



Commander General Report to the Order

In the past three months there have been various commemorative activities and awards by the Order and local commanderies.

The nomination and selection of the Distinguished Sea

Service Award has been completed and Admiral Mike Mullen was selected as the 2012 DSSA awardee. Admiral Mullen retired 30 September 2011 as the 17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and previously served as the Navy's 28th Chief of Naval Operations. He is only the third naval officer in Navy history to be appointed to four different four-star assignments, the other officers were Admiral Thomas H. Moorer and the 2009 DSSA awardee Admiral William J. Fallon. Admiral Mullen is a Navy Surface Warfare Officer whose 43 year Navy career included various leadership positions aboard USS COLLETT (DD-703), USS BLANDY (DD-943), USS FOX (CG-33) and USS STERRETT (CG-31) and the command of three ships USS NOXUBEE (AOG-56), USS GOLDSBOROUGH (DDG-20) and USS YORKTOWN (CG-48). He also commanded Cruiser-Destroyer Group Two, the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON Battle Group and Commander U.S. Second Fleet/Commander, NATO Striking Fleet Atlantic.



Michael Mullen CJCS

The New York Commandery awarded the 2011 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature to Robert Grandt, author of *The Twilight Warrior*. Mr. Grandt is a former U.S. Navy Fighter pilot with over 300 carrier landings and 2,000 hours in the A-4 Skyhawk and commercial airline pilot. He is the author of eleven books on military and aviation subjects including *Fly Low, Fly Fast* and *Intrepid*. His definitive naval aviation book *Bogey and Bandits*, was adapted for the CBS television series *Pensacola: Wings of Gold* on which he worked as a screenwriter and technical consultant.

The National Capitol Commandery has worked diligently over the past several years with the National Park Service to install a wayside marker in Washington DC commemorating Commodore John Barry, the Father of the American Navy. The marker has been finalized and is currently being fabricated and will be dedicated with appropriate festivities on May 5.

In the next few months, various commanderies will hold Battle of Midway celebrations. The San Francisco Commandery will conduct the Memorial Day services at the newly named USS Francisco National Park at Land's End.

The Admiral Chester Nimitz statue project is progressing. The preferred site on the grounds of the National Park Service World War II Valor in the Pacific National Park Visitor center at Pearl Harbor is currently being discussed with the National Park Service with the assistance of Senator Daniel Inouye's office. The total cost of the statue project is \$100,000 and an anonymous donor has agreed to match contributions to the project up to \$50,000. A fund raising campaign is currently being planned by Naval Order Foundation Treasurer CAPT Al Serafini and Vice-Commander General-Development CAPT Martin McNair.

Perhaps the hardest working National Officer is Vice Commander-Membership Donald Schuld, who last year was instrumental in establishing the Charleston Commandery. He has identified an eager and energetic young Supply Corps Lieutenant Commander who has agreed to take over as the Commander of the Massachusetts Commandery in Boston. Through Don's efforts, 27 new companions have joined the Order in the last quarter including five new members of the new Charleston Commandery led by Tommy LeMacks. The Charleston Commandery agreed to be the host commandery for the 2013 Annual Congress.

As you can see, the Naval Order is actively pursuing the Order's mission of preserving and promoting Naval History.

The official website for the 2012 Naval Order National Congress in Baltimore is up and running. The site may be found on www.navalorder.org in the upper right hand portion of the site's homepage. Links to the official Registration Form with its Pier Five Hotel reservation information; the city of Baltimore's various tourist attractions, restaurants, transportation and so forth; and a description of the Pier Five Hotel itself all can be found at this website. Soon, a program of events and a listing of optional tour events with their associated fees will be posted on the same site.

Respectfully,
Doug Moore



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To insure uninterrupted newsletters and correspondence from NOUS, please contact Registrar General Frank Green at flg@sunset.net to update your contact information, including your e-mail address.

The Morison Award Committee of the New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States is again reviewing books for the prestigious RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature. The 2012 Morison Award was presented at a formal dinner held at the Racquet and Tennis Club, 370 Park Avenue, New York, NY on Monday, November 5, 2011. The five finalists will be announced in April or May, with the winner being announced at the end of the summer of 2012.



Robert Gandt and New York Commander William H. Schmidt, Esq.

The winner of the 2011 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature was **Robert Gandt**, author of *The Twilight Warriors*. He was honored by the Naval Order of the United States as the recipient of the prestigious Morison Award. The Award was presented by New York Commander William H. Schmidt, Esq., Co-Chairman of the Award Committee. In addition to the Morison Award plaque, presented by the NY Commandery, Mr. Gandt received a life membership in the Naval Order of the United States and will affiliate with the First Coast-Jacksonville Commandery, as nearest his Florida home, as his primary commandery and the New York Commandery as his secondary commandery.

The remaining four finalists for the RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature (listed in alphabetical order, not by standing) each receive an Honorable Mention, and are highly commended for their books as outstanding contributions to naval literature. They are:

Robert Coram - *Brute: The Life of Victor Krulak, U.S. Marine*
Tim McGrath - *John Barry: An American Hero*
Kalee Thompson - *Deadliest Sea*
Gary Williams - *Seal of Honor*

The distinguished writing prize—past recipients include RADM Joseph F. Callo (*John Paul Jones- Americas First Sea Warrior*); Edward L. Beach (*Salt and Steel*); Lieutenant General Victor H. Krulak (*First to Fight*); Dr. Norman Friedman (*Sea Power as Strategy*); James L. Nelson (*George Washington's Secret Navy*); James D. Hornfischer (*Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors*); James M. Scott (*Attack on the USS Liberty*); and, former Navy Secretary John F. Lehman (*Command of the Seas & On Seas of Glory*)—is given to an American author “who by his published writings has made

a substantial contribution to the preservation of the history and traditions of the United States Sea Services – the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S. Flag Merchant Marine.”

The prize is named for the late **Rear Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison**, a Harvard University history professor widely considered to be America’s most distinguished naval historian. The award is administered and presented by the New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States. The finalists and winner are selected by a distinguished committee of members of the New York Commandery. Books may be recommended for consideration by members of the Naval Order of the United States but must be nominated for Committee consideration by a Companion of the New York Commandery. There are detailed and stringent standards that must be met by the author and the work and the Committee follows set guidelines in considering the nominees.

Robert Gandt's career has been as eclectic as the subjects of his thirteen books. He has been a naval officer and aviator, novelist, screenwriter, weapons test pilot, air show performer, international airline captain, and prolific writer of aviation and military history.

As a carrier-based attack pilot, he logged over 300 carrier landings and nearly 2,000 hours in the A-4 Skyhawk. In his 1997 *deja vu* work, *Bogeys and Bandits*, he joined a Navy F/A-18 training squadron at the same base where he had trained years before.

As an international airline pilot for Pan Am and Delta Air Lines, Gandt flew around the globe, domiciled in San Francisco, Berlin, and Hong Kong. His first book, *Season of Storms*, grew from his acclaimed series in the Far Eastern newspaper, *South China Morning Post*, about the WWII battle for Hong Kong.

His long association with Pan Am and its romantic history inspired *China Clipper* (Naval Institute Press), which relived the mystique of the great commercial flying boats. His 1995 classic, *Skygods* (Wm. Morrow & Co.), recounted the meteoric descent and crash of the once-mighty Pan Am.

Gandt’s fascination with warbirds and the high-adrenaline world of unlimited air racing provided the background for *Fly Low Fly Fast* (Viking Penguin), his account of the dramatic battle for the unlimited air racing championship at Reno, Nevada.

In 1998 Gandt made his screenwriting debut on the CBS series *Pensacola: Wings Of Gold*. Starring James Brolin as the commander of a Marine F/A-18 training squadron, the show was adapted from his real life thriller, *Bogeys and Bandits*.

Gandt’s first novel, *With Hostile Intent*, was released by Penguin Putnam in 2001, followed by *Acts of Vengeance*, *Black Star*, *Shadows of War*, *The Killing Sky*, and *Black Star Rising*. His non-fiction work, *Intrepid*, co-authored by Bill White and with a foreword by former naval aviator Sen. John McCain, was published in 2008 (Broadway Books), followed in 2010 by *The Twilight Warriors*, about the air and sea battle for Okinawa.

Gandt travels extensively doing research for future projects, including recent expeditions to Morocco, Israel, Cuba, Vietnam, Czech Republic, Peru, and Tanzania. He and his wife, Anne, make their home in a flying community in Daytona Beach, Florida.



Robert Gandt with his wife, Anne Busse-Gandt

Synopsis: *The Twilight Warriors*

—from the Random House catalogue page

April 1945. The end of World War II finally appears to be nearing. The Third Reich is collapsing in Europe, and the Americans are overpowering the once-mighty Japanese Empire in the Pacific. For a group of young pilots trained in the twilight of the war, the greatest worry is that it will end before they have a chance to face the enemy. They call themselves Tail End Charlies. They fly at the tail end of formations, stand at the tail end of chow lines, and now they are catching the tail end of the war. What they don't know is that they will be key players in the bloodiest and most difficult of naval battles—not only of World War II but in all of American history.

The Twilight Warriors relives the drama of the world's last great naval campaign. From the cockpit of a Corsair fighter we gaze down at the Japanese task force racing to destroy the American amphibious force at Okinawa. Through the eyes of the men on the destroyers assigned to picket ship duty, we experience the terror as wave after wave of kamikazes crash into their ships. Standing on the deck of the legendary superbattleship *Yamato*, we watch Japan's last hope for victory die in a tableau of gunfire and explosions.

Among the Tail End Charlies is a twenty-two-year-old former art student who grows to manhood on the day of his first mission over Japan. His best friend is a ladies' man and

intrepid fighter pilot whose life abruptly changes when his Corsair goes down off the enemy shore. Another is a young Texan lieutenant who volunteers for the most dangerous flying job in the fleet—intercepting kamikazes at night over the blackened Pacific. Their leader is a charismatic officer who rises to greatness in the crucible of Okinawa. Directing the vast armada of sea, air, and land forces is a cast of brilliant and flawed commanders—from the imperturbable admiral and master of carrier warfare to the controversial soldier assigned to command the land forces.

The fate of the Americans at Okinawa is intertwined with the lives of the “young gods”—the honor-bound Japanese airmen who swarm like killer bees toward the U.S. ships. The kamikazes are dispatched on their deadly one-way missions by a classic samurai warrior who vows that he will follow them to a warrior's grave.

The ferocity of the Okinawa fighting stuns the world. Before it ends, the long battle will cost more American lives, ships, and aircraft than any naval engagement in U.S. history. More than simply the account of a historic battle, *The Twilight Warriors* brings to life the human side of an epic conflict. It is the story of young Americans at war in the air and on the sea—and of their enigmatic, fanatically courageous enemy.

Reviews: *The Twilight Warriors*

"A spell-binding account of men in war, scared, bloody, and brave beyond belief."

—*Daytona News-Journal*

"Written in a wonderful bold style, with pathos, humor, tragedy, and gripping suspense, *Twilight Warriors* captures the life and death struggle of sailors and airmen fighting the last great Pacific battle of World War II... A riveting masterpiece, a powerful tribute to all those sailors and pilots who went in harm's way. Five stars!"

—Stephen Coonts, author of *Flight of the Intruder*

"*The Twilight Warriors* offers a rare assessment of the Okinawa campaign, providing a micro-macro approach that puts the naval phase in context of events ashore. The ready-room and cockpit perspectives of USS INTREPID's Air Group 10 affords the reader a glimpse into the frenzied, violent world of carrier operations near the end of World War II. In tailhook language, Bravo Zulu!"

—Barrett Tillman, Author of *Clash of the Carriers* and *Whirlwind*.



Submitted by William H Schmidt

The biggest news for the San Francisco Commandery is that one of our dear former members, LT John Finn, USN (Ret) (Pearl Harbor Survivor and Medal of Honor recipient) will be honored by having an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer named after him as a Naval hero. It was a great honor to have John as a San Francisco member and we miss him. We look forward to the christening of the USS JOHN FINN.

In January CAPT Martin McNair USN, (Ret) (one of the first Navy Seals) relieved CAPT Kris Carlock, USN (Ret), as Commander of the San Francisco Commandery. During the first monthly meeting he presented the 'State of the Commandery' and circulated a questionnaire asking what, if any, suggestions the San Francisco active Companions had to improve our already vital Commandery.



During our February meeting we had the pleasure of hosting CDR Jim Ridgway, Commanding Officer of the NOSC Alameda. Our speaker was Ian W. Toll who recently published "Pacific Crucible – War at Sea in the Pacific, 1941-1942" a highly praised history of the Pacific war at sea and a best seller. Toll is also the author of *Six Frigates: the Epic History of the Founding of the U. S. Navy*.

The Bay Area will be the site this Spring of the annual Naval War College Conference in San Mateo, the only presentation given west of the Mississippi.

Submitted by Kathleen Mero

Annual Congress Resolutions

Among the deliberations and actions at the Annual Congress are the Resolutions approved by the assembled delegates. Passed resolutions provide direction for the organization during the coming year or appreciation for the work of individuals and organizations/committees. An excerpt from the minutes of last year's General Congress sums up the 2011 Resolution actions –

"With these resolutions, the Naval Order committed to: (1) endorse and support the proper identification and explanations for Commodore John Barry's statue in Franklin Park; endorse and support the creation and installation of an outsized statue of Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz in Pearl Harbor; renew its support for the effort to bring the ex USS Charles F. Adams (DDG-2) to downtown Jacksonville and establish the first Naval Ship Museum in Florida; express its appreciation to the Texas Commandery and its host committee for planning and executing a very successful National Congress. "

All companions are invited to submit draft resolutions (or write ups of issues and proposed NOUS solutions) to the Resolutions Committee c/o Chairman CAPT John R. Wheeler, USN/ret, at CaptJRW@aol.com.

Submitted by CAPT John R. Wheeler

Jacksonville Remembers attack on USS Stark (FFG-31) – 25 Years Ago

It was May 17, 1987 when two Exocet missiles from an Iraqi F-1 slammed into the USS Stark in the Arabian Gulf, taking the lives of 37 crewmembers. Naval Station Mayport and the Jacksonville Commandery remember this event every year, but this year takes on special significance as the 25th anniversary. Family members of the USS Stark and fellow crewmembers gather at Memorial Park at the Naval Station to remember and honor those who fell. CAPT (Ret) Peter Wynkoop of the First Coast Commandery, a former Stark commanding officer, helped organize the annual service.

This year's speaker will be RADM David M. Thomas, Commander Naval Surface Force Atlantic. The service will memorialize the fallen, and the ship's bell is rung as each of the 37 fallen crewmember's name is read. Stark was repaired after the attack and returned to Navy Service. Stark served as a ship of the line until decommissioning in 1999, proudly bearing the squadron's Battle 'E' for overall combat excellence.



CAPT (Ret) Pete Wynkoop reads names of fallen Stark shipmates as ship's bell tolls.



USS Stark (FFG-31) Underway

Capitalizing on the great presentation made at the recent National NOUS Congress, the Commandery hosted a 2 February dinner at Queen's Harbour Yacht and Country Club featuring Dr. Sam Turner from the St. Augustine Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program. Doctor Turner spoke on "Life and Career of Bernardo de Galvez" (for whom the city of Galveston was named) and other prominent characters who played significant roles in making the little known or understood Spanish contribution to the American Revolutionary War possible." Truly an educational and enjoyable evening for over 20 Companions and their guests.

March will see the bi-monthly Commandery Leadership Meeting and Companions participating in the Jacksonville, Florida, 31 March ALS Walk - supporting Companion Captain Dave Van Saun who is fighting this terrible disease. We walk under the banner of "Captain Dave's Team" for those who might be interested in the effort - visit www.ALSAFL.org.

Submitted by Bob Whitkop

Commemorating the Battle of Midway

The Commandery will hold their annual Battle of Midway "Dining Out" at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey on 2 June, in coordination with the school's Student Council.

Over the years, this event has grown with greater participation within the local military and civilian communities on the Monterey Peninsula Coast. VADM Daniel Oliver, USN (Ret.), NPS President, will be the honoree "President of the Mess".

The 70th anniversary of the Battle Midway will recognize the critical contributions of signals intelligence, cryptography, and analysis in defeating the Japanese. NPS professor and retired Navy CAPT Dr. Erik Dahl calls Midway the "*gold standard of intelligence success*". OP-20-G HYPO, the heart of Midway intelligence operations in Hawaii, led by Navy CAPT Joseph Rochefort, is referred to as the "*Priceless Advantage*" by NSA historian Frederick Parker - this very secret capability enabled Fleet ADM Chester Nimitz and others to win the Battle of Midway.

The principal speaker is ADM Gary Roughead, USN (Ret.), the 29th Chief of Naval Operations and currently the Hoover Institution Annenberg Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Stanford University. ADM Roughead, an early leader in establishing the Navy Information Dominance and Cyber Command programs, will address past successes in intelligence, current issues, and future challenges. Further information can be found at www.nps.edu/midway or by contacting LT Andrew Metzcus, Commandery Commander at ajmetzcus@nps.edu.



CAPT Ken Johnson, Monterey Bay Commandery Past Commander presents the official Naval Order tie to LT Gabriel Tonozzi following his induction into the Order. (Photo by NPS's Javier Chagoya).

Submitted by Captain Ken Johnson, USN (Ret.)

Commodore Barry Wayside Marker Dedication Update

The National Capitol Commandery is refining plans for the dedication of the Commodore John Barry interpretive marker scheduled for Friday, 4 May 2012. A ceremony commencing at 1100 will be held at the Barry Monument in Franklin Park in downtown Washington, DC. We hope to have the Irish Ambassador and other dignitaries on hand for the dedication and unveiling of the marker. CAPT Greg Streeer, our Immediate Past Commander General, will represent the Naval Order as a platform speaker. A reception on the Display Ship *Barry* (ex-DD 933), moored at the Washington Navy Yard, will follow the ceremony. Transportation from the ceremony to the Navy Yard will be provided on request.

Those wishing to attend should RSVP to CAPT John Rodgaard, commander of the NATCAP commandery at john_rodgaard@yahoo.com. Please indicate whether you will be attending one or both events and whether transportation to the reception is required. To enter the Navy Yard, guests must possess either some type of DOD ID card or register for the reception via your RSVP, listing the full names of all in your party.

The marker project has been a collaborative effort between the National Capitol Commandery (NATCAP) and the National Mall and Memorial Parks Division of the National Park Service.

NATCAP will be very appreciative of small donations to support the reception. Checks should be made to 'NAPCAP: Barry Marker' and mailed to the NATCAP Treasurer, FLTCM Pres Weaver, Jr.; P.O. Box 17053, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Submitted by Kent Siegel

An Overdue Marker for 'Gallant John'

The Naval Order of the United States has teamed up with the National Park Service to create a wayside marker to be placed alongside the Washington DC statue of U.S. Navy Commodore John Barry (1745-1803).

Although the statue has been in Franklin Park on 14 Street NW since its dedication by President Woodrow Wilson in 1914, there has been no interpretive marker to explain to the public who Commodore Barry was and why he is relevant in America's naval history. For a summary of his history, please see the April 2012 edition of Naval History Magazine.

His statue was created by sculptor John J. Boyle on a commission from the Ancient Order of Hibernians and other patriotic American groups of Irish decent. The new wayside marker is scheduled to be dedicated in Franklin Park on 4 May at 1100.

Admiral Nimitz Leadership Award

The Texas Commandery held its annual banquet on Saturday, 4 February at the Houston Racquet Club at which the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Leadership Award is presented to a person deemed the most notable leader of the U.S. Navy or in a particular field of endeavor in the naval service. It can be awarded for a particular achievement or for multiple past accomplishments over a number of years.

Rear Admiral William W. Pickavance, Jr., USN (Ret), Superintendent of the Texas Maritime Academy of Texas A & M University at Galveston, was the 26th recipient of the Nimitz Award. He is among a prestigious list of leaders that have previously been presented this award, a few of which include The Honorable John F. Lehman, Secretary of the Navy; Rear Admiral J. D. Ramage, USN, Carrier Aviation Pioneer; Captain J. W. Young, USN, Astronaut; Brigadier General R. E. Galer, USMC, Medal of Honor; Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale, USN, Medal of Honor/POW; General M.W. Hagee, USMC, Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps; Admiral Robert E. Kramek, USCG, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; and, The Honorable Gordon R. England, Deputy Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Navy.

Rear Admiral Pickavance, a naval aviator, has over 5,700 flight hours and over 800 carrier arrested and ship landings. He flew combat missions during Viet Nam in the A-7 Corsair II and was Commanding Officer of the first Navy F/A-18 Hornet squadron. He also commanded USS Mars (AFS 1) and the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63). As a Flag Officer he was Commander, Carrier Group ONE.



CAPT Carter Conlin presenting Nimitz Award to RADM William Pickavance.

After retiring from the Navy Rear Admiral Pickavance worked with a major space operations company as VP for Space Shuttle launch and recovery operations at the Kennedy Space Center. He is an Admiral and Chairman of the Board of the Texas Navy Association, a member of the "Legends of Texas A&M University," and he was the 2008 "Outstanding Alumnus" for Texas A&M. When he assumed duties as the Superintendent of the Texas Maritime Academy in 2009, he was appointed a Rear Admiral in the U.S. Maritime Service by the Secretary of Transportation.



LT Cheri Ackert-Burr, Ms. Dana Nimitz Jackson, RADM William Pickavance and CAPT David Burr.

Thirty-one Texas Commandery Companions and their guests attended the banquet. One of our guests at the banquet was Ms. Dana Nimitz Jackson, great niece of Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz. Ms. Jackson lives in nearby Beaumont, Texas. Chaplain Randal Potter gave an inspiring benediction for the banquet.

Submitted by **Dave Burr**

News from New Orleans

The New Orleans Commandery held its January dinner meeting at the new Brennan Restaurant, Heritage Grill. More than forty companions and guests attended the quarterly gathering.

They were treated to an extremely interesting presentation by Companion Judge John Grout CWO-4 USMC (Ret.) titled "The Five Battles of the Battle of New Orleans." Historians have called the battle one of the most significant ever fought on American soil. Andrew Jackson led the array of army, navy, militia, private citizens, free men of color, slaves, and even Jean Lafitte's privateers against the overwhelming British force fresh from their defeat of Napoleon. The Americans suffered a mere dozen losses, while inflicting more than 2000 casualties on the British, in the final battle of the War Of 1812.

The New Orleans Commandery is preparing for their involvement in the national Bi-Centennial Celebration of the War of 1812, which will commence with a "fleet week" of US and foreign warships and tall ships in New Orleans in April.

Submitted by **Gary Bair**



From left: Chaplain Randal Potter, CDR Jim Sterling, CAPT Carter Conlin, RADM William Pickavance, CAPT David Burr, MM2 Gil Raynor, CAPT Dean Hill and CAPT Woe King.

Welcome New Members

Atlanta

Ryker J. Lowe , USN

Charleston

CAPT Steve J. Brasington , USN
 CAPT William L. Hogue , USN
 QM William M. Kennedy III, USN
 CDR David G. Porter , USN
 LT Dylan G. Porter , USN
 Eleanor h. Porter , USN
 CDR Michael L. Turnage , USN

Florida First Coast

ET1 Gregory J. Blajian , USN
 LT Robert L. Gandt , USN
 LT Julian K. Morrison III, USN

Massachusetts

CAPT Matthew E. Norman , USN
 LCDR Jonathan J. Sym , USN

Monterey Bay

LT Andrew J. Metzcus , USN
 LT Gabriel S. Tonozzi , USN

National Capitol

Quinn C. Bradlee
 LCDR Ralph D. Day , USN
 LCDR Chad A. Fella , USN
 CAPT Richard M. Galecki , USN
 CAPT Richard N. Griffin , USN
 CDR William A. Joseph , USN
 CAPT William E. Kenealy , USN
 LCDR Michael A. Leathe , USCG
 ENS David A. Lyon , USN
 CDR Gary M. Thomas , USCG

New York

Mary E. Cava , USN
 E5 Christopher J. Closs , USN
 George C. Daughan , ALS
 ENS Noel T. Hewitt , USN
 E-3 Raymond P. Mack , USN

San Diego

2LT Richard Berteau , USMC
 YNCS Robert J. Cox , ALS

San Francisco

Jeffrey P. Dunning , USA
 Mark A. Flegel
 William E. Shissler , USN
 Joanne S. Stevens , USN

Texas

Hampton K. Dixon , USN
 Cpl Patrick M. Reilly , USN

Submitted by Frank Green

By-Laws

At its February 6 luncheon meeting, the New York Commandery adopted new By-Laws to conform with those recommended in the Naval Order's Operations Manual. The New York Commandery had been operating under By-Laws dating from its earliest existence. At the February meeting, officers were elected, pursuant to the new By-laws, to serve a two year term that would run until November 2013. Thereafter, newly elected officers will be installed during the Morison Award dinner in November, every other year.

The elected officers are:

Slate of Officers

Term of Office: February 2012 – November 2013

Commander William H Schmidt

Commander-Elect (Vacant*)

*The Commander-Elect shall be selected at the Business Meeting in mid-term of the officers' two year term of office. See By-Laws Article III

Vice Commanders (Listed alphabetically by assignment)

Vice Commander (Historian) David Simson

Vice Commander (Membership) Donald Schuld

Vice Commander (Recorder) Richard (Bud) Liptak

Vice Commander (Support) Hank Warnke

Other Elected Officers

Treasurer Roy DeFranco

Judge Advocate Frank Montgomery

Surgeon Dr. Dan Thys

Companions of the New York Council (Past Commanders)

Jonathan Jones, John Cupschalk, Bob Lunney

Submissions for the NOUS Newsletter

If you would like to submit an article to be considered for the Summer NOUS newsletter, please email Doug Moore, Commander General, at dougmoorej@verizon.net, and Marcy Weiss, editor, at weissmarcy@gmail.com by June 15.

The regular deadline schedule is as follows:

Winter - January 1

Spring - March 1

Summer - June 1

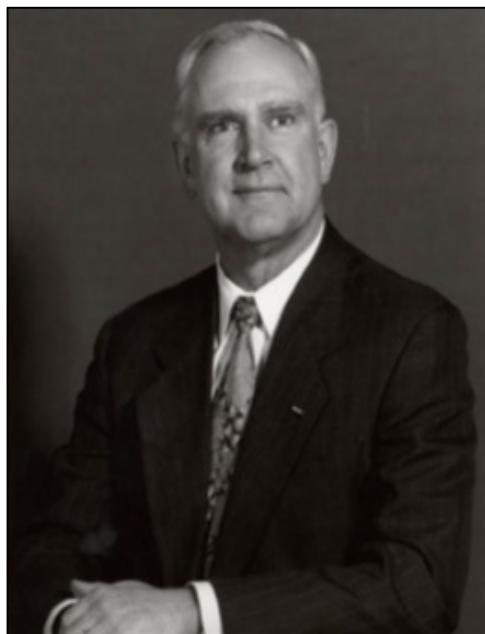
Fall - September 1



Submit an Article!

Porter A. Halyburton— a True American Hero

Porter A. Halyburton, who now lives in North Carolina with his family, completed twenty-seven years of service to the Naval War College after over twenty years as a commissioned Officer in the United States Navy – seven and a half of which were served as a Prisoner of War in Vietnam. He is the recipient of the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, three Bronze Stars, and three Purple Heart Medals.



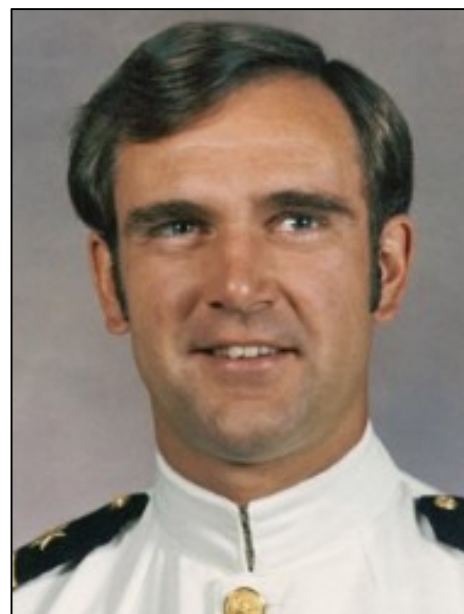
Lieutenant junior grade Halyburton was flying in an F-4B fighter aircraft as a Naval Flight Officer from the carrier **USS INDEPENDENCE** when he was shot down over North Vietnam on October 17, 1965. For the next 2,684 days, until his release on February 12, 1973, he was held captive in North Vietnam, in the harshest of conditions, often in solitary confinement.

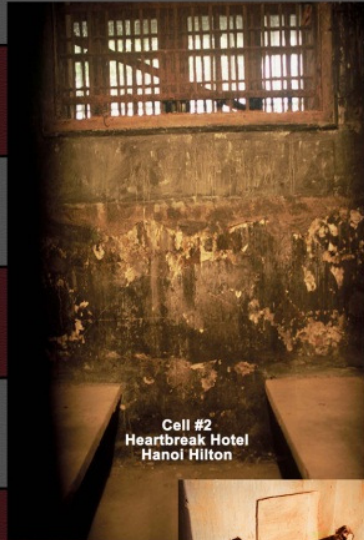
While held as a prisoner of war, Porter, a privileged white son of the South, was repeatedly sent to what his captors deemed “a worse place” when he refused to provide them with sensitive information on his carrier, squadron, and the nature of operations it was conducting. Each “worse place” entailed solitary confinement in a damp, vermin-laden, dark space with no contact with other American prisoners and frequent beatings as part of his interrogation regime. In one of these cells he fashioned a cross out of a single piece of toilet paper and affixed it to the wall on the only spot where a single ray of light entered his cell for just a few minutes each morning – relying on his faith to sustain him while in constant threat of execution. Finally, still refusing to give information to his North Vietnamese captors, who had misinterpreted what they had heard about rampant and pervasive racism in the American South, he was told he was going to the “worst place of all” and was placed in a cell with Major (later Colonel) Fred Cherry, a severely wounded black Air Force Officer two ranks senior to him, as a form of punishment. Porter, after long periods of solitary, needed someone to talk with and Fred was badly injured and needed the care that their North Vietnamese captors thought they were forcing Porter to provide. The two became fast and life-long friends, each crediting the other with saving his life. Their story has been eloquently told in *Two Souls Indivisible: The Friendship that Saved two POWs in Vietnam* by James S. Hirsch.

Porter arrived at the Naval War College in 1979 while still on active duty. He served for five years in the Strategy and Policy Department, retiring at the grade of Commander in 1984. He remained at the College for the next 22 years in the Strategy and Policy Department initially and for most of the period in the College of Distance Education where he served as Head of the International Relations and International Law Division as well as the Assistant Director for Technology and Innovation.

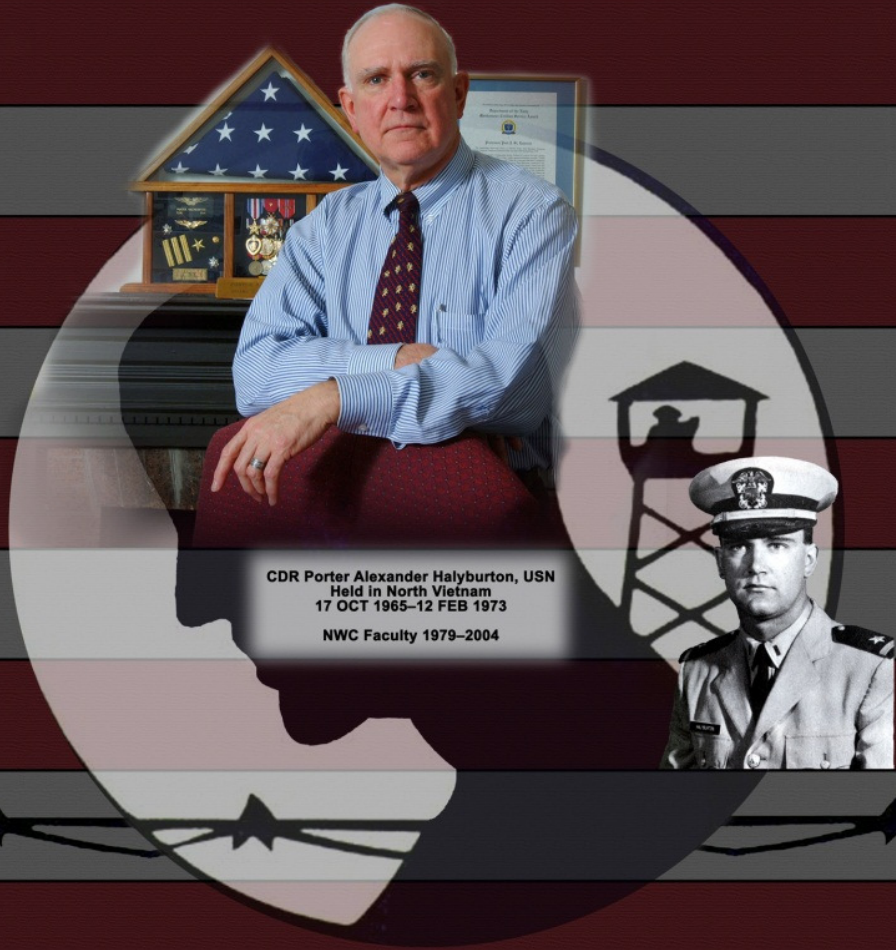
Dr. Halyburton's uplifting lectures on making the right choices in life, drawing, of course, on his Vietnam captivity, have been given at Brown University, the University of Rhode Island, Salve Regina University, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, the University of Notre Dame, and Holy Cross University, to name just a few. He was, until moving to North Carolina, an active speaker at churches, schools and civic organizations throughout Rhode Island and Massachusetts. He has also conducted over 190 Code of Conduct lectures at the Officer Candidate School, Chaplain's School, Officer Indoctrination School, Naval Academy Prep School, Surface Warfare Officers' School and for the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Scientific Training (BOOST) program for enlisted personnel seeking commissions aboard Naval Station, Newport, RI. He has been the recipient of many honors including Federal Employee of the Year in Rhode Island, the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, Outstanding Young Man of America, the Mayor's Gold Medal of Honor, City of Atlanta, Honorary Master Chief Petty Officer, and Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of RI. Porter continues to provide his spiritually and morally uplifting lectures throughout the nation, including for the Wardroom Club of Boston and the Naval Order of the United States.

In honor of his exemplary conduct during his incarceration as a Navy Prisoner of War in Vietnam for seven years and five months, uplifting and morally inspiring nation-wide lecturing on his experiences and the deeply held need to forgive his captors, as well as his unparalleled level of community service, Professor Halyburton was asked to be the Graduation Speaker at the University of Rhode Island in 2000, where he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. During that ceremony at the University of Rhode Island Dr./Professor/Commander Halyburton was referred to as “an American treasure.”





Cell #2
Heartbreak Hotel
Hanoi Hilton



CDR Porter Alexander Halyburton, USN
Held in North Vietnam
17 OCT 1965–12 FEB 1973
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This display is made possible through the generosity of the College of Operational and Strategic Leadership.

Porter Alexander Halyburton has devoted his life's work to his country, the Navy and the Naval War College and embodies those virtues of honesty, integrity and courage that really great Americans have demonstrated since the founding of the Republic. He is, first and foremost, a true American Patriot. I'm proud to say that Porter is a member of both the Newport and Raleigh Commanderies.



Porter Halyburton can be reached to arrange speaking engagements at porterhaly@gmail.com.

I solicit articles of this nature from all Commanderies highlighting our distinguished Companions for future issues of the newsletter. Please send them to DouglasV.Smith@usnwc.edu.

Submitted by Doug Smith

Baltimore 2012 Congress Update

The Baltimore Congress time-elapse clock shows just seven months to go and your Host Planning Committee has been working hard to make this Congress one of the best ever. First of all, you should go to the Naval Order website (navalorder.org) to see the new Congress registration page as well as links to the Pier Five Hotel and Visit Baltimore sites which will give you an opportunity to explore the hotel and the city, virtually, of course. Also, NOUS Webmaster Dave Wooten has put a link to the Naval Order on facebook. More information will be on the website very soon about sites we will visit, the foremost being a guided tour of Fort McHenry. If you know you are coming to the Congress, please register as soon as possible and take care of your hotel reservation as well.



Aerial view of Fort McHenry

We are planning for the Commander General's reception to be held in one of the most favorable locations in the city, the so-called "Top of the World" in the 27-floor Baltimore World Trade Building which has a stunning view of the Baltimore Harbor and Patapsco River as well as a 360 degree view of the city. This will be a two-hour catered event and is only a two block walk from the Pier Five headquarters hotel. This event will be held on Thursday afternoon, October 25, so most of our participants will have arrived by that time. Dinner afterward will be "on your own." The hotel's restaurants are conveniently located and not much farther way are the many restaurants of the city's famed "Little Italy" district.

With respect to speakers and presentations, we have extended an invitation to Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Robert Papp to address the Lee Douglas Luncheon and have secured the following speakers for War of 1812 historical presentations on Saturday the 27th: CDR Ty Martin, former C.O. of USS *Constitution*, who will speak on "Old Ironsides" battle history; noted naval artist Tom Freeman who will present and describe his renditions of War of 1812 battle scenes; Navy underwater archaeologist Dr. Bob Neyland will speak on the Commodore Joshua Barney's gunboat flotilla and

the on-going excavation of his flagship *Scorpion*, Captain John Rodgaard, will analyze Captain Charles Stewart's command of *Constitution*, Dr. Bill Dudley will present an overview of the War of 1812 on Chesapeake Bay, and Scott Sheads, a National Park Ranger-Historian, will speak on the Battle of Baltimore, 1814.



The host committee has been successful in raising some funds from Commanderies and private sources (\$5,250), but we still have a good distance to go since our goal is \$10,000. This effort to raise funds is being done in the interest of keeping the registration fee at the targeted amount of \$225.00 to cover the costs of the Congress. We particularly welcome donations targeted to help fund the Commander General's Welcome Reception at the "Top of the World." As mentioned in the last NOUS Newsletter, we very much appreciated the donations pledged by the Monterey Bay Commandery (\$500), the New York Commandery (\$1000), and the National Capital Commandery (\$1000) at the Galveston Congress. Since that time, we have received donations from NOUS Companion, Ambassador Bill Middendorf (\$1000), Kent Siegel (\$250), Bill Dudley (\$250), David Tovey (\$250), and Howard Snell (\$100). Since then, we have sent out solicitations to all Commandery Commanders requesting donations to the extent possible and have sent other letters to Companions who have been generous in the past. All pledges and donations will be gratefully received and acknowledged in the Newsletter and in the Congress Program.

In the interest of giving credit where it is due, even though there is no host commandery for this Congress, several companions of the National Capital Commandery have stepped up to join the Host Committee: they are Vance Morrison, Jim Brooke, Kent Siegel, Pres Weaver, Dave Kaiser, John Rodgaard and wife Judy Pearson, Paul Crissy, Jack Sheahan and wife Marylee, Dan Felger, David Banner, and Bill Dudley. We also consider New York Commandery's Bill Schmidt to be a member of the host committee for his generously volunteering to help with Congress registration.

Submitted by William Dudley



Name: _____ Rank: _____ Service: _____
(Last) (First) (MI)

Address: _____
(Number) (Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

e-mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Commandery: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Name Tag: _____ Name Tag: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

FEES AND PAYMENT

Reservations	Cost	Number	Total
	\$55		
	\$40		
	\$40		

*Checks for the Congress should be made payable to "Naval Order of the United States."
 Please mail this registration and your check for the total amount to:*

CAPT Paul Crissy, USCGR (Ret)
 5221 Chippewa Place
 Alexandria, VA 22312

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The Pier 5 Hotel is located at harborside in downtown Baltimore and close to the National Aquarium, USS CONSTELLATION, USS TORSK, USCGC TANEY, the Lightship CHESAPEAKE, Little Italy, 1812 House, Maryland Historical Center, Baltimore Harbor Tours and many other attractions in Baltimore's Inner Harbor area.

Pier 5 Hotel
 711 Eastern Ave
 Baltimore, MD, 21212
 (866) 583-4162
 www.harbormagic.com

*Rates: \$149/night (Double Occupancy) plus applicable taxes.
 Special NOUS Rates are valid 21-31 October for extended stays.
 To ensure a room in NOUS block, book by 3 October.
 Rooms blocked under "Naval Order of the U.S. National Congress"*



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To order from the Ship's Store current inventory, cut or copy this form with a delivery address and check payable to: Naval Order of the United States. Mail to: CDR Cotton Talbot, USN (ret), 1357 Park Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471. For further information and a full size, color representation of the items, please contact Cotton at ctalbeau@bellsouth.net or call 985-626-4073.

Authorized for all Companions

	Quantity	Price	Amount
The Naval Order Cross (Large)	_____	\$35	_____
The Naval Order Cross (Miniature)	_____	\$25	_____
Campaign Ribbon	_____	\$5	_____
Naval Order Rosette	_____	\$15	_____
Naval Order Tie, Silk	_____	\$20	_____
Naval Order Tie Bar	_____	\$8	_____
Naval Order Cufflink Set	_____	\$15	_____
Naval Order Blazer Patch	_____	\$20	_____
Naval Order Flag (3'x5') two sides	_____	\$85	_____
Naval Order Banner (3'x5') one side	_____	\$50	_____
Naval Order Burgee (12"x18") one side	_____	\$15	_____
NOUS Baseball Caps – plain bill	_____	\$12	_____
- NOUS Ball Cap 'eggs' 05/06	_____	\$14	_____
- NOUS Ball Cap 'eggs' Flag Officer	_____	\$15	_____
NOUS Golf Shirt – royal blue – specify size S M L XL XXL	_____	\$25	_____
Naval Order Lapel Pin – <i>Not in stock</i>	<i>NIS</i>	\$6	<i>NIS</i>
'Navy Heroes of Normandy' DVD	_____	\$20	_____
Challenge Coin (commemorating 100 years of Naval Aviation)	_____	\$10	_____

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Naval Order Blazer Patch with Crest	_____	\$25	_____
Neck Ribbon for Large Medal (worn with formal attire only)	_____	\$10	_____
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