

COMMANDER GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE ORDER

To bring you up to date on our D-Day Monument project, in January the NOUS General Council approved the amended design and contracted for the actual 12-foot bronze sculpture. Plans now are to dedicate the Monument on UTAH Beach, 6 JUN 2008—on the 64th anniversary of the epic Normandy Invasion. The Naval Order Foundation treasury made the first of four payments to sculptor Steven Spears of \$73,750.

After the General Council approved the Monument project in OCT 2005, I sent individual letters to each of you, suggesting that if half our 1800+ Companions each donated \$100, the resulting \$90,000 would be a good start toward the \$500,000 project goal. As of now, 260 Companions—about 14% of our membership—have made tax-exempt donations for the Monument. (Average donation from these Companions is \$120.)

Professional fundraisers (not that we use them; our fundraisers are all volunteers) tell me that a 14% response from among the members is a good one. Recently though, retired Illinois State Senator Bob Mitchler, a Life Companion who writes a newsletter read by many veterans, asked why the Naval Order invites donations from other organizations, when 86% of our own members have yet to register support. SEN Bob promises our Monument project a “thumbs up” in his newsletter, but we should all be asking ourselves that same question.

The good news is that we are halfway to our \$500,000 goal. Besides the gifts from individual Companions, three Commanderies have each donated \$1068, with one dollar representing one American Sailor killed at Normandy. Navy League councils

in Florida, Texas and Virginia have made similar contributions. And, we've received donations from other service organizations, veterans' groups, and private citizens to recognize “the Navy's Service and Sacrifice at Normandy”—in the words of Senator Bob Dole—to bring long overdue tribute to the memory of those 1068 Sailors.

If you have not made your donation, here are two compelling reasons to do so now. First, your contribution will personally link you to our Sailors who served at Normandy to preserve liberty at home and restore liberty in Europe. Second, every day, a thousand American World War II vets die. We need to accelerate our fundraising to support the Monument's projected dedication in just over one year. Recently, a D-Day vet's daughter emailed, “This trip (to the Dedication) is very important to my 85-year-old father. To be honest, it's giving him a reason to live and something to look forward to.”

Other good news is the announcement in March that ADM Thomas B. Fargo, USN (Ret) will receive the Naval Order's 2007 Distinguished Sea Service Award, at the Annual Congress in Monterey, CA. The DSSA gala banquet will be on the evening of 20 OCT 2007. Look for a feature on ADM Fargo's career in the next NOUS News.

Please complete the registration form for the 2007 Congress and send it in soon to get the lower rates. The Congress Committee, chaired by CAPT Ken Johnson, Commander General-Elect, has many very interesting events planned. From our Hotel, the Portola Plaza, you will be able to walk to Cannery Row, Fisherman's Wharf, the Monterey Bay Aquarium and downtown Monterey's unique restaurants and shops. There will

be a fascinating panel discussion on the 1935 crash of the dirigible USS MACON (ZRS 5) near Big Sur. It has all the elements of a wonderful program and gathering of Companions!

— CAPT Carter B. Conlin

FIRST COAST COMMANDERY “DRIVES” MONUMENT FUNDRAISING



National Vice Commander General – Membership Greg Streeter and new First Coast Commandery Commander John O'Neil with their Golf Outing Sponsor Board at the Queen's Harbour Golf Club in Jacksonville, FL. The Commandery assembled 112 golfers in 28 foursomes on a sunny February day for a continental breakfast, a round of golf, and lunch. John reports that although the prospect of the event seemed daunting at first, eight other Companions stepped up to help make it happen...in the end, their Golf Outing raised a net of \$11,850 for the NOUS Foundation!

National Congress 2007 planning is at full steam with events being added even as you read this Newsletter. In the winter edition you found the Congress Registration/Hotel Reservation forms and a Program Overview. In this spring edition you will find the Congress Registration form updated to include an optional **Scenic Bus Tour** of Monterey, Pacific Grove and the famous 17-Mile Drive. This is a fully narrated tour with stops at Bird Rock, The Lone Cypress Tree and The Lodge at Pebble Beach. The tour is limited to the first 32 paid reservations and is sure to sell out quickly, so we encourage early reservations! The optional **Spouses Monterey Guided Historical “walk about”** and the **Afternoon Wine Tasting** tour in Carmel Valley are already taking reservations. Monterey Bay Commandery looks forward to hosting “the greatest Congress in recent years” here in California!

Naval Order Loses Two Fine Companions

by CDR Dan Felger, USN (Ret)

February marked the passing of two former national officers of the Naval Order. Both provided remarkable service to the Nation, our Navy, their respective Commanderies, and to other patriotic associations.

CAPT John C. Rice, USN (Ret) passed away on 24 FEB 2007. John served as NOUS Commander General for 1989-91, and later as Historian General and then Historian General Emeritus. A man of large physical presence with a booming voice, he had an outsize intellect to match, of which he gave in heaping measure to his leadership and pride in the Naval Order. Companions will recall with fondness John's great bonhomie, and the hallmarks of fellowship, humor and tradition that he imbued in his beloved New Orleans Commandery.



John Rice, seated with Lester and Robbye Alfortish. John and Lester were the first two New Orleans Companions, in 1979. Robbye is the Commandery's newest life member.

John graduated from Loyola University and received his commission through OCS in 1953. On active duty he served in communications billets ashore in Boston and then in USS TACONIC (AGC 17). His Reserve Component assignments included REDCOM planning and readiness, a Surface division, and command of a Merchant

Marine division. In each of these, John's colleagues quickly recognized his "Big Picture" and results-oriented vision.

John's wife Claire, an Associate Life member of the Naval Order, predeceased him. Visitors to the Naval Reserve Association headquarters in Alexandria, VA can see a bronze bas-relief of CAPT and Mrs. Rice, a symbol of their devotion to our Navy and nation.

We also remember the friendship, patriotism, and service to the Naval Order of CWO4 Lorna T. Bridenstine, Treasurer General 1991-93. Lorna also served the National Capitol Commandery as its "financial guru" for many years. She died 4 FEB 2007 of cancer at a hospice in Alexandria, VA. Though far more diminutive and reticent than John Rice, Lorna could rival him for wit and even more importantly, had the same willingness to mentor Companions.



Lorna Bridenstine proudly listed her photo and service details with the Women in Military Service for America memorial in Washington, DC.

Lorna enlisted during World War II and received her initial training at Fort Sill, OK. She served as a YN in Washington during the War and retired decades later from civil service in the Pentagon Office of the Naval Reserve.

Lorna had no living relatives and during her final illness, she was sustained by visits from friends and Companions from National Capitol Commandery. Her Naval Order "family" marveled at Lorna's clarity of thought throughout her illness. When CDR John Hooper told Lorna the Commandery hoped she would accept the position of Treasurer Emeritus, Lorna exclaimed, "Okay, as long as it doesn't include more duties, John...and you can't tempt me with more pay, either!"

Both Lorna Bridenstine and John Rice supported the Normandy Monument project with generous contributions almost immediately after its launch in late 2005. Companions may wish to commemorate the memory and service of either Lorna or John by making a donation to the Monument. Alternatively, since John Rice was instrumental in creating the archive for Naval Order records at Texas A&M University, Companions may consider a donation in his name to the maintenance of these archives. Memorial donations should be sent to the Treasurer General, 2222 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo, CA 94403-1216.

From: Kent Siegel
Subject: Normandy Monument

To: Distribution
Sent: Sunday, 4 MAR 2007

This morning at church, I had an opportunity to chat with a friend during the coffee fellowship. COL Joe Murphy is a tough old Army Ranger with lots of combat experience dating back to Korea. Unfortunately Joe is losing ground as he tries to fight back from a stroke he suffered several years ago.

I mentioned the Naval Order's Normandy Monument project and, without a moment's hesitation, Joe wrote a check for a \$500 donation (I caught him with his checkbook out writing a pledge to the church). Then he told me about visiting the Utah Beach memorial park and museum in Normandy with his family in 1999. After the tour, Joe's 6-year-old grandson, Luke, noticed there was no Navy monument and he wondered why. Of course, at the time Joe didn't know why, and the moment passed...out of the mouths of babes!

I'm forwarding Joe's check to the NOUS Foundation, and sending Joe some literature on the Monument project.

The upshot is that we never know when and where our message will sink in. Sometimes, we hammer away without effect and other times a few words in casual contact will yield surprising results. That's a good reason to keep stroking.

Best regards,
Kent

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Submissions for Summer 2007 issue of NOUS News are due not later than 30 JUN 07.

“DAD WOULD’VE ENJOYED THIS. HECK, HE WOULD HAVE ORGANIZED THE MEETING!”

-Steve O’Neil



From left are Brian and John O’Neil, VADM Joe Moorer, Phil Sturgill, and Tom and Steve O’Neil. All were in Jacksonville for the First Coast Commandery’s Charity Golf Outing for the Normandy Monument.

The First Coast Commandery’s Golf Outing, besides raising a lot of money for the Naval Order’s Monument project, was an opportunity for a very special meeting for four sons and one son-in-law of the late CAPT Jack O’Neil, USN (Ret). The O’Neil brothers and their three sisters are the children of CAPT Jack and Marjorie O’Neil.

In the photo above, VADM Joe Moorer holds his USS COLUMBIA (CL 56) Cruise Book, from the days when he and Jack O’Neil were WWII shipmates in the South Pacific. On 10 JAN 1945, then-LTJG O’Neil was in Fox Division (Radar Gun Fire Control) where he served in the main gun plotting room deep down in the ship. Then-ENS Moorer was up at the heavy machine gun, air defense control station, called Sky Forward, when a Japanese Kamikaze aircraft was sighted very low, just skimming over a small hill along the beach border, out over the water.

The aircraft was a fighter plane—traveling very fast—and the crew of COLUMBIA had just seconds to sight it, try to use their director’s high speed slewing control to swing the gun mounts onto the plane’s bearing, and get off bursts of anti-aircraft gun rounds. The plane’s attack from over land was so quick that most likely only the manually operated 20mm machine guns were able to open fire.

The veteran cruiser was only 3,000 yards off the Lingayen Gulf landing beaches on the island of Luzon in the Philippines, traveling slowly. COLUMBIA had been hard hit by two Kamikaze planes a few days earlier. The second plane had crashed into the main deck, port-side aft, right between the two after 6" gun turrets, put-

ting the guns out of action and killing and wounding dozens of sailors. The crew had buried their dead at sea on 7 JAN and gone back onto the shore bombardment gun line to continue their assigned mission. On this day COLUMBIA was just commencing its scheduled shore bombardment with the ship’s six remaining operational 6" guns in the two forward, triple-gunned, armored turrets, when the ship was attacked and struck by the third Kamikaze in four days.

The Jap fighter immediately began to strafe the topside of the ship. Men were struck down on the forward exposed gun control stations and heavy machine gun mounts. The plane was headed for the base of the bridge superstructure, when the pilot suddenly pulled up and struck a glancing blow on the forward MK 37 5" gun director’s radar, and then slammed directly into the main battery 6" gun director behind it, knocking it right over the ship’s side. This director had five men inside. The plane’s 250 kg bomb detonated, raining shrapnel all over the men on the port side of Sky Forward. Just one man there was still alive, and he was a little bruised because he had jumped over the port-side bulwark of Sky Forward to a deck or two below.

ENS Moorer had been very close to the destruction and was somewhat banged up. Luckily, just before the plane’s impact, he stepped back towards the starboard side of the forward main battery director’s bar-

rette, and missed the carnage that swept the exposed portside gun control positions and their heavy machine gun batteries below them.

After this attack, with 24 men killed or missing and 68 wounded, COLUMBIA remained on station, firing the two forward 6" triple gun turrets in support of the landing forces ashore. After the action, Joe Moorer went below to have his injuries looked at...and helped three other injured officers finish off a bottle of whiskey provided by the congenial Ship’s Doctor!

ENS Moorer went on to Navy Flight Training after the War and later commanded USS CAMDEN (AOE 2) and USS RANGER (CV 61) before he retired. Joe’s brother Tom was another successful Naval Aviator who served as CNO and then Chairman of the JCS.

More than 60 years after that Kamikaze attack, VADM Moorer was very generous with both his time and his bar tab, and was most happy to meet the sons and son-in-law of his old shipmate, Jack O’Neil. He ordered a round of drinks and the group “spliced the main brace” with a toast to those fine men of USS COLUMBIA.

The War Cruises of U.S.S. Columbia 1942 to 1945 Personal Recollections with Some Augmentations by Shipmates, a 1987 book written by CAPT Cary H. Hall, USN (Ret), provided details of the Japanese attacks on USS COLUMBIA.

—CAPT John E. O’Neil, Jr.

NOUS FOUNDATION APPEAL

Fellow Companions, there is simply no other way to put this: we need your individual financial support even more to reach the goal of \$500,000 we’ve established to complete the Naval Order Monument at Normandy Beach. Recent endorsements by the Navy League, American Legion, and other such organizations continue to generate contributions. **But, we need your support.** I am personally asking each of you to reflect for just a few minutes on the sacrifice made by those 1,068 men as they did their part in the landings on the beach. A \$100 donation from each of you **NOW** will help ensure that the Monument will be ready for its scheduled dedication in 2008. My check is already in the mail. Will you join me?

Companions, please send your 501 (c) (19) donations for the Normandy Monument directly to the Naval Order Treasurer

General, 2222 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo, CA 94403-1216. For anyone not a Companion of the Naval Order, 501 (c) (3) donations should be made through the Naval Order Foundation, P.O. Box 583, Glenview, IL 60025-0583.

Regards,

Ken Johnson, President
Naval Order Foundation



CATCHING UP WITH THE COMMANDERIES

Florida First Coast – Several Companions had the unique opportunity in March to embark in USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) for the ship's last voyage from Boston to Mayport. Their sea stories about KENNEDY go back quite some time: Commandery Commander John O'Neil sailed in USS YARNELL (DLG 17) in 1971-72, escorting the carrier into the MED. Pete Wyncoop, a former CO of Fleet Training Center, Mayport, trained many carrier crewmen and had some adventures to share. Hugh Dubose, who made it to Boston but had to miss the cruise in the end, nonetheless regaled the group with stories of his staff assignment on the carrier thirty years ago.



Commandery Commander John O'Neil and Companion Pete Wynkoop, both retired SWO Captains, take a moment on the carrier's unoccupied Flag Bridge to note the southerly course of the "Big John."



Companions (and real-life brothers) John and Steve O'Neil on the cold flight deck at sea off Cape Hatteras.

Hampton Roads – The Commandery visited the Virginia Beach Airport in February. This privately-held airfield is home to the Fighter Factory, an organization that engages in the discovery, examination, recovery and restoration of military propeller airplanes. On display are a magnificent collection of vintage aircraft mainly from World War II, with other notable historic aircraft from around the world that highlight the evolution of flight technology.



CAPT Chet Dorchester told the group of HRD Companions about his flight time in the Corsair and other aircraft in the collection.

Monterey Bay – LCDR Greg Fitzgearld relieved LT Casey Mahon as Commandery Commander at the annual installation dinner in February. Casey was commended for his outstanding leadership and insight while serving the Commandery. Greg is another NPS student in the Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Science, and will graduate in autumn 2008. Greg's organizational skills will ensure a most memorable and enjoyable event for Companions at the 2007 National Congress here in Monterey.



A "family portrait" from the Commandery Installation Dinner in Monterey shows (clockwise from left) Amanda and Casey Mahon along with Greg and Becky Fitzgearld and daughter Skyler.

New Orleans – Lt.Gen. Jack Bergman, Commander Marine Forces Reserve, was guest speaker for a November dinner at Commander's Palace Restaurant. A new Companion, Gen. Bergman spoke of the extraordinary personal sacrifice and dedication of the thousands of Marine reservists being called, and re-called, to service.

In February, the Commanders of both the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Components invited all Companions to join them and view Mardi Gras parades from a prominent St. Charles Avenue balcony.

Later that month, CDR Brad Skillman, CO of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPD 18) was guest speaker at a dinner at Ralph's on the Park. Several members of the Commandery worked tirelessly for the past year as the nucleus of the Commissioning Committee for the ship. U.S. SEN David Vitter, also a New Orleans Companion, delivered the keynote address at the commissioning ceremony on 10 MAR.



LPD-18 is the fourth warship named for the city. Photo courtesy of US Navy

San Francisco – At the Commandery's April meeting, special guest Phyllis Cleveland addressed 64 Companions and guests. A United Airlines Flight Officer, she was part of a crew flying from Osaka, Japan to San Francisco on 11 SEP 2001. She told of the flight crew learning about the terrorist attacks, the message traffic, flight traffic, and of having the plane diverted to Canada. Among that day's many terrifying and unknown factors was the crew's concern that terrorists might actually be aboard. Her talk was both interesting and chilling, and Flight Officer Cleveland answered the many questions from her audience frankly.



Flight Officer Phyllis Cleveland talked about her experiences in the air on 9/11.

NEW COMPANIONS

1JAN07-31MAR07

FLORIDA FIRST COAST

Capt. Cray J. Coppins, USMC
RADM George A. Huchting, USN
Katherine C. Stark

MASSACHUSETTS

John M. Donovan
Ralph J. Smith

MONTEREY BAY

LT Mark S. Breckenridge, USN
RADM Raymond G. Jones, USN
AN Michael K. Olson, USN
CDR D. Timothy Pickney, USN
Lawrence J. Reeves
RMSN John F. Sanders III, USN
CDR Michael P. Zuffoletto, USN

NATIONAL CAPITOL

SN Thomas M. Fabek, USN
HM Edward J. Keenan, USN
John P. Sheahan
CDR Robert B. Watts, USCG
Christopher D. Yung

NEW YORK

LT Warren P. Baker Jr., USN
William J. Buchanan
RD3 Roy De Franco Sr., USN
Hugh T. Dugan

SAN FRANCISCO

RADM Manson K. Brown, USCG
CDR Joel M. Greenberg, USN
Brig. Gen. Emory J. Hagan III, USMC

SOUTHWEST

CAPT Bradford J. Poeltler, USN
Col. Earl Wederbrook, USMC

TEXAS

Jack C. Blair
Gen. Michael W. Hagee, USMC
Donald M. Kehn
Lawrence V. Krug
Marcus J. Lockard

★ ★ ★

TODAY in Navy History

Find interesting facts in American naval history at our website, www.navalorder.org, by clicking on the "Naval History 365" button (on the left side of the Index page). This links to the Naval Historical Center's site for a listing of important events and milestones, arranged by month and day.

TEXAS COMMANDERY REMEMBERS USS HOUSTON

Each year, on a Saturday in early March, the USS HOUSTON (CA 30) Survivors Association and Next Generation commemorate the loss of their ship on 1 MAR 1942. This year's ceremony was the 13th to be held at the ship's monument in the city of Houston. In 1991, the Texas Commandery formed a committee of Companions whose hard work and commitment brought about the dedication of the HOUSTON monument on 11 NOV 1995.

Of the 1,168 original crewmembers, only 291 survived the sinking of the ship and 3 1/2 years as slave laborers building the Burma-Siam "Death Railway" made famous in the film "The Bridge on the River Kwai." Today, with only 31 members of the crew still living, two members of the "Next Generation"—who also happen to be Companions of the Texas Commandery—coordinate the Survivors Association and their reunion ceremony. Ms. Val Poss and Ms. Lin Drees stepped forward when longtime

Association organizer, CPO Otto Schwarz, passed away last year.

At the 2007 ceremony, four keynote speakers represented the ABDA nations (American, British, Dutch, and Australian) involved in the battles of the Java Sea and of Sunda Strait. CAPT Carter Conlin, NOUS Commander General, gave the address for the United States.

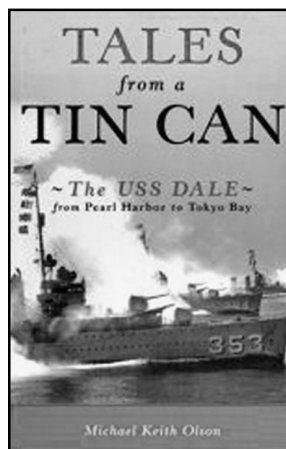


Texas Companions at the USS HOUSTON monument with the Naval Order wreath. From left are LT Ed Seiling, CAPT Carter Conlin, CAPT Kerry Magee, Mr. Don Kehn, CAPT Dean Hill, Mr. Ray Nelson, CAPT Martine Myers, and CAPT George Holyfield.

TALES FROM A TIN CAN

Monterey Bay Companion Michael Olson recently published Tales from a Tin Can: The USS DALE from Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay. This fascinating work grew from Olson's desire to capture his father's WWII stories of service in the ship. He traveled with his father, Robert Olson, around the country to annual reunions of former DALE sailors, and recorded their captivating sea stories, eventually getting more than 100 hours of "the World War II experiences of USS DALE, as told by the men who served aboard her."

Much more went into this volume than simply taking down the memories of these men on tape. For a start, he reminds us that these stories are more than six decades



old; some of the detail has inevitably been forgotten, some has inevitably been added to and polished. In this book Olson puts the material entirely into context. Drawing on historical records, including a copy of the ship's own War Diary, Olson anchors these "DALE tales" in time and place. He also fleshes out the events with plenty of well-written detail.

Ultimately, Olson weaves a series of interesting, individual anecdotes into the cohesive story of one ship and her crew during an era of naval supremacy.

See more on Tales from a Tin Can, by Michael Olson, at the publisher's website: www.zenithpress.com

Naval History Magazine Subscribers

Please Take Note

Whether you are an Annual Dues Payer or a Life Member, send any change in mailing address directly to *Naval History*, Naval Institute Circulation, 291 Wood Road, Annapolis, MD 21402-5034; call 800-233-8764 or 410-224-3378; or FAX 410-224-2406.

Also, inform the Registrar General to ensure delivery of NOUS News and other correspondence from the Naval Order. Send address changes to Mr. Frank Green, P.O. Box 2709, Oakland, CA 94602-0009; call 510-531-8643, FAX 510-308-1816; or e-mail aeis@california.com.

NOUS Surgeon General: *Preparation for Medical Pandemics*

—CAPT Martine R. Myers, NC, USN

You've heard recent news about Avian flu and flu pandemics. You should know that seasonal flu, avian flu, and pandemic flu are not at all the same. *Seasonal (or common) flu* is a respiratory illness that can be transmitted person to person. Most people have some immunity, and a vaccine is available. *Avian (or bird) flu (also known as AI)* is caused by influenza viruses that occur naturally among wild birds. Low pathogenic AI is common in birds and causes few problems. However, H5N1 is highly pathogenic, deadly to domestic fowl, and can be transmitted from birds to humans. There is no human immunity and no vaccine. *Pandemic flu* is virulent human flu that causes a global outbreak—or pandemic—of serious illness. With little natural immunity, the disease spreads easily from person to person. Though currently there is no pandemic flu, it makes sense to plan now because we cannot predict where or when the next pandemic will break out or how severe it will be.

In a severe influenza pandemic, many people will be sick and unable to work. Others will need to care for sick family members. Many people, also, will die. Businesses and schools may close and basic services, including transportation and food delivery, may be disrupted.

Families and communities should prepare for an influenza pandemic. This checklist will help you gather information and resources *you* may need:

1. Plan ahead:

- Store a two-week supply of water and food (useful in other emergencies, like power outages and natural disasters).
- Check prescription drugs to ensure a continuous supply.
- Take stock of nonprescription drugs and other health supplies; have on hand necessary pain relievers, stomach remedies, cough and cold medicines, fluids with electrolytes, and vitamins.
- Talk with loved ones about what will be needed to care for them if they get sick, especially for care in your home.
- Volunteer with local groups to prepare and assist with emergency response.
- Get involved in community preparations for a flu pandemic.

2. Limit the spread of germs and prevent infection:

- Teach everyone in your family to wash hands frequently with soap and water.
- Teach family to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues, and be sure to model that behavior.
- Teach family to stay away from others as much as possible if they are sick—stay home from work or school.

3. Non-perishable food for an extended (up to 14 days) stay at home:

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fish, fruits, vegetables, beans, and soups

- Protein or fruit bars
- Dry cereal or granola
- Peanut butter or nuts
- Dried fruit
- Crackers
- Canned juices
- Bottled water (one gallon per person, per day)
- Cans or jars of baby food and formula

4. Medical, health and emergency supplies:

- Prescribed medical supplies, such as glucose and blood-pressure monitoring equipment.
- Soap and water, or alcohol-based (60-95%) hand wash
- Medicines for fever, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Thermometer
- Anti-diarrheal medication
- Vitamins
- Fluids with electrolytes
- Cleansing agent/soap
- Flashlight
- Portable radio
- Batteries
- Manual can opener
- Garbage bags
- Tissues, toilet paper, disposable diapers

For more information on protecting your family, visit www.PandemicFlu.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Ken Burns' New Series on WWII Set for SEP 07

By CDR Dan Felger, USN (Ret)

Many Companions recall with pleasure the widely acclaimed series on the Civil War, by filmmaker Ken Burns, broadcast on Public TV a decade ago.

PBS plans to premier another epic Burns' production this coming September. The series will focus on WWII through the stories of citizens from four quintessentially American towns: Waterbury, CT; Mobile, AL; Lucerne, MN; and Sacramento, CA. The 14-hour production was six years in the making.

One segment highlights the Normandy Invasion as the beginning of the end of the Nazis and their tyrannical regime. Burns' Normandy segment gives credit to the ini-

tiative of individual American servicemen—including sailors who served in gun-fire support destroyers, landing craft crews, and Navy Combat Demolition Units—for making possible the victory at Normandy. Watch for the whole series!



Normandy Monument Support

Here's another way to show support for the Normandy Monument and to spread the word!

T-shirts • sweat shirts
coffee mugs • ball caps
and other items large and small
(samples to the right)

are available at
www.cafepress.com/naval order.
Check it out!



Naval Order of the United States 2007 National Congress Monterey, CA 17-20 October

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Tuesday, 16 October

- PM Early check-in at the Portola Plaza Hotel, Monterey Bay; free afternoon.
- 1730-1900 "Early Bird" reception at the Host Chairman's residence in Pacific Grove.

Wednesday, 17 October

- 0900-1600 Registration Desk open.
- 1000-1600 Committee Meetings to include the Finance, Site, Electronic Communications, NOUS Foundation, Credentials, Investment, Membership and Retention, and Nominating Committees.
- 1600-1900 Optional scenic guided bus tour of Monterey, Pacific Grove and Pebble Beach with stops at Bird Rock, the Lone Cypress Tree and the Lodge at Pebble Beach (Tour limited to the first 32 Companions with paid reservations.)
- PM Dinner as individually arranged. Suggestions for unique and award winning restaurants on the Monterey Wharf, and within walking distance of Cannery Row and historic downtown Monterey will be available at check-in.

Thursday, 18 October

- 0730-0830 Committee Meetings as necessary.
- 0830-0930 General Council Business meeting.
- 1000-1030 Formal Opening Ceremonies.
- 1030-1600 General Session (Selected Officers' and Committee Reports).
- 1200-1330 Luncheon
Guest Speaker, CAPT Gordon Nakagawa, USN (Ret)
"My Flight to the Hanoi Hilton Residence"
- 1345-1600 Continue General Session.
- 1400-1530 Optional Spouses guided Monterey Historical "walk about."
- 1600-1700 LT John (Jack) J. Gobbell, USN, author of *A Call of Colors (Battle of Leyte Gulf)*, *The Neptune Strategy*, *When Duty Whispers Low*, *A Code for Tomorrow*, *The Last Lieutenant*, and *The Brutus Lie*.
- 1800-1930 Commander General's Welcome Reception at the Monterey Maritime Museum on the Monterey Wharf.
- PM Dinner as individually arranged.

Friday, 19 October

- 0830-0945 Naval Order Business (National Elections)
- 1000-1130 Panel in the Monterey Maritime Museum Theater – "The Critical Years in Developing Naval Aviation"
Monitor: CAPT Wayne P. Hughes, Jr., USN (Ret), Dean Emeritus, Naval Postgraduate School
Panelists: Mr. Tim Thomas, Monterey Maritime Museum Historian and Director, CAPT Wayne Hughes, Jr., USN (Ret), Mr. Chris Grech, Deputy Director of Marine Operations, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, RADM Tom Brown, III, USN (Ret), and Dr. Edward Marolda, Senior Historian, Naval Historical Center
- 1215-1330 Lee Douglas Memorial Award Luncheon. Guest Speaker Pending
- 1400-1500 VADM Daniel T. Oliver, USN (Ret), President of the Naval Postgraduate School, "The Role of the Postgraduate School – The Last 100 Years." (Invited)
- 1400-1600 Continue Naval Order Business.
- 1600-1700 Mr. Michael Keith Olson, author of *Tales from a Tin Can – The USS DALE* The story of USS Dale from Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay, from his father's reflections and those of the officers and sailors who also served.
- PM Dinner as individually arranged.

Saturday, 20 October

- 0830-1130 Continue Naval Order Business.
- 1030-1130 Mr. Dean Mosher, Historian General, "Influence of Sea Power in Early California Development."
- 1200-1330 2007 Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award Luncheon. Guest Speaker Pending
- 1345-1700 Optional "Afternoon Wine Tasting" tour in Carmel Valley.
- 1800-2200 2007 Distinguished Sea Service Award Reception and Banquet honoring ADM Thomas B. Fargo, USN (Ret)

Sunday 21 October

- AM Check-out as individually arranged.

www.navalorder.org**Portola Plaza Hotel at Monterey Bay**www.portolaplazahotel.com

IN HISTORIC MONTEREY – FIRST CAPITAL OF CALIFORNIA

Early Registration: \$195**Room Rate: \$132 per night (plus applicable taxes)**USS MACON DIRIGIBLE PANEL
COMMANDER GENERAL'S RECEPTION – MONTEREY MARITIME MUSEUM
WALKING TOURS OF OLD MONTEREY
VISIT CANNERY ROW – MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM
WINE TASTING AT CHATEAU JULIEN WINE ESTATE
VISIT CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA – TAKE THE FAMOUS 17 MILE DRIVE
PRE-CONGRESS RECEPTION AT 1014 SHELL AVE., PACIFIC GROVE

See the *National Website for More Details* or contact CAPT Ken Johnson, USN (RET)
2007 National Congress Host Chairman, Monterey Bay Commandery
nousmyken@sbcglobal.net

**TEXAS COMMANDERY PRESENTS
AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP**

Every year the Texas Commandery recognizes the leadership of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz with an award named in his memory. A native Texan, ADM Nimitz was elected to the New York Commandery of the Naval Order on 15 SEP 1947.

At this year's Annual Banquet, the Texas Commandery presented the Nimitz award to Gen. Michael W. Hagee, recently retired Commandant of the Marine Corps. Gen. Hagee gave an update on the Iraqi situation and the part played by the U.S. Marine Corps. He then answered questions from the audience, which included a number of Marines and USNA graduates—two of whom were classmates of Gen. Hagee from the Class of '68. He received a plaque and certificate for a one-year Naval Order membership.

Gen. Hagee's name has been added to the Nimitz Leadership Award plaque displayed at the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, TX. At the presentation, Companions noted with interest that Fredericksburg was the hometown of both Gen. Hagee as well as ADM Nimitz.



Gen. Hagee accepts the Fleet Admiral Nimitz Leadership Award from CAPT Carter B. Conlin, NOUS Commander General.