

## COMMANDER GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE ORDER

My Fellow Companions:

First, I'm both humbled and honored to serve as 36th Commander General of the Naval Order, and to follow in the steps of our many great leaders over the 117 years since our founding in 1890. With your help and the guidance of our elected National Officers, I look forward to an even brighter future. We will continue to work together to complete the Normandy Monument Project, with the Dedication scheduled for Saturday, 27 SEP 2008. I am pleased with the leadership of this effort and ask for your continued support. During the next several months, you'll hear more about plans for the Dedication from CAPT Greg Streeter and his team on the Normandy Monument Committee. With the end of the year just around the corner, please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Monument project—like giving blood, you can never give too much!

Second, I want to thank LCDR Greg Fitzgearld, Commander of the Monterey Bay Commandery, for his hard work in the success of our recent National Congress. The "Monterey Bay Commandery Team" put to-



Immediate Past CG, CAPT Carter Conlin, with Judy Johnson and new NOUS CG, CAPT Ken Johnson

gether a four-day event that easily exceeded expectations. If you missed the Congress, these were some of the highlights:

- an Early Bird reception at my home (forced inside after a "slight" touch of Pacific Grove rain!)
- a *Scenic Movie Tour* around Monterey, Pacific Grove and Pebble Beach
- CAPT Gordon Nakagawa, USN (Ret), who spoke about his time as a POW in the infamous *Hanoi Hilton*
- CAPT Jeff Kline, USN (Ret), Chair of Warfare Innovation at NPS, who gave a presentation on *The Role of the Naval Postgraduate School in the Last 100 Years*

- Book discussions by authors Jack Gobbell (*A Call of Color*) and Michael Keith Olson (*Tales from a Tin Can*)
- Dr. Bill Dudley, NOUS Historian General, who addressed *The Influence of Sea Power in Early California Development*
- Ambassador David Lyon, who spoke on *The Legacy That Keeps on Giving – The Pacific Remembers the Greatest Generation*
- the Aviation Panel, which discussed *The Critical Years in Developing Naval Aviation*. Panel members included CAPT Wayne Hughes, Jr. USN (Ret), Dean Emeritus, Naval Postgraduate School; Tim Thomas, Monterey Maritime Museum Historian; Chris Grech, Deputy Director of Marine Operations, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute; RADM Tom Brown III, USN (Ret); Dr. Ed Marolda, Senior Historian, Naval Historical Center (who later gave an update on current Navy historical events); and RADM Mark Emerson, USN, Commander, Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center

(Continued on Page 3)

## SECRETARY SHULTZ RECEIVES DEWEY AWARD

A distinguished delegation from the Naval Order visited the home of the Hon. George P. Shultz on 25 September to present the 2007 Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award. The award recognizes the exemplary service of a senior civilian whose record of service sets him apart from his peers. Beginning with its inception in 2002, past Dewey Award recipients are President George H. W. Bush, Dr. Robert D. Ballard, RADM Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr., and the Hon. Gordon R. England. Each honoree receives a plaque and Life Membership in the Naval Order of the United States.

Sec. Shultz's long career in public service included terms as the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of State. He served as an officer in the U. S. Marine Corps during World War II.



From left: CAPT Al Serafini, RADM Tom Brown, CAPT Carter Conlin, Sec. Shultz, CAPT Ken Johnson, Mr. Henry Morris, Sgt. Don Reid, and CAPT Fred Hawkins

# NORMANDY MONUMENT DEDICATION

**Looks like a GO for September 2008!**

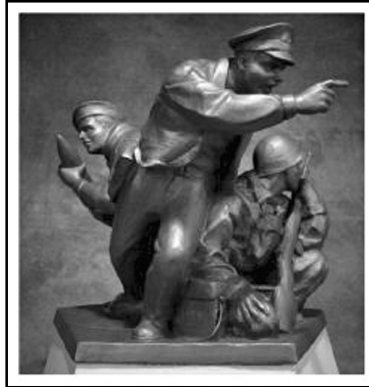
Had enough of humdrum vacations? Can we tempt you with a trip to enjoy the beauty, wines, and cuisine of an historic part of France—an area in Europe where Americans are revered! More important, this opportunity connects *you* with a monumental event in international history, and pays homage to 1068 American sailors who died while sealing the Allied victory in the Invasion of Normandy. If all this interests you, read on...

Companions at the 2007 National Congress learned the Naval Order has received funds and rock-solid pledges amounting to 80% of our \$500,000 goal for the Normandy Monument Project. We began our national campaign to erect a monument on UTAH Beach in December 2006, after confirming that the US Navy is the only American or Allied service without proper tribute to its part in the Invasion at Normandy.

Military historians estimate about 5300 American and Allied servicemen died in the first two days of fighting. About one of every four Americans who died in the earliest days of the Invasion was a US Navy sailor. These heroes remain unrecognized at the beaches there today. A plaque there does commemorate the sacrifice and valor of US Coast Guardsmen killed at Normandy.

**Planning the Dedication.** Based on funds already collected, quality of pledges received, and momentum generated, the Naval Order's General Council approved the following:

- Plan for the formal Monument Dedication at UTAH Beach on Saturday, 27 September 2008. CAPT Greg Streeeter



**Model by sculptor Stephen Spears**

of First Coast Commandery, NOUS Commander General-Elect and Monument Project Chairman, proposed the date for two reasons: to take advantage of off-season travel fares, and to make the Dedication as soon as possible. It's a sad fact that World War II vets are now of an age when we lose about 1000 *every day*.

- Initiate liaison with the government of France, American Battle Monuments Commission, and U.S. Depts. of State and Defense, the U.S. Navy and Navy Band for the Dedication ceremonies.
- Put together a 5-day, all-expense-paid tour (less transatlantic airfare) of Normandy and the Monument Dedication by Historic Tours, Inc. The owners, Companion Ray Pfeiffer and his wife Cristy, live in Normandy and have conducted battlefield tours there for 25 years. They estimate such a tour will cost about \$2,950 per person, to include a \$250 donation from each confirmed reservation toward the balance still due for the Monument. (Sounds expensive? The devalued U.S. dollar is another sad fact.)
- Confirm tour costs and schedule in early 2008 to give Companions time to make travel and vacation plans. Deposits for the proposed Monument Dedication tour will probably be due in March 2008. Our website, [www.normandymonument.org](http://www.normandymonument.org), will post up-to-date details.

**You Can Help.** CAPT Ken Johnson, Naval Order Commander General, emphasizes that Companions who may not be able to attend the Dedication in person can still help the Monument campaign: "The major way you can help does NOT involve a donation! Rather, if you know of a Navy veteran of Normandy, please tell him about the Dedication and then pass that vet's

contact information to us so we can get an invitation to that sailor." Pass any such contact details directly to Greg Streeeter at 904-221-0923 or [gstreetr@bellsouth.net](mailto:gstreetr@bellsouth.net) or to Dan Felger at 202-488-8268 or [danjeandc@verizon.net](mailto:danjeandc@verizon.net).

At the Monterey Congress CAPT Johnson reminded NOUS Companions that the veterans' service at Normandy mandates that each should receive an invitation. He also asked that individual Companions ask for help from their local chapters of the Navy League, MOAA, American Legion and VFW to identify those vets.

Meanwhile, we remind each Commandery and every Companion that the Monument Project still needs to raise another \$100,000. The donations of Companions are tax-deductible under IRS Code Section 501(c)(19). Please specify the "Normandy Monument" on your check and send to CAPT Michelle Lockwood, 2222 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo CA 94403-1216.

Other benefactors who are not Companions will receive similar deductions under IRS Code 501(c)(3) by contributing to the non-profit Naval Order of the United States Foundation. These checks should be sent to Naval Order Foundation, PO Box 583, Glenview, IL 60025-0583.

Thank you all and I hope to see you at Normandy this September.

—CDR Dan Felger, Chairman  
Monument Fundraising



## AND THIS FROM OUR VICE COMMANDER GENERAL – MEMBERSHIP

On 18 July we pulled into Buffalo for our 16th annual reunion of the USS Little Rock Association. The ship, a guided missile cruiser recommissioned in 1960, has been a museum ship there since 1979.

Armed with eleven "Normandy" coins, I approached shipmates throughout the reunion and left for home five days later with \$1,000 for the Monument.

Moral of the story . . . "Just ask!"

Regards,

Don Schuld

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**Submissions for next issue  
of NOUS News are due  
not later than 28 FEB 08.**

## BM2 PERRETT STILL EARNS KUDOS

Our late Companion Marvin J. Perrett was named a winner of the 2006 Spirit of Hope Award, presented to individuals who epitomize honor, integrity and selfless dedication.



Marvin began his service to his country in World War II. He served as a Coxswain of the Higgins landing craft during the D-Day invasion at Normandy, the invasion of Iwo Jima, and the invasion of Okinawa. During his lifetime Marvin educated thousands of people on the Coast Guard and World War II. He played an integral part in establishing the National World War II Museum in New Orleans and was featured in documentaries and news programs about the war. Marvin fully exemplified the values and character of Bob Hope, with his unrelenting desire to entertain and tell the story of the brave work of men and women in the military.

Marvin's daughter, Melissa Cook, accepted the Spirit of Hope medal on her father's behalf at a ceremony in the Pentagon on 19 November. Mrs. Cook called the award "a beautiful tribute my father's optimism, zest for life, and longstanding mission to travel the world as an informal Coast Guard ambassador."

### (Commander General's Report Continued)

— the keynote address by RADM Emerson at the luncheon following the Aviation Panel

— and finally, ADM Fargo's address at the DSSA Gala. His remarks are included separately in this newsletter for the enjoyment of all Companions.

To all, I can affirm the excellent standing of the Naval Order, thanks to CAPT Carter Conlin, Immediate Past Commander General, and the National Officers who served during his term. Many of these individuals will remain aboard for my tenure as Commander General. I have the pleasure to announce the 2007-2009 leadership team, including: Commander General – Elect, CAPT Greg Streeter; Vice Commander General – Membership, Mr. Don Schuld; Vice Commander General – Development, CAPT John O'Neil; Vice Commander General (At Large), CAPT Pete Piotrowski; Vice Commander General (At Large), CAPT Kent Siegel; Recorder General, CAPT Vance H. Morrison; Registrar General, Frank Green; Treasurer General, CAPT Michele Lockwood;

Historian General, Dr. Bill Dudley; Surgeon General, CAPT Thomas Synder; and Judge Advocate General, RADM Doug Moore. Companions to the General Council include FLTCM "Pres" Weaver, LT Jonathan Jones, RADM Hugh Webster, and RADM Merrill Ruck. A list of other officers and committee chairs appears on page 6.

Two key leadership billets will open up before the next election in 2009. Treasurer General Michele Lockwood has requested a relief following the first of the year and Recorder General Vance Morrison has requested a relief at our November 2008 Congress. If you are interested in one of these important National Officer positions, or would like more information, please contact me directly at 831-657-9793 or [nousmtyken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nousmtyken@sbcglobal.net).

In closing, Judy and I wish each Companion a blessed and joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Warm regards,

Kenneth A. Johnson  
CAPT, USN (Ret)

## NAVAL ORDER COMPANION LEADS NAVY LEAGUE

First Coast Commandery is proud to recognize one of its distinguished Companions, J. Michael McGrath. Mike was installed as National President at the annual Navy League meeting in Palm Springs, CA on 3 November. He served more than 30 years in the U.S. Navy and now lives in Neptune Beach, FL with his wife Gloria. Bravo Zulu, Mike, as you begin your two-year tour of duty leading the NLUS!



**New NLUS President Mike McGrath  
and First Lady Gloria**

## NEW COMPANIONS – 1JUL07-15NOV07

### Florida First Coast

Michael R. Danforth  
CAPT Ernest H. Joy, USN (Ret)  
CAPT Hugh B. Tulloch, USN (Ret)  
LCDR Kenneth L. Underwood, USN

### Hampton Roads

LCDR Stephen E. Spratt

### Illinois

LCDR James B. Erickson

### Massachusetts

Anthony G. Ziagos Sr.

### Monterey Bay

CDR John N. Lund, USN

### National Capitol

LT John P. Kost, USN  
YNCM Dennis S. Reinke, USN (Ret)

### New Orleans

CDR Robert A. Green

### New York

Lewis S. Allen – *Life*  
LT Douglas M. Bennet  
Michael H. Charles  
LT William J. Constantine  
James D. Hornfischer – *Life*  
RADM Robert A. Ravitz, USN (Ret)  
Dr. Richard W. Seagraves

### Newport

CPL Michael H. Cunningham – *Life*

### Raleigh

John R. Harmon

### San Francisco

E2 Danico J. Canonizado  
LT Michael Flint, USN – *Life*  
CAPT Cullen Hewitt  
Alice F. Long  
Hon. George P. Schultz – *Life*  
Walter V. Usinowicz, Jr.

### Texas

Linda J. Bryant  
YN3 Martha A. Bryant  
LT Tina Y. Bryant  
ENS Norman M. Snell

### Western New York

DK2 Frederick R. Dentinger, USN  
CDR Richard B. McCormick

## CATCHING UP WITH THE COMMANDERIES

**Arizona**—Companion Lou Linxwiler was the featured speaker at our September luncheon, with a program on Papago Park Camp and the Great Escape of 1944. He told the story of how German POWs, mostly sailors from captured U-boats, planned and executed an amazing Christmas Eve escape, and what happened in the months that followed.



AZ Commandery Treasurer, Deek Harrison, Lou Linxwiler and Vice Commander, Carol Culbertson

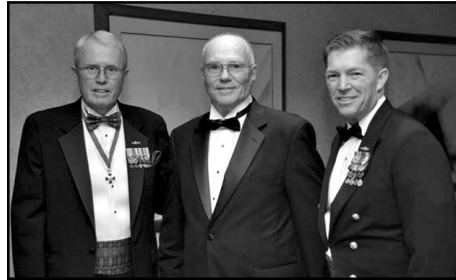
**Florida First Coast**—We had our annual summer potluck on 21 July, welcoming several new members. We are certainly happy with our Companions and their participation—we're now some 78 strong and have a great group down here. During the 2007 Congress, both CAPTs Conlin and Johnson commended First Coast's leadership in raising funds for the Normandy Monument.

Speaking of participation...special congratulations are in order for two of our Companions! CDR Mike McGrath became President of the Navy League and CAPT Clarence Hill has stepped up for the office of National Commander of the American Legion.

The Commandery recently partnered with the Mayport USO to sponsor one of its popular biweekly "No Dough Dinners." These provide a social opportunity for families with a deployed spouse or parent to enjoy a free, nutritious meal. First Coast joined the ranks of local civic organizations, service clubs and restaurants helping to finance these dinners.

We're making final preps for our Pearl Harbor Commemoration Dinner on 6 December. The next day, a number of Companions will participate in the annual Pearl Harbor Day Sail in USS JOHN L. HALL (FFG 32) out of Naval Station Mayport. And looking farther ahead, we're planning a second annual D-Day Navy Normandy golf outing at Queen's Harbour Country Club for Thursday, 31 January 2008. We've been busy gathering sponsors and golfers and hope to surpass last year's net of \$12,200 for the Monument Project!

**Monterey Bay**—We look back at the many hours of coordination that led to a very successful 2007 National Congress. The theme was "Return to Old Monterey," the first capitol of California, and built on the rich historical background of the area. Over 150 companions and friends attended the conference, participating in business sessions, panel sessions and presentations. With all the bills now paid, Monterey Bay Commandery will return over \$1,000 to the National Treasurer for future Congress planning. This was made possible by the many long hours of Companions working behind the scene—BZ to all!



Ken Johnson with Congress Treasurer, Jim Hester and MON Commander, Greg Fitzgearld

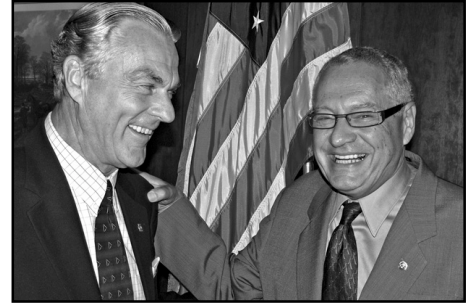
The Commandery is now working on the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner for this coming 4 December. Our Guest of Honor will be VADM Daniel Oliver, USN (Ret), President, Naval Post Graduate School. Mr. Michael Keith Olson, author of *Tales From A Tim Can: The USS Dale From Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay* will be guest speaker.

**National Capitol**—The Lee W. Douglas Memorial Award was presented to National Capitol at a luncheon during the 2007 National Congress. CAPT Kent Siegel accepted the Award and will formally convey the plaque to CDR John Hooper, National Capitol Commander, at our annual Pearl Harbor Commemorative Dinner on 7 December. This is the second time our commandery has won in the four year history of the award.



Carter Conlin displays the permanent Lee Douglas Award plaque, while Kent Siegel and Ken Johnson hold National Capitol's award.

**New York**—On 11 September, we welcomed RADM Bob Ravitz, Vice Chairman and Executive Director of the Commissioning Committee for USS NEW YORK (LPD 21), and heard about the ship's construction under progress. The ship contains about 24 tons of steel salvaged from the site of the World Trade Center, and is expected to be commissioned in 2009 in New York City.

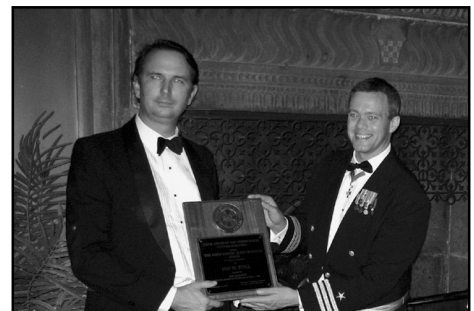


Don Schuld (Vice Commander General - Membership) with RADM Ravitz

Our October luncheon featured Dr. George Hill, who gave a talk on the novels of Patrick O'Brien. George added color to the event by appearing in a reproduction uniform representing John Paul Jones. Huzzah!



And in November the Commandery presented its RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Book Award to Ian W. Toll for his book *Six Frigates: The Epic Story of the Founding of the US Navy*. Over 60 Companions and guests attended the black-tie dinner.



Author Ian Toll and NY Commander, John Cupschalk

## CATCHING UP WITH THE COMMANDERIES

**New Orleans**—In October, we had a first-hand report from the Coast Guard officer who led the largest search and rescue operation in history—part of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.



CAPT Paskewich looks out over the ravaged New Orleans Superdome at the time of Hurricane Katrina. Official USCG photo.

CAPT Frank Paskewich was Captain of the Port of New Orleans and Sector Commander for the region so severely devastated. He told of the heroic achievements of hundreds of Coast Guardsmen under his

command, who recovered more than 33,500 hurricane survivors. Recently retired from active duty, CAPT Paskewich has joined the Naval Order and will participate in the panel of Katrina Heroes at our 2008 National Congress in New Orleans.

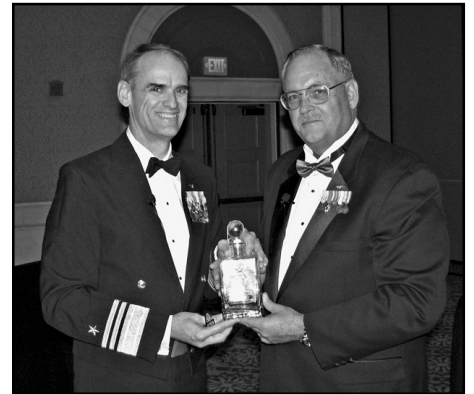
The Commandery looks forward to dining with a speaker on “The role of the U.S. Navy vis-a-vis Jean LaFitte and the Pirates of the Gulf Coast” in December.

**San Francisco**—RADM Russell W. Gorman, USN (Ret) presented a U.S. savings bond to MDSN Anthony K. Maude at graduation ceremonies for the California Maritime Academy last April. He also presented an officer’s sword to the leading NROTC graduate at the University of California Berkeley, CA. The late RADM H. Armstrong of San Francisco Commandery initiated this award. His daughter, CAPT Jan V. Armstrong, also recently deceased, continued the tradition that we proudly carry on.

**Southwest**—Our 2007 Reunion took place in early November in Rancho Mirage, CA. Our traditional two days of fellowship, business meetings and “fun in the sun” included a Welcome Reception on Thursday

evening, and a marvelous golf tournament organized by CAPT Denny Irelan, USN (Ret) the next day. The annual business meeting and a black-tie banquet followed. We were honored to have VADM Thomas J. Kilcline, Jr, Commander Naval Air Forces, as our guest speaker for the 46 Companions and guests attending the banquet. In accordance with long-standing Commandery tradition, VADM Kilcline serves as our honorary commander during his tenure as COMNAVAIRFOR.

At the banquet, CAPT Robert Houser, USN (Ret), relieved CAPT Timothy “Spike” Prendergast, USN (Ret) as SWC commander.



VADM Kilcline accepts a memento from outgoing SWC Commander, “Spike” Prendergast

## IN MEMORIAM

The Naval Order notes with regret the passing of these Companions:

**CWO4 Lorna E. Bridenstine, USN (Ret)**  
NATIONAL CAPITOL

**CAPT Harry W. Brown, USCG (Ret)**  
TEXAS

**CAPT Robert E. Burgess, USN (Ret)**  
SAN FRANCISCO

**CAPT Louis P. Canepa, USN (Ret)**  
SOUTHWEST

**CDR Richard A. Carlson, USN (Ret)**  
NEW ORLEANS

**ADM William J. Crowe, USN (Ret)**  
NATIONAL CAPITOL

**CAPT Prentice Cushing, Jr., USN (Ret)**  
HAMPTON ROADS

**RADM Eugene B. Fluckey, USN (Ret)**  
ANNAPOLIS

**CAPT Daniel V. Foley, USN (Ret)**  
NEW YORK

**Capt. George N. Hall, USAF**  
SAN FRANCISCO

**LT Ronald B. Henderson, USN (Ret)**  
FLORIDA FIRST COAST

**CAPT I. Taylor Holman, USN (Ret)**  
ATLANTA

**LT Alfred J. Jacobs, USN**  
SAN FRANCISCO

**LT Lee A. Krimmer, USN**  
NEW YORK

**CDR Robert S. Kronberger, USN (Ret)**  
LONG BEACH

**CAPT Robert G. Loewenthal, USN (Ret)**  
NEWPORT

**CDR George J. Martin, USN (Ret)**  
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

**VADM Joseph Metcalf III, USN (Ret)**  
NATIONAL CAPITOL

**CDR Jack H. Morse, USN (Ret)**  
SAN DIEGO

**BM2 Marvin J. Perrett, USCG**  
NEW ORLEANS

**LCDR Francis X. Reilly, USN**  
ILLINOIS

**CAPT John C. Rice, Jr., USN (Ret)**  
NEW ORLEANS

**Col. John H. Roscoe, USMCR (Ret)**  
SAN FRANCISCO

**LTJG Edwin M. Ryan, USN**  
NATIONAL CAPITOL

**CAPT Philip G. Saylor, USN (Ret)**  
NATIONAL CAPITOL

**Mr. Michael H. Styles**  
NATIONAL CAPITOL

**CAPT Maurice A. Taquino, USN (Ret)**  
NEW ORLEANS

**RADM Alban “Stormy” Weber, USN (Ret)**  
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

**LT Charles J. Weigel II, USN**  
TEXAS

**ADM Maurice F. Weisner, USN (Ret)**  
PENSACOLA

**CAPT Irene N. Wirtschafter, USN (Ret)**  
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

## 2007-2009 COMMANDER GENERAL

On 20 OCT 2007, CAPT Kenneth A. Johnson, USN (Ret) relieved CAPT Carter Conlin, USN (Ret) as the Naval Order's 36th Commander General. Carter passed the "official gavel" to Ken after presenting the Distinguished Sea Service Award to ADM Thomas B. Fargo, USN (Ret).



CAPT Johnson retired from the Navy with 31 years of service in various surface combatants, key staff positions in the Pacific Theater, and as Aide to the Chief of Naval Operations. He commanded both USS BAGLEY (FF 1069) and the U.S. Naval Communication Station at Stockton, CA. He also served a tour in Vietnam as a Naval Advisor to the Vietnamese Navy.

After retiring, he held the position of Manager for Navy and DOD Government Relations, GTE Government Systems Corporation, Washington, DC. Later returning to the Monterey Peninsula, CPT Johnson served as Director of Alumni Relations, Naval Postgraduate School. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California, Armed Forces Staff College, National War College, and the Naval Postgraduate School with an MS in Communications.

CAPT Johnson is a life member of the Naval Order, Surface Naval Association, Navy League, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Monterey History and Arts Association. His many leadership positions within the Naval Order include those of Historian, National Capitol Commandery; Vice Commander General for Membership (four years); Commander of the Monterey Bay Commandery; President of the Naval Order Foundation; and as the Commander General – Elect. He and his wife Judy (also a Life Member) reside in Pacific Grove.

CAPT Johnson's personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Gold Star in lieu of Second Award, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and Gold Star in lieu Second Award.

## APPOINTED NATIONAL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

NOUS Commander General, CAPT Ken Johnson, USN (Ret), has announced confirmation of these national office holders:

### *Appointed National Officers:*

Assistant Recorder General	CAPT George W. Holyfield, USN (Ret)
Assistant Registrar General	CDR D. J. (Jack) Branning, USN (Ret)
Assistant Treasurer General	CAPT M. Kristine Carlock, USN (Ret)
Chaplain General	CDR Michael P. Zuffoletto, CHC, USN
Parliamentarian General	LCDR Michael D. Peck, USN
Master-at-Arms General	CAPT Wallace H. (Trip) Lloyd, III, USN

### *National Committee Chairs and contact information:*

National Advisory Committee	CAPT Carter B. Conlin, USN (Ret) 5583 Beverly Hill Street • Houston, TX 77056-6801 • <a href="mailto:cbconlin1@comcast.net">cbconlin1@comcast.net</a>
National Finance Committee	CAPT Michele H. Lockwood, USN (Ret) 2222 Alameda de las Pulgas • San Mateo, CA 94403-1216 • <a href="mailto:mhlockwood@msn.com">mhlockwood@msn.com</a>
National Membership Committee	Mr. Donald W. Schuld, USN (Ret) 3 Mildred Terrace • Flanders, NJ 07836 • <a href="mailto:dschuld@juno.com">dschuld@juno.com</a>
National Investment Committee	CAPT Carter B. Conlin, USN (Ret) 5583 Beverly Hill Street • Houston, TX 77056-6801 • <a href="mailto:cbconlin1@comcast.net">cbconlin1@comcast.net</a>
National Nominating Committee	CAPT Carter B. Conlin, USN (Ret) 5583 Beverly Hill Street • Houston, TX 77056-6801 • <a href="mailto:cbconlin1@comcast.net">cbconlin1@comcast.net</a>
Distinguished Sea Service Award Committee	CAPT Gregory F. Streeter, USN (Ret) 780 Queens Harbor Blvd. • Jacksonville, FL 32225-4901 • <a href="mailto:gstreetr@bellsouth.net">gstreetr@bellsouth.net</a>
Credentials Committee	CAPT Stanley E. Ellexson, Jr., USN (Ret) 2521 Duke Avenue • Richmond, CA 94806-3109 • <a href="mailto:stanellexson@aol.com">stanellexson@aol.com</a>
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USS Constitution Committee	CAPT Christopher A. Melhuish, USN (Ret) 1312 Sussex Place • Norfolk, VA 23508-1133 • <a href="mailto:camelhuish@aol.com">camelhuish@aol.com</a>

## USCGA PRESENTATION

Sometimes a surprise knocks the wind from one's sails...other times, it can be a very fair wind indeed. LT Thomas DeNucci received a fair wind surprise at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's convocation ceremony in August, when RADM Bill Merlin, USCGA '56 and a past Commander General, presented him with the Naval Order Award.

The award goes to the junior officer faculty member at the Academy whose personal conduct and commitment to learning best exemplifies the highest traditions of American military service and the U.S. Coast Guard. The cadets themselves vote on the recipient, so the award is highly valued by the faculty and staff.

This year, the awardee's name was held secret between the Dean of Academics and the cadets until the actual ceremony...no easy feat, since LT DeNucci, who teaches in the Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering Section, was assigned as POC for the Naval Order Award long before voting took place.

At the presentation, LT DeNucci gave a moving extemporaneous speech that clearly stirred the crowd and reflected his dedication to the cadets, his teaching, and the Academy.



From left: ADM J. Scott Burhoe (USCGA Superintendent), RADM Bill Merlin, LT Tom DeNucci, and Cadet 1/C Joel Kurucar (Regimental Commander)



### E-dress Update

Companions, please act now to confirm your email address and other contact data with the Naval Order! Be assured the Naval Order will not share this information with any other organization. It will be used primarily by individual NOUS Commanders within their respective Commanderies, as well as by the Commander General to pass urgent information directly to Companions.

If you have email capability, we ask you to provide the following information to Frank Green, Registrar General, at

[aeis@california.com](mailto:aeis@california.com):

- Your Name
- Rank/Branch (if applicable)
- Commandery
- Preferred Email address

## COMMANDER GENERAL'S MEDALS AWARDED



CAPT John O'Neil received the CG's Medal for his leadership of the First Coast Commandery. First Coast is the frontrunner in fundraising for the Normandy Monument Project and has increased membership with 16 new Companions this year.



CAPT Carter Conlin also presented CAPT Jim Brooke with a Gold Star in lieu of a fourth CG's Medal. Jim's advocacy on behalf of the Naval Order, in person and via the Electronic Communications committee, is outstanding as ever!



## Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame "Class of 2007"



## ARIZONA COMMANDERY VICE COMMANDER HONORED



CAPT Culbertson with BG Richard G. Maxon, ANG (Ret), Director of Arizona's Dept. of Veterans' Services

CAPT Carol Culbertson, USN (Ret), was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame at a luncheon ceremony in Phoenix on 26 October. The organization recognizes state veterans who have provided exemplary service to the community. CAPT Culbertson, a former Naval Intelligence officer and civil servant, now arranges business training programs for military and civilian women, educational history programs, and free health benefits sessions for military members and their families. She is active in a host of business and fraternal groups, as well as mentoring young women in the Big Brother/Big Sister program.

The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame "Class of 2007" celebrated the contributions of CAPT Culbertson and 19 other men and women, including Medal of Honor recipients Bruce Crandall and Leo Thorness.

[www.navalorder.org](http://www.navalorder.org)

## COMPANION RECEIVES CROAT STATE DECORATION



**CAPT J. Robert Lunney and  
Croatian President Stjepan Mesic**

CAPT Bob Lunney, USN (Ret) of the New York Commandery received the Order of the Trefoil on 26 SEP 2007, in a ceremony at the Croatian Permanent Mission to the United Nations. President Mesic made the presentation to recognize CAPT Lunney's work in finding the family of Peter Tomich, a Croatian immigrant killed at Pearl Harbor, for the delivery of Tomich's posthumous Medal of Honor.

At the ceremony, CAPT Lunney—who

also holds the rank of RADM in the New York Naval Militia—talked about his search and described the leadership and sacrifice of Chief Water Tender Tomich. “His shipmates remembered his quiet demeanor and concern for his men. Survivors told how the UTAH capsized within 12 minutes of the attack, with the Japanese machine-gunning the crew as they abandoned ship. One shipmate told me about escaping the engine spaces while the Chief headed down the ladder to secure the boilers and ensure his men were all out safely. His courageous act saved many lives.”

The Navy commissioned USS TOMICH (DE 242) in 1942 and established its Senior Enlisted Academy in Tomich Hall on Naval Station Newport, RI in 1981. Significantly, the Academy's motto is “Leadership by Example.” Tomich was recognized once again through the efforts of Companion Bob Lunney, when the Medal of Honor was finally presented to Tomich's cousin in May 2006.

### POSITION OPEN FOR TREASURER GENERAL

The NOUS General Council seeks someone to fill the very capable shoes of outgoing Treasurer General, CAPT Michele Lockwood. In this national office, an individual must be able to fill these requirements:

- Work with Quicken accounting system
- Produce quarterly and annual financial reports (balance sheet, operations statements, and budget comparisons)
- Develop and present annual budget at annual National Congress
- Deposit all funds
- Send acknowledgment letters to Normandy Monument donors
- Produce donor report to Normandy committee
- Pay bills, including quarterly commandery dues
- Determine and pay quarterly endowment fund allocations
- Chair the National NOUS Finance Committee
- Serve as member of the National Investment Committee
- Reconcile bank statements
- Maintain all financial records and check backup
- Provide financial data to tax accountant who files the annual taxes

*Be willing to work 5 to 10 hours per week on NOUS financial matters*

Any Companion who can fill this challenging position should contact Commander General CAPT Ken Johnson **ASAP** at:

[nousmtyken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nousmtyken@sbcglobal.net).



**REMARKS BY ADMIRAL THOMAS B. FARGO, USN (RET)**  
**RECIPIENT OF THE 2007 DISTINGUISHED SEA SERVICE AWARD**  
**Made at the DSSA Gala, NOUS National Congress in Monterey, CA**  
**20 October 2007**

Thank you, Carter for the warm introduction. As I reflect back, there are lots of people that have said nice things about me in the past, but all of them worked for me and I wrote their evaluations – so they hardly count. So, thanks to the Naval Order of the United States for this very gracious and generous honor of your prestigious Distinguished Sea Service Award for 2007.

It's a special privilege to be the 18th recipient in the line of maritime flag and general officers, many of whom I have had the pleasure of working with over my 35-years of Naval service and respect greatly. Indeed to follow in the footsteps of recipients such as Ambassador Bill Crowe, General Tony Zinni, Admiral Archie Clemins, and last year's recipient, Admiral Vern Clark, is by itself a very special honor. I know each of them well, their contrasting styles, and once again have tremendous respect for their leadership.

Admiral and later Ambassador Bill Crowe, along with one of his running mates, Admiral Bob Long raised Vern Clark and me as lieutenants, young pups they might say, in the Pentagon in the mid 1970s.

Of course we lost Bill Crowe early this week at the age of 82, which saddens all of us who had the great fortune of knowing him. He had a fabulous intellect, a Ph.D. from Princeton, and a legendary sense of humor. Many of us made our decision to stay in the Navy based on our contact with leaders like Bill Crowe and Bob Long, and as we climbed the ranks, they were always there to provide advice and counsel along the way.

Tony Zinni was my boss during my two years in the Persian Gulf commanding the FIFTHFLT. One of the best pure leaders I have known ... great instincts, exceptional political, diplomatic, and operational skills and fearless in his obligation to provide his best military advice to our civilian leadership.

Archie Clemins was my Task Force Commander when I deployed to the Western Pacific as Commanding Officer of SALT LAKE CITY. One of the best and most aggressive operators I have seen. Every Commanding Officer has their tough days or maybe weeks. During one of those periods when it seemed everything that could break did break and we had a sensitive operation coming up, I



sent him a message asking for help. I got a short note back and the kind of immediate support that facilitated our success at sea.

So add them to folks like Admirals Hank Mauz who is with us here tonight, Paul Miller and Jay Johnson, clearly I have been fortunate to work with and learn from the very best.

Looking back on my career, I really have been blessed.

There were moments throughout those early years when I thought making Lieutenant might be a bit of a stretch. I remember one day in particular trying to explain to my Commanding Officer why I had attempted to pump the entire Atlantic Ocean into the forward trim tank of our submarine. Of course it didn't fit and we started to sink.

Years later while in Command of the Pacific Fleet, sitting in the same office where Admiral Nimitz and his staff made the most difficult decisions of the war, it was apparent to me that I was only there because of a set of visionary and compassionate leaders, who over the years felt I might learn something from these transgressions that would serve the Navy well.

I really don't plan to say much more about my 35 years other than the guy who coined the phrase; "Join the Navy and see the world" didn't realize how prophetic he really would be.

In those 35 years, I have:

- Climbed Mount Fuji
- Walked the Great Wall of China
- Scaled Machu Picchu in Peru
- Taken Sarah and Bill to the Pyramids and the Valley of Kings and Queens in Egypt
- And walked the beaches of Ipanema and Copacabana...Sarah, that was before we were married.
- So this Maritime life is a calling and a life adventure I would recommend readily.

Before I get too far along, let me thank you all for being here. And while I can't acknowledge everyone, there are a few family and friends I would like to introduce.

- My wife Sarah...we just celebrated our 25th anniversary. I reported to USS Plunger exactly one week after getting married. We drove to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremer-ton, Washington. Sarah's first introduction as a Navy wife was checking into our new residence, the Bachelor Officer Quarters.
- My brother Captain Keith Fargo and sister Bobbie, who is an accomplished attorney, are here. We are a Navy family. My grandfather, Darwin Tuttle, was a Naval Aviator #1599. My father was also a Naval Aviator, my stepfather a Surface Warfare Officer and my mother a Navy Nurse. My mother's great uncle was Fleet Admiral William Leahy. So as you can see, my youngest son is under some pressure.
- Sitting with them is the Tuttle and Noak families - who once actually traveled all the way to Bahrain to see us for a Change of Command.
- My first good friend in the Navy, Gordon Eubanks and his wife Ronda.
- And number of sets of friends, Dick and Bonnie Cook, Dan and Kelly Decker and Ambassador David Lyon who I served with in the Pacific.
- Along with Hank and Peggy Mauz and friends from the Naval Postgraduate school and its Foundation.
- Rear Admiral Mark Emerson, our Senior Active Flag Officer here tonight who commands the Naval Strike Warfare Center.
- And my colleague from my current business life at Trex and Loea, Dr. Eric Korevaar.

Thank you all for coming and of course my special thanks to the entire Naval Order.

As companions of the Naval Order, you have served or are serving now in one of our Nation's Sea Services. Many of you have been in the vanguard with our forward deployed forces or performed with distinction in assignments to ensure the battle readiness of those deployed forces. We applaud your efforts and the sacrifices your families have made to support you in your calling to our Nation during times of crisis.

Today our Nation faces an enemy and threat significantly different from those

encountered by the free world and democracy in World War II and the decades following. America and our Allies prevailed in World War II and – ultimately – in the Cold War through our strength of character, the quality of our people and a keen understanding of the singular power of freedom and tolerance...generations of men and women who were willing to fight for their country. On the waters of the Pacific, in the air and under the sea, they signed up and moved out—they surrendered their lives and committed their futures to a cause greater than any individual.

And while there are differences today in the age of an all-volunteer force and a threat that is difficult to understand and even harder to focus the attention of an entire nation, make no mistake about the quality and commitment of our people. Spend five minutes with any young Sailor or Marine returning from Iraq or Afghanistan and you will recognize the same sense of dedication, a measure of courage that will rival any generation and an unshakable belief that they can help their fellow man.

The Naval Order does a fabulous job of paying tribute to each and every generation that has served. Recognition at Pearl Harbor Day, our victory at Midway, USS MAINE Day, and the founding of the United States Navy are just a few of the many events that are observed. Two years ago, you undertook the efforts to build and transport a monument honoring the United States Navy's contributions in the invasion of Normandy on D-Day. Your efforts will finally recognize those 1,068 men who lost their lives that day. From earlier conversations with Carter and your Foundation President, Ken Johnson, I understand that you have raised close to 75 percent of the \$500,000 to make your 2008 dedication date a reality. And of course I'll help with both a donation and some of the experience we have gained rebuilding the Arizona Museum and Visitors Center commemorating those lost some 10,000 miles away, at Pearl Harbor.

I congratulate Carter who sponsored my membership on December 7th, 1999, and his wife Nancy, for their leadership these many past years as the Naval Order took on greater responsibilities.

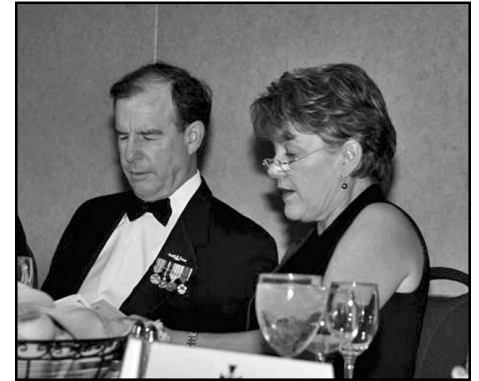
My personal congratulations to Ken Johnson, a friend since the days many years ago, when we walked the halls of the Pentagon together, and his wife, Judy. It is great to be back in Monterey with you and to receive this award.

There have been wonderful efforts recently to capture the valor of our soldiers, sailors and citizens. Probably the best known is Ken Burns' World War II documentary "Witnesses to the War" on PBS. Another that I would recommend highly to you is Robert Kaplan's new book *Hog Pilots, Blue Water Grunts*. Robert was a frequent visitor with us at the Pacific Command, but more importantly traveled the world over to talk to our troops. In a review of this book, General Bob Scales tells how Robert describes a young man – known as a "screw up" in high school – now a Second Class Petty Officer who serves as a Tactical Information Coordinator and is praised by his superiors. Specifically, the Navy made him "the geek that he was always meant to be." Robert shares stories of how military service often provides a catalyst to the "common" young men and women who join and who inevitably perform exceptional deeds. He continues by saying that it is in wartime that this conversion - from screw up to super geek – is most valuable, but that the brave

and extraordinary actions of our young military often go unnoticed or even worse unappreciated.

So my message tonight is that there are literally thousands of sailors and marines – and their fellow brothers in arms – who you could and actually do honor every day. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

God bless each of you and your families...and may God continue to bless America.



**ADM and Mrs. Fargo look over the program for the DSSA Gala**

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CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret)  
Host Chairman  
[GBair4@cox.net](mailto:GBair4@cox.net)