# 2016 Summer Edition

# Admiral of the Navy George Dewey and Distinguished Sea Service Awardees for 2016

The Naval Order of the United States is proud to announce that Commander Everett Alvarez, USN (Ret.) will be recognized for his years of distinguished service with the Peace Corps, Veterans Administration, and the Vietnam War Commemoration Advisory Council among many challenging and high profile positions.

The Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award honors a U.S. citizen eligible for regular membership in the Naval Order who has established a record of exemplary service as a senior civilian that sets that individual apart from his or her peers. The Distinguished Sea Service Awards are given "to recognize the exemplary service of a senior flag officer and senior enlisted of one of the maritime services, who has finished a continuous career of active service. The awards will be formerly presented during our annual conference in Honolulu to Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr. who recently completed his tour of duty as Commandant of the Coast Guard and to Sergeant Major Micheal Barrett who was the 17th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.



Admiral Robert J. Papp Jr., USCG, (Ret.)

Robert J. Papp Jr. is a '75 graduate of the USCG Academy. Additionally, he holds a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College and a Master of Science in Management from Salve Regina University.

ADM Papp is a cutterman. He served on six Coast Guard cutters and commanded four including the training barque USCGC EAGLE. His assignments ashore have included the Commandant of Cadets staff at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and Chief of the Coast Guard's Office of Congressional Affairs; and Deputy Chief of Staff of the Coast Guard.



Sergeant Major Micheal P. Barrett USMC, (Ret.)

Micheal P. Barrett was born in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and raised in Youngstown, N.Y.

SgtMaj Barrett enlisted in March 1981 and completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C and infantry Training School at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

He then served in a variety of billets from Grenadier to Platoon Sergeant. In August 1984 he transferred to Inspector-Instructor duty with 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines, New Rochelle, N.Y. As a sergeant in September 1987, Sergeant Barrett was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines.



Commander Everett Alvarez, Jr. USN, (Ret.)

This year's Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award is awarded to CDR Everett Alvarez, Jr., USN (Ret.), Vietnam Veteran pilot and POW, who further distinguished himself in his civilian life after retiring from the Navy.

Co-author of two books (*Chained Eagle* and *Code of Conduct*), he earned a Master's Degree in Operations and Research Analysis and a Juris Doctor degree.

He served as Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, Deputy Administrator of the Veterans Administration, Chairman of the Board of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of

Bios continued on next page...

### Admiral Robert J. Papp Jr. USCG, (Ret.)

In July 2008 he assumed the duties as Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area. He was the operational commander for all USCG missions within the eastern half of the world; ranging from the Rocky Mountains to the Persian Gulf and spanning an area of responsibility across 42 states with over 14 million square miles. He provided support to the Department of Defense; as the Chief of Staff of the Coast Guard and Commanding Officer of Coast Guard HQ.

ADM Papp was promoted to admiral and became the U.S. Coast Guard commandant on 25 May 2010. He made the first appointment in United States history of a woman to head a United States military academy when he designated Sandra L. Stosz to be superintendent of the United States Coast Guard Academy.

He retired on 30 May 2014 and was subsequently appointed to serve as U.S. Special Representative for the Arctic.







# Sergeant Major Micheal P. Barrett USMC, (Ret.)

During the Gulf War he deployed forward with Task Force Papa Bear. In 1992 he was ordered to Drill Instructor School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego after which he was assigned to Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, as a Drill Instructor, Senior Drill Instructor, and Chief Drill Instructor.

In September of 1996, Gunnery Sergeant Barrett was transferred to Marine Security Company, Camp David, Presidential Retreat, for duties as the Company Gunnery Sergeant and liaison to the United States Secret Service. After Camp David, First Sergeant Barrett was transferred to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, Twenty-nine Palms, Calif., as India Company First Sergeant in August 1998. In April 2000 he was assigned to Headquarters and Service Company. His tour culminated in June 2002 as the Senior Enlisted Leader of Weapons Company. Sergeant Major Barrett was then assigned to Recruiting Station Cleveland, Ohio as the Recruiting Station Sergeant Major.

SgtMaj Barrett transferred to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines in May 2005, where he completed two combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In October 2007 he was assigned as the Sergeant Major of Officer Candidates School, Quantico, VA. SgtMaj Barrett was selected as the 1st Marine Division Sergeant in June 2009. In December 2009, he assumed the duties as I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) Sergeant Major. He deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom where he became the NATO Regional Command (Southwest) Command Sergeant Major for Nimruz and Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Sergeant Major Barrett assumed the post of 17th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps on 9 June 2011.

His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with combat "V" and gold star, and the Presidential Service Badge.

#### CDR Everett Alvarez, Jr. USN, (Ret.)

the Health Sciences, and numerous other task force, advisory councils, and boards of directors throughout his civilian life.

In 2004 CDR Alvarez founded Alvarez &; Associates, an IT consulting firm in Washington, D.C. which sells IT services to the U.S. government.

A native Californian, CDR Alvarez joined the US Navy in 1960 and served during the Vietnam War. He was the first U.S. pilot to be downed and detained during the Vietnam War, spending eight years and seven months in captivity at the "Hanoi Hilton."

He is the recipient of the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Star Medals, and two Purple Heart.

The Naval Order of the United States is honored to have CDR Alvarez as the Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award recipient for 2016.





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# **COMMANDER GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE ORDER**



# PRESERVE, PROMOTE, AND CELEBRATE

Our Communications Committee has successfully transitioned the NOUS website to a more functional and updated format that allows local commanderies to provide input directly into the website. The

"invitation to join" link at the bottom of each page allows eligible individuals to download membership applications which can be sent to the Vice Commander General-Membership, Don Schuld, for processing. So far Don has received many applications through the website. On one occasion, he received five applications in two days!

The Committee is now hard at work to begin the next phase of their goals for the website for this year – the establishment of Preserve, Promote, and Celebrate domains within the "our projects" and "home" pages. Projects under the "Promote" domain would include the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Statue, Pearl Harbor, and the USS *San Francisco* (CA-38) Memorial Park, Fort Miley, San Francisco. Projects under the Preserve Domain include the Great White Fleet Bronze Relief, Washington, D.C., the D-Day Navy Monument, Normandy, France, and the Midshipman Dale Tombstone, Bermuda.

The "Celebrate" domain features the Battle of Midway Veteran Biographies from the San Francisco Commandery Battle of Midway Dining Out on the home page. This booklet features the Midway stories of those veterans who were able to join the event over a span of almost twenty years, as well as a concise story of the Battle of Midway and the listing of the American and Japanese Naval Forces during the Battle.

In keeping with the mission of the Naval Order "to ensure the preservation of relics...relating to the Naval Services" and in line with the purpose behind the website domains, we have the opportunity to take advantage of arrangements with ship, marine, and air museums, naval hospital historic districts, and other symbols or relics of our sea service past. Vice Commander General-Communications, Pres Weaver, calls these arrangements "history preservation partnerships." Order with an opportunity to bring the restoration volunteers, docents, and staff into our organization, as well as to support the efforts of these magnificent memorials to continue their mission to educate people and celebrate our sea service history.

We can support their efforts by including their stories in our newsletter, website, and Facebook page, and they can support us by encouraging their eligible members to join the Naval Order.

If I may use the Texas Commandery as an example, the USS *Texas* (BB-35) Museum is staffed with restoration volunteers, docents, and staff who might be receptive to a quid pro quo partnership with the Texas Commandery whereby the Commandery would drive visitors, volunteers, and donors to the Museum, and the Museum would help to recruit eligible members to the Commandery.

Both the Pacific Aviation Museum and the USS *Missouri* Museum at Pearl Harbor gave us points of contact on the staff to work with in our efforts to recruit eligible members into the Hawaii Commandery during its organization phase. The public relations staffs are working with VCG-Communications, Pres Weaver, to provide stories and information about these museums for our newsletter and website.

Many of our Commanderies have ship museums near them: USS *Midway* and the San Diego Commandery, USS *Intrepid* and the New York Commandery, USS *Adams* and the First Coast Commandery, and USS *Olympia* and the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Commandery. There is opportunity here to fulfill our mission and to increase our membership, while at the same time enjoying the rich history provided by these museums.

Keep in mind that people associated with restoring, maintaining, and fund-raising for these relics of our past are already predisposed to preserving history. They are a natural "target market" for membership in the Naval Order. Let's take advantage of a mindset and passion similar to ours and bring them into the organization.

The 2016 Congress is coming at us like a tidal wave. Our speakers have been firmed up, and our award recipients have been selected (see cover page). Be sure to make your reservations at the Hale Koa as soon as possible. The rooms are filling up fast! We need your registration forms (included in this newsletter) to help us better plan a successful, interesting, and enthusiastic Congress.

> Michele Lockwood, CAPT USN (Ret.) Commander General

These symbols or relics of our sea service past provide the Naval

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# NAVAL ORDER FOUNDATION NEWS

# FIRST COAST COMMANDERY

The Naval Order of the United States Foundation is a not-forprofit corporation which was granted exemption status from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as a public charity. It enables the Naval Order to solicit and receive gifts, donations and bequests from individuals, trusts, and other foundations and corporations; it is the funding source for all Naval Order projects. In compliance with the Tax Reconciliation Act of 1933, gifts are 100% tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law, since the Foundation provides no goods or services in return for contributions.

#### Donating to the Naval Order Foundation

We encourage our Companions to support the Foundation in conjunction with their annual planned contributions to organizations that address causes that they believe in and want to be a part of. We urge our Companions to invest in naval history through the Naval Order Foundation when they are making planned contributions throughout the year. The IRA Charitable Rollover discussed below is an opportunity that many may be interested in pursuing either immediately or at some time in the future.

#### IRA Charitable Rollover

The charitable Individual Retirement Account (IRA) rollover, or qualified charitable distribution (QCD), makes it easier for you to use your IRA assets to make charitable gifts. It is a special provision that allows individuals age 70  $\frac{1}{2}$  or older to exclude from taxable income – and count toward their required minimum distribution – transfers of IRA assets, up to a total of \$100,000, that are made directly to public charities, such as the Naval Order Foundation.

The Permanent IRA Charitable Contribution Act of 2015 resulted in permanence and expansion of the IRA Charitable Rollover since its inclusion in the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA).

As a rule, withdrawals from your IRAs are taxed as ordinary income. This allows you to make charitable gifts from your IRA and not have to report the distribution as ordinary income on your income tax return.

No charitable deduction is allowed but from most taxpayers, not declaring the income works to their advantage. This is especially true if you do not itemize on your tax return.

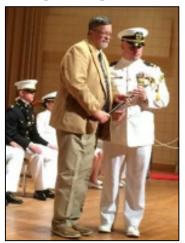
Making a donation under this provision is simple and straightforward. If you would like to make an IRA contribution to the Naval Order Foundation, please speak with your IRA administrator. Typically, a special form that must be filled out.

#### Please send your donations to:

Naval Order Foundation Attn: CAPT Attilio Serafini, USN (Ret.) 416 Sycamore Street San Carlos, CA 94070-2018

> Submitted by Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.) NOUS Foundation President

**First Coast Join-up**: The First Coast Commandery sprung into spring with a 'Join-up' at a local establishment, Royal Palm Wine and Tapas in Atlantic Beach, Florida. These events are held periodically as member mixers and membership opportunities. The informal gatherings help build camaraderie and espirit d'corps.



Ens Dustin Foster receives a sword from CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.) at the JUNROTC

JU Sword Presentation: On 30 April, the NOUS First Coast Commandery was honored to participate in the commissioning ceremony for the Jacksonville University Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit (JUNROTC). The commissioning ceremony, held a few hours after the graduation/commencement, was done with a packed house at the Terry Concert Hall on IU's campus. CAPT Neil Karnes, CO of the JUNROTC Unit, read the oath of office for the new U.S. Navy Ensigns and USMC 2nd

Lieutenants as they were sworn in by officers of their choosing. The First Coast Commandery Commander presented a Navy sword to OC Dustin Foster recognizing him as the Top Officer Candidate in the commissioning class. Ensign Foster will go on to serve in the Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer with his first tour in nearby Mayport Florida.

Luce Re-Union 29-30 April: NOUS First Coast Commandery was honored to act as a sponsor for the reunion of USS *Luce* (DLG-7/DDG-38) on 30 April at Naval Station Mayport, FL. Over 70 former *Luce* crewmembers attended the events at Naval Station Mayport, which included a reception, tour of the USS *Roosevelt* (DDG-80), and a dinner where RADM Mark Whitney, NAVSEA Deputy for Logistics and former *Luce* MPA spoke to the group. In attendance were NOUS companions/former *Luce* crewmembers; past NOUS Commander General CAPT Greg Streeter, USN(Ret.) (former XO of *Luce*), and NOUS FC Commander CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.) (former *Luce* Operations Officer).

**29<sup>th</sup> Stark Memorial Ceremony:** NOUS First Coast Commandery joined with Naval Station Mayport, and the NS Second Class Association to host the annual remembrance of the tragedy which occurred on 17 May 1987 which took the lives of 37 USS *Stark* (FFG-31) sailors. Scripture readings by Stark family members and a former Stark crew member, were followed by the voices of local elementary school students from Finnegan School. Their presence helps to remind all of us that keeping memories of these events alive is important for current and future generations.

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# FIRST COAST COMMANDERY CONT....



The crew of the USS *Stark* (FFG-31) and other assembled dignitaries listen to the voices of Finnegan Elementary sing 'Proud to be an American'

The keynote address was offered by US 4th Fleet CMC Herbert Ellis. He addressed the crew and the families with a promise to keep the memories alive. He recited 'The Watch' in honor of the 37 lost crew members and then the ship's bell



A Stark crewmember tolls the bell 37 times for each of his lost shipmates.



The sternplate from the Stark will be provided a special location in a dedicated classroom at NS Mayport in a specially dedicated classroom at the Naval Station headquarters.

The sternplate of the USS *Stark* was then presented to the crowd and to the Mayport Naval Station. Recovered from the ship before it was stricken, the actual sternplate will serve as a constant reminder of USS *Stark* and the sacrifices made by its crew. A 21-gun salute and Taps closed the ceremony. Next year will mark 30 years since the tragedy, with all parties involved committed to keep the memory of these sacrifices alive for posterity.

**Memorial Day:** The City of Jacksonville continued a long standing tradition of honoring our fallen heroes with the largest remembrance ceremony in the South at the Jacksonville Memorial Wall. Located at Everbank Field, the wall, commissioned in 1995, shows the names of over 1700 fallen heroes from Jacksonville and Northeast Florida for conflicts since WWI on what is the second largest wall in the country.



NOUS FC Commander waits to escort the Merchant Marine Wreath as it is placed at the Jacksonville Memorial Wall

CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN(Ret.) NOUS First Coast Commander, accompanied representatives of the Merchant Marine Society in presenting a NOUS sponsored wreath. Wreaths were also sponsored and presented for each of the Armed services with each sponsored by a local veteran's Organization. Special wreaths were presented in memory of the 5 new names added to the wall as a result of losses during the Global War on Terrorism.

#### Submitted by Bob Whitkop

# MONTEREY BAY COMMANDERY

**Memorial Day Services:** Memorial Day services were held on the Monterey Coast Guard Station Pier ONE on 30 May with participation from many service organizations here on the Monterey Peninsula. On behalf of the Monterey Bay Commandery, a wreath was "cast" into the Monterey Bay for those that have served and continue to serve our nation. Fellow Monterey Bay Commandery Companions, Mrs. Zolo "Be" Francine Carver and 1stLT Edward (Bob) Robert Wood, USAF were remembered in prayers during the wreath ceremony. All service organizations recognized their contributions both ashore and at sea over their many years of service. Sea Cadets provided the honor guard.

# Battle of Midway Anniversary Dining-Out:

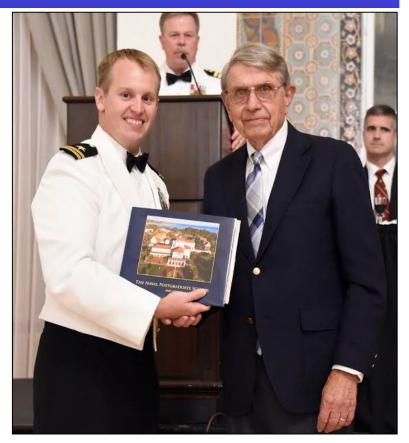
Anniversary of the Midway Dining-Out was held on Saturday 4 June at the Naval Postgraduate School. The evening started on the quarter deck of the Old Del Monte Hotel, now the site of the Naval Postgraduate School, with a full service reception. The immediate reception area was decorated with 4-6 June1942 historical Battle of Midway and Aleutians Island artifacts provided by the school's Dudley Knox Library. The honoree President of the Battle of Midway was Vice Admiral Ronald Route, USN (Ret.), President of the Naval Postgraduate School. The President of the Mess was CAPT Kevin (Bert) Bertelsen, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity Monterey. Fellow Companion Lieutenant Zachary (Zach) Martens, USN, was Mr. Vice who seemed to enjoy sending many of his shipmates and "new found" friends to the "grog bowl."



Group at the Grog Bowl Photo Credit: US Navy PAO NPS

The guest speaker was Professor Jonathan (Jon) Czanecki, Ph.D., Professor of Joint Maritime Operations, Naval War College, Monterey who spoke on *Leadership – June 1942*. His very pointed comments focused on our wartime mistakes and of not holding those in Washington accountable.

The Honorary Guest was Professor David Hendrickson serving in 1943 as a Seaman 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Coxswain) USCG aboard the USS *Albuqerque* (PF-7) in Bearing Sea operations, an Aleutian Veteran.



LT Zachary Matens presents WWII USCG Seaman 1st Class David Henrickson stationed in the Aleutians 1942-45 copy of NPS 100-year history.

Professor Hendrickson, now a retired, is a twice Fulbright Exchange Lecturer to Great Britain and Past President of the California Geographical Society. In sharing his personal comments, it was once thought that his ship had been forgotten by the Navy and destined to roam the seas, a ghost ship, in company with the Flying Dutchman until Judgment Day.

Other official guests of honor included Ms. Jill Kleiss, daughter of the late CAPT "Dusty" Jack Kleiss, USN, Companion of the Texas Commandery. As the guests were reminded, "Dusty" was awarded the Navy Cross for bombing the KAGA, the HIRYU, and the MIKUMA in the Battle of Midway.

At the 74<sup>th</sup> Battle of Midway Anniversary Dinner here at the Naval Postgraduate School, Jill presented a copy of Dusty's *VS-6 Log of the War* to the Dudley Knox Library. Joining Jill was 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 against enemy Japanese forces on New George, Solomon Islands, in July 1943.

Being an election year, there were many candidates among the 175 guests and many had the opportunity of going to the "grog bowl".

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# MONTEREY BAY COMMANDERY CONT....

#### NATIONAL CAPITOL COMMANDERY

A memorial wreath was presented prior to the formal dinner by Professor Dave Hendrickson and CAPT Mark Zakner, USAF, in recognition of the valor and sacrifice of the heroes that fought at the Battle of Midway and in the Aleutians. "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".



Center for Information Dominance USN Volunteer Choir with CAPT Ken Johnson and memorial wreath. Photo Credit: Lawrence Reeves



Parade the Beef with bagpiper Dr. Edward Jarvis, MD

The CID Choir sang 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 1stSgt Darrin Leonhart, USMC.

Submitted by Ken Johnson

NOUS National Capitol Commandery Life Member and Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, RADM Don Loren, US Navy (Ret.) represented the Naval Order during the United States Naval Academy Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Awards on 25 May 2016 as part of the Academy's Class of 2016 Commencement Week activities.

The NOUS Prize has been presented for 82 consecutive years to those Midshipmen who have written the best essay on current national or international affairs. RADM Loren, who recently relieved long time award coordinator CAPT Jim Brooke, US Navy (Ret.) served as Deputy Director, J-5, for Political-Military Affairs on the Joint Staff.

This year's recipients were:

1st Place, Senior Division -Midshipman First Class Miranda K. Beal

2nd Place Senior Division -Midshipman First Class Mackenzie A. Spaich

Winner, Junior Division -Midshipman Fourth Class Erin N. McDonnell



Joining RADM Loren and the award recipients in the photographs are Naval Academy Academic Dean and Provost Dr. Andrew T. Phillips and Chair of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division Colonel Jon Aytes, USMC.

# History Navy Marker on the Island of Menorca

On 27 May 27 2016, Companions CAPT John Rodgaard and Dr. Judy Pearson attended the unveiling of a new historic marker on the island of Menorca, Spain.



CAPT Rodgaard with Marker

Continued on the next page...

# NATIONAL CAPITOL COMMANDERY CONT....

The marker commemorates the presence of the US Navy's Mediterranean Squadron in Port Mahon during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The unveiling was a culmination of a project initiated and coordinated by CAPT John Rodgaard, USN Ret., current Commander of the National Capital Commandery.

The idea for the marker came about in September 2014, when CAPT Rodgaard and Dr. Pearson attended a symposium sponsored by the 1805 Club, an international organization dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of the Royal Navy during the Georgian Era (1714-1838) and the memory of Vice Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson. Historians presented papers on the history of the Royal Navy in the Mediterranean. CAPT Rodgaard presented a paper on the US Navy's Mediterranean Squadron and the US Navy hospital in Port Mahon, 1815-1845. The US Navy hospital is long gone, but the Royal Navy hospital (built in 1711 and in operation through 1964) still stands, now as a museum, on the Isla del Rey, in the harbor. The hospital-museum was chosen as the permanent site for the marker.

For almost two years, CAPT Rodgaard coordinated the project to fabricate the marker and hold the unveiling ceremony. He worked with the Naval Order of the United States, the 1805 Club, the Navy League Madrid, the USS *Constitution* Museum, the Navy Bureau of Medicine, The Society for the History of Navy Medicine and several individuals living on Menorca and groups who donated funds, time, energy, and talents to the effort.

The marker's unveiling was the high point of two days of events in Menorca, organized mainly by the Navy League Madrid, represented by Ms. Molly Long, with assistance from Ms. Lorraine Ure, of the 1805 Club. The impressive list of attendees included Ambassador James Costos, the US Ambassador to Spain, Ms. Kimberly Marshall, US Consular Agent, VADM James Foggo, Commander Sixth Fleet, RDML Kenneth Iverson, MC, USN, Commander, Navy Medicine East, Mr. Klaus Griebl, Consul, The Federal Republic of Germany, Captain Paul Lemkes, Royal Navy Defense Attaché to Spain, General Luis Allejandre, former chief of staff Spanish Army and President of the Isla del Rey Hospital Foundation.

On the first day of the events, attendees traveled by bus to Cuitadella for a luncheon at a seaside restaurant with a beautiful harbor view. Then the entourage made its way across the town to attend the annual wreath-laying at the statue of Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, whose father was born in Cuitadella, Menorca. That evening, everyone enjoyed a dinner at the Josephina Restaurant and maritime club overlooking Port Mahon.



The following day began with a boat tour of the harbor, ending at Isla del Rey, for a tour of the hospital-museum and the unveiling of the marker, placed on the wall just beyond the entrance to the Anglican Chapel.



CAPT Rodgaard and RDML Iverson

After a prayer, the presentation began with opening remarks by Ambassador Costos, and Admirals Iverson and Foggo. CAPT Rodgaard then spoke about the center piece for the marker: a digitally reproduced watercolor of the USS Constitution anchored in Mahon's harbor, painted by an unknown artist (possibly a US sailor) in 1837. The original was acquired by the USS Constitution Museum in 2015 and was suggested by Dr. Matt Brenckle, the museum historian. Mr. Andre Sobosinski, historian for the Navy Bureau of Medicine, assisted CAPT Rodgaard with the marker's description and design. Dr. John Hattendorf, the Naval Order's Historian General and his committee vetted the description, together with historians from the Society for the History of Navy Medicine. Ms. Karen Erlinger, graphic artist for the Naval Institute Press did the layout. The text of the marker is written in both in English and Spanish.

The marker was unveiled to much applause and admiration. Following the ceremony, participants traveled by boat to the nearby Anglo-American cemetery to place wreaths at the graves of sailors from the US, England, Germany, and Spain, who had perished from injury or illness while in Port Mahon during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. To see the graves of men who served aboard such ships as the *Constitution, North Carolina* and the *Congress* made an impression on those in attendance. The marker and the events of the two days paid tribute to the ongoing relationship between the US, the UK, and Spain.

Submitted by CAPT John Rodgaard and Dr. Judy Pearson

# NEW ORLEANS COMMANDERY

## SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY

The New Orleans Commandery celebrated Memorial Day with 36 companions and guests attending dinner at English Turn Country Club. Rear Admiral David Callahan USCG, Commander of the US Coast Guard Eighth District, was the speaker. He is responsible for the Coast Guard operations in 26 states, including the Gulf of Mexico coastline from Florida to Mexico as well as the inland waterways of the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, and Tennessee River systems.

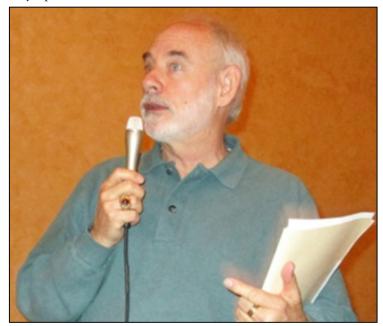


Rear Admiral David Callahan USCG

He spoke of four historic rescue operations of the US Coast Guard, going back as far as the Russian transport off the coast of Washington in 1943, and the T2 tanker Pendleton off Cape Cod in 1952, when BM1 Bernie Weber led the rescue of all 52 crewmen aboard his tiny boat. This was later the subject of the book and film, "The Finest Hours."

The Admiral then recounted the days following Hurricane Katrina when he commanded the largest operational air station in US Coast Guard history and led the rescue of over 30,000 people in Louisiana and Mississippi. He spoke of the ingenuity of the helicopter crew having to axe their way through rooftops, and the Coast Guard Station Gulfport members who served for many days as the only law keepers and rescue responders for what was left of the city and surrounding area.

Each of the daring operations exemplified not only the selfless bravery of all hands, but also the adaptability, flexibility, and onscene initiative of commanders in all services. The San Francisco Commandery has been exceptionally busy in recent months. We started April off with a presentation on "Recent Archeological Discoveries in San Francisco Bay" by Professor James M. Allan of Saint Mary's College. Professor Allan used fascinating photos and charts to show how the San Francisco waterfront has evolved since the Gold Rush and how new construction continues to unearth relics of ships from the City's past buried in the mud.



Prof James M. Allan speaks during our April luncheon.

Later in the month Past Commander General Doug Moore and current Commandery Commander Tom Snyder had the honor and privilege of presenting Rear Admiral Henry J. Armstrong "outstanding midshipmen" awards to Ensign Austin Servais from the California Maritime Academy and Midshipman 1/C Chris Ormes at the University of California, Berkeley.



Past Commander General Doug Moore presents the RADM H J Armstrong Award to Ensign Austin Servais at the CA Maritime Academy Commissioning Ceremony.

Submitted by Gary Bair

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# SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY CONT...

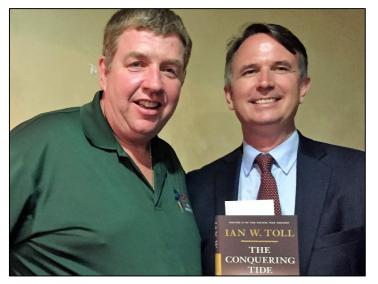
The awards are named in honor of RADM Henry J. Armstrong who earned two separate Navy Crosses for heroism as the Commanding Officer of the USS *Spence* (DD-512) during WWII.

May's luncheon speaker was Captain William Koyama, Commanding Officer of the NROTC Unit at the University of California, Berkeley who gave us an update on the status of the unit. Later in the month our companions participated in Memorial Day ceremonies all over the San Francisco Bay Area ranging from color guards at cemeteries to the annual USS *San Francisco* (CA-38) Memorial. The memorial committee was started by our own "Chief" Johnny Johnson and many members of our commandery are active members of its board of directors.



Companion Phil Tinsley (R) and CAPT William Koyama, admire the "Lone Sailor" statuette presented to CAPT Koyama after our May luncheon.

We began June with the annual celebration of our Navy's victory during the Battle of Midway (see separate article) and continued with author Ian W. Toll talking about his latest best seller "The Conquering Tide" about what we accomplished in the Pacific War after our victory at Midway.



Companion John Garvey (left) purchases an autographed copy of Ian Toll's latest book "The Conquering Tide" after our June luncheon.

Our commandery is active in other fronts as well. We are fortunate to be able to attend many events at the Marines' Memorial Club and are active with the Bataan Legacy Historical Society where Executive Director Cecilia Gaerlan, one of our companions, is working hard to ensure the inclusion of the Battle of Leyte Gulf and the sacrifices of Filipinos during the Pacific War in the curriculum of schools in California.



Companions Cecilia Gaerlan (left center) and Bob Hansen (right) pose with Major General Antonio Taguba (center) and other members of the Filipino-American Community during Philippine Independence Day celebrations at Union Square, San Francisco.

For further information, check: www.bataanlegacy.org, www.ianwtoll.com, and www.usssanfrancisco.org.

#### Submitted by Bob Hansen

# Celebrating The 74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Midway

San Francisco Commandery has been honored to celebrate its annual Battle of Midway Celebration Dinner at the Marines' Memorial Club for several years now.

Until this year, many sailors and marines who fought in the battle were honored and joined us for dinner. However, age and infirmity have caught up to the surviving veterans and for the first time none were present to join us in celebrating the battle that turned the tide in America's favor during the Pacific War. However, the families of Charles and Frank Rouse, brothers who served heroically aboard the USS Yorktown (CV-6), were there to share with the other guests their fathers' stories.

The guest speaker was ADM Henry "Hammering Hank" Mauz, USN, (Ret.) former Commander, United States Atlantic Fleet. ADM Mauz also served on Riverine craft in Vietnam and commanded U.S. Naval Forces in the Persian Gulf.

Continued on the next page...

# SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY CONT...

He is a member of the Naval Postgraduate School Hall of Fame. San Francisco holds its celebratory dinner in the form of a Military "Dining Out."



On behalf of the San Francisco Commandery and Battle of Midway Committee, Companion Sally Schultz presents a gift of her artwork to guest speaker, ADM Henry Mauz with RADM Tom Andrews and RADM Doug Moore looking on.

A special table is set aside for a Tribute to Our Fallen and Missing who are "unable to attend" due to their circumstances.



The Tribute to Our Fallen and Missing table

Past Commander General Rear Admiral Doug Moore, SC, USN (Ret.) served as "President of the Mess" and fines for uniform and protocol violations were properly assessed.



Mess President RADM Doug Moore "tastes the beef" prior to dinner service and pronounced it "Fit to Eat".

The evening concluded with a special gift to our guest speaker and a donation to Navy Relief, as well as the final toast to the "United States Navy."

In addition to the Rouse family, special guests included Pearl Harbor Veterans LtCol John Stevens, USMC (Ret.) and Senior Chief Quartermaster Mickey Ganitch, USN (Ret.). Also attending were companions "China Marine" Ed Fuldwider and World War II Navy "Ace" Commander Dean "Diz" Laird, USN, (Ret.).



The Rouse family introduces themselves at dinner.

Sailors from the Naval Operational Support Center San Jose provided the color guard.

The "Battle of Midway" fought from 3 to 7 June 1942 is an official celebratory event of the United States Navy.

Photos continue on the next page...

# SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY CONT....



Pearl Harbor Survivor and Battle of Leyte Gulf Veteran QMCS Mickey Ganitch in his "formal" attire was a special guest for dinner.



Two old Naval Aviators reminisce. RADM Tom Brown and CDR Dean "Diz" Laird share "sea stories" about their flying days.



Surrounded by heritage at the Marines' Memorial Club during the Battle of Midway Dinner.

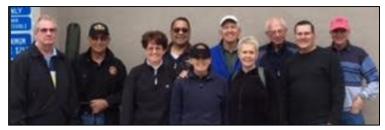
# SAN FRANCISCO COMMANDERY CONT....



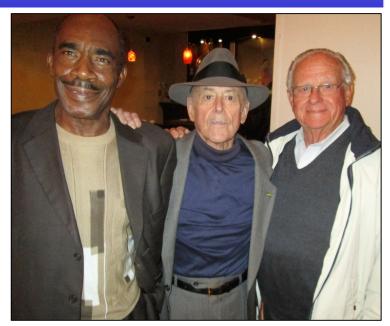
San Francisco Commandery Commander Tom Snyder presents the RADM H J Armstrong Award to Midshipman 1/c Chris Ormes at Hearst Gymnasium at the University of California, Berkeley.



CAPT Stan Ellexson, Master of Ceremonies at USS San Francisco Memorial during Memorial Day Weekend.



Your Shooting Team at Practice! Post target practice photo CAPT Sandy Lockwood, Coach Greg Brown, CAPT Michele Lockwood, Col. Allan Cruz, Susan McLaurine, Philip Tinsley CAPT Kris Carlock, CAPT Scott Huseby, Sgt. Major Pete Longoria, and CAPT Tom Snyder



Companions Art Smith, Rich Vannucci and Tulio Acquistapace



Companion Keisuke Warner participates in the Color Guard during Memorial Day services.



Tom Snyder (left) and Kris Carlock (right) welcome new companions Mark Sneddon, Peggy Wallace and SgtMaj Pete Longoria, USMC (Ret.)

# **TEXAS COMMANDERY**

The Texas Commandery held its annual Battle of Midway Luncheon at the HESS (Houston Engineering and Scientific Societies) facility on 7 June 2016, the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle.

Commandery Commander CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.) conducted the meeting. CAPT Kerry Magee, USN (Ret.), Chaplain, opened the meeting with an inspiring invocation.

Captain Hewell introduced the speaker, LT Gen Steven Hummer, USMC (Ret.) who spoke on "The Battle of Midway – What We Learned Then and What It Means Today".



LT Gen Steven Hummer, USMC (Ret.) speaking at the podium.

He started his speech by thanking the veterans present for preserving our freedoms and keeping us free and also thanked those who are not veterans and have not served yet or who have not served, for their support. Even though the military is very important in this effort, it takes the entire country to preserve our freedoms. Although only one percent serves in the military, there is still a large support organization devoted to maintaining the best services available for our service men and women. Note: In the following paragraphs about the speech given by LT Gen Steven Hummer, USMC (Ret.), the general gave it as though he were present during the battle and was a member of the USS Enterprise SBD squadron that carried out the attacks on the Japanese aircraft carriers. He gave his impressions of what must have been going through the pilots' minds leading up to the attacks and afterward. CBC.

General Hummer served on USS *Enterprise* (CV-6) in the air group as a dive bomber pilot flying the Douglas Dauntless SBD. He described the very hot and humid conditions in the Pacific in those months immediately following the Pearl Harbor attack. He also mentioned that it could be uncomfortably cold when the ship ventured farther north.



Douglas Dauntless SBD

He gave brief summaries of the results of the Pearl Harbor attack and the fortunate fact that none of the aircraft carriers were present; the Doolittle Tokyo raid; the Battle of the Coral Sea and how the damage to the two Japanese carriers *Shokaku* and *Zuikaku* and the loss of a large part of their air group in that battle prevented their participation in the Battle of Midway and helped to maintain near parity. The Japanese believed that one more major defeat would result in our capitulation and ensure their dominance in the Pacific.

General Hummer said that the Doolittle Raid embarrassed the Japanese military leadership and influenced Admiral Yamamoto to attack Midway Island. The general reviewed the Japanese plans to occupy several South Pacific islands and the resultant Battle of the Coral Sea where the Japanese lost one carrier and we lost the Lexington. The Japanese carrier Shokaku was heavily damaged and the Yorktown was also damaged but was repaired in three days rather than the expected three months so that she could join the Enterprise and Hornet for the ensuing Battle of Midway. Although the battle was considered a tactical victory for the Japanese, it was concluded to be a strategic victory for the allies. The subsequent loss of four carriers in the Midway battle prevented the Japanese from again attempting to take Port Moresby and helped allow the allies to be successful in launching the Guadalcanal and New Guinea campaigns. This eventually broke the Japanese defenses in the South Pacific and was a significant factor in Japan's ultimate defeat.

#### Continued on the next page...

# **TEXAS COMMANDERY CONT...**

The general described the activities in the ready room on 3 June 1942 while preparing to launch his squadron of dive bombers on the reported Japanese carriers approaching Midway Island. He described the aircraft that they intended to use, the Douglas Dauntless SBD, which proved to be able to hold its own against the lightly defended Japanese aircraft. It was responsible for the sinking of thousands of tons of Japanese shipping more Japanese ships than any other weapon in World War II.

There were several preliminary attacks made on the Japanese fleet on 4 June, but rendered minimal damage. However, they did provide an attention-getter for the Japanese.

Then squadrons of dive bombers, torpedo bombers and fighter aircraft were launched from the three American carriers. The mission of the general's squadron was to attack the *Kaga* and Akagi.

They first hit the *Kaga* which caused a raging inferno, and she sank early that evening at 1925. The *Akagi* also was hit which caused devastating destruction and fire. Admiral Nagumo's flagship sank the next morning at 0500. Other aircraft were attacking the *Soryu* which had many secondary explosions and within five minutes was destroyed.

The Japanese were able to launch one of their last attacks from their remaining carrier consisting of dive bombers and fighter aircraft. They were fought off by defending fighters but they hit the *Yorktown* by at least three bombs. Damage control parties were able to repair the damage so that she was able to maintain 20 knots and relaunch flights. However, she was finally hit by torpedo bombers and a Japanese aircraft crashlanded on the deck.



USS Yorktown

An attack was launched against the fourth Japanese carrier, the Hiryu. She was found and attacked and sank in the late afternoon at 1705. By 5 June the Japanese fleet was retiring and on 6 June the Americans sank one cruiser but *Yorktown* was finally sunk by a Japanese submarine.

The general stated that in a single day the Japanese had lost the Pacific War. No such previous battle parallels in impact and strategic effort. So what is the meaning of Midway?

In the historical study of naval battles, Midway ranks first of all naval battles in history, followed by the battles of the Coral Sea, the Java Sea, Jutland in World War I and the battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

The general concluded by stating that in the end of the battle, the Americans had lost about 150 planes and USS *Yorktown*. The U.S. victory at Midway was the first step in starting the momentum that led to the eventual U.S. naval superiority.

The battle is often referred to as the turning point in the Pacific Theater, reducing Japan's ability to make any major offensive moves and paving the way for the continued allied operations and advances in the Pacific. There is no way to estimate the number of American lives saved by such a victory. This battle was the starting point for the demise of the Japanese Empire as it was known at that time.

The general discussed some of the significant conclusions that can be drawn from the Midway battle envisioning how future battles might be fought in the era of the developing use of unmanned aviation.

And lastly, he commented that "...should you have any doubts about our young men and women today, they are the best our armed services have ever seen. They are our smartest, most innovative, similarly courageous and equally selfless and dedicated as we were. They are our future. They need and deserve our support; and should there be a Midway somewhere in our future, they will courageously sacrifice their lives in the defense of our country in the future against all enemies which threaten our freedoms. That is the one thing that won't change as we move into our future. Our young men and women are as dedicated and patriotic as we ever were."

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

# Submitted by CAPT Carter B. Conlin, USN (Ret.)



Artist rendering of the Battle of Midway

Photos continue on the next page...

**TEXAS COMMANDERY CONT....** 



L to R. CDR Jim Sterling, Historian Don Kehn, Chaplain CAPT Kerry Magee, Sea Cadet Ethan Watson, SR, CAPT Chuck Hewell, Commander, Sea Cadet Caitlyn Jemelka, PO3, CAPT Carter Conlin, CDR Bob Frazier, Secy. (Recorder), LT Gen Steven Hummer, USMC (Ret.), Buzz Gralla, Peter Andrus, LT Steven Howell, Treas., Jim McCuistion, and Saleem Khan.



LT Steven Howell, Treasurer, CAPT Kerry Magee and Historian Don Kehn enjoying the social hour. **Photos by LT Barry Barlow, USNSCC** 



CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.), Texas Commandery Commander, presenting challenge coins to Sea Cadet Caitlyn Jemelka, PO3, while Sea Cadet Ethan Watson, SR looks on.

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**PAGE 16** 

# Vice Admiral Joel T. Boone - A Giant of Navy Medicine and Medal of Honor Recipient

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

Although President Harding had his own personal physician, a homeopathic doctor from his hometown of Marion, Ohio, Dr. Boone took an active interest in the President's health, and as the older doctor entertained reporters in the White House, a more serious Dr. Boone took meticulous notes on Harding's increasingly failing health. He also assisted in treating First Lady Florence Harding's kidney ailment. Boone was so concerned about Mrs. Harding's kidney disease prior to the First Couple's epic western tour that he quietly arranged to have a casket brought onboard, just in case. Although there was a death on the tour, it wasn't Mrs. Harding's.

On the trip, Harding's heath continued to deteriorate. Harding, who suffered from high blood pressure and constant fatigue, wasn't an easy patient, and he refused to reduce his schedule. In late July, the entourage arrived in San Francisco after touring Alaska. Harding decided to rest from the trip at the Palace Hotel. It was there that he died on 2 August 1923. Boone was with him until the final moments of Harding's death.

Boone would go on to serve two additional Presidents -Calvin Coolidge, and Herbert Hoover. During the Hoover Administration, Dr. Boone



created "Hoover Ball," a vigorous form of physical exercise implemented to keep the President and his Cabinet healthy. He even remained on staff briefly when President Franklin D. Roosevelt took office in March 1933. In the subsequent years leading up to World War II, Boone served in several leadership roles and was promoted to Captain.

#### Hero to Japanese POWs

In April 1945, Boone was promoted to Commodore and ordered as Third Fleet Medical Officer, where he was tasked with providing care and evacuation of Japanese prisoners of war at the Omori POW camp in Tokyo. Three boarding parties on an LCVP left USS San Juan at 3pm on 31 August. Characteristically, Boone was in the first Higgins boat. "While entering the channel a large number of waving and very excited prisoners of war, unclad or partially clad, were seen to be standing on the dock. As the first LCVP arrived, many prisoners jumped into the water and swam toward the boat. The excitement of the prisoners was a never-forgettable sight. They carried homemade improvised national flags of the United States and Great Britain," according to the United States Pacific Fleet's report on the "Initial Release of Prisoners of War in Japan."

Boone was the first American ashore in his eagerness to "lend every effort in the relief of the starved and suffering Allied prisoners of war." He was also the only one unarmed. After liberating the Omori POW camp, Boone had a car driven to the Shinagawa Prison Hospital. The American physician entered the hospital by pushing aside

armed guards with fixed bayonets. Once the prisoners realized Boone was an American officer, "their excitement knew no bounds."

# NOTES FROM THE SICK BAY

# An Overview of US Navy Hospital Ships (Part 2: World War I)

During the First World War, many hospital ships were attacked, both on purpose or by mistaken identity. They were sunk by either torpedo, mine or surface attack. They were easy as well as tragic targets, since they carried hundreds of wounded soldiers from the front lines.

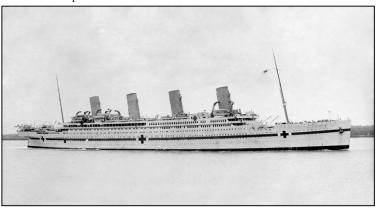
A hospital ship (HS) is designated for primary function as a medical treatment facility or hospital; most are operated by the military forces or navies of various countries around the world, as they are intended to be used in or near war zones. Hospital ships were covered under The Hague Convention X of 1907. Article four of The Hague Convention X outlined the restrictions for a hospital ship:

- The ship should give medical assistance to wounded personnel of all nationalities
- The ship must not be used for any military purpose
- Ships must not interfere or hamper enemy combatant vessels
- Belligerents as designated by The Hague Convention cansearch any hospital ship to investigate violations of the
- search any nospital ship to investigate violations of the above restrictions.

If any of the restrictions were violated, the ship could be determined as an enemy combatant and be sunk. Investigators from neutral countries like Spain were allowed to inspect hospital ships to confirm that Article Four wasn't being violated.<sup>[3]</sup>

Hospital ships display large Red Crosses (+) or Red Crescents (C). The high command of Imperial German viewed allied hospital ships as violating The Hague Convention and ordered its submarine forces to target them as part of their unrestricted submarine warfare on allied shipping. Even with the inspections from neutral countries the German High command alleged that hospital ships were violating Article Four by transporting ablebodied soldiers to the battleground.<sup>[4]</sup>

The biggest hospital ship sunk by either mine or torpedo in the First World War was *HMHS Britannic*, the sister of *Olympic* and the ill-fated *Titanic*. *Britannic* hit a mine on 21 November 1916; 30 people were killed, but the rest of the crew and passengers were able to escape.



The largest loss of life caused by the sinking of a hospital ship would be *Llandovery Castle*. The ship was hit by a torpedo from the German U-boat *U-86* on 27 June 1918. Shortly thereafter, the submarine surfaced and gunned down most of the survivors; only 24 were rescued.<sup>[6]</sup>

After the war, the captain of *U-86*, Lieutenant Helmut Patzig, and two of his lieutenants were charged with war crimes and arraigned for trial, but Patzig disappeared, and the two lieutenants both escaped after being convicted and sentenced to prison.

The Allies weren't the only ones who had their ships attacked at the beginning of the war, the German hospital ship *Ophelia* was seized by British naval forces as a spy ship and near the close of the war the Austrian hospital ship *Baron Call* was unsuccessfully attacked by torpedo on 29 October 1918.

The USAHS *Relief* and the second USS *Relief* was a hospital ship in, respectively, the United States Army and the United States Navy. She was later named USS *Repose. Relief* was built for the Maine Steamship Company in 1895–96 by the Delaware River Iron Ship Building and Engine Works of Chester, Pennsylvania as the passenger ship *John Englis*. a sister ship, *Horatio Hall*, was also constructed for the company at about the same time. The two vessels were powered by triple expansion steam engines operating at 180 lbs of steam pressure, and were capable of making 16 knots in favorable conditions. Their passenger accommodations, which included dining salons on the upper deck, were said to be "very fine".

John Englis was completed in December 1896 and was placed on the New York–Maine route, in which she is said to have been well patronized. In 1898 however, the Spanish–American War broke out, and John Englis was purchased by the United States Army for use as a hospital ship. Renamed Relief the ship was found to have insufficient coal capacity for safe trans-Pacific navigation and was confined to Philippine waters based in Manila where, as of 1 January 1900, she was reported to be a "floating hospital" with 107 sick and wounded after a trip to outlying areas.



Nurses and patients aboard USS Relief

HMHS Britannic

## NOTES FROM THE SICK BAY CONT....

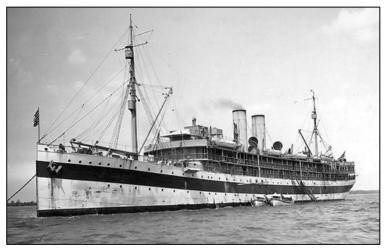
The ship was transferred to the U.S. Navy 13 November 1902. *Relief* remained inactive into 1908 at Mare Island Navy Yard while factions within the Navy debated whether she should be commanded by a line officer or a medical officer. President Theodore Roosevelt's desire that a hospital ship accompany the Great White Fleet on its round-the-world voyage led to his endorsement of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery viewpoint. Accordingly, *Relief* was commissioned at Mare Island Navy Yard 6 February 1908, Surgeon Charles F. Stokes, USN, in command.

Departing San Francisco Bay 22 March 1908, *Relief* met the fleet in Magdalena Bay, Mexico, embarking patients for return to San Francisco. *Relief* rejoined the fleet at San Diego and remained with it while crossing the Pacific Ocean. *Relief's* staff provided expert medical care, treatment, and consultations for the more than 14,000 officers and men of the Great White Fleet until detached in November 1908 at Olongapo, Philippines.

Ordered to return to the U.S. west coast, *Relief* departed Cavite 14 November 1908 but suffered serious damage in a typhoon on the night of 18 and 19 November. Returning to Cavite, the hospital ship was subsequently found to be unseaworthy by an official survey and became a stationary, floating hospital and dispensary. *Relief* continued in service as a floating hospital at Olongapo, Philippines, through World War I, although decommissioned 10 June 1910. Her name was changed 11 April 1918 to *Repose* to allow that of *Relief* to be assigned to USS *Relief* (AH-1), a new hospital ship under construction at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

*Repose* was sold 15 May 1919 at Olongapo and entered mercantile service under the same name after repairs. She subsequently served under foreign flags as *Hai Ning* and *Mindanao* until transferred to Philippine registry during 1937 and named *Lanao*. Her fate during World War II is unknown.

USHS *Comfort* (AH-3) was a hospital ship for the United States Navy in World War I. She was the sister ship of USS *Mercy* (AH-4) but the two ships were not of a ship class. *Comfort* was known as SS *Havana* in passenger service for the Ward Line, and as



USAT *Havana* in United States Army service before her Navy service. Her name was restored to *Havana* in 1927, and she was renamed SS *Yucatán* in 1935, and SS *Agwileon* in 1941. In World War II, she was known as USAT *Agwileon* and USAHS *Shamrock* in service for the United States Army.

Launched in 1906, SS *Havana* was a passenger steamer for the Ward Line on the New York–Havana route from 1907-1917. Before being purchased by the Navy, the ship briefly served as United States Army transport ship USAT *Havana* and was in the first U.S. convoy of ships to sail for France during World War I. In her Navy career, *Comfort* made three transatlantic voyages, bringing home over 1,100 men from European ports. *Comfort* was placed in reserve in September 1919, decommissioned in 1921, and sold in April 1925.

The former hospital ship was repurchased by the Ward Line in 1927, who refitted her and placed her back in service on the Havana route under her original name of *Havana*. In January 1935, *Havana* grounded on a reef north of The Bahamas and remained there for three months. After being refloated and repaired, she was placed back in service as SS *Yucatán* in June. In 1940 the ship was removed from passenger service to be converted into a freighter. After capsizing in port in 1941, the ship was again refloated and renamed SS *Agwileon*.

Under a bareboat charter by the United States Maritime Commission, *Agwileon* carried civilian technicians and advisors to Sierra Leone for the U.S. Army. In November 1942, the ship was taken over by the Army as USAT *Agwileon* and converted to a troopship, making one trip in that capacity. In June 1943, the ship was selected for conversion to an Army hospital ship, and was renamed USAHS *Shamrock*. Operating locally in the Mediterranean for most of her career, the ship had transported almost 18,000 patients by September 1944. The ship was converted for use in the Pacific Theatre, but not before the war ended. The ship was placed in reserve in February 1946, and was scrapped in February 1948.

To be continued in next issue: Hospital Ships in World War II

#### References:

Naval History and Heritage Command Navy Medicine in Vietnam: Oral Histories from Dien Bien Phu to the fall of Saigon, Jan K. Herman, 2009 Wikimedia Commons Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships Sea Classics, March 1973 Navy.com

Submitted by LCDR Tom Burden, MSC, USN (Ret.) Surgeon General, Naval Order of the United States

USHS Comfort (AH-3)

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#### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### Growing our Membership

From 10 April 10 to 20 May, we "booked" 19 new members from seven commanderies bringing our new member total to 57 for the year.

Our new members come to us by making inquiries to me by e-mail and from direct proposals and referrals by you, the member. I currently have 26 applications in the hands of people who have inquired about membership.

How many potential members have you come into contact with this year but failed to mention the Naval Order? It's easy enough to work the words "Naval Order" into a conversation and when you do, the listener will often ask "What is the Naval Order?" You should know what to do from there.

Recently, I attended an affair and was wearing my small NOUS Cross lapel pin. Someone admired it and asked what it was. When I told him, he said "I was in the Navy" and yada, yada, yada, he now has an application in hand.

Suffice to say, there are thousands of potential members out there just waiting to be asked.

Please contact me with any questions or comments you have. I'll be happy to provide you with recruiting materials.

Don Schuld Vice Commander General- Membership dschuld@juno.com

#### Submitted by Don Schuld

It is with great sadness that I must report the passing today of our friend and fellow Companion, CAPT Kent R. Siegel, U.S. Navy (Retired), after a long illness. Kent passed peacefully in his sleep at home with his wife, Addie, and daughter, Gretchen, at his side.

As Commander of the National Capitol Commandery in the 1990s, Kent established a number of initiatives such as the Statue Wayside Marker at (Admiral) Farragut Square in downtown Washington, DC, and the annual commemoration of the Battle of Manila Bay at the site of Admiral George Dewey's crypt in the Washington National Cathedral. He rapidly grew National Capitol into a large, vibrant Commandery. For many years Kent served faithfully in national-level positions as Secretary of the Naval Order Foundation, Vice Commander General-at-Large and, most recently, as the first to fill the new role of Projects Director. A talented writer, he provided articles about the Naval Order that were published in the *Naval History* magazine. Devoted to the Naval Order, Kent will be very much missed.

Submitted by CAPT Vance H. Morrison, USN (Ret.) Immediate Past Commander General, NOUS

# Welcome New Companions!

Annapolis Mr. Douglas "Chipp" Reid

Atlanta Mr. Meade Whitaker, Jr. Mr. Louis Ray Morris, Jr.

Charleston CDR Kenneth Wayne Shortridge, Jr., USN (Ret.)

Hampton Roads Chief Carl Clayton Shepherd, USCG (Ret.)

Florida First Coast CAPT Jerry Lee Terrell, USN (Ret.)

Monterey LT Zachary Burton Martens, USN

National Capital HMC John Detroy Dempsey, USN (Ret.)

New York City EOC Rory Vincent Matter USN (Ret.) MIDN Liam Francis Rock, USN Mr. George Joseph Walsh

# Philadelphia/Delaware Valley

Mr. Judson Daniel Laverell, II Mr. Phillip James Hinson Mr. James Alexander Vance Cupschalk Mr. Frederick Arthur Tucker, Jr. Mr. Gerald James Gallagher

### Southeast Florida

Mr. Charles Phillip Rego LCDR Mark Blumstein, USN Dr. John Desmond Bloom, Jr.

### San Francisco

EMCS Keisuke Warner, USN (Ret.) CDR Vincent Paul Kilmartin, USCGR (Ret.) ENS Robert Bryan Norcott Mr. Mark David Sneddon Mrs. Margaret Wallace SgtMaj Pedro "Pete" Alberto Longoria Jr., USMC (Ret.) CDR Lorin Emerson Andersen, USN (Ret.) Mr. Phillip Mike Feddersen LCDR Margaret Sidonie Sancom, USCG (Ret.) LtCol Frank Anthony Bendrick, USMC (Ret.) Ms. Marilyn Lee Boyle

### Texas

Dr. Kerry Anderson Crooks, PhD Maj Matthew Graham Roberts

# Naval Designators Changes Historically Over Time

When I send out your Membership Dues Invoice each month I have been correcting various things in my data base to keep them historically correct. One of the things I correct often is your Navy designator if you were an officer.

The officer designator codes are four-digit numbers used to group officers by categories for personnel accounting and administrative purposes and to identify the status of officers. These codes identify, through the first three digits, the categories in which officers are appointed and/or designated and, through the fourth digit, the historical status of the officers within the various categories.

Normally my corrections are changing the fourth digit in your designator from 0 to 3, or 5 to 9. The reason is explained in the chart below which comes from the Manual of Navy Officer Manpower and Personnel Classifications, Volume I.

Translation of Fourth Digit of Officer Designator Code Fourth Digit Translation

0 - An officer of the Regular Navy whose permanent grade is Ensign or above

1 - An officer of the Regular Navy whose permanent status is Warrant Officer

2 - A temporary officer of the Regular Navy whose permanent status is enlisted

3 - An Officer of the Regular Navy who is on the retired list

4 - No longer used

5 - An officer of the Naval Reserve

7 - An officer of the Naval Reserve on active duty in the TAR or FTS Program

8 - An officer of the Naval Reserve who was appointed in the Naval Reserve Integration Program from enlisted status or whose permanent status is Warrant Officer or enlisted

9 - An officer of the Naval Reserve who is on the retired list

**CAPT Jack Kopf, USN (Ret.)** (Certificate 2521) San Francisco Commandery Joined 11 June 1952 Died 24 May 2016

#### CAPT John H. Leahy, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5257) San Diego, Monterey and Long Beach Commandery Joined 28 February 1978 Died 19 August 2015

#### CAPT Robert L. Harris, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5315) San Francisco Commandery Joined 07 May 1979 Died 08 March 2011

#### CAPT Mark L. Shafer, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5461) San Francisco Commandery Joined 06 April 1981 Died 18 April 2016

#### CAPT Karolla Brice, NC, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 5469) San Diego, Monterey & Long Beach Commandery Joined 25 June 1981 Died 20 October 2015

#### CAPT Francis M. Clarke, MC, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6080) New York City Commandery Joined 11 May 1988 Died 27 June 2015

#### CAPT Kent R. Siegel, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6222) National Capitol Commandery Joined 01 January 1989 Died 04 May 2016

#### RADM William C. Hushing, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6709) Southeast Florida Commandery Joined 07 December 1990 Died 22 August 2015

#### BG Robert J. Deitz, USAR (Ret.)

(Certificate 7811) San Francisco Commandery Joined 06 July 1999 Died 18 April 2016

### QM1 Vidal G. Estrada, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 8567) San Francisco Commandery Joined 01 May 2006 Died 04 May 2016

#### CAPT N. Jack "Dusty" Kleiss, Sr. USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 8752) Texas Commandery Joined 31 March 2008 Died 22 April 2016

#### CAPT Eric J. Shaw, USCG (Ret.)

(Certificate 8818) Newport Commandery Joined 05 September 2008 Died 29 March 2016

#### CAPT Denton L. "Lou" Peoples, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 9051) San Francisco Commandery Joined 10 January 2011 Died 24 May 2016

#### LCDR E. Robert Wassman, USN (Ret.)

(Certificate 6910) New York City Commandery Joined 04 May 1992 Died 01 January 2008

# To all Companions:

Often times we only hear of the passing of our Companions with returned mail or worse, an angry phone call from a spouse asking us to stop sending mail to their dear loved one.

If you hear of the passing of your fellow companions - please get that information to the Registrar General as soon as possible - we don't want to send dues invoices to those no longer with us.

You may want to do a regular phone tree or email tree to see what kind of response you get. It will help keep your contact list up to date and you find a Companion that has either moved to a new city or state or one that has Moved On....

Send all contact info changes to:

CAPT M. K. Carlock 929 Willow St Martinez, CA 94553 M.K.Carlock@gmail.com 415-725-2101

Date	Event	Location
Wednesday	19 October 2016	Dress Code: Aloha Casual
07:30 - 18:00	Registration Desk / Welcome	llima Lobby
08:30 - 09:30	Communications / Credentials Committees	Laulima Room #3 / Laulima Room #4
09:30 - 10:30	Membership and Retention Committee	Laulima Room #3
10:30 - 11:30	Commandery Support Committee	Laulima #3
11:30 - 13:00	Lunch (individually arranged)	
13:00 - 14:00	Investment Committee	Laulima Room #4
14:00 - 15:00	Finance and Audit Committee	Laulima Room #3
15:00 - 16:00	Site Committee	Laulima Room #4
16:00 - 17:00	Foundation Board	Laulima Room #3
17:00 - 18:00	Nominating / By-Law Constitution Committees	Laulima Room #3 / Laulima Room #4
	Dinner (individually arranged)	
Thursday	20 October 2016	
07:30 - 11:30	Registration Desk / Welcome	Ilima Lobby
08:30 - 10:30	General Council	Laulima Room #3 and #4
10:45 - 11:45	Awards Committee	Laulima Room #2
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch (individually arranged)	
13:00 - 19:30	Depart for Pearl Harbor	Dress Code: Aloha Crisp. Men: Long Pants & Shirt tucked-in. Female: Skirt or Slacks & Flat Shoes.
	Film and Pearl Harbor Tour	Valor in the Pacific Theater
	Wreath Laying	USS ARIZONA Memorial
17:00 - 19:30	Commander General Reception	USS MISSOURI Fantail / Buffet & Hosted Ba
19:45	Depart for Hale Koa	
Friday	21 October 2016	Dress Code: Aloha Casual
07:30 - 08:30	Continental Breakfast	Waikiki Ballroom
08:00 - 08:15	General Session Convenes/Admin. Remarks	Trainin Conform
08:15 - 09:00	Opening Ceremonies	Waikiki Ballroom
	Committee Reports	*
09:00 - 09:10	Credentials Report	
09:10 - 09:30	Commander General's Report	1
09:30 - 09:45	Recorder General's Report	
09:45 - 10:00	Registrar General's Report	
10:00 - 10:15	Membership Report	·
10:15 - 10:30	Commandery Support Report	
10:30 - 10:45	Communications Report	
10:45 - 11:00	Break	
11:00 - 11:10	Auditor General Report	

# 2016 Congress Schedule with Dress Code

11:10 - 11:25	National Investment Comte Report	
11:25 - 11:40	National Finance Comte Report	
11:40 - 11:55	Awards Comte Report	
11:55 - 12:10	Historian General Report	
12:10 - 12:25	Project Manager Report	
12:30 - 14:00	DSSA-SE Award Luncheon	Banyan Tree Room Dress Code: Female: Skirt or Slacks. Male: Long Pants & Shirt.
14:15 - 14:30	General Session Reconvenes / Admin. Remarks	Waikiki Ballroom
14:30 - 14:45	Site Comte Report	
14:45 - 15:05	President, Foundation Report	
15:10 - 16:00	Dr. William Dudley	The U.S. Navy and the Barbary Coast Wars
16:10 - 17:00	Dr. Tom Snyder	U.S. Navy Hospital Support - Barbary Coast Wars
17:00 - 17:15	Administrative Remarks	
	Dinner (individually arranged)	
Saturday	22 October 2016	Dress Code: Aloha Casual
07:30 - 08:30	Continental Breakfast	Waikiki Ballroom
08:00 - 08:15	General Session Reconvenes / Admin. Remarks	Waikiki Ballroom
08:15 - 09:05	Dr. John Hattendorf	Maritime Power and the Armed Forces' Multidimensional Role
09:15 - 10:05	Dr. Douglas Streusand	Review of Islamic Cultures and Politics
10:15 - 11:04	Dr. Chris Harmon	The Philippines: Legacy of Security Cooperation
11:15 - 12:05	Director Terry Kerby	Recovery: Ship's Bell from IJN I-400
12:15 - 13:30	ADM George Dewey/LCDR Lee Douglas Award Luncheon	Banyan Tree Room Dress Code: Female: Skirt or Slacks. Male: Long Pants & Shirt.
13:35 - 13:45	General Session Reconvenes / Admin. Remarks	Waikiki Ballroom
13:45 - 14:35	Dr. Neil Dukas	Hawaii's armed forces during the reign of King Kalakaua
14:35 - 15:00	General Session Ends/ Final Remarks	
18:00 - 19:00	DSSA Formal Cocktail Reception	Waikiki Ballroom
19:00 - 22:00	DSSA Formal Banquet	Waikiki Ballroom Dress Code: Navy Dinner Dress White; Marine Corp Evening Dress "B" / Dress Blue "A"; Civilian Formal Preferred
22:00	Congress officially concludes.	



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# NAVAL ORDER HAWAIIAN SHIRTS SPECIAL PRE-CONGRESS PRICE

MEN'S SIZES S - XXL WOMEN'S SIZES S - XL PRICE \$45 AFTER OCT 2016 PRE ORDER TO HAVE BY CONGRESS IN OCTOBER



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# NAVAL ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES

2016 CONGRESS - HONOLULU, HAWAII



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Men's or Women's and Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost		
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If you wish your shirt to be mailed to you there is a \$5 charge per shirt.

# 2016 National Congress Registration – 19-22 October 2016

Hale Koa Hotel, 2055 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815-1998 Phone: 1.800.367.6027 **REMINDER:** As a Congress Delegate, your expenses are tax deductible. You will receive a Certification Letter for IRS.

Name:			Rank/Rating/Title:		
Last		First		Service	
Spouse/Guest Name:			Rank/Rating/Title:		
1 /	Last	First	· · · · · ·	Service	
Address:					
Commandery:	Email:		Phone:		
Arrival Date:	Departure Date:		Will you stay at the Hale Koa?		

**Registration fee: \$365 per person.** Registration fee includes two continental breakfasts, Commander General's Reception, DSSA-SE and Lee Douglas Award Luncheon, Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award Luncheon, DSSA Banquet, and speaker sessions. Also included are all of the events at Pearl Harbor on Thursday, 20 October including transportation: Valor in the Pacific & USS Arizona Memorial Park, the submarine park and museum, the National Park Service film on the Pearl Harbor attack, tour of Pearl Harbor waterway aboard the Admiral's Navy White Boat, a wreath-laying ceremony aboard the USS Arizona Memorial, a floral tribute to its entombed sailors, a tour of the USS Missouri followed by the Commander General's reception on the fantail of the USS Missouri. After 1 September, the fee is \$420 per person.

A. Congress fee.	<u>Fee</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
Companions and Spouse/Guest registration fee, each:	\$365	\$	
Fee for other Guests attending for the entire Congress:	\$365	\$	
B. Event fees for Guests who are not registering for the e	entire Congress:		
Pearl Harbor Events (Thursday, 20 October):	\$220	\$	
Continental Breakfasts (both days):	\$ 25	\$	
DSSA-SE Award and Lee Douglas Award Lunch:	\$ 45	\$	
Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award Lunch:	\$ 45	\$	
DSSA Award Banquet:	\$ 95	\$	NAVAL UKUEK
Speaker Events at the Hale Koa:	\$ 75	\$	OF THE UNITED STATES
C. Special Event for all Companions and Guests arriving	g early.		
Hale Koa Luau Monday, October 17. See Note 2.	\$ 55	\$	
D. I would like to sponsor or contribute to an event.	\$		
-		\$	Grand Total

Please make your check payable to **NOUS 2016 Congress** and mail to: CAPT John Hassenplug 1943 Mount Vernon Court #303 Mountain View, CA 94040-2086

Note 1. Lodging. If you are a Naval Order Companion, but not retired military, you can still stay at the Hale Koa through sponsorship by a retired military Companion. You will pay the same rate for your room as your room sponsor. Eligible persons may sponsor up to 3 additional guest rooms for family & friends. Hotel policy requires that sponsors must reside in the hotel during the same period as their guest and assume financial responsibility. Eligible sponsors must be present to check in their sponsored guest. If you are not eligible to make your own reservation contact COL Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.), allanfpcruz@aol.com. He will pair you with an eligible sponsor.

Please Be Advised: 1. If you plan to stay at the Hale Koa, make arrangements ASAP. Rooms fill up fast.

#### 2. Please send in your registration monies ASAP. We are writing checks now for Congress expenses.

Note 2. Luau. If you arrive early and want to attend the Hale Koa Luau on Monday evening October 17, select it in Section B above. The luau is very popular and considered the best on the island. If interested, please register early.

**Note 3. Tours**. Because there are so many different historical places of interest on Oahu, guests are encouraged to use the excellent, free services of the Hale Koa Tour and Travel Desk to make arrangements for your preferred tours and activities. The Tour and Travel Desk offers numerous excursions and activities on Oahu. For information and to make advance tour plans, call 808-955-0555. **Note 4. Vegetarian Meals**. Please indicate if you prefer vegetarian over meat meals, so we can plan accordingly. Vegetarian Meals Y / N (circle one) Number in party preferring vegetarian meals



Naval Order of the United States Founded on Independence Day, 1890 NOUS Registrar General 929 Willow Street Martinez, CA 94553 NavalOrder.org Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Norfolk, Virginia Permit NO. 175

# ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

To order from The Ship's Store current inventory, cut out this form and mail it with a delivery AND email address and check payable to 'Naval Order of U.S.' to CDR Cotton Talbott, USN, Ret. 1357 Park Drive Manderville, LA 70471. You may also fax this form to 985.626.4073.

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 Örder 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	
Authorized for past and present National Officers and Commandery Commanders Only*			
*Naval Order Blazer Patch with Crest		\$25	\$6
*Neck Ribbon for Large Medal (worn with formal attire only)		\$15	
Please add Postage/Shipping to your order			\$6
Totals			