

COMMANDER GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE ORDER

I've just had the pleasure of advising CDR John Hooper, USCG, that his National Capitol Commandery will receive the LCDR Lee W. Douglas Memorial Award at the 2007 National Congress in Monterey this October. This important award goes to the commandery making top efforts to boost membership and attendance at meetings—and the Congress. Bravo Zulu to all National Capitol Companions! I must mention here that the Awards Committee welcomes more entries for this award, next year and beyond. At the upcoming Congress, our National Advisory Committee will consider suggestions to encourage membership, and thereby competition for the Lee Douglas Award. They will also be looking for suggestions to improve the timing and other issues for the annual awards presented at the U. S. Naval Academy.

As to the Naval Order's most prestigious award, I look forward to presenting the Distinguished Sea Service Award to ADM Tom Fargo, USN (Ret) at our Congress Gala Banquet. See below for ADM Fargo's career highlights, and please join me in welcoming him and Mrs. Fargo on 20 October.

CAPT Dave Kaiser, Vice Commander General-Development, with the able assistance of Companion Don Schuld, com-

pleted a very significant accomplishment over the past two years in developing the Naval Order Benefactor Program. Our General Council unanimously approved the Benefactor Program, with a formal announcement in July 2007. The program gives companions the opportunity to name the Naval Order Perpetual Fund in a legacy, or through an outright gift of \$1,000 or more. You will find a separate leaflet describing the Benefactor Program in full enclosed in this newsletter.

On 15 May, I sent an email notifying all commandery commanders that the General Council had voted in favor of urging the U.S. Congress to add language designating USS CONSTITUTION as America's "Ship of State" in a bill now under consideration. CAPT Chris Melhuish, Chairman of our USS CONSTITUTION Committee, provided a template letter and contact information so that companions could easily send this via email directly to their legislators. If you missed this in May, you can still get in touch with CAPT Melhuish at



camelhuish@aol.com for the particulars.

I sent another email to the commandery commanders on 15 June, once again making an appeal for contributions from those companions not yet participating in the Normandy Monument Project. This letter was to be forwarded to every member of the Naval Order, but it is also published on the inside back cover of this newsletter. The letter also encourages past contributors to consider an additional donation to the Project. The generosity of individuals like you and me will enable us to reach our goal of dedicating the Monument on Utah Beach on 6 JUN 2008.

Lastly, please remember the dates of 17-20 OCT 2007 for our National Congress in Monterey, CA. The registration form is enclosed for your convenience or you can find it at our website, www.navalorder.org. Send your registration soon to get the lower rates. The Monterey Commandery's Host Committee under CAPT Ken Johnson has put together a wonderful program. I hope to see you in old Monterey!

Best regards,

Carter B. Conlin
CAPT, USN (Ret)

ADM FARGO TO RECEIVE 2007 DSSA

NOUS Commander General Carter Conlin recently announced the selection of ADM Thomas B. Fargo, USN (Ret), as the 2007 Distinguished Sea Service Award honoree. This award recognizes the singular lifetime achievement and unflinching dedication of a recently-retired senior leader from among all Sea Services.

Born in San Diego, ADM Fargo is a 1970 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. His 35 years of service include six tours in Washington, DC and five command assignments in the Pacific, Indian Ocean and Middle East.

In October 1999, Admiral Fargo was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the U. S.



Ocean areas, and directed joint operations of all the Services across 100 million square miles.

ADM Fargo retired from naval service in February 2005 and now serves as President of Trex Enterprises Corporation, a privately-held high-technology company. He and his

Pacific Fleet. In 2002, he assumed command of U.S. Pacific Command. As COMPACOM, he was the senior U.S. military commander in East Asia and the Pacific and Indian

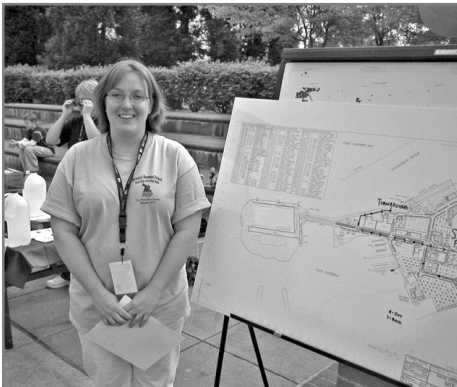
wife Sarah live in Honolulu, HI where he is very active locally, serving as a Director on the Boards of Hawaiian Electric Industries, Hawaiian Airlines, and the Japan-America Society of Hawaii. He is a member of the governing Boards of the Iolani School and Hawaii Pacific University. ADM Fargo also serves as National Vice Chairman of the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund.

ADM Fargo is a Companion of the Naval Order (Texas Commandery). He will receive the 2007 Distinguished Sea Service Award at the Award Banquet in Monterey on 20 OCT 2007.

NWCA WALKS FOR NORMANDY MONUMENT

Mandy Hollis, president of Navy Wives Club Totem 277, learned of the Naval Order's Monument Project and knew her organization could help. Mandy arranged a walk-a-thon to raise money for the Project as part of the Family Fun Day activities on 25 May at Naval Station Everett, WA.

The event was a terrific success. About 40 actual walkers turned out, along with community helpers and vendors. Sailors participated in sand trials and a two-mile run around NS Everett. CAPT Jerry Grunwald, USN (Ret) spoke on behalf of the Monument Project. Mandy reported they had lots of support from the Naval Station and from NWCA Northwest Regional President, Jean Weiman, who was on hand to greet the participants. Even the weather cooperated with a rare, beautifully sunny day. All told, Totem 277 raised \$1500 for the Project.



Organizer Mandy Hollis shows off the walk-a-thon route

HORNER FOUNDATION AWARD CEREMONIES

The Illinois Commandery presents a series of awards annually to the top junior classmen in each of the three NROTC programs at Illinois universities. This year's recipients were MIDN 2/C Jon B. Bauman, University of Illinois; Officer Candidate Joshua Evers, Illinois Institute of Technology; and MIDN 2/C Brian Hock, Northwestern University. Each winner received a \$750 scholarship grant plus a three-year membership in the Naval Institute.

The Commander Maurice L. Horner, Jr. Memorial Awards pay tribute to a man whose lifetime exemplified devotion to the military, the Navy and Navy Reserve. A native of Chicago, CDR Horner was a veteran of three wars. He served as an Army aviator in World War I, earning his wings in 1917. After that war, he returned to the wholesale grocery business with Henry Horner & Co., where he had been associated after graduating from Yale in 1913. In 1921, that firm merged with

Durand-Kasper-McNeil to become Durand, McNeil, Horner Co. CDR Horner served as president of the firm from 1926 until he sold the company in 1939. He saw another war brewing and chose to serve in the Navy.

From the outbreak of WWII, CDR Horner served for the duration through 1946. After a brief interlude, he returned to the Navy in 1949 and served in the Korean conflict, finally retiring in 1954. CDR Horner became a leading figure in the Naval Order of the U.S., holding several national posts and for many years was Commander of the Illinois Commandery. He also was active in the Navy Reserve and as a director of the Chicago Council of the Navy League. His wife, Louise (now deceased herself), and members of the Illinois Commandery established the Horner Foundation just before CDR Horner's death.

The Foundation has presented the Horner Awards without interruption since 1965.



OC Joshua Evers with Bruce Walker at Illinois Institute of Technology



Vic Gulliver and MIDN 2/C Brian Hock at Northwestern University

Companions, please note: Remember to update any change to your e-mail address with NOUS Registrar General, Frank Green (aeis@california.com), and info your own Commandery Membership Vice Commander.

NOUS NEWS is published quarterly by the General Commandery
Naval Order of the United States
PO Box 2714
Merrifield, VA 22116-2714.

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Submissions for next issue of NOUS News are due not later than 31 OCT 07.

LTJG Erik Halvorson Student NFO of the Year

By LT Alan A. "Dink-Dink" Patterson
VAQ-129 PAO

LTJG Erik Halvorson received the Rear Admiral Thurston H. James Award on 1 June, named the outstanding graduate from the Naval Flight Officer program for 2006. Deputy Commodore Electronic Attack Wing Pacific, CAPT Brad Russell, presented the award at a graduation ceremony in the Whidbey Island Officer's Club. LTJG Halvorson was selected from among all student Naval Flight Officers graduating from VT-86 in Pensacola, FL and VAW-120 in Norfolk, VA. LTJG Halvorson continued on to VAQ-129 for his Replacement Aircrew



training in the EA-6B Prowler. With his initial Prowler training completed, LTJG Halvorson transferred to VAQ-136 at NAF Atsugi Japan later in June.

Halvorson said, "Never in my dreams would I imagine being recognized by my peers for such an honor. I entered the Navy specifically to fly the EA-6B, and I will do my best to serve the Fleet."

STARK COMMEMORATION HELD ON TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ATTACK

The First Coast Commandery held its annual ceremony on 17 May in memory of the 37 sailors killed and those wounded by an Iraqi missile attack on USS STARK (FFG31). Exactly 20 years ago, an Iraqi M1 Mirage jet pilot launched two French-made Exocet air-to-sea cruise missiles that struck and seriously damaged the Mayport-based ship. Several dozen former STARK crewmen, their families, and several of the families of the men killed in the unprovoked attack, attended the ceremony.

The Color Guard and Firing Party came from Naval Station Mayport, with the Navy Band Southeast on hand to play for the assembled crowd of 130. Guest speakers in-

cluded many who were deeply involved with the crew's family support back in Jacksonville at the time of the attack. City Councilwoman Lynette Self donated a special wreath for the ceremony.

Among the Companions participating were CAPT Pete Wynkoop (POC for the ceremony), VADM Michael Kalleres (Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group 12 in May 1987), and CAPT Jim Mennis (Monsignor and Chaplain). CAPT John O'Neil, First Coast Commandery Commander, coordinated the reception afterward for STARK crewmen and their families at the CPO Club, co-hosted with the Mayport Council of the US Navy League.



Companions VADM Kalleres (in ball cap) and Msgr Mennis, right center, listen as former STARK crewman Bernard Martin strikes the ship's bell.

MORE NAVAL ORDER AWARDS



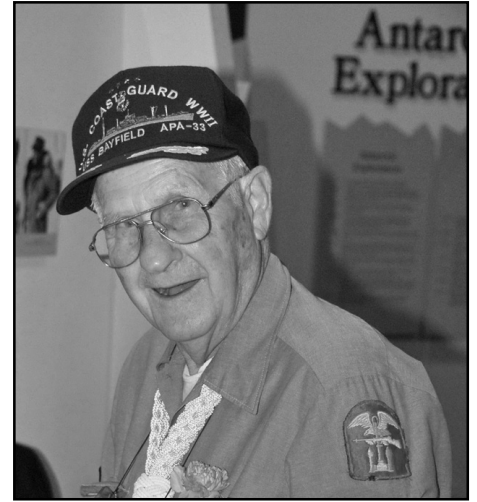
From left: MIDN 1/C Vanessa Solem (now an ENS working on SWO quals in San Diego), MIDN 3/C D.J. Canham, and MIDN 4/C Nicholas Musto, with CAPT Jim Brooke at the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Awards Ceremony on 23 May in Memorial Hall. Each received a complementary first year membership in the Naval Order in addition to the prizes they hold here.



MIDN 1/C Christopher MacLean received a \$200 bond from CAPT Gary Bair of the New Orleans Commandery in May. MIDN MacLean was this year's top Surface Warfare candidate in the NROTC program at Tulane University.

BM2 Perrett Crosses the Bar

Former BM2 Marvin J. Perrett, USCG, passed away on 6 MAY 07 at his home in Metairie, LA. This is one of many tributes to a legendary man.



Marvin Perrett took part in the 2006 National Congress in Washington, DC with his usual enthusiasm. *Photo by Joseph P. Cirone*

Like a kind of maritime Forrest Gump, Marvin had the uncanny knack of being present at, and taking an active part in, some of the most desperate amphibious assaults of World War II. He enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1943 and served as an Assault Boat Coxswain in many Campaigns. In Europe, he drove his LCVP in the Normandy Landings and the landings in Southern France. If you've ever visited the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans, you have seen the LCVP on display in the main atrium. It's no coincidence that boat bears the same markings as the one in which Marvin hit the beaches of Normandy.

Earlier, he had a ringside seat to the disastrous D-day rehearsal, "OPERATION TIGER," when German E-Boats struck the Amphibious Task Force off Slapton Sands in the UK. In the Pacific, Marvin lost a boat in the Iwo Jima landing.

Marvin's exploits are even more amazing in that they all did actually happen. To cap off his remarkable story, a grateful France recently made him a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor—an extremely rare honor.

For those Companions who never had the pleasure of meeting this Great American, take heart that you once served with many, many like him. There is a little bit of Marvin Perrett in us all. He was indeed our friend and shipmate, and his passing diminishes us all.

— Lt.Col. Jeff Christman, USMC (Ret)
Hampton Roads Commandery

CATCHING UP WITH THE COMMANDERIES

Florida First Coast – On 22 May, the City Council of Jacksonville, FL unanimously adopted a resolution proclaiming 6JUN07 as “U.S. Navy D-Day Commemoration Day.” CAPT Greg Streeter, USN (Ret), Chairman of the Navy D-Day Monument Project, received the Proclamation from Councilwoman Elaine Brown in a formal ceremony at the Memorial Park at Naval Station Mayport. Councilwoman Brown emotionally told how her own father had been killed in North Africa during WWII, before she was born. Among the attendees at the ceremony were CAPT John O’Neil, Commander of First Coast Commandery, CAPT Ed Froelich, Companion, and Mr. Jim Gaff, a WWII vet who took part in the landing at Utah Beach as an assault Boat Coxswain.



Monterey Bay – Commandery Commander, LCDR Greg Fitzgearld, and his daughter Skyler (age 8), took part in this year’s Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony aboard USCGC HAWKSBILL (WPB 87312). The cutter got underway for the ceremony in the Monterey Bay, adjacent to Monterey’s Cannery Row. LCDR Fitzgearld said later, “It was a somber moment, yet a wonderful ceremony that allowed us to remember those heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice.” Skyler added that the sound of Taps made her very sad.

The Commandery, joined by the Navy League, commemorated the Battle of Midway with a Dining-Out at the Naval Postgraduate School. Guests of honor included CDR Bill Cullin, USN (Ret) and MAJ Lowell Lawrence, USMC (Ret). CDR Cullin was one of the pilots of Squadron VV-44, which first sighted the Japanese fleet at Midway. MAJ Lawrence was a Corsair fighter pilot who flew from USS BLOCK ISLAND (CVE 106) with ADM Spruance aboard. He saw combat at Okinawa, Iwo Jima, Miyako and Ishigaki Islands, and later served in Korea. Following dinner, MAJ Lawrence, with his daughter Donna by his side, became a

member of the Naval Order. Guest speaker for the event was Dr. Daniel Moran, who teaches international and military history at NPS. Companion Larry Reeves, a former member of the “Agency,” provided a collection of “Blue Flag” messages stressing the value of SIGINT. Another highlight of the evening was the National Anthem sung by Danielle Crook, *Miss Santa Cruz County 2007* and a candidate for *Miss California 2007*. Miss Cook commented, “I have sung the National Anthem many times and in many places, but this was very different. The words took on a new meaning. It was a great honor to sing here, and something I’ll never forget.”

Also this summer, the Commandery presented their annual ADM David G. Farragut Awards for “inspirational leadership and conduct” to the outstanding senior NJROTC cadets at three area high schools. Each cadet received a certificate of merit and a savings bond.

We look forward to hosting the upcoming National Congress, and hope to meet many of you at the Commander General’s Reception on 18 October!

National Capitol – RADM Fred Lewis at the podium (below) with author Tom Wildenberg at the Battle of Midway Dinner on 3 June. Over 150 Companions and guests turned out to commemorate the Battle and hear the naval historian speak.



Texas – The Texas Commandery met for the annual Battle of Midway luncheon on 4 June, the 65th anniversary of the Battle. CAPT Kerry Magee, USN (Ret) conducted the meeting, with Companion STC Howard L. Snell addressing the group. Chief Snell is a veteran of Midway, and a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor. He told a number of interesting stories from those events and about other battles involving his ships, USS ENTERPRISE (CV6) and USS MORRISON (DD560). Chief Snell took part

in the famous Doolittle Raid on Tokyo. He received the Navy Commendation Medal for saving a shipmate blown over the side of MORRISON. The ship had come to the aid of USS PRINCETON (CV23) in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, when an ammunition magazine exploded on the carrier. After Snell’s speech, CAPT Carter Conlin presented plaques recognizing their service to the four Companions present who were survivors of Pearl Harbor.



From left are CAPT Carter Conlin, Commander General; CAPT Kerry Magee, Commandery Commander; Pearl Harbor Survivors Lewis LaGessee, STC Howard Snell, Luke Trahin, and MOMM1 William Eckel; CAPT George Holyfield, Past Commandery Commander; and LT Ed Seiling, Commandery Secretary/Treasurer.



NEW COMPANIONS 1 APR07-15 JUL07

FLORIDA FIRST COAST

David P. Burkart, PhD
Laurie A. Hogan
CAPT Steven M. McCann
NCCM James S. Nichols
CAPT Earle S. Yerger, USN (Life)

MONTEREY BAY

Maj. Lowell S. Lawrence, USMC (Ret)

NATIONAL CAPITOL

PC3 Linzie S. Conley, Sr., USN

NEW YORK

E-4 Richard T. Kenney

PHILADELPHIA/DELAWARE VALLEY

MRCs Nicholas J. Martocci (Life)

SAN FRANCISCO

CW04 Ronald C. Gibson
SGT Donald F. Reid (Life)
LtCol John R. Stevens

SOUTHWEST

CAPT Alan M. Haefner, USN (Ret)
VADM Thomas J. Kilcline, Jr., USN



NAVAL ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES

Office of the Commander General



USS Constitution
NOUS Honorary Flagship

15 June 2007

Dear Fellow Companions of the Naval Order of the United States:

Eighteen months ago, the General Council of the Naval Order voted in favor of the Normandy Monument Project, with an estimated price tag of \$500,000. At that time, I sent a letter to each of you suggesting that each Companion consider a \$100 donation to the project to give it a strong jump-start. At that suggested contribution, 50% of our membership of about 2,000 would bring the Project \$100,000. To date, as it turns out, 16% of our membership has contributed about \$34,600 to the NOUS Treasury for the project—an average donation of approximately \$124. Several of the donations were in the range of \$1,000. Professional fund-raisers have told us this response is quite good. However, some of us leading the project find it difficult to ask corporations and other organizations for contributions to our Project, when 84% of our own members have not participated at all. So now, we are asking those who have not yet given to the project to consider doing so now. We are also asking those who have given in the past to make an additional donation in order for us to complete the project. Project expenses paid from the NOUS Treasury to date total about \$26,000, leaving a balance of about \$8,600. All contributions made to the NOUS Treasury are tax-exempt under IRS 501(c)(19).

The Naval Order Foundation is an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and can receive contributions from corporations and outside organizations, some of which specify that particular exemption for contributions. To date the Foundation has received about \$130,750, from which we made the first installment payment to the sculptor for \$73,750 last January. This leaves a present balance in the Foundation account of about \$57,000. The second installment of \$73,750 is due by 1 August for the project to stay on schedule for dedication on 6JUN08. We are optimistic about making that payment on time since we are short only about \$20,000 in the Foundation, and we have verbal commitments to cover that amount. There will be two more installments of \$73,750 due to the sculptor, for a total of \$295,000. Therefore, after the second installment, the two remaining payments total \$147,500.

We purposely have not used the services of professional fund-raisers, so all donations go directly into the Project. However, we certainly appreciate the efforts made by Companions to make this a success and to keep the Project on schedule for the Dedication next June. Please keep our Chairman of the Normandy Monument Project, CAPT Greg Streeter, and our Fund-Raising Chairman, CDR Dan Felger, apprised of letters requesting donations from individuals, companies, corporations or organizations. We have received a number of donations from ship reunion organizations and from companies whose executives have particular interest in D-Day. In addition, several commanderies have responded with donations of \$1,068 in memory of the 1,068 U.S. Navy men who lost their lives in the Normandy D-Day invasion.

In conclusion, for those who have not yet participated, please help us with a generous contribution towards the project. For those who have already contributed, please consider giving an additional contribution. For all, please help by contacting or writing letters to your organizations, your employers, your local papers or other potential donors. With your help, I am sure we can make a big success of this “labor of love,” to quote the letter of support from former President George H. W. Bush. We owe the effort to those in the U.S. Navy who fought there and those 1,068 who died, to recognize their memory alongside all those already honored with over 60 other monuments. Their service has been overlooked for more than 63 years. Please refer to our excellent websites for more information at www.normandymonument.org and www.navalorder.org.

Donations from Companions should be sent to the NOUS Treasurer General, CAPT Michele Lockwood, USN (Ret), 2222 Alameda de Las Pulgas, San Mateo, CA 94403-1216. All other donations should be sent to the Naval Order Foundation, P. O. Box 583, Glenview, IL 60025-0583.

Best regards,

Carter B. Conlin, Captain, USN (Ret)
Commander General



www.navalorder.org

Not Just Midway!

By M. Ann Germann

On 4 JUN 2007, John Nugent, a former Companion and still friend to the Order, began to set up his exhibit to commemorate the Battle of Midway. He'd originally been asked to display his materials just for two days, in the Room of Honor at the Chiefs' Club on Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, VA. The exhibit, sponsored by the Tidewater Chief Petty Officer Association, completely filled the display area of over 1200 sq. feet.

The Battle of Midway is usually remembered as a victory of naval aviation. But Mr. Nugent's display tells a more complete story, of the Army and Marine Corps roles in the Battle, and of the PT boats and submarines. Further, it demonstrates what led up to the events at Midway, and what followed.

Mr. Nugent created a world of "what if?" What if the Japanese had captured and destroyed the American carriers at Pearl Harbor? What if the attack had also de-

stroyed the repair facilities, making repairs on USS YORKTOWN impossible? What if the code breakers had not learned the Japanese were headed to Midway? What if the Battle of the Coral Sea had not happened? What if Admiral Spruance had not replaced Admiral Halsey at the Battle of Midway? What if...what if...what if?

The Battle of Midway was the culmination of many parts, some Japanese errors, some American lucky breaks, and lots of courage and initiative by personnel of all services. Mr. Nugent's presentation captured all this using models, art, videos, and other media. And his story did not stop at Midway, but continued on to the start of the Guadalcanal campaign. If Midway was the turning point that shut the door on the Japanese advance in the Pacific, then Guadalcanal bolted that door.

Originally planned for only a two-day display, the exhibit was extended through



the week by special request and was featured on local TV. Over 430 people toured the display, most expecting to see a model or two or simple display board. All came away deeply impressed at the breadth and depth of the exhibit and the information it conveyed.

Mr. Nugent already plans to add material for next year's display. He hopes that more commands and fleet units will be able to view it then. In Nugent's view, this not only applies to indoctrination training and GMT requirements. He sees it as helping to fulfill one of the goals of MCPON Joe Campa, encouraging "more chiefs to sit down with their white hats and teach them the Navy's history" and how it applies to their lives and jobs today. John Nugent helps instill that proud heritage in a very real way.



**OCTOBER
17-20**

CONGRESS 2007

*Return
to
Old
Monterey*

See Enclosed Registration Form for Details or contact CAPT Ken Johnson, USN (RET) 2007 National Congress Host Chairman, Monterey Bay Commandery nousmtyken@sbcglobal.net

Ship's Store News

With the National Congress scheduled for mid-October, it's time to spruce up your Naval Order accessories. Take a few minutes today to order a Naval Order polo shirt and ball cap so you'll be dressed right for morning casual meetings, a game of golf or the walking tour of Monterey. Get a blazer patch to dress up that navy blazer during the formal meetings. Look at your dinner attire to make sure your neck ribbon and medals are in good order. If not, select replacements now and be ready. We also have plenty of rosettes and the new lapel pins in stock. All items will be available for purchase at the Congress as well.