

# NAVAL ORDER

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The US Navy Monument at Utah Beach  
 Photo by CAPT Richard Ryan,  
 Companion from National Capital Commandery

## *D-Day*

*75th Anniversary 1944-2019*

At the American Cemetery in Normandy, one sees only an occasional Navy service member's name among the nine thousand or so Army graves. Unless you visit the Naval Order's monument near Utah Beach, you may not have known that no fewer than 1,068 sailors died on D-Day.

Dr. William Dudley recently wrote an article for Sea History called "The Navy's D-Day." The article tells a naval story almost never heard. See our website or [www.seahistory.org](http://www.seahistory.org) for the entire article.

**Submitted by CAPT Robert Shenk, USNR (Ret.)**

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# COMMANDER GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE ORDER

This is an exciting time to be a part of this extraordinary organization in the preservation, promotion and celebration of our naval history.

The Battle of Manila Bay was celebrated nationwide on 1 May, the 121st anniversary of first battle of the Spanish American War at Manila Bay, where the United States was first recognized as a



world power. Then Commodore George Dewey, commanding the Navy's Asiatic Squadron aboard USS *Olympia* received his brief put powerful instructions: "26 April: Dewey, Asiatic Squadron: War has commenced between the United States and Spain. Proceed at once to Philippine Islands. Commence operations at once, particularly against the Spanish fleet. You must capture vessels or destroy. Use utmost endeavors."

-Secretary of the Navy, John D. Long

Commodore Dewey took decisive action, readied and maneuvered his ships, and issued his now historic order "You may fire when you are ready, Gridley." In a matter of hours, the Spanish squadron was defeated. This decisive engagement helped end three hundred years of Imperial Spanish colonial rule and helped establish the close alliance between the United States and the Philippines that has confronted world war, communism and terrorism.

The Battle of Midway was celebrated nationwide on 4 June, the 77th anniversary of the pivotal naval engagement. This encounter thwarted Japanese plans to capture Midway to use as an advance base and to entrap and destroy our Pacific Fleet. The U.S. surprised Japanese forces and changed the course of World War II in the Pacific.



"Midway thrust the warlords back on their heels, caused their ambitious plans to be canceled, and

forced on them an unexpected, unwelcomed defensive role."

-RADM Samuel Elliot Morison, USN (Ret.), the U.S. Navy's Official Historian of World War II

The 6<sup>th</sup> of June was the 75th anniversary of the largest amphibious military operation in history: Operation Overlord, code named D-Day, the Allied invasion which led to the liberation of northern France, and eventual defeat of the Third Reich and Nazi Germany. The Navy Normandy Monument, commissioned and donated by the Naval Order, is located on the highest point overlooking Utah Beach. It honors the U.S. Navy personnel who gave, or risked, their lives in the assault.



"Throughout history, brave men in decisive battles like Thermopylae, Gettysburg, and Midway have changed the course of civilization. The same can be said of the men who fought here on D-Day.... They too, were a part of something huge and historic. Victory or defeat at Normandy would determine the future, not just for France or Europe, but for all of humanity. This operation proved to be the largest operation in human history, and none of it would have been possible without the United States Navy."

-The Honorable Gordon England, Assistant Secretary of Defense and former Secretary of the Navy on 28 September 2008.

The San Francisco Commandery, assisted by the Newport Commandery, is coordinating the 2019 Congress, "The Age of Sail", at the Constitution Inn in Boston from 23 – 28 October. We encourage all companions to take advantage of this opportunity to explore our naval history aboard USS *Constitution*, the Naval Order's Honorary Flagship, and other events in historic Boston.

Look for information about this congress online at [www.navalorder.org](http://www.navalorder.org) and in this newsletter.

**Submitted by CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.)**

The Continental Commandery observed National Maritime Day 2019 on Sunday, 19 May in Baltimore, Maryland.

The keynote speaker for the event was Maritime Administrator RADM Mark Buzby, USN (Ret.).



He highlighted the importance of having a safe, strong and efficient Merchant Marine. He talked about the need to re-capitalize the current Ready Reserve Force. He also talked about the need to have strong public/private partnerships for the development of our U.S. Flag Merchant Fleet.

After Administrator Buzby, the next speaker was RADM Susan Orsega, MSN, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, the current director of the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps HQ. She provided an in-depth history of the origin and evolution of the Public Health Service (PHS), as well as presented PHS flags to the Maritime Administrator, the USCG Captain of the Port of Baltimore, and the master of the SS *John W. Brown* for their dedication towards enhancing maritime matters.

Members of the Navy Reserve Sealift Command Europe-Africa Headquarters also, attended the National Maritime Day observances. NR MSCEURAF HQ drills at NOSC Baltimore, MD, close to the famous site of the War of 1812 battle at Fort McHenry, the inspiration for the words of the Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key. Members of MSCEURAF HQ support sealift operations in the Europe-Africa geographic area.

The current Commanding Officer of NR MSCEURAF HQ, CAPT Aaron Bresnahan, USN, commented as follows: "It is important to our national security that our citizens are reminded about our maritime roots. Sea power and freedom of navigation of the seas are essential to sustaining our commerce and way of life. The National Maritime Day observance provides an important way to highlight the essential linkages between our combat power and the logistics infrastructure needed to support it."

The National Maritime Day program included open tours for visitors onboard the NS *Savannah*, the world's first Nuclear Merchant Ship, and the Liberty Ship *John W. Brown*.

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NS Savannah

## CONTINENTAL COMMANDERY

The NS *Savannah* was built with the intention of promoting peaceful trade and commerce. As a pioneer in the use of nuclear technology in merchant shipping, the vessel was named in honor of the Steamship *Savannah*, which made the inaugural Oceanic Steam Navigation across the Atlantic in 1819.

The NS *Savannah* was in active service from 1962 to 1970 and had almost 1.5 million visitors during that time. After the *Savannah* left active service, she had various periods as a museum ship and part of the nation's Ready Reserve Fleet.

In May 2008, NS *Savannah* was taken to Baltimore harbor, where she underwent decommissioning and termination if its Nuclear Regulatory Commission

license. Today, she is managed on behalf of the Maritime Administration by TOTE Services, Inc., and is available for public tours.

The Liberty Ship *John W. Brown* is one of only two of the remaining Liberty Ships out of approximately 2700 that were built during World War II.

The *John W. Brown* was originally built in Baltimore, Maryland and was launched in September 1942. The vessel is open to the public and, incredibly, still gets underway under its own power.

Volunteer mariners, dedicated to keeping the memory alive, serve as the current crew.

**Submitted by Aaron Bresnahan**



Liberty Ship *John W. Brown*

## USS Stark [FFG 31] Memorial Service

On the evening of 17 May 1987, USS Stark (FFG 31) was struck by two Exocet missiles fired by Iraqi fighters during operations in the Persian Gulf. Thirty-seven sailors were killed as a result of a fire that broke out when one missile exploded in the ship.

Every year, First Coast Commandery, with the support of Naval Station, Mayport FL and its petty officer corps, hosts a memorial service commemorating the 37 sailors who died that night.

In recent years, the Stark families and crew have held a dinner on 16 May to enable families and crew to reunite and remember past services and friendships. As a result, many families and former crew have attended these occasions for the first time. Naval Order Companions attend as a sign of support.



Plaque that names each crew member killed in the attack.



The 1987 STARK crew who attended the service.

On 22 May 1987, five days after the missile attack, President Reagan flew to Mayport to speak with and console the families of the lost crew of Stark.

At that service, LCDR Glen Leverette, the Executive Officer, USS Luce (DDG 37), sang the Navy Hymn. His son, CAPT Glen Leverette, USN, CO of the NROTC Unit at Jacksonville University, returned to the Naval

Station as guest speaker for the service. He spoke of how the service in 1987 had moved his father and how that had affected him as well. He spoke of family and how this community has and will remain a family remembering the sacrifices of all who served.

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CAPT Glen Leverette, Jr., son of LCDR Leverette and current Commanding Officer of ROTC unit, Jacksonville University with CAPT Bob Whitkop, NOUS Commander and former OPS Officer on Luce in 1987, with CAPT Pete Wynkoop and CAPT John O'Neil of First Coast Commandery.

The Stark memorial has meant much to those who have attended through the years. Many have grown through the experience. Two sons of QMCS Vernon Foster, a Stark crew member who was killed in the attack, have survived his loss and made a success of their lives. They have recorded a moving video which reflects their story and was in *All Hands Magazine*; it is available at: [tinyurl.com/y2ms9fq3](http://tinyurl.com/y2ms9fq3)

## MEMORIAL DAY – City of Jacksonville

On Memorial Day, Naval Order Companions gathered with other veteran organizations and the City of Jacksonville at the Jacksonville Memorial Wall for their annual memorial service to fallen soldiers, sailors, marines, and coast guard members.



Jacksonville Pipes and Drums 'Clear the Wall' prior to the Ceremony at the Jacksonville Memorial Wall.

This year, four more names were added to the wall from the Global War on Terror. The ceremony

included addresses by City Council President, CAPT Aaron Bowman, USN (Ret.) and former CO of Naval Station Mayport, as well as GEN Craig McKinley, USAF (Ret.) 26<sup>th</sup> Chief, National Guard Bureau. Wreaths were presented by many Veterans Organizations with the Naval Order wreath placed in honor of the U.S. Merchant Marine by CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.) NOUS Commander and CDR Charlie Sellars, USNR (Ret.) a retired Merchant Seaman.



CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.) NOUS FFC Commander and CDR Charlie Sellars, USNR (Ret.) stand at the wall near the USMM wreath and flag.

## BATTLE of MIDWAY / D-Day Dinner

On 9 June, the First Coast Commandery gathered in Formal Regalia to remember the 77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Midway and the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Allied Amphibious assault at Normandy on D-Day.

Held at the Queen's Harbor Yacht and Country Club, the evening was filled with camaraderie and pride. Guests included Past Commander General, CAPT Greg Streeter, USN (Ret.) and his wife Anne, Registrar General CAPT Kris Carlock, USN (Ret.) and her husband Dean (visiting from their relocation to Tampa/St Pete), RADM George Huchting, USN(Ret.), MGEN Gerald Maloney, USAF (Ret.), Ambassador (Ret.) Marilyn McAfee, and Korean War Veteran /Silver Star recipient CAPT Don Thomas, USA and his wife Donna. Toasts were raised to the Commander in Chief, the Country and our Armed Services.

While there was one point of order as to whether John Paul Jones or Commodore Barry was the Father of our Navy, the vote was put aside for a

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later date! A special speech was provided by companion VADM Al Konezni, USN (Ret.), former Commander Submarine Forces Pacific and former Deputy Fleet Forces Command. VADM Konezni recalled the determination and commitment of the youth of the Day to contribute to the successes of freedom.



VADM Al Konezni, USN (Ret.)

He reflected on the differences and similarities between the Battle of Midway and the D-Day Assault. He also recalled the words he heard by the Rabbi at his sister-in-law's funeral, "They are still alive if we remember them", and went on to encourage the Naval Order to continue to promote the memories and lessons of history to always remember! He also reinforced the need to promote our history to remind the youth of today how we got where we are and expressed confidence that they will answer the call if needed. A display table had a print signed by Ensign George Gay, moquette's from the Nimitz Statue and UTAH Beach memorials, a replica Civil War Navy Cutlass, and a book remembering D-Day.

Next major events later in the year will include POW-MIA Remembrance Day on the last Friday in September and our Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner in December. Visit the Commandery website to stay current on our activities. Contact us at nousfc@gmail.com with comments or questions.

**Submitted by CAPT Pete Wynkoop, USN (Ret.) and CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.)**

## A Wreath-laying at Dewey's Tomb

The first day of May 2019 provided a lovely, spring morning in Washington, DC where companions of the National Capital Commandery met at the National Cathedral to place a wreath at the tomb of Admiral of the Navy, George Dewey. The ceremony, held above the crypt, in the Bethlehem Chapel, has become a touching, yearly ritual in which those present commemorate the Battle of Manila Bay (1 May 1898) and the heroism of Dewey, the brave men under his command, and our alliance with the nation of the Philippines.

Commandery commander CAPT William Steagall presided over the ceremony, accompanied by CAPT Jesus Portiz, the Naval Attaché of the Embassy of the Philippines. NOUS Commander General CAPT Paul Crissy was also present. Former Commander General CAPT Vance Morrison was the Master of Ceremonies. Bishop Carl Wright, who, himself, has served in both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force, led the prayer.

ADM James Toole, a long-standing member of the National Capital Commandery, was the keynote speaker. He described ADM Dewey's achievements, the relationship between Dewey and President Theodore Roosevelt, and the battle that freed the Philippines from over 300 years of Spanish rule. A moment of silence followed in which those present paused to remember all who perished in the battle. It was a fitting way to honor the longest serving Naval Order Commander General.



Companions gathered at Dewey's Tomb after the wreath-laying

After the ceremony, companions walked together down the street to the Cactus Cantina restaurant to enjoy companionship, good conversation, and delicious Tex-Mex food.

**Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson**

## French Embassy Commemorates D-Day

On 7 May 2019, the French Embassy in Washington, DC hosted a gala evening to commemorate the upcoming 75th anniversary of D-Day, specifically the assault on Pointe-de-Hoc by the 2nd Rangers, U.S. Army. It was sponsored by the WWII Foundation and Surface Navy Association. Naval Order companions CAPT William Steagall, USN (Ret.), current commander of the National Capital Commandery, CAPT John Rodgaard, USN (Ret.), immediate past commander of the National Capital Commandery, Commander Dan Felger, USN (Ret.), and Dr. Judy Pearson were among the 500 or so Americans attending. Commander Felger was accompanied by his wife, Jean, and CAPT Steagall was accompanied by Ms. Brenda May.

The evening began with a lovely wine reception followed by an awards ceremony in which five American Normandy veterans received the French Légion d'Honneur. The French Naval Attaché bestowed the awards on the behalf of the President and citizens of France.

Former Senator Bob Dole, now 96, was present to receive the WWII Foundation's Leadership Award. Even today, he continues his service to the nation. Every Saturday, he greets veterans arriving from Honor Flights at the WWII Memorial in Washington, DC.

After the awards were presented, the audience watched the premier showing of the documentary, *D-Day at Pointe-de-Hoc*, followed by Q&A with director Tim Grey, James Earl Rudder Jr (his father, Col. Earl Rudder led the assault on the cliff at Pointe-de-Hoc), Mr. John Stewart (Normandy veteran who was aboard USS *Satterlee*, which provided gunfire support to the Rangers as they scaled the cliffs) and English actor David McCallum (who narrated the film).

The French Embassy staff proved to be gracious hosts. The event gave all those in attendance an opportunity to reflect on, and remember, the courage, heroism, and sacrifice of the Allies who served during Operations Neptune and Overlord.

**Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson**

## East Coast Commanderies Honor the Battle of Manila Bay on the USS *Olympia*

On 28 April, over 30 companions and friends from the commanderies of New York City, Philadelphia and Delaware Valley, and the National Capital met aboard the USS *Olympia* in Philadelphia to commemorate the 121st anniversary of the Battle of Manila Bay.

Naval Order Commander General CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.) was the keynote speaker. He spoke about the prelude to the war - the explosion of the USS *Maine* in Havana Harbor, Cuba. He reminded listeners of the events of the battle, the ship, the war with Spain, the heroic vision of Admiral of the Navy George Dewey, and the immediate outcomes of that war.



The Naval Order wreath, forward of the Captain's cabin

A wreath-laying followed CAPT Crissy's speech. Then companions received a guided tour of the ship, including information about the efforts to preserve the historic ship. Afterwards, lunch at a nearby restaurant provided an opportunity for good conversation and shared reflections of a day for remembering U.S. Naval history.

**Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson  
and CAPT William Steagall, USN (Ret.)**



## Naval Organizations in Naval District Washington Commemorate the Battle of Midway

The National Capital Commandery and the NOUS were well-represented at the 77th Anniversary Battle of Midway Commemorative Dinner at the Army-Navy Country Club, Arlington, VA, on 4 June 2019. Over 20 Naval Order companions joined members of twelve other Navy-related organizations at this annual event.

The evening began with a cocktail hour on the third-floor rooftop terrace overlooking the Washington Monument in the distance. After libations and much good conversation, over 300 people gathered in the ballroom for the evening program. The Navy/Marine Corps Color Guard presented the colors, followed by a singing of the National Anthem, led by MU1 Bobby Ray Horton, USN. CAPT Judy Malana, the Regional Chaplain of Naval District Washington led the invocation.

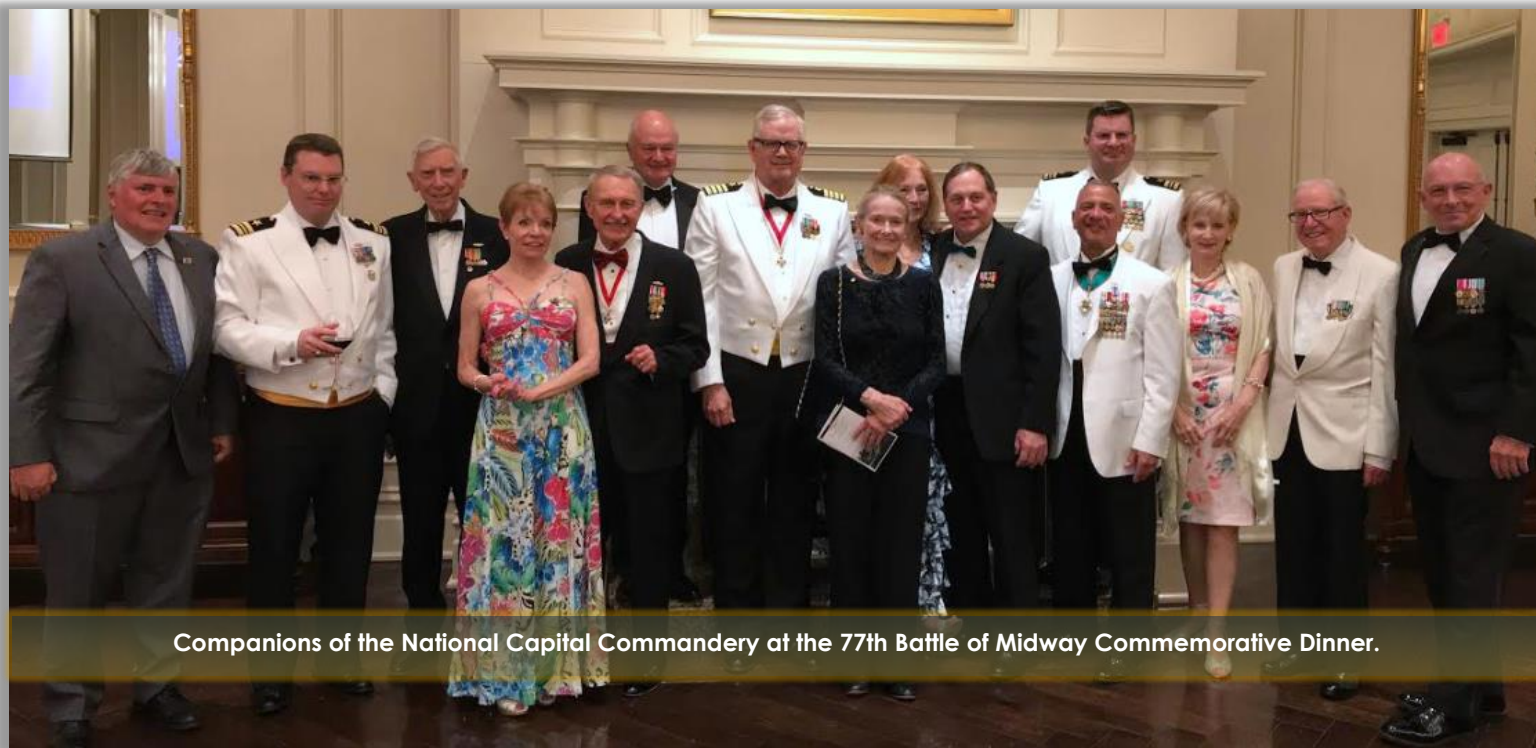
The evening's highlight was the introduction of five WWII Veterans who saw combat in the Battle of Midway. They were CAPT Jack Crawford and Cook 3/c Bill Fentress who were both aboard the USS *Yorktown*, GMC Hank Kudzik who was aboard the

USS *Nautilus*, LCDR Joe Miller of the USS *Hornet*, and YNC Bill Norberg of the USS *Enterprise*. Each was accompanied by an active-duty sailor. Everyone in the room felt honored by the presence of these men and by the opportunity to read their wartime biographies printed in the program.

Following a sumptuous dinner, we listened in awe to the keynote speaker, Ms. Liza Munday, a journalist who recently published **Code Girls of World War II**. She told the story of the hundreds of young women who were recruited from colleges across the country to come to Washington, DC to train as code-breakers for the Army and Navy during WWII. Their work was highly sensitive and classified, so their contributions to the war effort were not revealed for decades. They were an integral part of the military intelligence that helped to defeat Nazi Germany and Japan.

We remembered those who perished in the battles in the Pacific. We honored the veterans of those battles. We toasted our uniformed services. All of this, plus the presence of active duty personnel and many Navy and Marine Corps veterans, all of who have served the country in an outstanding manner, made this evening awe-inspiring.

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson



Companions of the National Capital Commandery at the 77th Battle of Midway Commemorative Dinner.

## NEW ORLEANS COMMANDERY

On 16 April, the New Orleans Commandery awarded a NOUS certificate and \$300 check to the winning Louisiana National History Day entry team for their winning display, titled "The Boat People: The Tragic and Triumphant Stories of Vietnamese Refugees." The state final championship competition presentation was held in The National World War II Museum before 400 students, parents and teachers. CAPT Gary Bair USN (Ret.) and Dr. Samantha Cavell of the New Orleans Commandery and Captain Charles Chadbourn of National Commandery served as judges and made the presentation.

The New Orleans Commandery enjoyed a special Memorial Day dinner with speaker Billy Nungesser, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Louisiana. An especially large turnout enjoyed the great cuisine of Bistro Orleans.

In his third year in office, Lieutenant Governor Nungesser has implemented numerous initiatives to advance Louisiana tourism, resulting in a 9% increase just this last year, making it the third largest industry of the state. International tourism is up 37%, and for the first time, New Orleans exceeds 100,000 hotel rooms.

Facing the previously planned closing of seven state parks, he kept them all open by slashing unnecessary and wasteful contracts and implementing innovative public/private partnerships. Losers have turned into money-makers.

The state now hosts more than 150 national sporting competitions. His initiative to convince major networks to include New Orleans in their New Years Eve broadcasts has resulted in millions of dollars of free publicity.

**Submitted by CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret.)**



CAPT Charles Chadbourn, USN (Ret.), CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret.) and Dr. Samantha Cavell (2nd, 3rd, and 4th from left) present NOUS check and certificate to National History Day winners.



(l to r) RADM Joel Whitehead, USCG (Ret.), CAPT Gary Bair, USN (Ret.), Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser, and RADM Tom Rinard, USN (Ret.) at Memorial Day dinner.

The Sunday of Memorial Day weekend was an emotional one for Father Mark Bristol as he was sworn in as the U.S. Navy's newest chaplain.

"I feel moved," Father Bristol said at the ceremony on 26 May at St. Anastasia Church in Douglaston, where he has been assigned. "Moved spirituality, moved physically – brought to tears."

Father Bristol is no stranger to the Navy. The Brooklyn native enlisted in 2002 at the age of 17. He was deployed throughout the Mediterranean on the USS *Mount Whitney*, the flagship for the sixth fleet.



During his naval service, he heard God calling him to become a priest. Now, he's returning to the sea to meet a need.

"Currently, there are less than 47 priests in the military, and many of our sailors, marines, and coast

guardsmen go out to sea without the ability to go to mass or receive the sacraments," said Father Bristol, who was ordained a priest of the Diocese in 2016.



"Think about the military: the Navy, the Coast Guard and the Marine Corps," said Father Daniel Mode, a friend of Father Bristol's who presided at the commissioning. "If you put all that together, that's about 600,000 persons who are deployed throughout the world. Of that, 20 to 25 percent are Roman Catholic."

Father Bristol will return to active duty on 1 July, and will be stationed on board the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* aircraft carrier, patrolling the Pacific Ocean for two years. He will minister to almost 6,000 service members of all faiths.

"I'll be meeting their spiritual needs, providing care for those not of the Catholic faith, of any faith, and also advising the commanding officer on issues of morale and ethics," Father Bristol said.

Henry and Mary Macchiaroli, parishioners at Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church in Ridgewood, have known Father Bristol since he was a seminarian. They said he's a perfect fit to be a chaplain.

"He'll do a fine job. We all love him. He's a very charismatic priest. He works very, very hard. He cares about all types of people," Henry Macchiaroli said.

As he prepares to leave the Diocese, Father Bristol said he feels grateful to the people here.

"A tremendous amount of gratitude because you formed me to be the priest that I am today, and no matter where I go in the world – I will always be a Brooklyn priest," he said.

**Submitted by Richard Liptak**

## Northwest Commandery Remembers Vietnam Veterans, Studies South China Maritime Issues

NOUS Northwest concluded a busy Spring schedule with two major events. First was the Commandery's annual "Remembering Our Vietnam Veterans" dinner, held on 15 March at Arnie's Restaurant in Mukilteo, WA. That evening's gathering of companions provided time for reflection of our Vietnam veterans as well as for some great maritime camaraderie.



Companions at the 'Remembering Our Vietnam Veterans' Dinner

The second significant spring event was the continuation of NOUS Northwest's Discussion Group, with a meeting held on 15 April in Everett, WA. During that study session, the topic of ongoing operations of our maritime forces in the South China Sea was concluded.

The next Discussion Group focus, the "Redesign of the U.S. Navy Fleet", will take place at the home of our Commander, CAPT John Laible, USN (Ret.), in Woodinville, WA on 22 June.

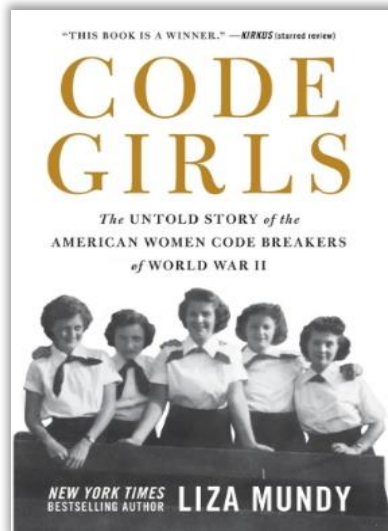
## Battle of Midway Brunch Focuses on Women Codebreakers

On 1 June, the Commandery's Battle of Midway commemorative lunch was held at Naval Station, Everett. Ten companions and spouses attended this annual event including Chuck Davis, Bill Boardman, John Gerten, Cindy and Joe Valenta, Floyd and Carol Kershener, John and Cricket Laible and Solon Webb (with the latter three via Skype).

Floyd Kershner provided an excellent presentation based on the book **Code Girls** by Liza Mundy. Floyd opened his presentation by covering codebreaking before WWII. He then explained the overlooked - but critical - role played by women in this specialty at that time. (Liz Mundy's presentation and discussion can be found on the Library of Congress YouTube site.)



Skyping with the Discussion Group



Joe Valenta then followed by discussing the WWII Pacific Battles Timeline, summarized on a handout. All attendees then enjoyed an informative post-presentation discussion, including our Skype participants.

Planned events for the summer are listed below, with additional details provided on

NOUS Northwest's website at [nousnorthwest.org](http://nousnorthwest.org).

### Northwest Commandery Upcoming Events

**17 August** - Discussion Group Meeting/BBQ

**9 Sept** Annual Business Meeting

Commander - CAPT John Laible, USN (Ret.)  
[captjohn42@gmail.com](mailto:captjohn42@gmail.com) and 206.794.5254

Communications - CAPT Solon Webb, USN (Ret.)  
[mendosolo@aol.com](mailto:mendosolo@aol.com) or 707.548.3720 for details

Submitted by CAPT Solon Webb, USN (Ret.)

## SF Commandery Commemorates USS San Francisco (CA 38)

Whenever visitors and guests enter the Marines Memorial Club Hotel, they can't help but notice the ship's bell of the heavy cruiser USS *San Francisco* (CA 38) immediately in front of the registration desk. The bell is a symbol of the city's namesake – the valiant ship that served at both Pearl Harbor and Guadalcanal during the Pacific War. Every Memorial Day weekend, the San Francisco Commandery gathers at the USS *San Francisco* Memorial near the fog and wind swept beaches along the coast to remember the sacrifices and heroism of the crew. This year our chair of honor wasn't with us in person, but Sgt. Robert B. Ward, USMC, was with us in spirit.

San Francisco Commandery Commander, John McKnight, is President of the USS *San Francisco* Memorial Foundation. He was well prepared for what was forecast to be a rain-filled day at the beach. However, the weather gods were on our side and he was able to welcome guests under a brilliant sunshine. The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Band of the West, provided the music while the Golden Gate Young Marines, Knights of Columbus and the Scottish American Military Society, resplendent in their uniforms, acted as color guards.

This year's special guest speaker was Mr. Tomochika Uyama, Consul General of Japan. Raquel R. Solano, Deputy Consul General of the Philippines gave the keynote address.



Consul General Uyama, "Chief" Johnny, and Don Reid share a few moments prior to the start of the ceremony.



Quentin Kopp shows off his award with John McKnight



Philippine Deputy Consul General Raquel Solano gives the keynote address.

Sgt. Ward was represented by members of his family. As a banner with his portrait in uniform looked down the assembly, his son Jeffrey Bruce Ward talked about his father. Like many veterans today, Sgt. Ward probably suffered from PTSD (known as shell shock in the past). The younger Ward, a Vietnam Veteran, recalled his father, and emphasized that despite everything, his family misses him.

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Jeffrey Bruce Ward shares memories of his father, Sgt. Robert B. Ward.

As in years past, particularly somber moments in the ceremony are the missing man table and the reading of the names of the 107 sailors and marines who gave their lives during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal aboard the *San Francisco*.

As in past years our own Companion, 'Chief Johnny' Jon Gordon, was there. Chief Johnny, founder of the USS *San Francisco* Memorial Foundation, originated the ceremony. Never at a loss for words, Chief Johnny was interviewed by the local media and said a few words during the ceremony. He mentioned that he hadn't yet reached his 21st birthday during the battle and noted that virtually every sailor and marine in the crew that day were his age or even younger. Most of them never did make their 21st birthday.

For further information about the USS *San Francisco* Foundation you may visit the [ussanfrancisco.org](http://ussanfrancisco.org) and follow the menu to the foundation page.



Submitted by MCCS Robert A. Hansen, USN (Ret.)

**Luncheons and Other Events** -- It has been over 20 years since the carriers and cruisers left the Bay Area and the Sea Service footprint was left to be represented by the Coast Guard, and some Marines and Reservists. Our April speaker, San Francisco Chronicle columnist Carl Nolte, reminisced about those days when sailors were a common site on the streets of local communities and San Francisco was truly a Navy town.



Carl Nolte (r) with Commandery Commander John McKnight.

Even though the tradition of military service has diminished in recent years, it still exists, but requires more effort on the part of recruiters to fill our nation's needs.

Our May luncheon speaker, Commander Jennifer Free, Commanding Officer of Naval Recruiting District, San Francisco talked about the challenges of filling recruiting quotas in the modern post-draft era. CDR Free, who came to the U.S. from communist Hungary, shared her personal experiences as a naval officer in modern society, and the challenges she faces with family life while representing the Navy as a recruiter in Northern California.



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We are sad to lose Michele and Sandy Lockwood, who made their last appearance as members of our commandery in May. Michele, our immediate past Commander General announced that she and her husband Sandy were moving to Florida. San Francisco's loss of the CAPTS Lockwood will be Florida First Coast Commandery's gain, as they join forces with CAPT Kris Carlock, who moved to Florida a few months ago.

We finished up our luncheon speaker schedule in June with Lieutenant Colonel Todd Mahar, USMC, who reflected on the challenges of leadership during the 21st Century. LtCol Mahar defined leadership as "getting someone to do something they don't want to do and not hating it." Mahar noted that his leadership training was put to the test in Ramada, Iraq on 9 October 2006, in an incident with a roadside bomb. He emphasized his leadership mindset is "Ductos Exemplo" which means "Lead by Example."



Our Commandery's activities are not limited to our luncheons. In April, we joined the Bataan Legacy Historical Society for Bataan Day at the

Golden Gate National Cemetery where Bataan Death March Survivor David Tejada was joined by our own Chief Johnny, to remember and honor those members of the Greatest Generation, who served and sacrificed for freedom during World War II. We had the honor of presenting a Naval Officer's Sword to newly minted Ensign Solomon Shire during commissioning ceremonies at the California State Maritime Academy. We also participated in events at the Marines Memorial Club commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, as well as the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



Of course, Memorial Day saw companions at commemorations at many locations across the Greater Bay Area. Our special commemoration of the USS *San Francisco* was once again the highlight of the holiday weekend for our commandery (see separate article).

In the fall, we're all looking forward to the Navy Ball, Fleet Week, and our Annual Naval Order Congress.

**8/5** Luncheon at the Italian Athletic Club. Speaker James Armstead - "The Versailles Treaty at 100 Years."

**9/9** Luncheon at the Italian Athletic Club. Speaker TBD.

**10/5** Navy Ball at the Marines Memorial Club. Speaker: Master Chief of the Navy, Russell Smith. For information email [MCPOA.events@gmail.com](mailto:MCPOA.events@gmail.com) or 244<sup>th</sup> Navy Ball in San Francisco at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

**10/6-19** San Francisco Fleet Week. [www.fleetweeksf.org](http://www.fleetweeksf.org) for details.

**10/14** SF Fleet Week special luncheon on USS *Hornet*.

**11/4** Luncheon at Italian Athletic Club. Speaker TBD.

**Submitted by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.)**



Ensign Solomon Shire with companion Bob Hansen.

Companion Bob Hansen presents a Naval Officer's sword to Ensign Solomon Shire at California State Maritime Academy during the graduation day commissioning ceremony on 4 May.

The San Francisco Commandery joined several Navy League Councils in recognizing graduates of the Maritime Academy's NROTC program. Shire was also awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Transportation.

## Battle of Midway Annual Commemorative Luncheon

On Tuesday, 4 June 2019 the Texas Commandery conducted the Commandery's annual Battle of Midway Commemorative Luncheon. The luncheon was held at one of Houston's more prestigious private clubs, The Briar Club. This year's luncheon featured the Texas Commandery's own Historian, Don Kehn, as the guest speaker.



Texas Commandery Historian Don Kehn

Don is a scholar and historian specializing in U.S. Navy operations in the Pacific during WWII. His particular focus has been on the U.S. Asiatic Fleet and the Imperial Japanese Navy. A native Houstonian, Don has been involved with the USS *Houston* Survivors Association, as well as over 25 years as an active member of the Texas Commandery. His first book, ***A Blue Sea of Blood***, examined the many long-standing mysteries

Continued on next page...



surrounding the enigmatic disappearance of the Asiatic Fleet destroyer USS *Edsall* (DD-219). She disappeared in the dark days of early 1942, a victim of the doomed Java Campaign. His second book, ***In the Highest Degree Tragic***, tells in detail the history of the Asiatic Fleet's harrowing campaign in the East Indies at the beginning of WWII.

The subject of Don's presentation was the fate of the three U.S. Naval Aviators captured by the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) during the Battle of Midway. He began his presentation by discussing both navies' actions leading up to the Battle. Don covered fleet compositions, along with brief comments on key leaders in both fleets. He then set the stage for his audience by describing the background of the doomed Naval Aviators. Don took the audience through the battle, recounting how the Battle developed and ended. At each key phase, Don identified the actions of the lost Naval Aviators.

His presentation described how each of those Naval Aviators were captured along with the treatment they received from the IJN. Especially captivating was his description of the treatment each of the American Naval Aviators was subjected to and how, ultimately, they were murdered by their IJN captors. Of special interest to the audience were the findings and subsequent actions stemming from the post-war investigations of IJN personnel involved in the captured Naval Aviators' murders.



Gil Raynor and Chuck Hewell

After Don's presentation Past Texas Commandery Commander Gil Raynor, MM2 (SS) USN (Ret.) was presented with a letter of appreciation from the NOUS Commander General, CAPT Paul Crissy USCG (Ret.).

CAPT Chuck Hewell, also a past Texas Commandery Commander, made the presentation on behalf of CAPT Crissy.

This year's luncheon was well attended by local commandery members as well as many guests; all combining to make the event quite lively and entertaining.



Front Row: Don Kehn, Gil Raynor, Marshall Cloyd, Kerry Magee  
Middle Row: Don Lieske, Dr. Joseph Dervay, William D. Barron, Michael Foreman, Harrison G. Moore  
Back row: Bob Frazier, Chuck Hewell, James McCuiston, Steven Howell



Don Kehn's Luncheon Lecture

## Support of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's 75th Anniversary of D-Day Ceremony

The Texas Commandery participated in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) 75th D-Day Anniversary Ceremony aboard the battleship *Texas* on 8 June 2019. Leading the Commandery's support was Past Commandery Commander CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.). CAPT Hewell served as Master of Ceremony for this event. Additionally, he worked closely with the TPWD in contacting and scheduling many of the organizations participating in this important event. Organizations participating in the event, thanks to the Texas Commandery, included the Naval Sea Cadets, USMC Honor Guard Rifle Squad, and the Patriot Guard. The Commandery's CAPT W.O. King, USN (Ret.) contacted the Commemorative Air Force on behalf of the TPWD to assist in arranging for a fly over of the Battleship *Texas* during the ceremony.

**Submitted by CAPT Chuck Hewell USN (Ret.)**

**Now is the Time for All Good Companions to Come to the Aide of their Commandery**

This message is for those commanderies that are without a commander.

The inactive commanderies are missing out on so much of what NOUS offers; camaraderie with fellow companions, meeting and hearing distinguished authors, and participating in commemorative events and projects.



It only takes one inspired person to get things moving. That person could reach out to two or three others (either existing members or prospective members) for an informal lunch and talk about how they might move the commandery forward.

Each of those people can then contact others with news of the project and solicit names of others who might join as new members while also reactivating existing members.

We are standing by with all the administrative materials you need. If, as a current companion, you are interested in help from National, you have only to contact me by phone or e-mail to get started. 973-584-9634 - home, 201-874-0730 - cell, dschuld@juno.com.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Submitted by Donald W. Schuld**

**The Angel of Hull Massachusetts: A Glance at CAPT Joshua James and the Development of Life Saving Societies**

With the recent tragedy of the life boat capsizing that occurred in France, killing all three rescuers of the Société National de Sauvetage en Mer (SNSM), it made sense to briefly look at life saving societies and the individuals who keep the seas and waterways across the globe safe for recreational and industrial use.

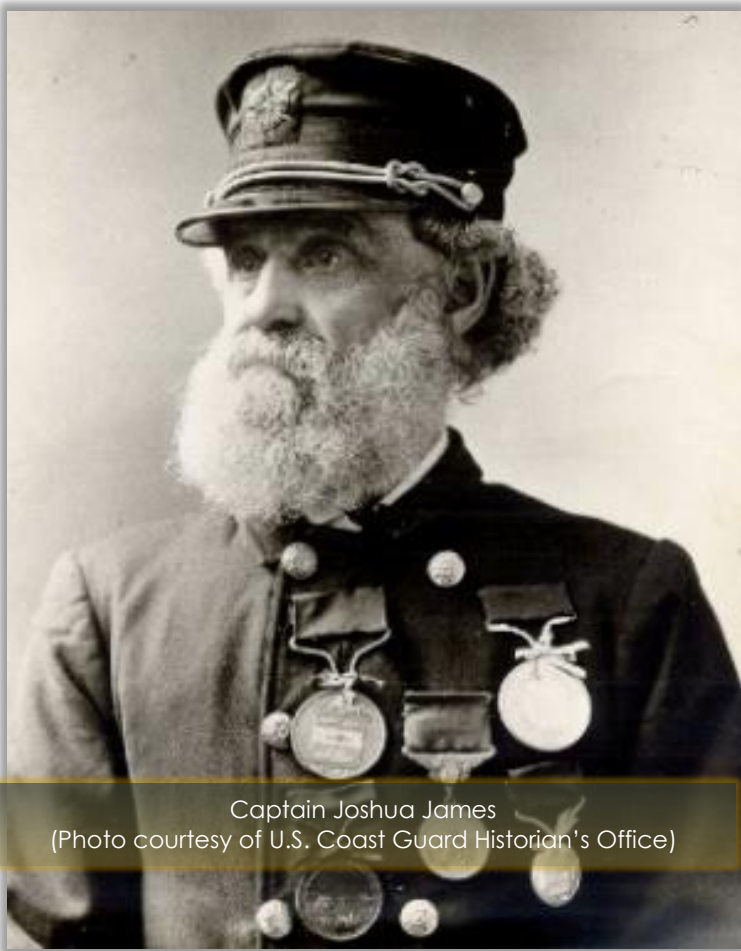
Organizations like the United States Coast Guard and its Auxiliary, the Royal Life Saving Society, the International Life Saving Federation, the Société National de Sauvetage en Mer, and the Osterreichischen Marineverbandes have been on the front lines promoting safe boating practices and partaking in rescues missions. The activities that these organizations have undertaken have developed and changed over time to include boat inspections, regular patrols, boating safety classes, first-aid certification, etc., but their mission to save lives is still the focal point in everything they do.



Life Saving Societies really took off in the 19th Century as communities started to see the need for Life Saving Stations and volunteers to help save fisherman and civilians from shipwrecks and capsizes. Before the development of these societies, the only help that mariners received during rough weather were from lighthouses, which were insufficient if a ship began to sink. Life Saving Stations provided the ability to send out small boats to search for survivors, and reduce risk of larger ships running aground.

Being a volunteer at a station was, and still is, a dangerous job as most rescues take place during bad weather. Many volunteers would lose their lives trying to provide a second chance for those lost at sea.

One of the first groups to partake in life saving operations was the Massachusetts Humane Society. They established lifesaving stations on the East Coast of the United States. Though early on, poor equipment and low budgets would slow lifesaving operations, it was volunteers, like CAPT Joshua James, who helped show the need for such organizations.



Captain Joshua James  
(Photo courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office)

CAPT Joshua James was born in 1826 in Hull, Massachusetts. When he was ten years old, he watched as a boat carrying his mother and sister capsized in the harbor and his family drowned. After this incident, at the age of 15, James made the decision to get involved with lifesaving operations, at which time, he participated in his first mission.

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The first recorded rescue was in December of 1841, when he assisted in the rescue of the crew of the *Mohawk*. In 1889, he was appointed as the keeper of the Life Saving Station in Hull, Massachusetts. He participated in several rescues, including significant ones during the hurricanes of 1888 and 1898.

Between 1841 and 1902 he would participate in 40 rescues, and is personally credited for saving over 200 lives.

During his tenure as life station keeper, he and his crew are credited with saving 540 lives, and salvaged ships and cargo estimated to be worth \$1,203,435.00.

James would die in March of 1902, dying of a heart attack right after a training exercise. For his services he was awarded the Gold Life Saving Medal from the U.S. Government, four other medals from the Massachusetts Humane Society, and countless other Commendations for his efforts to preserve life.

Someone with CAPT James' record is a rarity today as equipment, technology, ships, and aircraft have developed to be more efficient and safer, but the dangers of life saving operations have not changed.

Across the world each year, we still lose a few heroes who are willing to risk their lives so others may live. It is important to recognize their sacrifice and preserve their stories. The best way to help support these organizations, outside of monetary donations and volunteering, is to make sure you are prepared in advance through vessel examinations, proper safety equipment, observing weather conditions, and using common sense. If we are prepared, it reduces risk and need for rescue, allowing service men and volunteers to stay safe.

In honor of the crew of the Lifeboat  
Jack Morisseau and all life savers  
across the globe.

*En l'honneur de l'équipage de  
l'embarcation de sauvetage Jack  
Morisseau et de tous les sauveurs de  
vies du monde entier.*



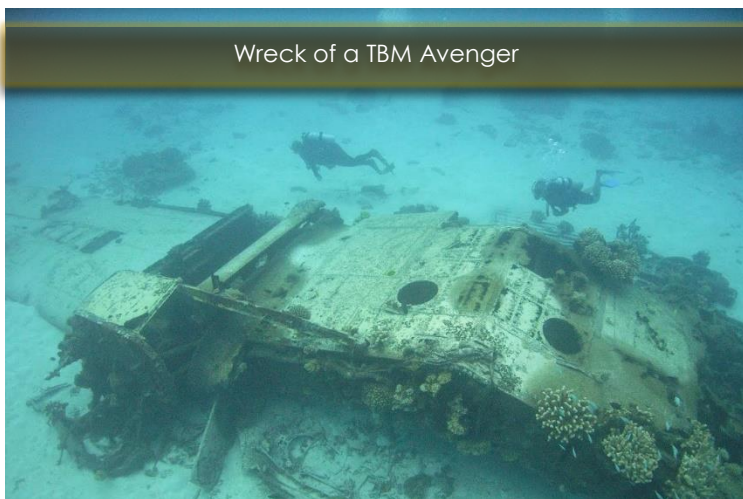
Submitted by Matthew S. Whisman

## AIRPLANES AND BACTERIA IN SAIPAN

In his book *Saipan: The Battle that Doomed Japan in World War II*, James Hallas recalled the story of the late Vice Admiral William I. Martin. Then a squadron commander of a TBF Avenger crew, Martin was a part of Torpedo-Squadron 10 (VT-10), which operated out of the Fast Carrier Task Force (TF 58).

On 11 June 1944, after completing a bomb strike near Charan Kanoa airstrip, Martin's Avenger was split in half by enemy fire. Martin was able to eject at around 3000 feet, although a torn parachute sent the Annapolis graduate hurtling into the shallow lagoon water. While Martin survived with a badly injured hip, his crewman, Aviation Radioman 1st Class Jerry T. Williams and Aviation ordnanceman 2nd Class Wesley R. Hargrove, made the ultimate sacrifice. Ducking machine gun fire from the beach, Martin eventually made it out past the barrier reef. He was subsequently rescued by a Curtis SOC Seagull, and able to relay intelligence he gathered on the Japanese positioning near the landing beaches of the 2nd Marine Division. According to Hallas, "What was left of the Avenger had crashed into the water nearby and was burning with an intense heat."

This summer marks the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Saipan. Today, reminders of the heroics and sacrifices made by VT-10 and so many others during that battle can be seen around Saipan in the form of submerged wrecks, akin to Martin's Avenger.



Wreck of a TBM Avenger

A number of these wrecks constitute the Battle of Saipan WWII Maritime Heritage Trail. The trail, which is free to access and open year-round, was funded by a National Park Service Battlefield Protection

Program grant (ABPP) awarded in 2009. The trail was established as the result of a three-year collaboration between Ships of Exploration and Discovery Research, Inc. (SHIPS), a non-profit research organization, and Flinders University's Maritime Archaeology Program, which sought to identify, survey, and map select submerged sites associated with the battle. Among the American vessels are a Martin PBM Mariner, a TBM Avenger, a Landing Vehicle Tracked (A)-4, and several Sherman Tanks. The trail, and all submerged historic sites, are managed by the Northern Marianas Islands' Historical Preservation Office (HPO), which relies heavily on funding from the National Park Service. Off island, researchers from Ships of Discovery and Exploration and East Carolina University continue to play a large part in aiding local agencies in the trail's management, while researchers from the Western Australia Museum, among others, have contributed to the documentation and preservation of the trail's sites.

In an effort to aid in the management of submerged WWII heritage, a team of researchers from East Carolina University (ECU) has been funded under a National Park Service Preservation Technology and Training grant to sample and analyze the microbial communities associated with the Martin PBM Mariner, TBM Avenger, and a control site, a PBY Coronado.

The team is led by Drs. Jennifer McKinnon and Nathan Richards of the Maritime Studies Program, and Dr. Erin Field of the Biology Department. The research is also part of the author's Ph.D. in the Coastal Resources Management Program.

While these wartime vestiges are no longer besieged by anti-aircraft fire, they face a new threat: corrosion. The deterioration, decay, and disarticulation of wrecks as a result of corrosion is largely driven by the marine environment. Corrosion studies of WWII remains have primarily focused on chemically-induced corrosion resulting from exchanges between seawater and metal surfaces.

This has led to a prioritization of decay trajectories based on generalized patterns with little known about the localized processes, namely microbially-

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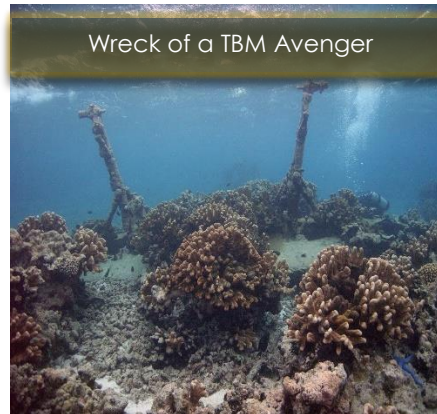
## AIRPLANES AND BACTERIA IN SAIPAN

influenced corrosion (MIC). This type of corrosion occurs post-submergence, when diverse microbial communities, made up of various bacteria, fungi, and other microbes, accumulate on the surface of a wreck in a slimy layer known as biofilm. Within this layer, the metabolic activities (e.g. respiration) of the microbes can lead to the discharge of highly corrosive byproducts, such as hydrogen sulfide, further increasing the destruction of a site. When combined with the effects of generalized corrosion, recreational diving, development, looting, boat traffic, and severe weather events, submerged World War II sites face a number of preservation threats.



The goal is to obtain scrapings of areas along the wrecks' surfaces that exhibit signs of MIC (e.g. discoloration). Samples will be transported back to ECU, where DNA analysis will be used to identify bacteria found in the samples. One of the main objectives of the project is to identify specific

species of microorganisms that can be positively associated with MIC.



Additionally, water and sediment samples will be gathered from the three sites to understand the environmental factors that may influence the bacteria's growing conditions. Each of these wrecks has

been well-documented in the past, and each has been subjected to generalized corrosion tests. These tests, which revealed differential decay rates along the wrecks and the presence of biofilm, the slimy layer of microorganisms, were conducted under the supervision of Dr. Jennifer McKinnon by Vicki Richards and Jon Carpenter of the Western Australia Museum. This current project proposes to build from the earlier studies and has begun its initial planning phases.

The research team would be the first to thoroughly investigate the microbial community of a World War II aircraft. The identification of the microorganisms responsible for MIC is the first step in mitigating against this destructive force, and critical for the formation of intervention strategies. This project will serve as a baseline for subsequent follow-up studies aimed at tracking changes in the microbial community, and learning how these changes may be associated with increased or decreased MIC.

Members of the research team are currently in talks with NOAA and the Naval History and Heritage Command about expanding the project to include several shallow water aircraft wrecks around the main Hawaiian Islands. Ultimately, the results from Saipan and Hawaii can be used to formulate timelines for the survival of wrecks, and thus, provide site managers with insights into actions that need to be taken to protect these wrecks in situ.

**Submitted by Col Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.)**  
**Written by Dominic Bush, PhD Student, Coastal Resource Management, East Carolina University**

## The New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States, Announces the Six Finalists for the RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature

The New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States, has announced today the six finalists for the 2019 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature.

The winner is in the process of being notified. The remaining five authors and their works will also be recognized as Finalists by the Naval Order for their fine contributions to excellence in naval literature.

The Six Finalists for the RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature (listed in alphabetical order by author and not by standing) are:

**Jim Howe** (15 June 2018). *Red Crew: Fighting the War on Drugs with Reagan's Coast Guard*. Naval Institute Press.

**Christopher McKee** (1 May 2018). *Ungentle Goodnights: Life in a Home for Elderly and Disabled Naval Sailors and Marines and the Perilous Seafaring Careers That Brought Them There*. Scribner.

**George Michelsen Foy** (15 October 2016). *Run the Storm: A Savage Hurricane, a Brave Crew, and the Wreck of the SS El Faro*. Naval Institute Press.

**Scott Mobley** (15 May 2018). *Progressives in Navy Blue: Maritime Strategy, American Empire, and the Transformation of U.S. Naval Identity, 1873-1898*. Institute Press.

**Hampton Sides** (2 October 2018). *On Desperate Ground: The Marines at the Reservoir, the Korean War's Greatest Battle*. Doubleday.

**Stephen M. Younger** (15 November 2018). *Silver State Dreadnought: The Remarkable Story of Battleship Nevada*. Naval Institute Press.

Announced today by Past Commander William H. Schmidt, Esq., and Vice Commander, Historian Daniel M. Thys, M.D., Co-Chairmen of the RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award Committee of the New York Commandery, the award will be presented to the winner by Richard J. "Bud" Liptak, Commander, New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States in a ceremony at The Racquet & Tennis Club on Park Avenue, New York City on Monday, 4 November 2019.

The prize is named for the late Rear Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison, a Harvard University history professor widely considered to be America's most distinguished naval historian.

The award is administered and presented by the New York Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States. The finalists and winner are selected by a distinguished committee of members of the New York Commandery.

Books may be recommended for consideration by members of the Naval Order of the United States but must be nominated for Committee consideration by a Companion of the New York Commandery. There are detailed and stringent standards that must be met by the author and the work and the Committee follows set guidelines in considering the nominees.

The Naval Order of the United States, founded in 1890, prides itself on its many distinguished members, among them Admirals George Dewey, William Leahy, Ernest King, Chester Nimitz, William Halsey, Raymond Spruance, Arleigh Burke, James Crowe, and Elmo Zumwalt.

Its purpose is "to encourage research and writing on naval and maritime subjects, preserve documents, portraits and other records of prominent figures, deeds and memories of our naval and maritime history."



# U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY

NOUS National Capital Commandery Life Member and Former Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs, RADM Don Loren, USN (Ret.) with Life Member and accomplished naval author, Commander Rick Campbell, USN (Ret.) represented the NOUS during the United States Naval Academy Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Awards, on 22 May 2019, as part of the Academy's Class of 2019 Commencement Week activities. The NOUS Prize has been presented for 85 consecutive years to those midshipmen who have written the best essay on current national or international affairs. These awards are the senior division awards across the entire Academy Division of Humanities and Social Sciences and include the Departments of Economics, English, History, Languages and Culture, and Political Science.

ADM Loren, who has presented these awards for the past five years, assumed this responsibility from long-time award coordinator CAPT Jim Brooke, USN (Ret.), whose death was a great loss to our order. Loren, a 1974 graduate of the Naval Academy, served as Deputy Director, J-5, for Political-Military Affairs on the Joint Staff, and has a long history of national and international security assignments on the OPNAV, Joint, and Secretary of Defense staffs. Campbell, a retired Navy submariner and 1985 graduate of the Academy has written five bestselling navy and submarine thrillers, and is also a member of the National Capital Commandery.

This year's awards were selected from a strong field of finalists nominated by the Academy instructors, and chosen by a committee of the Division professors. The 2019 recipients were:

*The NOUS CAPT James F. Brooke, III Memorial Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Award --* Midshipman First Class Kayla J. Gansrow for her paper titled "The Impact of the Democratic System on Relative Executive-Legislative Power Relations: Evidence from Nine Democracies Exposed to Protracted modern Terrorism."

*The NOUS Senior Division Award --* Midshipman First Class Pierce J. McNamara for his paper which focused on vindicating U.S. Intelligence reports of the presence of chemical weapons prior to the Iraq War of 2003.

*The NOUS Junior Division Award --* Midshipman Fourth Class Hannah M. Citsay for her paper titled "Pressure and Success: Directly Proportional," which focused on an analysis of the USN/USMC landings at Inchon during the Korean War.



Awardee Midshipman First Class Kayla J. Gansrow



Awardee Midshipman First Class Pierce J. McNamara



Awardee Midshipman Fourth Class Hannah M. Citsay

**Submitted by Rear Admiral Don Loren, USN (Ret.)**

While it hardly seems possible, it been nearly six years since I assumed the role of the Order's Surgeon General and started writing this column. Regrettably, I now find that the demands of running my growing company no longer permit me the time needed to research and continue writing these articles. For this edition, I am concluding my articles on the Navy's Philippine Recruiting Program (PEP) with a first-hand account of how Filipinos came to serve in the U.S. Coast Guard. This, then will be my last article.

[The Newsletter Team wishes to thank Tom for his hard work in providing us with fascinating and informative Naval History. We will miss his input.]



In my first PEP article, I stated that only the Navy chose to operate a Philippine Recruiting Program, even though all branches of the U.S. armed forces were legally authorized to do so.

The genesis of this last article comes from Companion Winston G. Churchill (CAPT, USCG, Ret.) who pointed out that his experience seemed to indicate otherwise. After consultations with the Coast Guard Historian, CAPT Churchill provided an excellent first-hand interview between Mr. Chris Pisares of the Domestic Port Security Evaluation Division at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters and his father.

**Q: Where you recruited by the Navy or the CG?**

A: Navy. There were no CG recruiters out there.

**Q: How did you end up in the CG?**

A: In our group of about 100 or so that reported to Sangely Point, 15 of us were told we're in the CG.

**Q: Did the Navy select the people? Where you told of the criteria for selection?**

A: There was a CG detachment at Sangely Point and I think they selected U.S. Navy and CG personnel wore similar uniforms and we just showed up, so we're weren't really sure who was who. We don't know how we got selected nor asked.

**Q: Did you know about the CG before being selected?**

A: No. Never heard of the CG. Those of us who were selected asked "What's the CG?" and were told it's a U.S. military agency similar to the Navy.

We didn't ask that many questions because it was months, sometime a year or more, from the time you applied to when you're notified to report for the physical and mental test, to being selected – if you made it that far as there were several thousand applicants. If you were selected, you didn't want to do anything that would get you kicked out and sent home.

**Q: When where you told that you'll be a steward in the CG?**

A: Some time during boot camp in Alameda.

**Q: Is that where the training started?**

A: Training started at Sangely Point. After being told we're in the CG, we were issued uniforms and started basic military training, (i.e. how to wear your uniform, how to march, how to salute, how to hold a rifle). We were also told about the CG and what to expect when going to the U.S.

After a couple weeks, we boarded a USN Sealift cargo vessel to travel to the U.S. While aboard the vessel, there was more training and we worked cleaning the vessel. The vessel docked at the Port of Oakland, or somewhere near there, and we were quarantined in the U.S. Public Health Hospital for a couple weeks undergoing medical checks and admin paperwork. We then reported to CG Base Alameda for boot camp.

After boot camp, we spent 2-3 weeks at CG Base Alameda learning how to be Stewardsman (TN) ashore at the Wardroom and aboard a vessel.

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The first CG vessel I step aboard was the CGC Taney for training. We learned how to set the table prepare/serve the food, remove the plates, clear/clean the table, make the racks, clean the staterooms/heads, and vacuum/dust, mop the deck, laundry, iron shirts/pants, shine shoes - similar to a housekeeper.

**Q: How did you end up cooking aboard the ship?**

A: As a TN, you would break-in under the Commissaryman or the Steward to help prepare the meals and put the food on the plates. Eventually, they let you cook. But you still had all your other duties in the wardroom and staterooms.

**Q: Did some of the TN's have college degrees?**

A: Yes. After Alameda, I was assigned to the CG Academy Cadet Wardroom. One of the TNs has some dentist training/experience and was assigned to the clinic, but was still a TN. Another TN had a civil engineering degree and worked a few years on construction projects. At times, he was assigned to assist cadets understand civil engineering concepts or using surveying equipment.

**Q: Did you hear/see other Filipinos entering the CG in the late 60's and 70's?**

A: Yes, others joined the CG through the program, but there weren't as many as in the 50's and early 60's. The CG allowed Filipinos to change rates in either 1967 or 1968. It may be worth interviewing other Filipinos who joined in the 60's - 80's as I'm sure the policies for entrance and training changed over time. Alternatively, there may be Personnel Manuals from the 1950's that address overseas recruitment. It'd be great to find a CG person who was assigned to Sangley Point or even Subic Bay. Let me know of any follow up questions and I can ask my parents. - Chris

On a separate note, there are comical stories regarding culture understandings: either my mom or dad heard this while at Governor's Island - while it may be a joke, it wouldn't surprise me if it happened: A TN, who recently reported aboard a cutter, was working the wardroom when an officer asked for jam. The TN, not understanding the request, started dancing and as the officer yelled for jam, he kept on moving and shaking. One of the Stewards heard the commotion and brought over the jar of jelly.

**Submitted by Tom Burden, LCDR, MSC, USN (Ret.)**



**Charleston**

Mr. Kyle Harlin Bollman  
 CDR Albert William Caiazza, USN (Ret.)  
 Mr. Michael John Carra  
 CAPT Thom Woodward Ford, USN (Ret.)  
 CDR Christina Cummings Ward, USN (Ret.)

**Florida First Coast**

CAPT Gary Lawrence Deal, USN (Ret.)  
 Mr. Richard Murphy

**National Capitol**

Ms. Margarita Lucia Emmanuelli

**New Orleans**

Mr. Albro P. Michell, Jr.

**New York City**

Mr. Peter Eugene Gallagher

**Philadelphia/Delaware Valley**

Mr. Christopher Michael Beausoleil  
 Mr. Eugene Norbert Dubay  
 Mr. Robert Gelsner  
 CDR Frank Joseph Kenny, Jr., USN (Ret.)  
 LCDR Kevin Robert Moran, USN

**San Francisco**

Mr. Philroy Clifton Gale, III  
 CAPT Robert Edwin Peterson, Jr., USN (Ret.)  
 CDR Michael John Preovolos, USN, (Ret.)

**Send all contact info changes to:**

CAPT M. K. Carlock  
 6205 7th Ave N  
 St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
 M.K.Carlock@gmail.com  
 415-725-2101

**We note the passing of our fellow Naval Order Companions. May their memories be a blessing.**

**CAPT Gene Lyle Alair, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 6786)  
National Capital Commandery  
Joined 1 August 1991  
Died 20 February 2019

**Ordice Alton Gallups, Jr., OBL.S.B**

(Certificate 9321)  
National Capital Commandery  
Joined 25 November 2013  
Died 14 March 2019

**CAPT Douglas Andrew Jacobsen, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 4670)  
New York City Commandery  
Joined 07 April 1969  
Died 06 May 2018

**CAPT Roy Thomas Janiec, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 6051)  
San Francisco Commandery  
Joined 11 February 1988  
Died 13 September 2018

**CAPT Rolland "Landy" Ament Langley, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 6178)  
National Capital Commandery  
Joined 07 November 1988  
Died 22 November 2018

**CAPT William D. Loockerman, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 5663)  
Western New York Commandery  
Joined 01 June 1979  
Died 01 April 2019

**CAPT Roman E. Piotrowski, SC, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 5422)  
Continental and Illinois Commandery  
Joined 15 October 1980  
Died 18 February 2019

**CWO Bruce Rall Pollard, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 5476)  
San Francisco Commandery  
Joined 03 August 1991  
Died 23 July 2018

**VADM James E. Service, USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 5919)  
San Diego Commandery  
Joined 07 Dec 1986  
Died 10 February 2017

**RADM Ernest Eugene Tissot, Jr., USN (Ret.)**

(Certificate 8603)  
Monterey Commandery  
Joined 21 November 2006  
Died 03 May 2019

**John Francis Watkins**

(Certificate 7697)  
Texas Commandery  
Joined 27 August 1998  
Died 09 December 2017

**Bernard Wendrow**

(Certificate 7262)  
Continental and Illinois Commandery  
Joined 21 January 1995  
Died 26 December 2017





## Naval Order of the United States 2019 National Congress Registration

Boston, Massachusetts

October 23-27

Congress Registration Information	
Name _____	Rank/Service _____
Address _____	
Email _____	Telephone _____
Commandery _____	Spouse/Guest _____
Name Badge _____	Name Badge _____
Projected Arrival _____	Projected Departure _____

Congress Reservations/Fees & Payment			
Reservations	Cost Per Person	Number	Total
<b>General Registration for Companion and spouse/partner</b> <i>(Includes Commander General's Receptions, Luncheons, Continental Breakfasts, DSSA Banquet, Refreshments, Hospitality Suite, tax &amp; gratuities)</i>	\$325		
<b>Commander General's Receptions</b> <i>Non-registered Guest</i>	\$60		
<b>DSSA-SE/Lee Douglas Luncheon</b> <i>Non-registered Guest</i>	\$40		
<b>Dewey Award Luncheon</b> <i>Non-registered Guest</i>	\$40		
<b>Distinguished Sea Service Award Banquet</b> <i>Non-registered Guest</i>	\$125		
<b>Total Enclosed:</b> <i>Hotel reservations must be made separately; please see <a href="http://www.navalorder.org">www.navalorder.org</a> or hotel information</i>			

Please Make Check Payable to: NOUS 2019 Congress

Send Check & Registration form to: LT Jim Lansing  
1048 Union Street Apt 7  
San Francisco, CA 94133



Naval Order of the United States  
 Founded on Independence Day, 1890  
 NOUS Registrar General  
 6205 7th Avenue N  
 St Petersburg, FL 33710  
 NavalOrder.org

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 Organization  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### The Naval Order of the United States Ship's Store

Mail this form & a check payable to "Naval Order of the US" to Thomas Snyder 131 El Camino Real, Vallejo, CA 94590  
 Please note your home commandery and email address. Questions? Contact Tom at 707-373-3989 or shipsstore.nous@gmail.com

Authorized for all Companions:

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>
The Naval Order Cross (Large medal, 1 1/4")	_____	\$35.00
The Naval Order Cross (Miniature medal, 3/4")	_____	\$25.00
Ladies Necklace (3/4" Naval Order Cross w/chain)	_____	\$15.00
Campaign Ribbon	_____	\$10.00
Naval Order Rosette	_____	\$15.00
Naval Order Cross Lapel Pin	_____	\$10.00
Naval Order Tie, Silk	_____	\$20.00
Naval Order Tie Bar	_____	\$10.00
Naval Order Cufflink Set	_____	\$20.00
Naval Order Blazer Patch	_____	\$20.00
Naval Order Flag (3' x 5') two sides	_____	\$95.00
Naval Order Banner (3' x 5') one side	_____	\$60.00
NOUS Baseball Cap - plain bill	_____	\$14.00
-- NOUS Ball Cap "eggs" 05/06	_____	\$15.00
-- NOUS Ball Cap "eggs" Flag Officer	_____	\$16.00
NOUS Pima Cotton Golf Shirt - Black, White, Royal Blue - Size S M L XL XXL	_____	\$40.00
Aloha Shirt XXL	_____	\$40.00
"Navy Heroes of Normandy" DVD	_____	\$ 5.00
Challenge Coin (commemorating 100 Years of Naval Aviation)	_____	\$ 5.00

For past and present National Officers and Commandery Commanders only:

Naval Order Blazer Patch w/Crest	_____	\$25.00
Large Cross with Neck Ribbon - (Worn with formal attire only)	_____	\$45.00

Unless stated differently, **ADD SHIPPING** (domestic) \$6.00 (international) \$15.00  
**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_