, with historical markers, a project originally conceived back in 1986 by then Congressman Charles Bennet. More on this project in the next newsletter.

Seaside Social

In support of the extended and near endless summer in NW Florida, the Florida First Coast Commandery gathered recently at an intimate restaurant and watering hole called Mavi's for a monthly social. A marvelous little getaway at the foot of the Intercoastal Waterway Bridge, Mavi's is perfectly suited for our formerly seafaring lot, as it also is located at a Marina (home of the Freedom Boat Club) on the Intercoastal a few miles south of the St. John's River and a mere two miles from the Atlantic Ocean.



John and Carol O'Neal up front of our long table at Mavi's in Jax Beach

Best Conch Fritters in town! We will be back!

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Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner

The Florida First Coast Commandery gathered on 8 December to remember the attack on the U.S. Military Forces at Pearl Harbor and outlying fields in Hawaii on 7 Dec 1941.

The event was held at the Ocean Breeze Conference Center at Naval Station Mayport. Our guest speaker was RADM Donald Gabrielson, USN, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/Commander 4th Fleet. He is responsible for the Caribbean Sea Area and the waters and country relationships in Central and South America.

Also joining us for the dinner was MGEN Michael Fahey III, USMC, Commander U.S. Marine Forces Southern Command; CAPT Jason Canfield, USN, CO, NS Mayport; and Mrs. Erin Brown, wife of VADM Rich Brown, Commander U.S. Naval Surface Forces.

Following the Invocation and Pledge, a commemoration of POW-MIAs was read. The gathering acknowledged the presence of Companion CWO Nick Chan, USN (Ret.), who has been a driving force in establishing the National MIA Museum at the former NAS Cecil Field in West Jacksonville.



CAPT Whitkop, USN (Ret.), RADM Gabrielson, USN, and MGEN Fahey, USMC, cut the cake following dinner

Following a great dinner and cake cutting by our honored guests, RADM Gabrielson spoke to the group.

He spoke of the readiness and resilience of the Forces of the Pacific Fleet against the superior numbers and capabilities of the Japanese, at least on paper. He went on to compare the forces then to the force readiness today. He indicated that our young men and women today are every bit as dedicated and committed as any forces in the

past, and are being equipped with technologies to ensure success in the future.

He pointed out the improvements in training and tactics being implemented today with virtual training opportunities and the upcoming renewal of Major Fleet exercises. In Mayport, a hub for the ever-increasing numbers of LCS Ships, full up trainers are in place with a full navigation training capability in the offing.

During questions he acknowledged the issues in some recent collisions but assured all that these past shortcomings have been aggressively addressed and focus on training our crews has never been better in both tactics and navigation.



CAPT Whitkop presents RADM Gabrielson with a commemorative coin

History bears many lessons and we must never forget the lessons of the past and be every ready and vigilant to the threats to our Democracy and way of life. We must train and be ready for the NEXT conflict and avoid becoming arrogant or complacent! Editor's Note: CAPT Bob Whitkop has been elected as the prospective Commander General of our Naval Order for 2021-23.

Submitted by RADM G. Huchting, USN (Ret.)

Monterey Bay Commandery Pearl Harbor Day Wreath Ceremony

The sun had just begun to break through the storm clouds on a wet Friday December 6th morning here on the Monterey Peninsula when the first call to colors was sounded and the honor guards came to attention.

Today, as in years past, we remembered those events so many years ago on December 7, 1941; the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and our country's formal entry into World War II.

This day, Monterey Bay Naval Order companions joined with members of Monterey Peninsula Council of the Naval League of the United States to place a wreath at the flagpole in front of Hermann Hall to honor those many that lost their lives on that day.

The morning ceremony was held at the historic Hotel Del Monte, now called Hermann Hall. It is the home of the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) on the grounds of the Naval Support Activity Monterey.



Monterey High School NJROTC Cadets preparing to fold our National Colors
Official US Navy Photos by PO2 Huy Tonthat, USN

Following the normal flag protocol of raising our national flag, the military detail remained for the placing of a joint Naval Order/Navy League wreath. The Monterey High School Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) conducted the flag presentation ceremony with somber protocol.

Naval War College (NWC) professor, John Sheehan, spoke about the events of 7 December 1941.



“We are gathered together this morning in remembrance of a national tragedy. It is fitting that what dominates our thoughts—what we remember first and most—is the sacrifice of the 2,403 military and civilians killed in the attack, and then the loss experienced by all those families. Beyond the valor of those who fought back and survived, however, there is little to celebrate in strict remembrance of those events 78 years ago. On the other hand, if we choose to remember Pearl Harbor for what the attack and its aftermath tell us about the character of the American nation, then to recall the event becomes a reaffirmation of what is great and good in our people. We need only to examine three-character traits brought forth in spades on that day, traits that then resonated throughout the war, and that still have purchase today.

The first American character trait highlighted by the attack on Pearl Harbor was adaptability. The Japanese and American navies had—over the course of decades—developed intricate plans for how they thought the Pacific War would unfold. The American War Plan Orange called for the U.S. battleship force to fight its way west across the ocean, with aircraft carriers to scout the way, U.S. Marines aboard for security, and submarines along for close escort.

The power of the U.S. Navy was centered squarely

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on its battleships, and so the issue was to be decided in the far-western Pacific by a massive slugfest between Japanese and American battlewagons.

Those plans were made moot by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Of the eight battleships in port that Sunday morning, none were available for action after the attack. At least in the short-term, there would be no grand American battleship sortie across the Pacific; an entirely new plan was required. Here is where the American character trait of adaptability had a hand to play. Once the escorts were unshackled from the battleships, they were repurposed to great effect: aircraft carriers replaced the battleships as the primary way to attack the Japanese Navy, U.S. Marines perfected amphibious operations to roll back the Japanese Empire, and American submarines took the war to Japanese shipping and economy, all vital in a long war. In short, American adaptability saved the day.

The second American character trait highlighted by Pearl Harbor was resiliency. You see, all along the Japanese knew they could never conquer the United States, but that is not to say they could not win. What the Japanese wanted was Manchuria and China and hegemony in Asia, and the only power that could stop them was America. Japan could win—it could get everything it wanted—only if America quit. What Japan needed was a single, sharp blow that would crack the U.S. will, that would make the U.S. decide to let go of China and the rest of Asia through a negotiated settlement instead of fight.

But instead, American resiliency saved the day. America did not quit. Six of those eight battleships were refloated. Instead of shattering, American resolve hardened after the Japanese attack, leading to an unlimited war aim. Not only would the U.S. persevere, but Japan would lose everything as a result of their dastardly surprise attack.

U.S. History is replete with setbacks that served to stiffen American spines, just think of the war cries: “Remember Bunker Hill,” “Remember the Alamo,” “Remember the Maine,” “Remember Pearl Harbor,” and most recently “Remember September 11 2001.” None of these were glorious victories.

While Britain celebrated the miracle rescue at Dunkirk, Churchill cautioned “wars are not won by successful evacuations,” but I think he’d agree that such events do serve a larger purpose and can contribute mightily to national resiliency.

The third American character trait highlighted by Pearl Harbor was determination. Once the task was before them, Americans would find a way. Think of the home front, of rationing, of Victory gardens. Consider war production, and the astounding fact that the United States constructed an entire fleet that arrived by summer of 1943. This was not a beaten people. To some extent, the sacrifices of those that had gone before lighted the way, fed the long methodical struggle through the darkest days in the Pacific, and led to the incremental dividends of the Doolittle Raid, Coral Sea, Midway, Guadalcanal, Tarawa, the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. Even late in the war, after the momentum had swung to favor the U.S., the dread of amphibious assault of the Japanese home islands darkened the horizon. But, to use the words of Edward R. Murrow, Americans “are not descended from fearful men,” and American determination saved the day.

So, we are gathered here together today to honor those brave souls who fought at Pearl Harbor not only for their sacrifices of that day, but for the enduring contribution their examples made to the entire war effort. Their actions brought out the best in us, ignited our courage, and gave us purpose. They animated the response of the nation that they had served. Through them, American adaptability, resiliency, and determination shone forth. Thus, we commemorate Pearl Harbor not strictly for the past, but for our collective future. I’m reminded of a speech that rings as true today in contemplation of Pearl Harbor as when Lincoln spoke these words as he contemplated his own war. At both Gettysburg and Pearl Harbor, those who fought have left us a mission: *“...to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave their last full measure of devotion—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.”*

Continued on next page....

Those who died in the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor would have felt their lives cheaply bought had not their countrymen shouldered the load and strived mightily to right accounts. The American character traits of adaptability, resiliency, and determination, so conspicuously on display at Pearl Harbor, echoed through the course of the Pacific War and avenged those comrades. It is fitting that we should remember."

Members and guests in attendance included ADM "Hank" Mauz, USN (Ret.) and RADM Jerry Ellis, USN (Ret.). VADM Ann Rondeau, USN (Ret.), President of the Naval Postgraduate School, presented each NJROTC Cadet an "official" NPS challenge coin.

Following the ceremony, the guests were escorted into Hermann Hall dining room for a traditional Friday military breakfast. Special note of appreciation to LTCOL Dave Overton, USMC (Ret.) for making this event so successful.



Monterey High School NJROTC Cadets fold the flag



The wreath is placed by a Monterey High School NJROTC Cadet

Submitted by CAPT Ken Johnson, USN (Ret.)

Pearl Harbor Wreath-laying at Tomb of the Unknowns

It was a bright and chilly Saturday, 7 December when representatives from the National Capital Commandery conducted their annual wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Each year, following the hourly, ceremonial Changing of the Guard at the tomb, the commandery commemorates, in this manner, the 7 December 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Four wreath-bearers, accompanied by a uniformed member of the Old Guard, carried the wreath to a stand in front of the tomb, and, with the onlookers, stood at attention, while a bugler played taps. This year the wreath-bearers were joined by CAPT Nicholas Walker, Royal Navy, who is assigned to the US Navy Staff's OPNAV N98. He represented the Royal Navy. A second wreath-bearer, YNSN Josh Williams, represented the Navy History and Heritage Command, located at the Washington, D.C. Navy Yard. Wreath-bearers from the commandery were Chief Purser Julius Jackson, USMM (Ret.), Vice Commander, along with fellow companion CAPT Bill Erickson, USN (Ret.). CAPT John Rodgaard, USN (Ret.), immediate past commander, organized the ceremony.

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson and CAPT John Rodgaard, USN (Ret.)

McMullen Naval History Symposium, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland

Nearly 400 historians convened at the biannual McMullen Naval History Symposium at the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA), Annapolis, Maryland on 19 and 20 September 2019. The purpose of this world-renowned event is to highlight the latest research on naval and maritime history from academics and practitioners all over the globe. The symposium is managed and chaired by the USNA History Department.

Simultaneous educational panels were offered throughout the two days, covering a wide range of topics such as Coast Guard Operations during Prohibition, the German Navy in the 20th century, the Royal Navy in the 19th century, historic naval figures, underwater naval archeology, technology and innovation in naval history, the Cold War at sea, historic advances in naval aviation, and many others.

The Naval Order sponsored a three-person panel, with honoraria funded at the national level and approved by fellow companion, Historian General, Dr. John Hattendorf, Ernest J. King Professor Emeritus of Maritime History, U.S. Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. Panelists were selected from the many proposals received by USNA History Department. The selection of panel participants met the criteria of the Naval Order's mission to support academic research in the history of the sea services of the United States.

The title of the Naval Order-sponsored panel was *The U.S. Navy and Centuries of Caribbean History*. The panel presented the following papers:

- Dr. Cori Convertito, of the Key West Art & Historical Society presented "*The Isolated Union Outpost: Key West, David Farragut and the Gulf Blockading Squadron, 1861-1865.*"
- Dr. Hans Christian Bjerg, editor of the *Danish Naval Journal*, presented "*The Purchase of the Virgin Islands in 1917: Mahan and the American Naval Strategy of the Caribbean Sea.*"
- Dr. Nicholas Prime, Independent Scholar, presented "*Controlling Castro: J.C. Wylie and the Decision to Blockade Cuba.*"

Dr. Hattendorf was scheduled to moderate the panel. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend because of a family illness. CAPT John Rodgaard, of the National Capital Commandery, substituted for Dr. Hattendorf. Dr. Sharika Crawford of the USNA History Department was the panel's commentator.

Several Naval Order companions attended and participated in various capacities. The National Capital Commandery was well-represented.

- GySgt Chipp Reid, a doctoral student with the University of Kent, Cambridge, presented a paper titled: "*Nicholas Biddle: The Nelson of the Continental Navy*" in a panel sponsored by the international 1805 Club.
- Dr. David Winkler, representing the USNA and the Naval Historical Foundation, was a commentator for a panel on the Cold War.
- Dr. David Rosenberg, representing the Institute for Defense Analysis, presented a paper titled "*What Burke Wrought: Assessing Admiral Arleigh Burke's Legacy.*"
- Dr. Charles Chadbourn, representing the U.S. Naval War College, moderated a panel on Canadian naval history.
- Dr. Robert Neyland, representing the Navy History and Heritage Command, moderated a panel on Contributions to Underwater Archeology to the Historical Record of the U.S. Navy.
- On Friday evening, the Commodore Dudley W. Knox Award Banquet took place, following the symposium. Two National Capital Commandery companions were prominent in the evening's program. Dr. William Dudley, author and past director of the Naval Historical Center (now the Navy History and Heritage Command) spoke on the behalf of award recipient Commander Tyrone Martin, past commander of the USS *Constitution*, who could not attend.

Companions from other commanderies also attended the McMullen. Dr. Samantha Cavell of the Louisiana Commandery, representing Southeastern

Continued on next page...



The Naval Order panel:

L to R – Dr. Sharika Crawford, Dr. Nicholas Prime, Dr. Hans Christian Bjerg, CAPT John Rodgaard, and Dr. Cori Convertito

Louisiana University, presented a paper titled: “A Second Naval War: The immediate effects of the American War on Royal Navy Operations, June 1812 – July 1813.” She also moderated a panel on the Royal Navy, sponsored by the 1805 Club. CAPT Tom Snyder, of the San Francisco Commandery, represented the Society for the History of Naval Medicine at Friday evening’s Knox Award Banquet.



Dr. Samantha Cavell and CDR BJ Armstrong, Instructor in the USNA History Department and symposium organizer

National Capital Commandery companion, Captain Todd Creekman, has attended many McMullen symposiums, including this one. Summing up the value of the event, he said, “The McMullen is a unique gathering of naval historians from around the world, sharing their research and networking to create new naval history opportunities for the future. The biennial McMullen Symposium keeps the naval history community involved and vibrant!”

My apologies to any companions whom I may have overlooked. For more information about the Knox Award Banquet, see the next article.

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson

Commodore Dudley W. Knox Award Banquet, 2019

The 2019 Commodore Dudley W. Knox Award Banquet was held on 20 September, in conjunction with the McMullen Naval History Symposium. While the symposium is always held in the History Department of the US Naval Academy (USNA), the banquet is held nearby at the Doubletree Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. The banquet is organized by the Naval Historical Foundation.

Commodore Knox was a graduate of the USNA and the Naval War College who served in the Spanish American War and World War I. He was a historian, librarian, and archivist whose work was the impetus for the Naval Historical Foundation. He served as its secretary of two decades and as president at the time of his passing in 1960.

Established in 2013, the Commodore Dudley W. Knox Award recognizes a lifetime of work that embraces scholarship, leadership, and mentoring in naval history.

The names of past award recipients are familiar to Naval Order companions and scholars and researchers of maritime history:

2013: Dr. James C. Bradford, Dr. Philip K. Lundeberg, and Dr. William N. Still.

2014: Dr. William Dudley, Dr. John Hattendorf, Dr. Harold Langley, and Dr. Craig L. Symonds.

2015: Dr. Dean C. Allard, Lt. CDR Thomas J. Cutler, and Dr. Kenneth J. Hagen.

2016: Dr. Christopher McKee

2017: Dr. Edward J. Marolda, CDR Paul Stillwell, and Dr. Jon T. Sumida

This year’s banquet began with a welcome by RADM Masso, USN Ret., Executive Director of the Naval Historical Foundation. CAPT Frances P. Foley, CHC USN, gave the invocation.

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Naval Order Companion, CAPT Tom Snyder, announced the Harold D. Langley Book Prize on the behalf of The Society for the History of Navy Medicine.

This year's recipient was Thomas Helling, MD, for his book, *Desperate Surgery in the Pacific War*.

Following dinner, the Knox awardees were announced, with opening remarks by ADM William Fallon, USN (Ret.), Chairman of the Naval Historical Foundation.

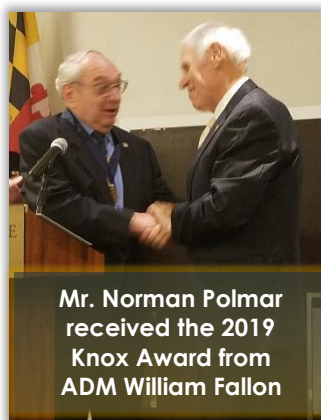
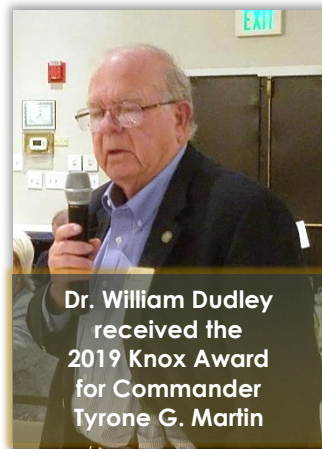
NOUS Companion, Dr. William Dudley, introduced and accepted the 2019 Knox Award on the behalf of CMD Tyrone G. Martin, USN (Ret.) (also a Naval Order Companion, who could not attend.)

Mr. Christopher McKee introduced award recipient Dr. David Skaggs, who received the 2019 Knox Award from ADM Fallon.

Naval Order Companion Dr. David Rosenberg, representing the Institute of Defense Analysis, introduced 2019 Knox Award recipient Mr. Norman Polmar, who received the award from Admiral Fallon.

The evening ended with a benediction by CAPT Francis P. Foley. The Knox Banquet is a stunning gathering of the best of the best authors in naval history.

**Submitted by
Dr. Judy Pearson**



Annual Business Meeting, Siegel Seminar, and Silver Anniversary Club Luncheon

On 21 September, the National Capital Commandery held its Annual Business Meeting, in conjunction with its annual CAPT Kent Siegel Naval History Seminar and first-ever Quarter Century Luncheon, the latter to honor companions who have been with the commandery for 25 years or more; a Silver Anniversary.

Commander, CAPT William Steagall conducted the meeting, reviewing committee reports and the year's accomplishments, as well as plans for future events.

Special guests at this meeting were Chairman of The 1805 Club, Mr. Bill White, and his wife, fellow member of The 1805 Club, Sheila White. The 1805 Club's mission is comparable to that of the Naval Order. The club preserves the history, heritage, archives, monuments, and memorials of the Royal Navy. However, the core focus is on the Georgian Era of the late 18th and early 19th centuries and the memory of Lord Admiral Horatio Nelson. Some members of the Naval Order are also members of The 1805 Club.

The CAPT Kent Siegel Naval History Seminar featured three speakers who had given presentations at the McMullen Naval History Symposium, held 19 and 20 September, at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Two of the McMullen speakers had participated in a three-person panel sponsored by the Naval Order. The title of the panel was "*The U.S. Navy and Centuries of Caribbean History*". CAPT John Rodgaard gave an overview of the McMullen symposium. Dr. Judy Pearson introduced the speakers.

Dr. Hans Christian Bjerg, editor of the *Danish Naval Journal*, who traveled from Denmark, presented "*The Purchase of the Virgin Islands in 1917: Mahan and the American Naval Strategy of the Caribbean Sea.*"

Dr. Nicholas Prime, Independent Scholar, presented "*Controlling Castro: J.C. Wylie and the Decision to Blockade Cuba.*"

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The third speaker was our National Capital Commandery companion, GySgt Chipp Reid, who presented “*Nicholas Biddle: The Nelson of the Continental Navy.*” He had presented this paper at the McMullen in a panel sponsored by The 1805 Club.

The commandery thanked our guest speakers with a donated gift from companion CMD Rick Campbell: copies of his acclaimed naval suspense novel, *The Trident Deception*.



L to R - CAPT John Rodgaard, Dr. Nicholas Prime, CDR Rick Campbell, Dr. Hans Christian Bjerg, and GySgt Chipp Reid

The Quarter Century Club Luncheon was a tribute to 50 living companions who have maintained membership in the commandery and the Naval Order for 25 years or more. Seven such companions, all retired Navy, were present to receive certificates of recognition from CAPT Steagall.



L to R - CAPT William Steagall, CDR, CAPT Charles W. Dougherty, CAPT Neil Bundo, RADM Morton “Jim” Toole, CAPT George Hill, CAPT David Rosenberg, CAPT Vance Morrison (past Commander General), and CAPT Richard J. Stohr

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson

National Capital Commandery Holds Pearl Harbor Commemorative Dinner

Each year, on 7 December, the National Capital Commandery remembers the “date that will live in infamy” with a wreath-laying at Arlington National Cemetery and a commemorative dinner. This year’s Pearl Harbor Commemorative Dinner took place at the Hilton in L’Enfant Plaza, Washington, D.C. with about 50 people in attendance.

The evening began with cocktails and conversations among shipmates, some who had not seen one another for quite some time. When all were seated, CAPT John Prevar USN (Ret.) gave the invocation. Master of Ceremonies, GySgt Chipp Reid USMC (Ret.) spoke about the significance of Pearl Harbor, mentioning the heroism and sacrifices of those who perished and those who fought. Then he moved the evening’s itinerary along smartly.



Master of Ceremonies, GySgt Chipp Reid

During dinner, Immediate Past Commander General, Captain Paul Crissy (USCG Ret.) welcomed our newest companion, Master Chief Eric Johnson (USCG Ret.), recipient of the 2019 Naval Order’s Distinguished Sea Service Award – Senior Enlisted.

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Master Chief Johnson had not been present to receive the award in person at the Naval Order Congress in Boston. Since he lives in the Washington, DC region, it seemed fitting to invite him to join our commandery by recognizing his accomplishments with our own distinguished sea service award, in remembrance of our beloved companion, Master Chief Howard Snell.

CAPT Crissy noted that Master Chief Eric Johnson now stands "First among Firsts" for his many accomplishments and his contributions to the Coast Guard. He was a reservist from 1987 to 2007, while working full time as a State Trooper in Connecticut and, subsequently, in New Hampshire. Upon retirement, he went on active duty with the Coast Guard in 2007. His career included numerous achievements, culminating in an assignment as the personal advisor and assistant to the Commandant in matters affecting enlisted reservists and their families. He guided policy development for managing the enlisted work force, representing the Coast Guard on the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Senior Enlisted Advisor Council.



CAPT Paul Crissy and Master Chief Eric Johnson

Following the award presentation, our companion Dr. David Rosenberg, Captain, USN (Ret.) gave a talk titled "Five Things You Didn't Know about Pearl Harbor." His engaging talk described five geopolitical events that led to the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. He presented a unique perspective on history that most in the audience had not considered.



Dr. David Rosenberg, Captain, USN (Ret.)

Commandery Commander, Captain William Steagall, USN, (Ret.) recognized our immediate past Commander, CAPT John Rodgaard USN (Ret.) for his service to the commandery, with a gift of a boson's pipe. Following a few more formalities, CAPT John Prevar gave the benediction and the evening ended with many thanks to the planning committee: Ms. Katherine Snow, Petty Officer Matthew Bowling (USNR), and CDR John Hooper USCG, (Ret.).

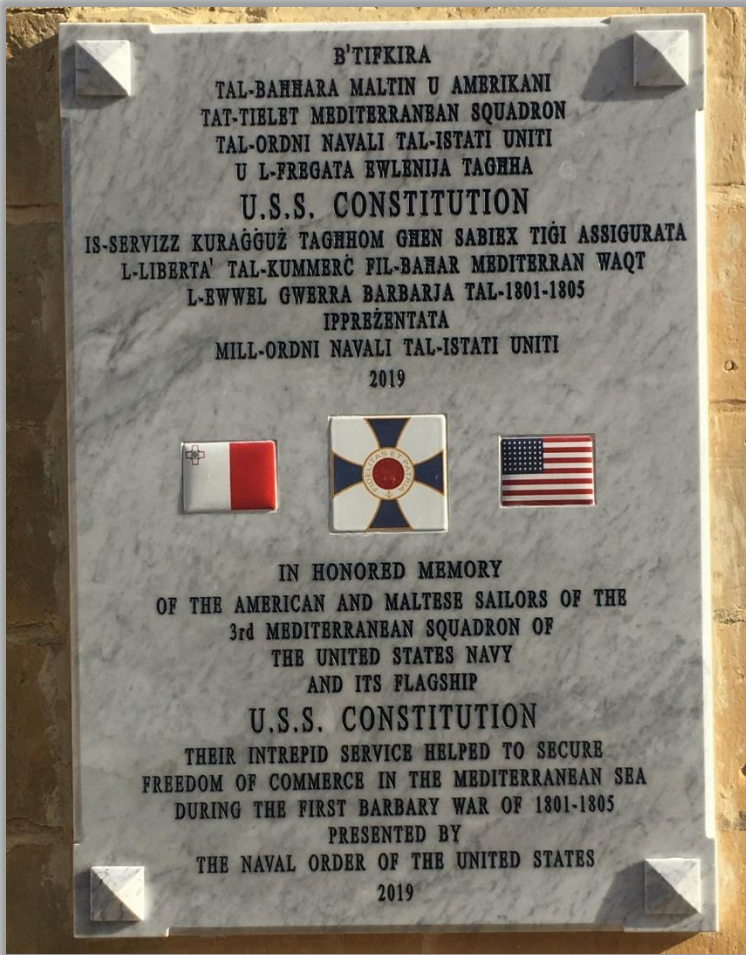


CAPT Bill Steagall thanks immediate past commandery commander, CAPT John Rodgaard, for his leadership during the Commandery's Pearl Harbor Day dinner.

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson

National Capital Commandery Dedicates Historic Marker to The USS Constitution in Malta

On Saturday 16 November 2019, representatives of the National Capital Commandery (NCC) dedicated a historic marker on the island of Malta, in the Mediterranean Sea, to commemorate the presence of the U.S. Navy and the USS Constitution there in the early 1800s.



LCDR Michael Zampella, USN of the National Capital Commandery led the project with support and funding from the commandery and 24 private donors. Diplomatic and U.S. Navy representatives attended, as well as officials of the Maltese government. Malta is an emerging U.S. security partner in the crossroads of the Mediterranean; this is an opportunity to celebrate the history of that partnership and appreciate the endurance of this partnership.

The marker, in both Maltese and English,

commemorates the time during the Barbary Wars when the USS Constitution and the United States Navy Mediterranean Squadron were based in Syracuse, Sicily. Valletta Harbor, in Malta, served as a forward port for operations and as a port of call for USS Constitution and the Squadron in the years following the Barbary Wars. Maltese sailors also served aboard the USS Constitution.

In recent years, the commandery has undertaken similar projects for historic markers at the John Barry memorial statue in Franklin Square and the Old Naval Hospital (now the Hill Community Center) - both in Washington, DC. The Commandery has also installed markers in Cobh and Wexford, Ireland to commemorate the arrival of the U.S. Navy in Ireland during the First World War, and on the island of Menorca, Spain, to mark the establishment of a U.S. Navy hospital there in the early 19th century. In Bermuda, the commandery led a project to replace the gravestone of U.S. Midshipman Richard Sutherland Dale who died there during the War of 1812.



Bravo zulu to LCDR Zampella for a very well executed project.

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CAPT William Steagall USN(Ret.)
and Mr. John Shanahan (VC Strategy)



Mr. John Shanahan, LCDR Timothy Bernadt USCG,
and LCDR Michael Zampella USNR

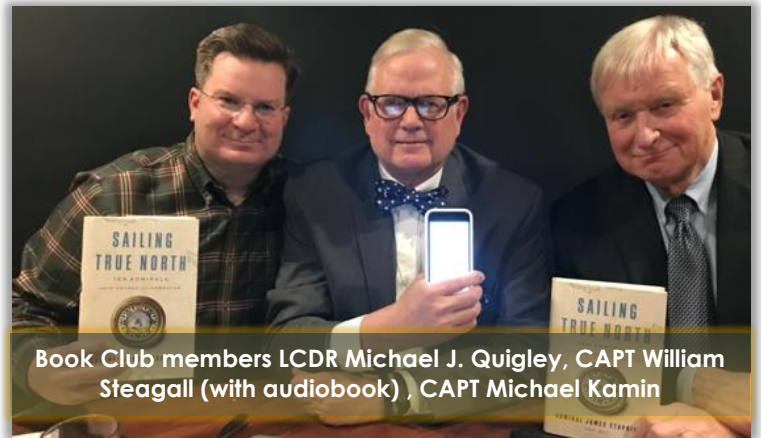
Participants in Malta:
LCDR Michael Zampella USNR, LCDR Timothy Bernadt USCG, Mr. Mark Schapiro, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, US Embassy Malta, Mr. John Shanahan (VC Strategy, NCC), CAPT William Steagall, USN (Ret.), Commander, NCC

Submitted by LCDR Michael Zampella, USN (Ret.)
and CAPT William Steagall, USN, (Ret.)

National Capital Commandery Launches NOUS Book Club on Goodreads

In order to connect with more of our Companions, especially those who live too far to attend one of the many events, we have formed a book club and opened it up to all companions across the Order, regardless of Commandery.

If you would like to join the book club, we are organized at www.goodreads.com as a private group. Join Goodreads (it's free) and let CAPT Steagall know you would like an invitation to the Naval Order of the United States Book Club.



Book Club members LCDR Michael J. Quigley, CAPT William Steagall (with audiobook), CAPT Michael Kamin

We read one book a month and meet (including teleconference call) to discuss. November's book was **Sailing True North – Ten Admirals and the Voyage of Character** by ADM James Stavridis, a Life Companion of the Naval Order. Our December book was **Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order** by Samuel P. Huntington.

Our April book, **The Good Shepherd** by C. S. Forester, is soon to be a major motion picture "Greyhound" starring Tom Hanks.

We will read the book in April and The Matinee Club will see the movie, likely on 9 May, after it premieres the night before. Note that 10 May is Mother's Day, so we could take along the mothers in our lives!

ALL NAVAL ORDER COMPANIONS ARE WELCOME

Winter is here. Let's read. Request your invitation to join by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/sdv2crt>.

Submitted by CAPT William Steagall, USN (Ret.)

Another Successful Year for Naval Order Participation in National History Day State Contests

Following the decade-long ground-work, leadership, liaison, and involvement in various states by CAPT Chuck Chadbourn, MD, Spring 2019 saw an ever-growing involvement of Naval Order Commanderies in the various National History Day (NHD) contests at the state level.

The NHD organization, based in College Park, MD, encourages, facilitates, and sponsors History Day contests in each of the respective States and territories each spring, in which middle and high school students (grades 7-12) are encouraged by their history teachers to craft a term paper, video documentary, display board, performance, or webpage on a history topic that interests them and that aligns with an annually-changing theme.

These students initially compete against each other at the local and regional levels; winners at that level go onto the state contests. As the culmination, the first and second place winners in each category at the state level go on to compete nationally at the UMUC campus in College Park each June for the National honors.

Various NOUS commanderies have been participating in these contests for over 10 years, sending companions as volunteer judges to evaluate naval/maritime history entries. The winners of the first and second prizes in maritime history are awarded cash prizes and a formal award certificate at the state contests provided by the National NOUS History Committee.

New this year were formal "Vision" and "Mission" statements, and a 10-page "NOUS-NHD Coordinators Guide," which helped volunteer NOUS judges integrate into the state level judging teams, properly evaluate maritime history entries, enhance their contribution, and ensure the judges enjoy the judging process. Additionally, our aggressive outreach this past nine months has resulted in several new NHD state coordinators agreeing to integrate our NOUS judges and our maritime history award for the first time in 2020.

The theme for this year's competition was "Tragedy and Triumph in History". The first contest this year was in Louisiana, on 6 April, at the World War II Museum outside New Orleans, where over 400 student scholars competed.

CDR Gary Bair and Dr. Samantha Cavell of the New Orleans Commandery judged the junior and senior division maritime history entries; they were joined by CAPT Chuck Chadbourn, MD.

The awardees for the Naval Order Maritime History prizes are Emma Armstrong, Cameron Kimble, Samantha Lau, Shakira Ramisha, and Mai Tran, for their Sr. Group Exhibit entitled: "The Boat People: The Tragic and Triumphant Stories of the Vietnamese Refugees".



Samantha Lau, Charles Chadbourn, Gary Bair, Samantha Cavell, Mai Tran, Camerin Kimble, Shakera Ramisha, Emma Armstrong (not pictured)

The next NHD State contest was in Washington, DC, hosted by the National Archives, on 10-11 April. CAPT Chadbourn, MD, CDR John Prevar of the National Capitol Commandery, and CAPT Jim Noone, USN (Ret.) of the Naval Historical Foundation Board of Directors, judged this competition and presented Naval Order prizes to Benjamin Evans, Bryan Hutchins, Nona Fromartz, Sol Addison, and Monoma Hadish for their Sr. Division entry entitled "Titanic".

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The Junior Division award went to Ada Silverman for his entry "The Only Way Out: Operation Hannibal and the Evacuation of East Prussia".

Next chronologically was Washington state, hosted by Central Washington State University on 4 May, where CAPT Richard Griffin and his team evaluated term papers and webpages focused on naval/maritime history. No awards were presented.

Next were the California and Pennsylvania contests, both on 10-11 May. The William Jessup University in Jessup hosted the California contest where CAPT Thomas Snyder and Mr. Antonio White of the San Francisco Commandery judged and presented first and second place awards to Kyle Hocking for his entry entitled "All Five: The Sullivan Brothers, A Family's Tragedy Inspires a Nation's Triumph", and to Christy Han for her "D-Day: A Tragic Day for a Triumphant Victory".

Carlisle High School in Carlisle, PA hosted the Pennsylvania State contest on 10-11 May. Since this was our first involvement in Pennsylvania's contest CDR Lou Orsini of the National Capitol Commandery attended and observed the "battle rhythm", the judging process, and caliber of entries in preparation for the Naval Order's full involvement with judges in 2020.

Spring 2020 will see our NOUS judges participating in two new State NHD venues: Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. Thank you Professor Jeremiah Dancy of the Naval War College and Newport Commandery, CDR Lou Orsini (National Capital Commandery) and CAPT John Marks (Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Commandery), for volunteering for next year's competition!

For any Commandery looking for a worthwhile, truly inspirational, informative, fun and impactful event for their companions, these state history contests are well worth the day's effort and advance our mission of promoting the study and research of naval history (and competition) amongst our youth. For more information contact Dr. Stan Carpenter, the incoming NOUS Historian-General, or CDR John Hooper, the NOUS-NHD Coordinator, at johndhooper@yahoo.com.

Submitted by CDR John D. Hooper, NOUS-NHD

The New Orleans Commandery enjoyed a dinner at the Bistro Orleans 17 September. The special guest of honor and speaker was Col Chris Schlafer USMC (Ret.), the Commandant of the amazingly successful New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy (NOMMA).



Colonel Chris Schlafer USMC (Ret.), Commandant of the New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy

The state charter high school, in only its eighth year, has expanded to include eighth grade. With open enrollment, applicants are eligible from anywhere in the state with no advance testing or screening. The 930 students come from six parishes and are about one third African American, Hispanic, and Caucasian each. Seventy-five percent are "economically disadvantaged". Twenty percent are dependents of active duty military members.

With all students required to be enrolled in Marine Corps ROTC, the unit is the largest in the country. Corps values are emphasized – honor, courage and commitment. All students stand for morning colors in uniform.

NOMMA prepares for traditional college entry requirements as well for jump start upon graduation into high demand maritime, industry, cyber, and business management opportunities. They have the only wrestling program in New Orleans public schools - to teach self-discipline. Students won the state robotics competition. The school has achieved remarkable success with 97% graduation rates. With an "A" state rating, it is the top performing open-enrollment school in New Orleans.

Submitted by CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret.)

NEW ORLEANS COMMANDERY

The New Orleans Commandery celebrated the holidays with a special Christmas dinner at the elegantly decorated English Turn Country Club 18 December.

The speaker was Jose Campusano, Commanding Officer of the Andrew J. Higgins Squadron of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Jose has ten years' experience with the Young Marine program, and five more with Sea Cadets. As a former marine and as Chief of Police for Dillard University, he has recruited 20 knowledgeable officers and instructors for his 23 cadets.



We believe there could be no better unit in the country. A year ago, one cadet was honored as the top cadet in the country. Every weekend, drill is packed with great training. As an example, the September weekend was at the Mississippi Combat Training Academy and Stennis Space Center. Saturday, a retired Navy Seal Master Chief Petty Officer gave firearm safety classes and each cadet earned their marksmanship ribbon. Cadets had a chance to shoot military machine guns, rifles, WWII and Vietnam era weapons provided by a world renown historical war re-enactor. Sunday, they participated in STEM-based education flights provided by the Blackhawk Flight Foundation. Cadets flew in jet fighter and vintage aircraft. They were then interviewed by local media. What opportunities for these young people! Two thirds of the cadets enter the service, and at advanced paygrade.

Campusano also introduced his son, Julian, who was recently awarded the Sea Cadet highest award for saving a life. Julian told of his thrill when he actually took the stick flying a piper cub.

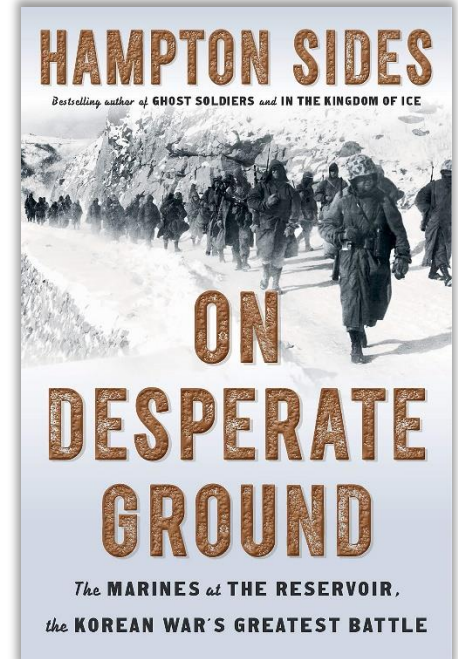
Submitted by CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret.)

NEW YORK COMMANDERY

The New York Commandery presented the 2019 RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature to author Hampton Sides for his book, *On Desperate Ground - The Marines at the Reservoir, the Korean War's Greatest Battle*, 4 November.

On Desperate Ground tells the story of one of the most harrowing clashes in American history, the Battle of Chosin Reservoir, during which Mao's numerically superior armies surrounded and tried to destroy the First Marine Division in the frozen mountain wilds of North Korea.

The presentation took place at the Commandery's annual black-tie dinner at the Racquet and Tennis Club on Park Avenue.



L to R - Award committee co-chair Daniel Thys, MD, New York Commander, Richard "Bud" Liptak, author Hampton Sides, and award committee co-chair and past commander, Rev. William H. Schmidt

Submitted by John F.V. Cupschalk

Newport Commandery presents Dewey Award to ADM James Hogg

On 10 December, at its annual Pearl Harbor Commemoration, the Newport Commandery recognized ADM James Robert Hogg, USN (Ret.) as the recipient of the Naval Order's 2019 Admiral of the Fleet George Dewey Award, and celebrated the 20th anniversary of the commandery's first meeting in 1999. The event, organized by Mrs. Edna

Wardwell, Commandery Commander and Tripp Alyn, Vice Commander for Programs, included more than 85 attendees, representing the Naval Order, the Naval War College, the City of Newport, graduates for the Strategic Studies Group (SSG), friends and family who participated in this most memorable evening at the Naval War College's Officers Club.

Following a social hour that provided an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends, CDR Will Bundy, USN (Ret.), Vice

Commandery Commander, who served as the evening's emcee, introduced RADM Glenn Whisler, USN (Ret.), who spoke about the challenges in starting the new commandery, and reminisced of its first meetings. ADM Hogg and RADM Whisler are charter members of the Newport Commandery.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the evening was presentation of the Naval Order's 2019 Admiral of

the Navy George Dewey Award to ADM Hogg. Encouraged by CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.), Immediate Past Commander "to make memorable presentation that measures up to the significance of the event," ADM Hogg met the challenge, discussing timeless leadership principles, fundamental to the continued success of the Navy, that shaped his career.

Guests in attendance included Ambassador J. William Middendorf, USN (Ret.); longtime Naval

Order companion for nearly 70 years; companions VADM Gardner and Erin Howe, CDR Doug Smith, Historian General Emeritus and Paulette; CAPT John Odegaard, CAPT Don Finesse, Dr. John Hattendorf, recipient of the 2012 Dewey Award, Dr. Craig Symonds and CAPT Bill Glenney; RADM Sam Cox, Director of the Naval History and Heritage Command, and CAPT George Lang, Chief Executive Officer of the Naval War College

Foundation. It truly was a star-studded evening.

It was truly an evening to be remembered and among Newport Commandery's most successful events.

Editor's Note: Regrettably, CDR William Francis Bundy, USN (Ret.) "Crossed the Bar" on 15 December. See page 26 for his biography.



Admiral James Robert Hogg, USN (Ret.) receives the Admiral George Dewey Award from immediate past Commander General Captain Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.) at the Newport Commandery's Pearl Harbor dinner on December 10th. (Photos by CDR Gary Ross, USN)

NEWPORT COMMANDERY REMEMBERS DR. WILL BUNDY

Newport Commandery Vice Commander, CDR Will Bundy, USN (Ret.) passed away on Sunday, 15 December. An accomplished leader, scholar, and mentor, he was best known as an educator, a consummate gentleman, and a steadfast friend.

Will began his association with the U.S. Navy in 1963 when he left his native Baltimore, MD and entered the Navy as an enlisted man. While rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer, Will completed a bachelor's degree and was commissioned in 1975. A proud submarine officer, he moved through the ranks in submarines and senior staffs at the squadron, group, and fleet levels. One of his proudest accomplishments was as a member of the Centennial Seven – one of the first seven African Americans to command one of our nation's submarines in the first 100 years of the U.S. Submarine Force.

In addition to being a Life Member of the Naval Order of the United States, he was also a Life Member of the U.S. Naval Institute, the National Naval Officers Association, the Worldwide Association of Notable Alumni, and was designated a History Maker in the Association of History Makers. In 1993, he received the Award as the Black Engineer of the Year for Achievement in Government and, in 1994, he received the U.S. Navy League Dalton L. Baugh Award for Inspirational Leadership.

He graduated from the University of Hawaii in 1973 with distinction, the U. S. Naval War College in 1993 with distinction, and completed a Ph.D. in Humanities from Salve Regina University in 2005.

Following retirement from the Navy, CDR Bundy continued to serve his community and the nation in several noteworthy ways. As director, Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), he led several substantive initiatives, most notable among them the introduction of RIDOT to the Transportation Information Age and the establishment of the Freight Rail Project to open rail access at Quonset Point. Both initiatives continue to provide exceptional support and benefit to the state and the region.



CDR Will Bundy, USN (Ret.)

In 2005, Dr. Bundy was named as the Director of the Halsey CHARLIE Research Group at the Naval War College which was later renamed the VADM Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. Naval Warfare Research Group. At the time of his death, he continued to lead the Gravely Group while concurrently serving as Associate Provost for Warfighting Research and Development in the office of the Provost, U.S. Naval War College. During his tenure at the College, Dr. Bundy mentored more than 330 War College graduate research students and made inestimable personal contributions to the U.S. Navy in the areas of Distributed Lethality, Navy Ballistic Missile Defense, and warfighting concepts for the Ohio Class of Guided Missile Submarines.

His personal awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, and numerous other personal, unit commendations, campaign medals, and service awards. In his civilian career he was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award and was a member of The Honorable Order of Saint Barbara.

Submitted by Tim Garrold

Fall 2019 Commandery Activities

The Fall 2019 time period has been busy for the Northwest Commandery. On 23 September, nine companions and guests participated in a continuation of the commandery's Discussion Group series. On this occasion, the group met for an excellent overview and PowerPoint presentation of "US Navy Planning and Budgeting" by CDR Casey M. Mahon, USN, until recently the commanding officer of USS *RALPH JOHNSON* (DDG 114). CAPT Mahon is also a NOUS companion.

In October, the commandery was well-represented at the 2019 National Congress in Boston, with with CAPT Jim and Carol McGinnis, ETC Gil and Sharon Beyer, and CAPT Joe Valenta attending.

On 9 November, the commandery met at Everett, WA Naval Station to commemorate and celebrate Veterans Day. Our guest speaker was Lee Corbin, an airship historian who presented "Daughter of Stars; The ZR-1 comes to the Pacific Northwest". (USS *Shenandoah* was designated as ZR-1 as the first of four U.S. Navy rigid airships.) Mr. Corbin presented several historic photos and a short black and white movie about the *Shenandoah*.



Companion Floyd Kershner (I) with airship historian and guest speaker, Lee Corbin. Lee recounted the Pacific Northwest visit by USS *Shenandoah* (ZR-1) in 1924

Northwest Commandery Remembers Pearl Harbor

Nineteen companions and guests attended a memorable dinner, meeting at Chinooks Restaurant in Seattle, in commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor. NOUS Northwest Commander CAPT John C.

Laible, USN (Ret.) led the evening events with a poignant discussion of the bravery and suffering of victims on 7 December 1941. A piece of rusted steel from USS *Arizona* (BB 39) was on display, allowing each attendee to actually touch a part of that hallowed vessel.

Two awards were presented during the evening: (1) to CAPT Joe Valenta, USN (Ret.) for outstanding past services, including the founding of our commandery and (2) to Floyd Kershner as the 2019 Member of the Year. Floyd serves as our Historian, technology person, and expert in many other areas, such as teaching us how to SKYPE.

New NOUS Northwest member Cricket Laible provided all the wonderful table decorations.

Our featured speaker for the evening was new companion CAPT Jim McGinnis, USN (Ret.), whose relatives founded the Naval Order of the United States. Jim and his wife, Carol, have been very active in researching those ancestors, Charles and Frederick Philbook. Jim discussed his family history and provided a description of the visits he and Carol have made to significant historical action sites as well as the various military activities that his family members were involved with the late 1800s.

Upcoming Events – 2020

17 February

General Meeting followed by Discussion Group, "The Arctic Region"

28 March

Monthly Meeting

25 April

Tour of Underwater Museum, Bremerton

18 May

General Meeting followed by Discussion Group, topic to be determined

20 June

Battle of Midway Remembrance Brunch

Chapter Contacts:

- NOUS Commander: CAPT John Laible, USN (Ret.) at captjohn42@gmail.com and 206.794.5254
- Communications: CAPT Solon Webb, USN (Ret.) at mendosolo@aol.com or 707.548.3720

Submitted by Solon Webb

SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY

Fall always keeps us busy. This year we were busier than usual. In late September, we were honored to have 2009 DSSA recipient, ADM William Fallon, and 2014 DSSA recipient, Gen James Mattis visit San Francisco for special events. ADM Fallon was a featured speaker at the annual Bataan Legacy symposium that our Commandery helps sponsor while Gen Mattis, at the Marines Memorial Club, talked about his new autobiographical book, **Call Sign Chaos: Learning to Lead**. Joining ADM Fallon was noted military author and Nimitz Awardee, Companion James Hornfischer.

October is usually our busiest month. Companion Bob Hansen worked to bring the Northern California Navy Ball to the Marines Memorial Club. This year's special guests were Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Russell L. Smith, and Pearl Harbor Survivor, Senior Chief Michael "Mickey" Ganitch. MCPON Smith reflected about his days as a young sailor aboard aircraft carriers at Naval Air Station Alameda. Senior Chief Ganitch helped MCPON cut the cake and danced a jig to Anchors Aweigh.



Master Chief of the Navy Russell Smith, with MCCA Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.) and Pearl Harbor Veteran Mickey Ganitch, QMCS, USN (Ret.) at the San Francisco Navy Ball

San Francisco's annual Fleet Week celebration has been held the second week of October for over 30 years. Companion John McKnight is a key player in coordinating many Fleet Week events, including the Fleet Week Barbecue, where many companions volunteered behind the grill, in the serving line, and setting up tables.

On Monday of Fleet Week, we hosted the Commanding Officer of the USS Somerset (LPD 25), CAPT David Kurtz, at our monthly luncheon.

Many of the Somerset crew, along with other sailors and marines in town for Fleet Week, joined us for lunch. CAPT Kurtz noted that the Somerset honors Somerset County Pennsylvania and the passengers who died on United Airlines Flight 93, hijacked during the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, that crashed in Somerset County.



CAPT David Kurtz (at podium) poses with John McKnight and sailors and marines in San Francisco for Fleet Week aboard the USS Hornet during our Fleet Week luncheon

During the luncheon our Commandery Chaplain Arthur "Art" Curtis was honored for his work with the USS San Francisco (CA 38) foundation. Art, one of the instigators of the foundation, typically represents the Coast Guard in our activities and in other local military organizations..



LCDR Art Curtis, USCG, (Ret.)

October was noteworthy, as we finished off the month at the Naval Order Congress in Boston. It was good to see companions and friends again who had moved out of area, and enjoy the camaraderie of companions from all across the United States. We were honored to receive the LCDR Lee M. Douglas Memorial Award, and have our own, Colonel Allan Cruz, take the reins as the new Naval Order Commander General.

November's luncheon theme was Treasure Island. Treasure Island was developed during the building of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Originally meant to be the San Francisco International Airport, it was taken over entirely by the Navy during World War II in exchange for land near the current airport. We all remember the hustle and bustle of Naval Station Treasure Island. Although most of the Navy infrastructure is long gone, the administration building is now a museum, while the rest of the island is being developed as new community. Companion, RADM Tom Andrews is on the board of directors of the museum association. RADM Andrews brought fellow board member Executive Vice President Walt Bilofsky to update us on the progress of Treasure Island's renaissance.



November also marks Veterans Day. Most of us participated in commemorative events around the greater Bay Area. Companions Chuck Paskerian and Bob Hansen looked resplendent in their old military uniforms as they took salutes from the reviewing stand of San Francisco's "Salute to Veterans" parade.

December includes the merriment of the holidays

and the somberness of Pearl Harbor Day. Our December luncheon speaker was LT Jo-Anne Dao, the Commanding Officer of the U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Corp, Band of the West. Commissioned in 2013, the band is a unit of the Sea Cadets and follows the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Sea Cadets. The only difference is their dedication to music. LT Dao noted that several band alumni have gone on to careers in the armed forces, and even received appointments to the military academies.



Dao showed a video clip of former band members in the military. The band has played at our Commandery's annual USS San Francisco Memorial Commemoration. www.seacadetbotw.com



Our penultimate event of the year was our Pearl Harbor Day commemoration dinner.

Continued on next page...

Our special guests at this year's dinner were midshipmen from the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University of California, Berkeley and the California State Maritime Academy.

Accompanied by Professor of Naval Science and Commanding Officer of Berkeley's NROTC program, CAPT Travis Petzoldt, USN, the midshipmen were there to meet and hear our honored guest, RADM Richard A. Rodriguez, USNR, Deputy Commander of the U.S. Naval Special Warfare Command. The midshipmen all aspire to go into the special warfare field after their commissioning.

We concluded the evening with a traditional Change of Command Ceremony. As Commander General Col Allan Cruz read the orders, MAJ Gene Redding took over command of the San Francisco Commandery from Mr. John McKnight.



Commander General Col Allan Cruz reads the orders relieving John McKnight (center) of Command and Maj Gene Redding assuming

Pearl Harbor Day was not the last event of the year. Later in the week, Companion Don Reid sponsored a special event on the Korean War at the Marines Memorial Club. Don is a key member in the local Korean War Memorial Foundation and is largely responsible for the Korean War Memorial at the Presidio of San Francisco National Cemetery.

We haven't tied down our programs for 2020 yet. Check our Facebook page or email us at sfnouscommander@gmail.com for information. Our luncheons are held at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club on the first Monday of the month. We also actively participate in and sponsor events at the Marines Memorial Club.

Submitted by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.)

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony

On 7 December 2019 at Galveston Museum Seawolf Park CDR Bryan Lethcoe, Commander of the Texas Commandery, served as Master of Ceremonies for the Texas Commandery's annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony. With the Battleship Texas unavailable, as she is being prepared for transit to a repair yard, this year the ceremony was conducted at the Galveston Naval Museum at Seawolf Park, Galveston, Texas. Our ceremony was held between the museum ships USS Cavalla (SS-244), a Gato class submarine, and USS Stewart (DE-238), an Edsel Class destroyer escort, on the Memorial Plaza, with the Patriot Guide Riders of Southeast Texas lining the entrance road with US and military flags.



Patriot Guard Riders of Southeast Texas lining the entrance road to the Galveston Naval Museum (All photos courtesy of CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.))

The ceremony was preceded by a four plane Honor Flight Fly Over conducted by the Commemorative Air Force (CAF). As the CAF concluded their fly over, a lone aircraft broke formation trailing smoke in honor of lost air crews. Following the CAF fly over, Pack 1292 of the Flaming Arrow District of the Sam Houston Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America recognized the U.S. service members awarded Medals of Honor for their individual acts of valor on 7 December 1941 during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

As Master of Ceremonies, CDR Lethcoe began the ceremony by requesting "Assembly" be piped by CW04 Wayne Thompson, USCG (Ret). After "Assembly" was piped, the Colors were posted by a contingent of the local U.S. Naval Sea Cadets.



U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Houston Division, presenting the colors

Following the posting of Colors, CDR Lethcoe led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Community Band of Southeast Texas then played the National Anthem overlooking a place of prominence, on the deck of the *Cavalla*.

This year's guest speaker was Thomas W. Gillette. Mr. Gillette was at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 as a young boy living in Officer's Quarters inside Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. Tom's father, Captain Claude Gillette was then the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Manager. In that billet Captain Gillette was responsible for the shipyard's operations, fleet repairs, and after December 7th ship salvage. On that fateful morning Tom ran out of his house into the front yard as he heard the roar of incoming radial aircraft engines approaching. The attacking Japanese torpedo bombers were flying so low, with their canopies open, that Tom clearly saw the faces of the Japanese aircrew.



From the deck of *Cavalla* (SS-244), towards the port side of *Stewart* (DE-238)

Tom presented to the audience a review of key events in the years leading up to the attack on Pearl Harbor. He recounted Japan's conquering of Manchuria, their attack on China that led to the Rape of Nanking, and the development of their Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere as a political construction to justify their expansion across Asia and the Pacific. Tom noted how from the beginning of his presidency, FDR started strengthening the U.S. Navy, increasing the Navy's annual ship construction program. And, while the U.S. Navy was still behind the Imperial Japanese Navy in terms of capital ships at the beginning of the war, FDR's policies had increased our ship construction capabilities to the extent that we were prepared to move ship construction into high gear once the war started.

Tom also noted how FDR's knowledge on international politics was very important to our country in the years preceding the beginning of the war. Important not only in dealing with other countries, but also in preparing the American public for the potential of war. Thus, on 8 December 1941, while the country was reeling from the attack on Pearl Harbor, our country had a firm foundation for striking back at our attacker. Tom concluded his talk with a note to the audience on the importance of our President being knowledgeable in international politics and relations with other countries.

Following Mr. Gillette's talk, CDR Lethcoe presented a memorial lei to attending representatives of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. In memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice on 7 December, the lei, with the assistance of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, was tossed onto the water adjoining Seawolf Park. The U.S. Marine Corps Honor Rifle Squad from Ellington Field then executed a rifle salute. The Community Band of Southeast Texas concluded the ceremony with the playing of Taps.

Afterward, members of the TCNOUS and the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors Association joined together for lunch in the shadow of the USS *Stewart*. Good food and fellowship were had by all.

Submitted by CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.)

WE'RE SURROUNDED!...

... by more than a million people who are eligible for membership in the NOUS, yet we find ourselves with just some 1,400 members!

How do we get new members? Our web site now helps. Since the Congress ended, I have received 11 inquiries about membership from 7 different states. Their backgrounds are 8 Navy, 2 Marines, and 1 Coast Guard. Assuming all actually join, and the rate of inquiries remains the same, it would produce just 77 new members for the year, which would not even cover the annual attrition.

The moral of the story is, that you and I must be more proactive in our recruiting activities. We all pretty much joined the Naval Order for the same reason; our fondness for Naval History and the camaraderie that so many of us enjoy at monthly meetings, special events and the annual Congress. Others who don't have the opportunity to attend monthly gatherings continue their membership because they believe in and support our mission.

I would opine that almost every member, with a little effort, could identify a prospective member. As I have stated in the past: approximately 45,000 people leave the Navy every year, having served their "hitch" or full retirement; and that doesn't even include the Marines and Coast Guard. The opportunity for membership growth is huge.

I'm ready to help in any way I can to support your efforts. If you simply provide me with a prospective member's contact information, I will be happy to send them a NOUS brochure, application, and letter advising that you wanted to share your Naval Order experience with them.

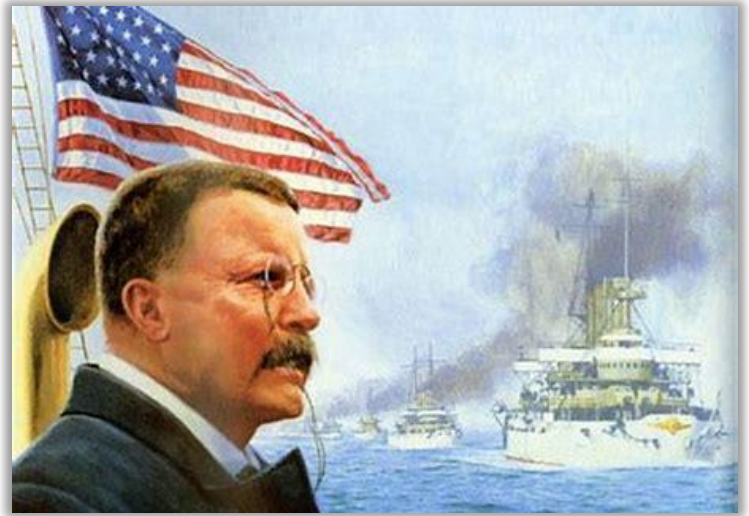
For all local Commanders, you need to encourage your members at EVERY gathering to be on the lookout for prospective members, and you must insist on a proactive Membership Committee.

Rotary and Kiwanis clubs are always looking for speakers. Reach out to them and offer to speak about NOUS and our great projects, including Normandy and the Nimitz statues.

Let's make a New Years resolution for "EVERYONE TO GET ONE".

Submitted by Donald W. Schuld, USN

*"Off we're going to shuffle,
shuffle off to Buffalo . . ."*

NAVAL ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES**2020 CONGRESS****BUFFALO, NEW YORK****14-17 OCTOBER****THEODORE ROOSEVELT
AND THE GREAT WHITE FLEET**

Headquarters:
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Buffalo

Trips to:

- Maid of the Midst, Niagara Falls
- T.R. Inauguration Site
- Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park
- Invasion Site of Canada (War of 1812) and Northern Terminus of Underground Railroad

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

RADM Julian R. Benjamin, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5842)
Southeast Commandery
Joined 30 March 1986
Died 17 October 2019

CAPT Ned Lee Broyles, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 7779)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 05 April 1999
Died December 2019

CDR William Francis Bundy, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 9217)
Newport Commandery
Joined 03 July 2013
Died 15 December 2019

ADM James L. Holloway, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 9124)
National Capital Commandery
Joined 15 September 2011
Died 26 November 2019

Richard Arlan Hovious

(Certificate 9787)
Continental Commandery
Joined 31 January 2018
Died 18 August 2019

Gen Paul Xavier Kelly, USMC (Ret.)

(Certificate 5566)
National Capital Commandery
Joined 18 May 1983
Died 29 December 2019

Ivan Sergeyevich Obolensky

(Certificate 8516)
New York City Commandery
Joined 31 October 2005
Died 29 January 2019

RADM Merrill Wythe Ruck, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5984)
Monterey Commandery
Joined 03 January 1993
Died 02 May 2018

TMC Raymond W. Stone, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6996)
National Capital Commandery
Joined 08 September 1992
Died 19 November 2019

Felipe Jesus Villaraus

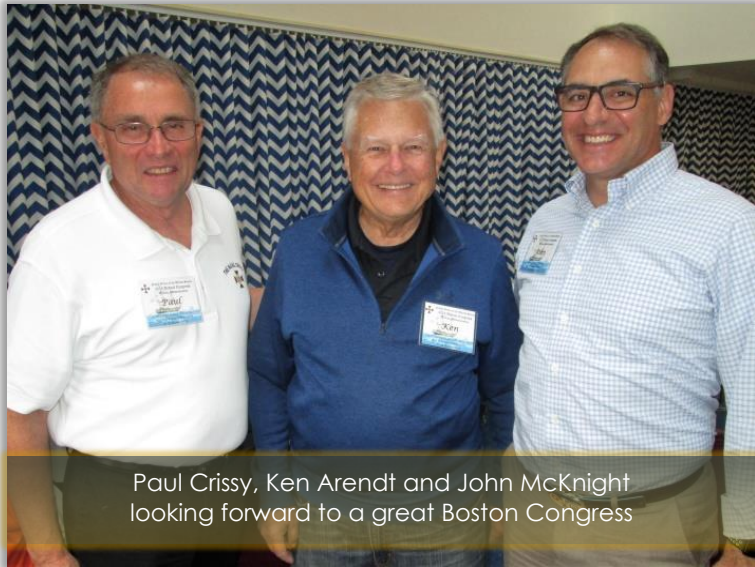
(Certificate 9630)
Southeast Florida Commandery
Joined 03 September 2016
Died October 2019

Gregory Thomas Vistica

(Certificate 7570)
San Francisco Commandery
Joined 06 October 1997
Died 16 December 2019



PHOTOS FROM THE 2019 BOSTON CONGRESS



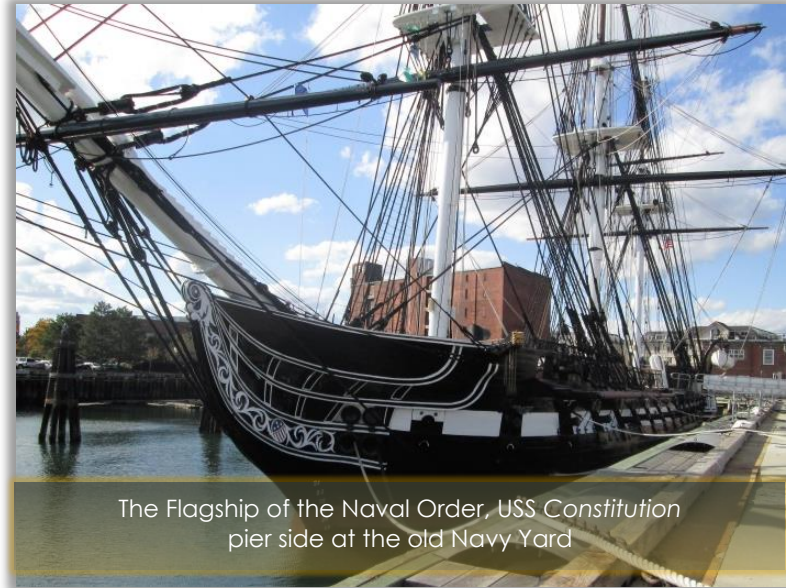
Paul Crissy, Ken Arendt and John McKnight looking forward to a great Boston Congress



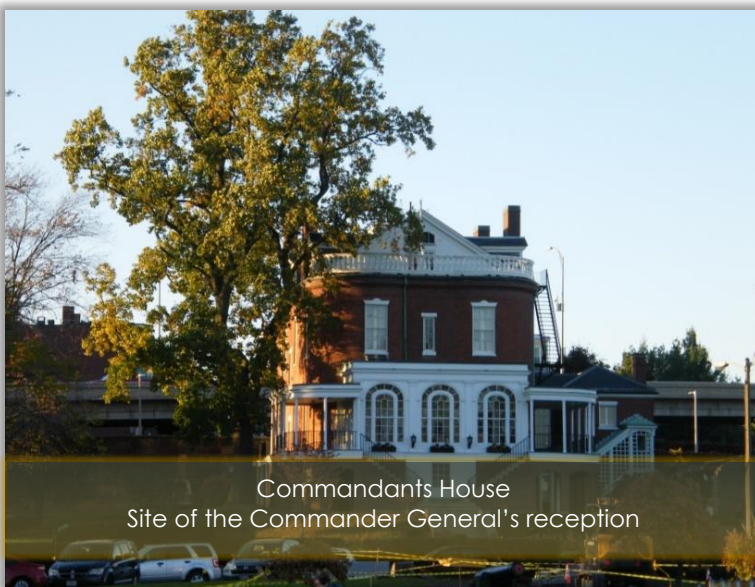
Tom Andrews, helped by Bob Whitkop, prepares for his presentation on the "Battle of Leyte Gulf"



Commander General's Reception at Commandant's House



The Flagship of the Naval Order, USS Constitution pier side at the old Navy Yard



Commandant's House
Site of the Commander General's reception



Companions MCCA Bob Hansen, Msgt Tom Gafford, and USS Constitution Commanding Officer CDR Nathaniel R. Schick pose in their respective formal uniforms at DSSA awards banquet



USS Constitution tour



RADM Bill Merlin and CAPT Michele Lockwood



ADM Ferguson admires CAPT Hassenplug's kilt



Incoming and outgoing Commander Generals strategize



Tom Snyder and Frances MacDonald



Northwest Commandery was well represented



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