



FORMER MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY RICK WEST, U.S. NAVY (RETIRED) TO RECEIVE THE FIRST SENIOR ENLISTED DISTINGUISHED SEA SERVICE AWARD

The Naval Order of the United States was pleased and proud to announce the selection of MCPON (SS/SW) Rick West as the first recipient of the Distinguished Sea Service Award for Senior Enlisted (DSSA-SE). We plan to present to MCPON West the DSSA-SE Award at the Naval Order's Annual Congress on Friday, 23 October 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The DSSA-SE was established to provide a means of recognition for a recently retired sea service enlisted member whose distinguished career contributed significantly to the sea service. This award recognizes MCPON West's unique contribution to the U. S. Navy through a career that spanned over thirty years of service in both submarines and surface ships. His leadership responsibilities ranged from the division level on a submarine to selection as the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, the US Navy's most senior enlisted position. His service is characterized by a constant concern for sailors and their families and the preparation of enlisted personnel to assume the responsibilities of leadership as Chief Petty Officers through the CPO 360 program.

MCPON West was born in Rising Fawn, GA. He graduated from Northwest Georgia High School in 1981 and immediately entered the US Navy. He received recruit training and Quartermaster training at Orlando, Fla., followed by Enlisted Submarine School at Groton, CT. His first duty assignment was aboard *USS ETHAN ALLEN* (SSN 608) where he completed submarine qualifications. Other assignments include *USS Thomas Edison* (SSN 610), *USS Sea Devil* (SS Naval Activities United Kingdom (COMNAVACTUK), N 664),

Commander *USS Tecumseh* (SSBN 628)(Blue), and Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) Staff (TRE Team). MCPON West was then assigned as Chief of the Boat aboard the San Diego-based fast-attack submarine, *USS Portsmouth* (SSN 707), where he completed two Western Pacific deployments and the crew earned two, Battle Efficiency "E" awards.

Upon completion of a Command Master Chief (CMC) tour at Submarine Squadron (COMSUBRON) ELEVEN, he was selected as COMSUBPAC Force Master Chief from January 2001 to 2004. During this time, West also attended the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, RI, and then reported as the CMC to *USS Preble* (DDG 88) home ported in San Diego, where he deployed to the Persian Gulf and qualified as an Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist. Selected during his tour on the *Preble* to serve as the Pacific Fleet (PACFLT), Fleet Master Chief from February 2005 to June 2007, he then served as the 14th Fleet Master Chief for Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command from June 2007 to December 2008.

MCPON West's personal awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), Enlisted Surface Warfare Insignia, Enlisted Submarine Insignia, and SSBN Deterrent Patrol Pin. The 12th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy commencing 12 December 2008, he stepped down as MCPON on 28 September 2012 and retired from the Navy after a three-decade career.

Mr. West joined Herdt Consulting in December 2012. He is currently a Sales and Marketing Manager and Client Executive for Insight and Futuring at Paladin Data Systems having joined Paladin in October 2013.

From a May 2015 Press Release by VCG-Communications Pres Weaver



Commander General's Report to the Order

As a result of the hard and successful work of the Awards Committee led by Captain Carter Conlin, USN (Retired), a former Commander General, we now have selected the first honoree of the Order's new Senior Enlisted Distinguished Sea Services Award, named in honor of our recently-passed Companion, Chief Petty

Officer Howard Snell. We will be proud to present this Award to Former Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick West, U.S. Navy (Retired) during this year's Annual Congress in New Orleans in October. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy is featured on the front page of this newsletter.

We also have just received word that the Chairman of Fed Ex Corporation, Mr. Frederick W. Smith, has accepted our selection to be this year's Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award honoree. Mr. Smith, a decorated U.S. Marine Corps Captain and Naval Aviator, enabled his corporation to provide an enormous assist to the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz statue project by shipping the statue from its sculptor's site on the West Coast to its permanent location in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, next to the Battleship *USS Missouri* Memorial. We will feature Mr. Smith in an article in the fall issue of the *Naval Order Newsletter*.

Our Companion in the Spotlight this issue is Captain Robert Lunney, U.S. Navy (Retired), a Companion with the New York Commandery. Bob has had a fascinating career with some amazing results. Please read the article to learn more!

We noted with pride that Companion and previous honoree of the Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award, Dr. J. P. London, recently received an award recognizing him as a proponent of the importance of ethical behavior in today's government, military and corporate environments.

You may enjoy the articles we have about *USS Recruit* that stood in the middle of New York City during World War I, as well as an informative piece about heraldry in the United States by our webmaster, Mr. Daniel Wooten. We had so many fine articles submitted for this issue that we must delay publishing some of them to the next issue, including a fascinating article about a survey of the sunken *USS Independence*. Stay tuned!

We were proud to confer the title of Historian General Emeritus upon Companion Dr. Douglas V. Smith, Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired) who, at the same time was relieved as the Naval Order Historian General by Dr. John Hattendorf during Doug's recent retirement ceremony from the Naval War College. Doug experienced a very successful career in both the Navy and his second career as naval historian and author. Please see the article on page 9 of this issue for further details. We all wish him well.

Your Order is working to complete a number of studies and to resolve some thorny issues as the Annual Congress approaches this fall. At the same time, our Vice Commander General for Commandery Support and his team are making every effort to revive several of our inactive Commanderies. We anticipate good news on these fronts in the coming months.

Last, but not least, we urge you to consider joining us at this year's Annual Congress in New Orleans 21-24 October. Gary Bair, Commandery Commander, Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired), and Congress Host Committee Chair, are continuing to put together a fascinating group of speakers, unique tours and tempting dining opportunities for us all. The hotel is centrally located - and the price is right. ***Come to New Orleans this October and help us celebrate the Naval Order's 125th Anniversary!***

Submitted by Vance Morrison

MAKE A COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER

"Jack London's book should be required reading."

—Norman Augustine

Dr. Jack London, CACI Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board and a Navy veteran, shares his 40 years of character-driven leadership experience in his new book, *Character: The Ultimate Success Factor*. He urges everyone to make a commitment to character.

Available online at Amazon and Barnes & Noble. To get your copy autographed by Dr. London, contact info@characterthebook.com. All royalties from the sale of the book will be donated to **CAUSE**, the wounded warriors support organization.

Dr. London is a recipient of the Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award.

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NOUS Historic Writing Competition

In late 2013, Charleston companion CAPT Tom Brown (USN), Ret. conceived and developed our Commandery's NOUS Historic Writing Competition in the local community. The goal is to create increased public awareness of our naval historical heritage and the important role naval forces and maritime activities have played in the community's and nation's development by having local high school juniors and seniors write on topics of historic naval relevance.

One of the twists CAPT Brown proposed was that there be no monetary award in this competition, but instead the satisfaction of answering a personal call to explore naval history, capped by public recognition of effort.

The writing project, an especially hard sell when students are swamped with required papers and college entrance prep, was introduced and launched at Porter-Gaud School during the 2014-15 school year. With enthusiastic approval of our Commandery Council, CAPT Brown gained the support and interest of Dr. Charles McArver, History Department Chair at P-G, and together they came up with the topic **Alfred Thayer Mahan: Still Relevant in the 21st Century.**

Mahan (1840 –1914) has been called "the most important American strategist of the nineteenth century." His concept of "sea power" was based on the idea that countries with greater naval power will have greater worldwide impact, a concept that influenced strategic thought in navies across the world. His ideas still permeate the US Navy doctrine.

This year's winning author in the NOUS Historic Writing Competition is Porter-Gaud senior, Kristopher Kitchen. Kris will be attending the University of St. Andrews beginning this fall. Both Kris and CAPT Brown were presented with a signed copy of James Scott's newest book, *Target Tokyo: Jimmy Doolittle and the Raid that Avenged Pearl Harbor*. A copy of Kris' remarkable effort can be emailed to you on request. (porter.hartles@gmail.com)



CAPT Tom Brown, Kris' mother Pamela Kitchen, and Kris Kitchen

2015 John Paul Jones Sword

The Charleston Commandery's proposal of an award sword, to be presented annually to an outstanding Midshipman Second Class in The Citadel NROTC Program, was initiated by Charleston companion James M. (Mike) Alford, a member of The Citadel School of Business Administration faculty from 1978 until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in 2006.

The creation of this award was part of the Commandery's focused efforts to raise awareness of the Naval Order in our community, and to develop relationships with local organizations and entities with similar interests. The Citadel NROTC staff, who observe the Midshipmen closely, make their selection based on rigorous guidelines provided by the Commandery.

The 2015 recipient of the NOUS John Paul Jones Sword is Midshipman James R. Urban, rising Regimental Commander and highest ranking individual of the 2016 Corps of Cadets. MIDN Urban also received the 2015 American Legion Military Excellence Award. He will carry the NOUS sword at ceremonies during his senior year, and it will remain with him after graduation.



Jim Urban, Jimmy Urban, COL Tom Clarke, USMC, professor of Naval Science at the Citadel.

NSWKids Charity Polo Match

Generous contributions toward and involvement in local charity events and projects by members of the Charleston Commandery have significantly increased awareness of the Naval Order, its mission, and the Commandery in our community.

This April, Charleston Commander David Porter and the Charleston Commandery were among sponsors of the Spring Charleston Polo

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Classic benefiting NSWKids, a non-profit focused on delivering educational and emotional support to the children of SEALs and other Naval Special Warfare service members.

On average, NSW fathers are deployed nine months out of the year, serving in many of the most dangerous operations conducted by any military force worldwide. Couple this with the “normal” stresses of military life - frequent moves, adapting to new towns and new schools - and the need for extra support for these children is clear.

In addition to polo on the pitch at Longwood Plantation, guests met operators from the Navy Special Warfare community, who provided a simulated hostage rescue, complete with SEAL-trained special ops dog, and extraction and exfiltration of the rescue team; and a “Find the Sniper” camouflage demo/contest.

The day’s special guest was Medal of Honor recipient and retired Navy SEAL Thomas R. Norris. Norris was one of three SEALs to receive the Medal of Honor for actions during the Vietnam War, and the only person involved in two MOH actions – one, his own undertaking in saving a fallen comrade; and the other, a few hours later as the recipient of another soldier’s bravery. These actions have been retold in numerous books and in the feature film *Bat*21*. After recovering from his near-fatal head wound, Norris received a disability waiver from FBI director William Webster and served as an FBI agent for 20 years.



Charleston CDR David Porter, LT Thomas R. Norris (USN, Ret.)

Commandery Sponsors Scott Presentation

On June 4, in conjunction with the Charleston County Public Library, the Charleston Commandery sponsored an open-to-the-public presentation by James Scott as our Midway observance. Strong participation and local news coverage once again helped us promote and increase Naval Order and Commandery visibility in our community. His next offering will be a “fresh” look at Gen. Douglas MacArthur’s invasion of the Philippines and the Battle of Manila.

Commandery companion and favorite author, James Scott, recently released his third book, *Target Tokyo*, on the 1942 Doolittle Raid counterstrike against the Japanese in retaliation for their attack on Pearl Harbor. In his review of Scott’s latest effort, military history author Stephen L. Moore states, “This rare gem on American valor is destined to become the definitive account of Doolittle’s Tokyo raid.”

Scott is also the author of *The Attack on the Liberty*, which won the Naval Order’s prestigious Rear Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Excellence in Naval Literature in 2010; and *The War Below*, the story of the submarine force that helped win World War II in the Pacific by ravaging Japan’s merchant fleet and destroying the nation’s economy.

His next offering will be a “fresh” look at Gen. Douglas MacArthur.



James Scott, Hartley Porter, RADM Bob Besal at book release party for Target Tokyo.

Submitted by Hartley Porter

Correction: In the Spring 2015 edition of the NOUS newsletter it stated Midn Dale was the last US Navy death during the War of 1812. The last at-sea combat USN deaths from that war occurred on 23 March 1815 during the engagement between *USS Hornet* and *HMS Penguin*.

If you want to look at deaths inflicted by armed British forces on US Navy Sailors, the very last deaths occurred in April 1815 at the British Dartmoor Prison, when British soldiers bayoneted and shot American POWs.

Submitted by Chris Melhuish CAPT, USN (ret.)

The Florida First Coast Commandery was honored to be able to recognize the distinguished Officer Candidate (OC) at the Jacksonville University NROTC on May 1 with the Presentation of Navy Officer's Sword. OC William Sunda was presented the sword with full regalia moments after he was sworn in as an Ensign in the United States Navy. JU Commissioning history was connected as NOUS FFC Commander, Captain Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret), a 1977 graduate of the JU NROTC Program, presented the sword to ENS Sunda. ENS Sunda, a former QM1, actually received his degree from the University of North Florida which is a combined NROTC program with JU. The new Ensigns and 2nd LTs from this year will have unique challenges ahead of them in the changing face of the Navy and Naval Warfare. ENS Sunda is assigned to a ship out of Mayport, FL as a Surface Warfare Officer.



Ens William Sunda receives a Naval Officer's Sword in recognition as the TOP OC at JU from CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN(Ret), NOUS FC Commander

The NOUS First Coast Commandery holds bi-monthly meetings which include lunch and a lesson on military history. The most recent Military education was on the **Battle of Midway** in preparation for the Battle of Midway dinner on 13 June at World Golf Village. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each odd numbered month at the Queens Harbor Yacht and Country Club at 1130.

On 15 May, the First Coast Commandery in conjunction with Naval Station Mayport and the Mayport 2nd Class Petty Officer's Association remembered those who perished on May 17, 1987 onboard the USS Stark (FFG-31). The Stark was struck in the forward part of the ship by 2 Iraqi Exocet missiles while the ship was on patrol in the Arabian Gulf with 37 members of the crew losing their lives. The Stark Memorial is an annual event, held at 1000 at the Memorial Grove at NS Mayport. Guest speaker CAPT John Mitchell, USN (Ret), was Commander of Naval Station Mayport at the time of the tragedy. Captain Mitchell stressed that we will 'never forget' the sailors, the ship, their contribution. He addressed the numerous dignitaries from the City, and numerous state and

congressional representatives challenging them to keep the memory alive, make the Stark's memory an integral part of the Naval History efforts in downtown Jacksonville, and to have another ship named *USS Stark* (FFG31) that was decommissioned in 1999) in the near future.



Former Stark crewmembers gather to remember fallen comrades at the Annual Naval Station Mayport memorial ceremony

Stark Crewmembers read the names and sounded a bell for each of the 37 that died that day. Companion Captain Pete Wynkop, USN (Ret) and a former Stark CO, was coordinator with NS Mayport for the moving and solemn ceremony and presented a wreath on behalf of the Naval Order. Many thanks to CAPT Wes McCall, CO NS Mayport and the Naval Station team for their support in the ceremony.

The Naval Order FC took the opportunity to remember the fallen and support the City of Jacksonville in Memorial Day ceremonies on 25 May at the Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Wall near Everbank Field in downtown Jacksonville. Captain Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret) Commandery Commander NOUS FC accompanied CAPT Dave Swan, USNR (Ret) - WWII Merchant Marine Veteran, to present a wreath sponsored by NOUS FC honoring our fallen comrades. One of the largest Memorial Day observances in the US, MGEN Michael A. Calhoun, USA, Adjutant General, Florida National Guard was the keynote speaker. The ceremony included comments from Mayor Alvin Brown, and members of families of the 5 additional Jacksonville service members whose names of heroes were added to the wall.

NOUS First Coast held a membership mixer recently at a local establishment in Jacksonville Beach. Amidst the camaraderie we took advantage of the opportunity for one of our companions to recount experiences as part of the 50 year recognition of the US involvement in Vietnam. RADM George Huchting, USN (Ret) recounted his experience off the coast and ashore while operating with the Vietnamese Navy and performing Gun line operations in support of forces ashore. This followed our push to encourage ALL Companions to ensure that their Oral history is shared.

The Florida First Coast Commandery invites all companions and friends to join us for any of our upcoming events; just send an e-mail to nousfc@comcast.net for more information. Additionally, if you are just passing through the Jacksonville Area, we gather each Friday at the local Panera's at the corner of Beach Blvd and Hodges Blvd each Friday at 0800 for coffee, breakfast, and tall tales!

Submitted by Bob Whitkop

Memorial Day Services

Memorial Day services were held on the Monterey Coast Guard Station Pier ONE, 25 May with participation from the many service organizations here on the Monterey Peninsula. Fifty plus attended the ceremony with TV coverage by the local CBS affiliated network.

On behalf of the Naval Order, a wreath was “casted” into the seas for those that have served and continue to serve. Those Companions were recognized for their contributions both ashore and at sea over their many years of service.

Battle of Midway Anniversary Dining-Out

The 73rd Anniversary Midway Dining-Out was held on Saturday 6 June at the Naval Postgraduate School. The evening started on the quarter deck of the Old Del Monte Hotel, now the site of the Naval Postgraduate School, with a full service reception. The immediate reception area was decorated with 4 – 6 June 1942 historical Battle of Midway artifacts provided by the school’s Dudley Knox Library.

The honoree President of the Battle of Midway Mess was Dr. Douglas A. Hensler, Provost of the Naval Postgraduate School and the President of the Mess was Captain Timothy Fallor, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity Monterey. Fellow Companion Lieutenant Tim Baker, USN was Mr. Vice and seemed to enjoy sending many of his shipmates and “new found” friends to the “grog bowl”.

The guest speaker was Brigadier General Helen G. Pratt, USMCR, President, Marine Corps University, Quantico who spoke on the topic of *Marines at Midway-1942*.

Those Companions and others vested in the history of our Marines at Midway do not have to be reminded what the name “Midway means to Marines. At the very outset of war, when Midway’s sole garrison consisted of a Fleet Marine Force defense battalion stationed there in advance of hostilities, the Japanese found that here, as at Wake, Marines were ready. Subsequently, in the battle of Midway, the heroism of Marine fighter and dive-bomber pilots, who attacked effectively and unhesitatingly against tremendous odds, demonstrated once again that courage and discipline are among the high traditions of our Corps.” General Pratt further comments focused on the areas of the war coming to Midway, the girding for battle, and finally the 4-5 June Battle of Midway.

The two official guests of honor were LCDR Nonna Cheatham, USN, a Pearl Harbor survivor and Master Technical Sergeant Ralph B. Neal, USMC, who was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving with the Ninth Defense Battalion, Fleet Marine Forces, as a volunteer tank gunner in action



BGen Helen G. Pratt, USMCR, President of the Marine Corps University, discuss WW II matters with guest of honor Retired Master Technical Sergeant Ralph Neal, USMC, who was awarded the Silver Star in July 1943 for action against enemy Japanese forces. Photo credit MC2 Michael Ehrlick, USN, NPS.

against enemy Japanese forces on New Georgia, Solomon Islands, in July 1943.

A memorial wreath was presented prior to the formal dinner by Petty Officer Kelli Kennedy USN, NPS’s sailor of the year, and Lieutenant James Hough, USN, Monterey Bay Commandery Commander, in recognition of the valor and sacrifice of the heroes that fought at the Battle of Midway. *“They came from all walks of life – from small towns and big cities – and answered our Nation’s call to go to a place they had never seen before. We were losing the war in the Pacific until these heroes fought. Many of them gave the last full measure to help turn the tide of the war so that we could be free as Americans”.*

The Navy CID Unit Monterey choir provided dinner music with patriotic songs for the enjoyment of all the guests and the evening ended with remembrances of those that have served and those still serving with the “piping” of *Amazing Grace* and “taps”.

Other guests of the *mess* included the Chesty Puller Battalion and Monterey County Division, Naval Sea Cadets Corps; the Monterey High School NJROTC who provided the honor and color guard; and, a detachment of Marine Corps Defense Language military students coordinated by Sgt Lauren Kohls, USMC who joined the General’s table and had the opportunity to share her insights into today’s military environments.

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Bag Piper LCDR Spence Myers, USN “pipes” the over 160 Battle of Midway guests into the Naval Postgraduate School ball room for dinner.

Commandery Leadership Change

Lieutenant Tim Baker has relieved Lieutenant James Hough as the Commander of the Monterey Bay Commandery. James graduated June 19th with a Master’s degree and is enroute Department Head School in Newport. The “mess” welcomed Tim his new position and in turn he called the Past Commander General “Captain Ken” to the “grog” bowl to ensure that everyone knew that he, Lieutenant Tim Baker, was “in command”. “Spirits” were enjoyed by all to be sure!



LT Tim Baker, Mr. Vice “goes face to face” with the President of the Mess CAPT Tim Faller on who will go to the “grog bowl” next! CAPT Faller won that decision and sent Chairman “Ken” to the bowl.

Crossing the Bar

Monterey Bay Commandery Companions were saddened to learn of the passing Colonel Charles (Chuck) Erickson, USMC who was called home Christmas Eve. Chuck will be remembered here on the Monterey Peninsula for his contributions to the Monterey Bay Commandery and other organizations here in the community.

Submitted by Ken Johnson

On 3 May, the National Capital Commandery, Naval Order of the United States held the 117th Commemoration of Commodore George Dewey’s decisive Victory at Manila Bay onboard his Flagship, USS Olympia (C-6), at the Independence Seaport Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The event was well-attended and welcoming remarks were given by the Commander-General, Naval Order of the United States, Captain Vance H. Morrison, USN (Ret). Companions from both the New York and Philadelphia Commanderies joined us in honoring Commodore Dewey and *Olympia*.

The guest speaker was Mr. Jesse Lebovics, Director of Historic Ships, Independence Seaport Museum. Mr. Lebovics provided a full history of the *Olympia* and its role in the famous battle. He also brought to mind the efforts being taken to restore *Olympia* to its near original condition so she could take her rightful place among the cherished historical monuments of the United States of America.



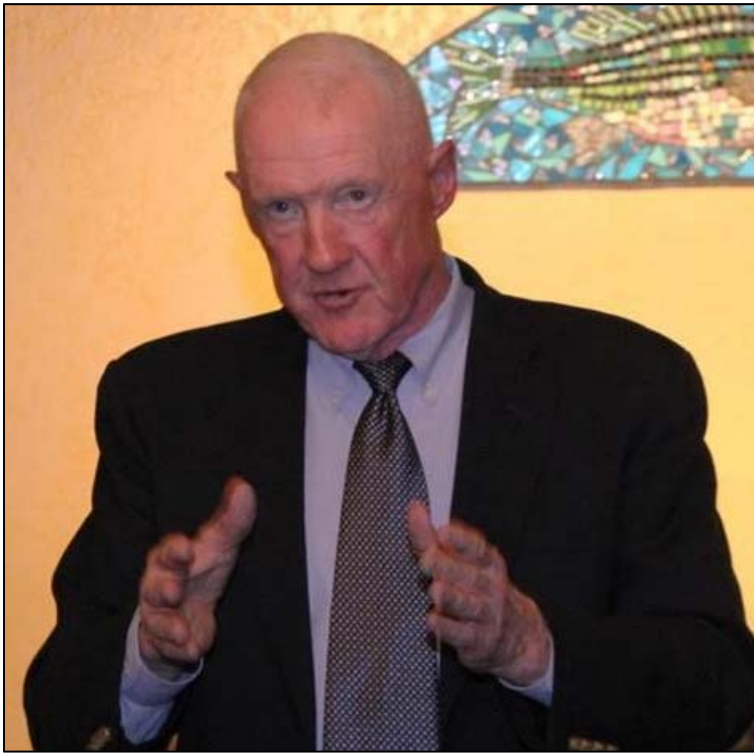
Captain Morrison and Colonel Calip, Philippine Defense Attaché to the U.S., on the fantail of USS Olympia

Our distinguished representative from the Embassy of Republic of the Philippines was Colonel Eric R. Calip, PHF, MNSA, Defense Military Attaché. Colonel Calip spoke in great detail of the results of the famous battle and its implications for the Republic of the Philippines and the development of a common bond between our two nations that extends now more than 117 years.

Also in attendance was Dr. Aida Rivera, President, Philippine Folk Arts Society, Inc. and Chairman, Region I National Federation of Filipino American Associations. Dr. Rivera offered her services to work with the Naval Order of the United States to further the cause for restoration of the *Olympia* and to ensure the significance of Commodore George Dewey’s victory will not be forgotten.

Submitted by CDR Bill Joseph

The New Orleans Commandery began the new year on 7 January. Nearly 40 companions and guests gathered at Vacherie Restaurant in the French Quarter for a delightful dinner. Lieutenant General Richard Mills USMC gave a most informative talk on the major responsibilities and accomplishments of his commands, Marine Forces Reserves and Marine Forces North.



Lieutenant General Richard Mills USMC addresses New Orleans Commandery on his responsibilities as Commander, Marine Forces Reserve

General Mills is one of the many active duty senior officers to join the New Orleans Commandery during the last quarter, also including: Colonel Steve Godinho USMC, Commander Marine Support Facility - New Orleans; Captain Patrick Huete USN, Commanding Officer Tulane Navy ROTC; and Commander Carina Maloney USN, Executive Officer Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base - Belle Chasse.

Commandery leaders were also major participants of the annual Mardi Gras ball for the greater New Orleans area, the C.A.M.A.N. Ball, on 17 January.

The New Orleans Commandery met again for a dinner meeting at Vacherie Restaurant 1 April. The speaker, Captain Rob Pritchard USN, companion and Executive Officer Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base - Belle Chase, gave a fascinating account of his recent duty as Deputy Commander of Camp Lemonnier, Africa - our only forward operating site on the African continent.

The Commandery also presented an award to Midshipman First Class Caroline Weachter USN, the honor surface warfare graduate of Tulane Navy ROTC on 24 April 24.

The New Orleans Commandery is busy planning an amazing NOUS Congress in October. Don't miss it!

Submitted by Gary Bair

Around the middle of April, I was contacted by CDR Eamon Fennessy, USN (Ret.) concerning the annual reunion for *USS Samuel B. Roberts* (DD 823). The small group of WWII Veterans of the ship had been planning on visiting Newport from May 2-5 and had made reservations at the Hyatt Hotel on Goat Island. About three weeks before the reunion commenced, they realized they had not arranged to have a speaker. Somehow, my name was mentioned and the phone started to ring.

CDR Fennessy told me they would like to have a speaker that was versed in strategy, policy and plans for the future of the Navy. He also spoke of an interest in touring Surface Warfare Officers School. They had already contacted the Public Affairs Office but due to little lead time, there were no speakers available.

A request was sent to our Naval Order Commandery Companions to see if someone would be willing to take on this little project. SWOSCOL-COM was also contacted.

One of our Companions, Admiral Jim Hogg expressed an interest in fulfilling this request. At the agreed time, Admiral Hogg and I arrived at the Hyatt and we had an opportunity to mingle with the crew and their wives prior to the address. This proved to be an ideal time for getting acquainted, picture taking and readying for the Admiral's talk. By the time it was over, three hours had gone by during an evening few will forget. One of the attendees, as it turned out, was even a Naval Academy classmate of Admiral Hogg's.

One of the crew, Karl Heinze had authored a book entitled *Join the Navy and Discover the World*. This book contains many articles covering the adventures and travels of the *USS Samuel B. Roberts*, a ship that was homeported here in Newport. An autographed copy of the book was presented to both Admiral Hogg and myself.

The group had the opportunity to tour SWOSCOLCOM and the Tactical Trainer during their visit which was one of the highlight of their reunion.

My sincerest appreciation is extended to Companion Hogg for taking the time to support this special request from the *USS Samuel B. Roberts*.



Karl Heinze, ADM Hogg and George Wardwell

Newport Commandery Supports RI Heritage Hall of Fame

Ambassador J. William Middendorf II, BGEN James D'Agostino, LtCol Dennis Morgan, Commander Newport Commandery, George Wardwell, Antonio Cercena all members of the Newport Commandery, Naval Order of the United States were honored to attend the 51st Annual Induction Ceremony for the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Cranston, RI, on Saturday 18 April 2015. The inductees included Dr. John C. Fredriksen; Noreen Stonor Drexel; Anthony Quinn, posthumously; Henry Shelton; Margaret A. McKenna; Donald Bousquet; H. Philip West, Jr.; Mayor Charles C. Baldelli and Vice Admiral Walter E. "Ted" Carter, Jr.



Ambassador J. William Middendorf II and VADM Walter "Ted" Carter

Doug Smith Retires from the Naval War College

As a result of his long and distinguished career as a naval aviator, strategic planner, naval historian, author, NWC professor, NOUS companion and past Commandery Commander as well as his term as NOUS Historian General, Doug Smith was made NOUS Historian General Emeritus.

Doug attended his retirement ceremony, held in Mahan Rotunda on May 28. Surrounded by family, friends, and colleagues, Doug's career as a naval officer and Naval War College professor was chronicled by Associate Provost Bill Spain. Next came the many mementoes. Representing the Naval Order of the United States, George Wardwell and Professor John Hattendorf presented Doug with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of and appreciation for outstanding service rendered the NOUS and a second certificate proclaiming the designation of Commander Douglas V. Smith as Historian General Emeritus of the NOUS.

Next, the Director of the College of Distance Education, Dr. Jay Hickey, presented the letter and certificate of retirement, followed by the shadow box with a flag that had been flown over the Naval War College.

Doug took the podium to recognize those who have helped him throughout his career and in his most recent health struggles. His wife came in for special recognition for her life-long support of his efforts.

Submitted by George Wardwell

The San Francisco Commandery bid a fond farewell to CAPP's Corner, our home since 1990, when it closed its doors on Sunday, April 19, 2015. Television news reporters along with police officers from the nearby station came to say goodbye. Governor Jerry Brown also came for one last dinner. Many of our Companions were also able to enjoy one last meal at Capp's.



Tom Ginella, a Naval Order Companion, had been the proprietor of Capp's Corner since 1986. Tom always made us feel welcome and has been a magnificent host over the years.

In April we had our first meeting at our new venue the nearby "Italian San Francisco Athletic Club." Professor J. Holmes Armstead, Jr., a former Naval War College professor talked about his experiences as an International Elections Observer for the Organization



for Security and Cooperation in Europe. His comments on the elections in Ukraine included an analysis of the historical dynamics of the region. He discussed the problems associated with personal identification and documentation at the polling stations when multiple-country documents had to be used to establish the right to vote in the elections. Professor Armstead, shown with Commander Cruz, enlightened us with many anecdotes of dealing with "challenging" political environments around the world.

On April 25, 2015, the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, CA held its commissioning ceremonies for this year's new ensigns of the United States Navy.

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On behalf of the Naval Order of the United States, San Francisco Commandery Commander, Col Allan Cruz USMC (Ret.) presented a sword to Ensign Pavel A. Gorodnichin, of Ventura, CA. Ensign Gorodnichin is a strategic sealift officer.

Our speaker for May was Captain Michael Slotsky, Professor of Naval Science and Commanding Officer of the Naval ROTC Unit at the University of California, Berkeley. CAPT Slotsky took pride in the heritage of the Unit named in honor of Fleet Admiral Nimitz who was instrumental in its success. He noted that the unit also has branches at Stanford University, the University of California Davis campus as well as the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo. CAPT Slotsky noted that he was especially proud of the unit's cultural and ethnic diversity.

We concluded May with a somber ceremony over the Memorial Day weekend commemorating the *USS San Francisco* (CA-38) one of the most decorated United States Naval Ship's during World War II. Master of Ceremonies was Captain Stan Ellexson, USN (Ret) of our Commandery. Keynote speaker was "Chief" Johnny Johnson of our Commandery who was aboard the ship on December 7, 1941 in Pearl Harbor. Chair of Honor was Lieutenant Colonel John R. Stevens, USMC (Ret) who, like Chief Johnson is a member of our Commandery and a veteran of the Pearl Harbor Attack. In recognition of the *San Francisco's* role in



San Francisco Commandery Comrades Cecilia Gaerlan and Bob Hansen (left) pose with Lt Colonel Stevens (center) after the ceremony. Also pictured is Bataan Death March survivor PFC David Tejada, Philippine Department of Tourism Consular Attaché Purificacion Suanding-Molintas, and Philippine military representative Colonel Antonio Mendoza with Professor Jose David Lapuz.

the liberation of the Philippines we were honored to have in attendance Professor Jose David Lapuz representing the President of the Philippines along with Antonio P. Mendoza and Ashley R. Ras from the Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco.

The first week of June marks the Commandery's annual commemoration of our Navy's victory during the Battle of Midway. At our June luncheon we were honored to have Captain John Rodgaard, Commander, National Capitol Commandery speak to us on the triumph (and difficulties faced) of U.S. Naval Intelligence before the battle. It was Naval Intelligence that largely enabled our triumph which led to our ultimate victory during the Pacific War.

San Francisco Commandery Hosts Annual Battle of Midway Dinner

On June 6th The San Francisco Commander once again had the honor of hosting the Battle of Midway celebration at the Marines Memorial Club. This year we had the privilege of having as our guest speaker Admiral Scott Swift in his first official engagement as Commander, Pacific Fleet. Swift, whose previous job was Director, Navy Staff in the Pentagon, assumed command on May 27. Special Guest of Honor was Battle of Midway Veteran LTJG Oral "Slim" Moore. We were also honored by the presence of representatives of the Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco as well as Bataan Death March survivor, David Tejada.

President of the Mess for the evening's celebration was past Commander General, Rear Admiral Tom Brown.

The Battle of Midway is an official United States Navy Celebratory event. "Midway" marked the apogee of the Japanese advance during the Pacific War. After Midway, the United States Navy took the offensive and never looked back.



Rear Admiral Tom Brown (left) with fellow San Francisco Commandery members Chief Johnny Johnson and LtCol John Stevens (right) pose for a photo with Admiral Scott Swift during a break in the Battle of Midway Celebratory dinner at the Marines Memorial Club.

The Texas Commandery held the annual Battle of Midway Luncheon at the HESS (Houston Engineering and Scientific Societies) facility on June 3, the 73rd anniversary of the battle. Commandery Commander MM2 (SS) Gil Raynor, USN (Ret.) conducted the meeting. He introduced the speaker, the noted author, Anthony Tully, who had written the book, "Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of the Battle of Midway".

Mr. Tully started his talk by pointing out that this battle resulted in wrecking the Imperial Japanese Navy's aircraft carrier offensive capabilities; it restored parity of forces in the Pacific Basin; and allowed the United States to undertake the Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands campaign. He discussed the fact that considerable research of Japanese sources had revealed that several of the books written on the Midway battle had serious errors.

One of the most serious errors of the design of the Japanese carriers was that their hangar decks are enclosed as opposed to the American design of having open hangar decks. Therefore the Japanese aircraft could not warm up in the enclosed hangar decks because of the exhaust fumes which, in turn, resulted in requiring a considerably longer period to make them ready for take-off.

He showed a picture of the Kaga taken by a B-17 bomber prior to the "five incredible minutes" starting at about 1025 with the attacks by LCDR Wade McClusky of VB-6 and LT Richard Best of VS-6 on the Kaga and Akagi, respectively; and LCDR Max Leslie of VB-3 on the Soryu.

Only the Hiryu escaped to the north on 4 June, but was caught and sunk the next day.

The author pointed out that the Japanese failed to learn an important lesson during their attack in Ceylon in April 1942 where the British cruisers Dorsetshire and Cornwall were lost. He said they did not appreciate the importance of the fact that it took aircraft from 1-1/2 to 2 hours to move, warm up, arm and take off and that it took longer than they anticipated to switch from land ordnance to anti-ship attack ordnance.

In the question and answer session he was asked if he thought that the Doolittle Raid of 18 April had any effect on the Japanese decision to launch Midway earlier than originally planned. He said that Yamamoto had always wanted to launch the attack soon after Pearl Harbor in order to destroy the American carriers. He had committed the Midway attack on 4 April before the Doolittle Raid; however, it did probably make the task easier for him to get approval for Midway.

He also commented on the "Flight to nowhere" by the Hornet aircraft that the preponderance of data seems to indicate the air group did start the flight on a westerly course on the basis that the Japanese forces were split into two groups and that the after-battle report was not written correctly.

The program was greatly enjoyed by the large turnout of the sea service community.

Submitted by Carter Conlin



Seated from left: CAPT Kerry Magee, CAPT Dave Burr, Texas Cdry. CDR Gil Raynor, Speaker Tony Tully. Back row: CAPT Carter Conlin, Historian Don Kehn, CAPT Buzz Gralla, CDR Jim Sterling, CAPT Swede Andersen, LCDR Gary Williamson, CDR Don Lieske, RADM James Watson, Lin Drees, CAPT Karen Meehan, COL Dale Spence, CAPT Woe King, CDR Bryan Lethcoe, Mr. Clyde Combs and SGT Thomas Crnkovic

History of the Naval Order of the United States: 125 years - Part I



On 4 July 1890, Charles Calhoun Philbrook, Charles Frederick Bacon Philbrook, and Franklin Senter Frisbie, descendants of New Hampshire families identified as mariners since 1636 and sharing a common interest in naval and maritime history

and in the support of the sea services, met in Fanueil Hall Boston, MA. By formal resolution they established a temporary organization entitled the “Naval Commandery of the United States of America” to further those aims. A permanent organization was established on 10 November 1890, the 115th anniversary of the organization of the US Marine Corps.

Eligibility for membership was based upon service “in any of the wars or in any battle in which the United States Navy or Marine Corps has participated, or service as above, in connection with the Revenue or Privateer Services.” Membership, therefore, included all the officers, enlisted, and their descendants in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service. In 1892, a committee was appointed “to investigate and report as to the advisability of extending the Commandery by organization of a National or General Commandery and of other Commanderies throughout the States.”

On 15 August 1893, following an attempt to establish a “Naval Legion,” a Special Congress established the current “Naval Order of the United States,” adopting a Constitution and eligibility criteria for the first State or Local Commandery (chapter), in Massachusetts. Individual Members were to be known as “Companions.”

Individual Companions of these Commanderies were very instrumental in forming the Naval Militia organizations in several Eastern and Midwestern States in the 1890s. As a result, Naval Militiamen, trained and ready, were granted leave of absence by their State governors to enlist under the Federal colors in 1898 at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, where they served with great distinction in combat.

Pressures early for the Naval Order to become active in national lobbying for a stronger Navy and major shipbuilding programs were declined, the Order preferring instead to focus on promoting and preserving our maritime history and heritage. However, the Naval Order, with encouragement from Theodore Roosevelt, became a prime mover in organizing the Navy League of the United States in New York State in 1902; two thirds of the signers of the League charter were Companions.

The Order was less active during WW I, but “Navy Clubs” for officers and enlisted men were established under the auspices of Naval Order Companions who had not been recalled to active duty.

Back in business by 1922, the “Triennial Congress” in November passed a resolution that called upon various local Commanderies and individual Companions to do all in their power to support the Secretary of the Navy in his efforts to secure from the US Congress appropriations great enough to maintain the 5-5-3 ratio of major warships between the US, Great Britain, and Japan. It was also resolved that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Secretary of the Navy. In 1927, the Order spearheaded a fund-raising drive to recondition and refurbish the *USS Constitution*, or “Old Ironsides,” much later designated the “Honorary Flagship of the Naval Order.” Also in 1927, the Order donated an Admiral David G. Farragut bust to New York University.

(To be continued next issue of the newsletter) Excerpted from the 2003 revision of the *Naval Order Operations Manual*

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- Enter **smile.amazon.com** in your search engine or URL bar, and log on using your normal amazon.com login information.
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- Select Naval Order of the United States.
- Your selection will be confirmed, you can start shopping.

BE SURE TO ALWAYS ENTER SMILE.AMAZON.COM in the URL bar when you want to shop on Amazon, so your purchases will support the Naval Order.

Our thanks to Companion, Al Serafini, for setting up this wonderful way to give to the Naval Order.

World War II Submarine Appendectomy

Famously depicted in such Hollywood movies as “Destination Tokyo” and “Run Silent, Run Deep” is the true story of an emergency appendectomy performed aboard the submerged submarine *USS Seadragon* (SS-194) by its twenty-three year old hospital corpsman. First published in 1942 Pulitzer Prize-winning *Chicago Daily News* article, the tale was well received by an American public eager for good news on the home front. The following description of events borrows heavily from a Naval History and Heritage Command blog published in 2010, as well as from Mark R. Littleton and Charles Wright’s “Doc”, published in 2005.

On 11 September 1942, Pharmacist’s Mate First Class (PhM1/c) Wheeler B. “Johnny” Lipes agonized over the most difficult decision of his life. He had just diagnosed his shipmate, Seaman First Class Darrel D. Rector, with acute appendicitis. With their submarine *Seadragon* (SS-194) cruising in enemy waters, there was no way to get Rector to port in time. World War II submarines always carried an independent duty corpsman, but their small, 55-man crew did not rate a doctor. Lipes could attempt an appendectomy, but the operation might kill his shipmate.

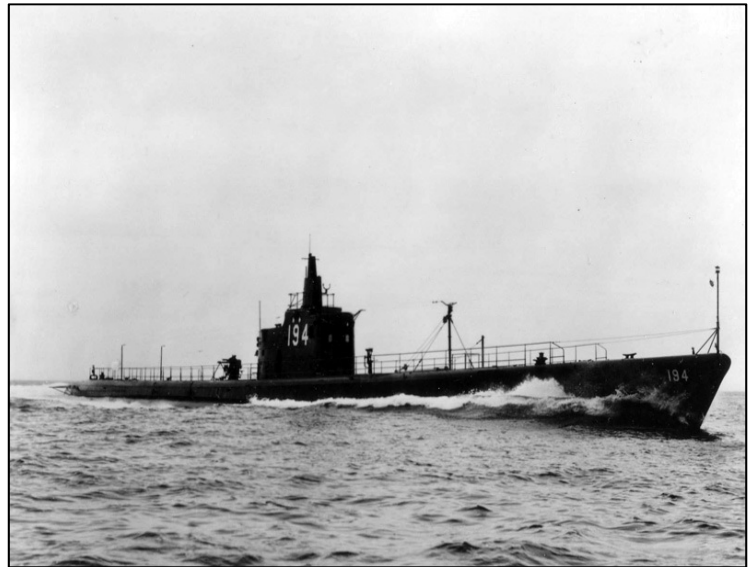


Petty Officer Lipes displays ship’s spoons fashioned into surgical retractors

After joining the Navy in 1936, Lipes had received his medical training at the Naval Hospital Corps School in San Diego and had then served at Naval Hospital, Philadelphia and at the Naval Hospital in Canacao near Manila before entering the submarine service in 1941. Classified primarily as a laboratory technician, he had gained some surgical experience by assisting Navy doctors during several operations, including a few appendectomies.

On 8 September 1942, the *Seadragon* was several days and thousands of miles out from Fremantle, Australia, on her fourth war patrol, cruising off the Indonesian coast, when Seaman Rector first came to Lipes complaining of nausea and abdominal pain. Lipes ordered him to get to his bunk and rest. At first the corpsman thought something might be wrong with Rector’s gall bladder, but Rector soon began to display the classic symptoms of appendicitis: fever, rigid abdominal muscles, abdominal tenderness, and acute, localized pain. Lipes kept Rector in his bunk, packed his abdomen with ice, and restricted him to a liquid diet.

Gradually, Rector’s condition worsened. On the morning of 11 September, Lipes reported the situation to *Seadragon*’s commanding officer, Lieutenant Commander William E. Ferrall. Lipes believed that unless Rector received an immediate emergency appendectomy, the 19-year-old seaman would die. The skipper asked the pharmacist’s mate what he intended to do. “Nothing,” said Lipes. Ferrall lectured him that everyone had to do the best they could and asked the 23-year-old pharmacist’s mate whether he thought he could do the surgery. “Yes sir, I can do it,” said Lipes, but “everything is against us. Our chances are slim.” The skipper explained the situation to Rector. Would the seaman allow the pharmacist’s mate to operate? “Whatever the doc feels has to be done is okay with me,” said Rector. Ferrall ordered Lipes to perform the surgery.



USS Seadragon (SS-194)

Captain Ferrall took the boat into relatively safe water and submerged to 120 feet to provide a stable platform. Every member of the crew, from the bow-plane man to the galley cook, participated in the operation. Lipes boned up on the appendix from a medical book. The ship’s medical kit provided a few basics, including sulfa tablets, twelve hemostats, a packet of scalpel blades, catgut for sutures, and a limited quantity of ether.

The rest of the instruments had to be improvised. A hemostat became a scalpel handle. Five tablespoons with the handles bent back served as retractors. Commercially-sterilized “hand-pads” substituted for gauze sponges. A tea strainer covered with gauze served as a mask for administering the ether. Boiling water and torpedo alcohol provided sterilization. The operation would be performed on the wardroom table, barely long enough for the patient to stretch out on without his head or feet hanging over.

Lipes didn’t know how long the operation would last and

Continued on next page...

whether there was enough ether. He had no way to do a blood count or urinalysis or to monitor the patient's blood pressure, nor was there any intravenous fluid.

Nevertheless, with everyone at his assigned station, the operation began. Lipes began administering the anesthesia at 1046. Thereafter Lieutenant Franz Hoskins, the Communications Officer, served as anesthetist. With the skipper making and recording detailed observations at four to seven minute intervals, Lipes made the incision at 1107. At first he had difficulty finding Rector's appendix. But then he slipped his fingers down behind the secum, and there it was. The distal tip was already black and gangrenous.

Lipes detached the appendix, tied it off, removed it, and preserved it in a jar of torpedo alcohol. He cauterized the stump with carbolic acid. He took sulfa, ground from tablets into powder and baked in the ship's oven to kill off spores, and sprinkled it into the peritoneal cavity. Lipes finished suturing at 1322. Rector regained consciousness less than half an hour later, and he reportedly awoke with a healthy appetite. The seaman's three-inch incision healed nicely and he was back on duty in a few days.

Seadragon returned to port six weeks after the operation. The squadron medical officer pronounced Rector fit for duty. After examining the appendix, he concluded that Lipes and his shipmates had indeed saved Rector's life.

Unfortunately, Seaman Rector did not survive the war. He was among 78 crewmen lost aboard *USS Tang* (SS-306) when it sank off Formosa in October 1944, having been struck by a torpedo that veered back at the submarine after being fired.

When the appendectomy story broke in the press, Lipes became a minor national hero. The reception within Navy Medicine, however, was less sanguine, and Lipes initially was the subject of much criticism. "I guess they were afraid that because I had performed an appendectomy, everyone in the fleet would be running around looking for the first opportunity to do one," he said.

Two appendectomies were later performed by corpsmen aboard submarines in World War II. Over time, the criticism subsided, with Petty Officer Lipes eventually earning a commission into the Navy's post-war Medical Service Corps. He retired in 1962 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander, although he continued to work in healthcare for the remainder of his career.

Wheeler B. Lipes eventually received official recognition for his feat over 60 years after the submarine surgery when he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal at a ceremony at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Submitted by Tom Burden
Lieutenant Commander, Medical Service Corps
U.S. Navy (Retired)

Rear Admiral J. Robert Lunney, New York Naval Militia



J. Robert Lunney enlisted in the Navy, at 17, during World War II and served in the Navy's amphibious forces in the Pacific from 1945-1946. A distinguished 43-year career followed in the Korean War with the Military Sea Transportation Service as a staff officer.

Recognized for his participation in "one of the greatest marine rescues in the history of the world" at Hungnam, North Korea in 1950, he and the crew of S.S. *Meredith Victory*, a cargo ship operating under U.S. Navy orders that normally carried 12 passengers, boarded 14,000 Korean refugees to rescue them from hostile forces in a 16-hour-long operation. Rear Admiral Lunney described his thoughts in retrospect during an interview conducted by the Korean National War Museum Library and Cultural Center in March 2015:

"During the dramatic rescue in December 1950 at Hungnam, North Korea, of the 14,000 refugees the greatest concern was for all the officers and crew to perform their assigned duties as expeditiously as possible. The enemy had surrounded the port and the perimeter, at times no more than 3,000 yards from our ship, was closing rapidly. Elements of the 3rd Infantry Division were taking casualties holding the line as we were boarding the refugees as fast as we could. A great fear was the possible shortfall of one of the artillery shells on our ship as we still had 300 tons of jet fuel in drums located in a lower hold. Although underwater demolition teams were placing explosives adjacent to our ship and throughout the port, we continued to load as many refugees as possible. As we transited enemy mine fields we were the last ship to leave with refugees, 17 of them having been wounded. Fortunately, at all times we had the protective fire and support of the Navy and Air Force."

Continued on the next page...

Gaining most of his rank in the reserve and retiring as a Captain, US Navy, Bob was made a Rear Admiral in the New York Naval Militia by the Governor of New York in recent years. He attributed, the aforementioned interview, his success as follows:

“My wartime experience in the military taught me the essential elements of leadership. The outstanding example of Captain Leonard P. LaRue, Master of the Meredith Victory was a fine example of decisive thinking and resolving to do the right thing. Our Captain was told that because of the very dangerous exigencies he could not be ordered to undertake the rescue but he immediately, after viewing the mass of humanity on the beach, volunteered to take our ship in. His calm demeanor and courage in a most stressful situation was a true example of outstanding leadership. This must be understood with his exceptional capacity to lead having been clearly evident three months before when we participated at the Inchon Landing, September 1950.” Bob went on to explain that *“Future generations must know how America promptly responded to the North Korean invasion and helped guarantee the integrity of the Republic of Korea and the freedom of its people. Today, we maintain support for Korea, a trusted ally and friend with shared values of freedom and democracy.”*

After receiving numerous awards for his naval career, Rear Admiral Lunney’s civilian career has been as a lawyer. He was an Assistant US Attorney in New York prior to retirement and later had his own law practice.

In recent years he has been a leader in the Navy League as well as the Naval Order’s New York Commandery and has been a strong advocate for supporting the visit to the U.S. by the newly-constructed replica of the ship, the French frigate *Hermione*, that carried the Marquis de Lafayette to meet General Washington in 1780 as part of France’s support to the American Revolution.

Excerpted in part from the KWNM interview in March 2015

Protest and Patriotism: The *USS Recruit* in Union Square

The Spanish American War was the beginning of a series of events that would cause the Navy to expand beyond just a few squadrons. The needs of the Great White Fleet quadrupled the enlisted compliment in the Navy to 44,000 as the Navy grew to 186 ships by 1906. By 1916 the Navy had 245 ships and the need for enlisted men increased and would increase further in response to World War I. One particular recruiting effort would bring wide attention to the Navy, the service decided to build a battleship in New York City.



New York City’s Union Square was a place of public gathering and often the scene of rallies for worker solidarity from the time of its creation in the late 1830’s until the early 20th century. It was here that the George A. Fuller Company built the 200’ wooden battleship for the Navy. The *USS Recruit* was commissioned on Memorial Day 1917 with a Navy Captain in command. The ship was complete with a wireless station, full officer’s quarters, doctor’s quarters and examination rooms to assess the health of potential candidates. Sailors would conduct their daily routines aboard the ship including maintenance, laundry, scrubbing the ship and attending classes under the gaze of supportive New Yorkers as well as those protesting US involvement in the war. Then in the space of a single night the *USS Recruit* would more fully join the US war effort at least in appearance.

A Camouflage Corps was created in New York during WWI by a group of artists, writers, stenographers, schoolteachers and even a few debutantes. Organized along military lines, the Corps eventually came under the National League for Women’s Service in New York as one of their divisions. The Corps developed camouflage schemes and painted all manner of guns, tanks, ambulances and other items at the request of various agencies.

The U. S. Navy had one interesting task for the Corps, one that would further the Navy’s recruiting effort in New York City. Patriots and protesters alike saw the grey of the *USS Recruit* one day and the next morning a multicolored, oddly patterned battleship greeted onlookers after one night’s work by the women of the Corps. It brought the notion of a Navy at war to the heart of the country’s biggest city.

As a recruiting tool it was very successful and the *USS Recruit* is credited with helping the Navy enlist 25,000 men. Decommissioned in 1920 with the intention of moving it to Coney Island, it was never rebuilt there and its fate is unknown.

Submitted by Pres Weaver



New Members

Atlanta

Ms. Marta Tuyet Martin
Mr. Phillip Dewayne Martin

Charleston

Mr. John Scott Cowan
CAPT Rebecca Ann Crichton, NC, USN (Ret)
Mr. Dean William Habegger
ENS Timothy Richard Keller, USN
Mr. Robert M. McAlister

Florida First Coast

ETCM John Raymond Craft, USN (Ret)
Mr. Robert Warren Pohle
Mr. James Joseph Smith

Illinois

Mr. John Winfred Patterson
CAPT Edward Lewis Wilkinson, USN (Ret)

Monterey Bay

LT Timothy Patrick Baker, USN

National Capitol Commandery

CAPT Eric Cooper Jones, USCG
LCDR Michael Francis D'Angelo, Sr., USN (Ret)
CAPT Jeffrey Wayne Johnson, USN (Ret)
LCDR Brian James McSorley, USCG
CDR John Edward Prevar, USN (Ret)
LT Nicole Michele Tesoniero, USCG

Newport

Mr. James Joseph D'Agostino
CDR Thomas William DeNucci, USCG
CDR Michael Robert Hicks, USCG
LTC Dennis Edward Morgan, USAR (Ret)
LT Thomas Sutherland Crowley, USCG

New Orleans

LCDR Emily Michelle Gibbons, USCG
CAPT Patrick Niles Huete, USN
CDR Carina Elizabeth Maloney, USN
CAPT Eric John Trehubenko

New York

Mr. Arnold Hoff Egeland
Mr. Nicholas Dean Harvey
Mr. Lee Eric Hendrickson
Mr. Thomas John Murphy
Mr. Patrick Joseph Power
Mr. Richard John Robson
Mr. Jerick Tedtaotao Sabian
MACS Richard Allen Skinner, USN (Ret)

Newport

LT Thomas Sutherland Crowley, USCG
RADM Philip Gardner Howe, III, USN
CDR David Anthony Kohlen, USNR

Mrs. Margaret Armstrong Murray
Mr. John Pentangelo
Mr. Patrick Joseph Power
Mr. Vincent Edward Roche
CDR Paul Walter Schmidle, USN (Ret)

Raleigh

Mr. Zachary Haley Hopkins

San Diego

LCDR Maurice Davis Murphy, USCG
Mr. Glenn David Reasoner

San Francisco

Ms. Cecilia Ilano Gaerlan
Ms. Susan Kathleen McLaurine
Mr. Joshua Mitchell Hugh Mills
Mr. Matthew Lane Oliver
Mr. Kenneth Gene Sodo
Mr. Philip Edward Tinsley, Jr.

In Memoriam

Mr. Lewis S. Allen (Certificate # 8710)

New York Commandery

Joined October 1, 2007 - January 7, 2015

Mr. Edward H. Bragg (Certificate #8265)

New York Commandery

Joined September 17, 2003 - October 21, 2013

Mr. Robert L. Engel (Certificate #8667)

National Capitol Commandery

Joined June 21, 2006 - December 11, 2014

COL Charles B. Erickson, USMC (Ret.) (Certificate # 09061)

Monterey Bay Commandery

Joined January 20, 2011 - December 24, 2014

CAPT William R. Galliani, JAG, USN (Ret) (Certificate # 5577)

Illinois Commandery

Joined November 18, 1983 - April 19, 2014

CAPT K. Paul Graham, SC, USN (Ret) (Certificate # 5623)

San Francisco Commandery

Joined May 1, 1970 - January 27, 2015

RADM Morris D. Kerstein, MC, USN (Ret) (Certificate # 5378)

Philadelphia / Delaware Valley Commandery

Joined January 8, 1980 - February 1, 2013

LCDR Robert P. Neal, USN (Ret) (Certificate #7105)

Illinois Commandery

Joined September 17, 1993 - September 3, 2014

CAPT Louis Nusinson, USN (Ret) (Certificate # 4983)

Illinois Commandery

Joined February 15, 1974 - March 10, 2015

CAPT Andrew O'Rourke, JAG, USN (Ret) (Certificate # 5592)

New York Commandery

Joined February 2, 1984 - January 3, 2013

REV Kermit W. Poling (Certificate # 8031)

National Capitol Commandery

Joined June 6, 2001 - March 2015

Mr. Jeffery B. Wiener (Certificate #8876)

San Francisco Commandery

Joined February 2, 2009 - April 6, 2015

2015 NOUS CONGRESS IN NEW ORLEANS

Celebrating 125 Years

Our Congress in New Orleans 21-24 October will draw heavily upon the famed history, food, music, and charm of one of America's most exciting cities. Where better to celebrate our first 125 years!

Our host hotel **InterContinental New Orleans** is conveniently located on St. Charles Avenue. Famed streetcars pass by the door. The French Quarter Royal Street is but a couple blocks away. Fresh from a \$26 million refurbishment, the four-diamond IHG hotel offers resplendent grandeur and comfort for our special \$151 plus tax rate. (Call 504-525-5566 now, and ID yourself with Naval Order.) Come early or stay late.

Wednesday 10/21 is the first day of the Congress with committee meetings throughout the afternoon. Dinner on your own. Recommendations will be available.

Thursday 10/22 Congress sessions will take place through the morning and afternoon. Optional tours are set up:

The morning **French Quarter Tour** begins with coffee and beignets at Café du Monde. Enjoy the full ambiance with a mule-drawn buggy ride through the Quarter. Visit Jackson Square and St. Louis Cathedral and tour the renowned Mardi Gras and Hurricane Katrina exhibits of the State Museum Presbytere. Tour two French Quarter homes and patios before returning for lunch with all.

The afternoon **French Quarter Walking Culinary History/Tasting Tour** begins at Antoine's. Visits to another eight famed restaurants, usually including Arnaud's, Brennan's, and Tujagues, and with tastings of turtle soup, gumbo, red beans and rice, beef brisket, jambalaya, muffalato, shrimp Arnaud, and gelato.

Optional lunch and dinner will be across the street at **LUKE restaurant**. Owner/Chef John Besh, known for his numerous national TV cooking appearances, and owner of eight other restaurants in the city, is expected to speak to us of his days as a US Marine.

The CG Welcome Reception will be held in the InterContinental.

Friday 10/23 begins with a morning of interesting speakers including the active duty commanders of the Marine Forces Reserve, 8th Coast Guard District, and Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base Belle Chasse; a VP of Textron Marine and Land Systems; the heads of the only charter schools on military bases in the country; and the Master of the world's largest yacht, AZZAM, nearly two football fields in length.

The **Lee Douglas Award Luncheon** will also honor MCPO Navy Rick West, first recipient of the NOUS Distinguished Sea Service Award – Senior Enlisted. We'll be entertained by TV personality Chef Kevin Belton, with an un-matched view of the river and city in the Riverview Room of the **New Orleans School of Cooking** above JAX Brewery.

After lunch are the optional tours of **San Francisco Plantation**, the "Most Opulent Plantation in the South," and **Cajun Pride Swamp Tours**, where we'll view lots of alligators and wildlife close-up on the only privately-owned and most serene swamp.

Those opting to stay by the levee will be delighted to an authentic **Shrimp Boil**, supplemented with the best southern fried chicken in town from Jacques-Imo's. Even dance to a live Cajun band (Others may skip dinner and return directly to the hotel.).

Saturday 10/24 morning we'll tour **The National World War II Museum**, rated as one of the five finest museums in the world. Tour some of the recently opened pavilions of the \$350 million expansion, and thrill to the Tom Hanks four-dimensional experience *Beyond All Boundaries*.

The **Admiral of the Navy Dewey Award Luncheon** will honor Mr. Frederick W. Smith, founder, Chairman, President and CEO of FedEx Corporation, in the Brennan family restaurant **Bourbon House**.

The afternoon session of speakers will include a panel of World War II veterans; presentations on the Battle of New Orleans (this is the 200th anniversary year), U-Boats in the Gulf of Mexico, National History Day, and developments of the National WWII Museum. Do not miss Captain Kiem Do, who, as Deputy Chief of Staff of the South Vietnamese Navy, led the evacuation of nearly 30,000 aboard 30 ships the day Saigon fell in 1975.

The **Distinguished Sea Service Award Reception and Banquet (formal)** in the InterContinental Ballroom will conclude the Congress as we honor Admiral Jim Stavridis. **Registration fee** includes continental breakfasts, two luncheons, two receptions, the DSSA Banquet, the hospitality suite, and Congress expenses.

Meals and excursions complement the Congress sessions and are highly recommended to ALL. They meet broad appeal and let us "go out to dinner" to the best of New Orleans together.

Transportation to/from the airport is by airport shuttle or taxi (about the same cost of \$40 per couple.) A parking lot adjacent to the hotel is \$20 overnight.

2015 NOUS Congress

Order of Excitement

WEDNESDAY 10/21

- 1000 – 1800 Registration Desk/Greeters
Lunch individually arranged
- 1300 – 1400 Investment Committee
- 1400 – 1500 Finance Committee
- 1500 - 1600 Commandery Support
- 1500 – 1600 Nominating Committee
- 1600 – 1700 Awards Committee
- 1700 – 1800 Site Committee
Dinner individually arranged
- 2100 – 2300 Hospitality Suite/Registration

THURSDAY 10/22

- 0730 – 1830 Registration Desk/Greeters
- 0730 – 0900 Continental Breakfast
- 0730 – 0915 General Council
- 0800 – 1200 **Optional Tour – French Quarter**
- 0915 - 1015 Membership and Retention Committee
- 1015 – 1145 Foundation Board
- 1145 – 1315 **Optional Lunch (Luke Restaurant)**
- 1330 – 1355 General Session – Opening Ceremonies
- 1400 - 1700 Committee Reports
- 1400 – 1700 **Optional Tour**
French Quarter Walking Culinary
History/Tasting
- 1800 – 1930 Commander General's Welcoming Reception
Light hors d'oeuvres (InterContinental Ballroom)
- 1930 – 2130 **Optional Dinner (Luke Restaurant)**
- 2145 – 2300 Hospitality Suite

FRIDAY 10/23

- 0830 – 0930 Continental Breakfast
- 0830 – 1130 Speakers
Mr. Bill Kisia, VP Marine Programs
TEXTRON SYSTEMS Marine and Land Systems
- 0900 - 1015 Active Duty Commanders – Marine Forces Reserve, 8th Coast Guard District, NAS/JRB Belle Chasse
- 1015 – 1025 Break
- 1025 – 1050 Captain Christian Birch, Master AZZAM

- 1050 – 1125 Principals, Belle Chasse Academy and New Orleans Maritime and Marine Academy
- 1145 – 1345 Senior Enlisted Distinguished Sea Service and Lee Douglas Award Luncheon
New Orleans School of Cooking
- 1345 – 1730 **Optional Tour**
San Francisco Plantation & Cajun Pride Swamp
- 1730 – 1930 **Optional Dinner**
Shrimp Boil/Fried Chicken Feast
- 2030 – 2230 Hospitality Suite

SATURDAY 10/24

- 0845 – 1145 **Optional Tour**
National World War II Museum
- 1200 – 1350 Admiral Dewey Award Luncheon (Bourbon House)
Honoring Mr. Frederick W. Smith
- 1410 – 1700 Speakers
1410 – 1440 “Battle of New Orleans” – Mr. Jason Weise
Associate Director, Williams Research Center
- 1440 – 1510 World War II Veterans Panel
- 1510 – 1530 Mr. Owen Glendening, Associate VP Education & Access National WWII Museum
- 1530 – 1540 Break
- 1540 – 1605 “National History Day” – Captain Chuck Chadbourn
- 1605 - 1630 “U-Boats in the Gulf of Mexico” – Mr. CJ Christ
- 1630 – 1700 Captain Kiem Do - Deputy Chief of Staff Operations South Vietnamese Navy
- 1815 – 1900 Cocktail Reception/Light hors d'oeuvres (Black Tie)
- 1900 – 2200 Distinguished Sea Service Award Reception & Banquet
Honoring Admiral Jim Stavridis - InterContinental Ballroom

The registration fee covers all events in black ink, including two continental breakfasts, two receptions, two luncheons, the DSSA Banquet, the hospitality room, and administrative costs.

Events in red ink are listed as “optional” and paid separately with the registration. The two tours Thursday occur during Congress sessions and are truly “optional”. The later lunch, dinners, and excursions should be considered “don’t miss” for everyone.



2015 NATIONAL CONGRESS REGISTRATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
21-24 October 2015

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

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

E-mail _____ Telephone: _____

Commandery: _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Badge Name: _____ Badge Name: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

FEES AND PAYMENTS

Reservations	Cost	#Attendees	Total
Registration for Companion & Guest/Spouse <i>Includes Banquet, 2 Luncheons, 2 Receptions, 2 Continental Breakfasts, Hospitality Suite</i>	\$235 (\$260 after 1 Sept 2015)	_____	\$ _____
CG Welcome Reception non-registered guest - 10/22	\$20	_____	_____
DSSA Banquet Reception non-registered guest - 10/24	\$20	_____	_____
Douglas Luncheon non-registered guest - 10/23	\$35	_____	_____
Dewey Luncheon nonregistered guest - 10/23	\$40	_____	_____
DSSA Banquet non-registered guest - 10/24	\$60	_____	_____
French Quarter Tour - 10/22 (am)	\$35	_____	_____
Lunch Luke Restaurant - 10/22	\$40	_____	_____
French Quarter Culinary Tour - 10/22 (pm)	\$45	_____	_____
Dinner Luke Restaurant - 10/22	\$50	_____	_____
Plantation/Swamp Tour w/o Shrimp Boil - 10/23	\$35	_____	_____
Plantation/Swamp Tour w/Shrimp Boil - 10/23	\$75	_____	_____
National WWII Museum Tour - 10/24	\$30	_____	_____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "Naval Order of the United States"
and mail to Gary Bair, 3641 Red Oak Court, New Orleans LA 70131

InterContinental New Orleans Hotel, 444 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans LA 70130 Phone: 504-525-5566

Hotel reservations NOUS link at www.navalorder.org



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For further information or questions, please contact Cotton Talbott at ctalbeau@bellsouth.net or 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 lapel pin	_____	\$15	_____
Naval Order Cross Lapel Pin (NEW ITEM)	_____	\$10	_____
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	_____	\$14	_____
- NOUS Ball Cap 'eggs' 05/06	_____	\$15	_____
- NOUS Ball Cap 'eggs' Flag Officer	_____	\$16	_____
Pima Cotton Golf Shirt XXL	_____	\$40	_____
NOUS Golf Shirt – black, white, navy – specify size S M L XL XXL	_____	\$38	_____
NOUS Golf Shirt, polyester, light blue - Close out, \$22 dollars, shipping included	_____	\$22	_____
'Navy Heroes of Normandy' DVD	_____	\$5	_____
Challenge Coin (commemorating 100 years of Naval Aviation)	_____	\$5	_____
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*Naval Order Blazer Patch with Crest	_____	\$25	_____
*Neck Ribbon for Large Medal (worn with formal attire only)	_____	\$15	_____
Please add Postage/Shipping to your order			\$6
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