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Companions at the Alamo

In this issue:

Commander General's Report to the Order...	2
2018 Congress Highlights.....	4
2019 Congress.....	9
Commandery Reports.....	9
Notes from the Sick Bay.....	25
Tribute to President George H.W. Bush.....	27



Lithograph of Boston Tea Party

Introducing Our All New Design: A Bridge from Our Past into Our Future

2018 Texas Congress Overview

With the very successful San Antonio Congress in our wake, we are preparing our sailing/flight plan for Boston. For those of us who were able to attend, we have fond memories of this wonderful event and the people who made it unforgettable.

On Tuesday, we spent the day at the National Museum of the Pacific War and in historic downtown Fredericksburg, the boyhood home of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

On Wednesday morning, before committee meetings kicked off in the afternoon, we visited the Briscoe Western Art Museum in San Antonio to view art and artifacts from across the history and cultures of the American West.

On Thursday, we started the day with the remaining committee and General Council meetings before we visited the Alamo, one of the most popular historic sites in the United States (see photo on front cover).

That evening, the Commander General's Reception and a very spacious Texas-style hospitality suite were terrific venues for comradery to top off three active days of pre-Congress activities.

On Friday morning, the Congress was officially called to order. The "Tolling of the Bell" ceremony recognized companions who had "Crossed the Bar" since our last Congress. After reports from several national officers we heard a terrific presentation by CAPT "Pete" Peterson, USN (Ret.) a Vietnam-era veteran of the Navy Sea, Air, and Land Teams, better known as SEALs. During lunch we recognized SgtMaj Angela Maness, USMC (Ret.), recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Sea Service Senior Enlisted Award and Florida First Coast Commandery with the 2018 LCDR Lee Douglas Award during lunch.

That afternoon, Mr. Don Kehn, the Texas Commandery Historian and CWO3 Anthony Atwood, USN (Ret.), Southeast Florida Commandery Commander made excellent presentations.

On Saturday morning, we returned to business with the remaining national officers' reports. CAPT Marc Liebman, USN (Ret.) discussed "Combat Search & Rescue" (CSAR) during the Vietnam conflict. During lunch, the Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award was presented to Companion Marshall P. Cloyd, and RADM Douglas Moore, SC, USN (Ret.) was presented with the 2017 Navy Supply Corps Foundation Distinguished Alumni Award by RADM Michael Lyden, SC, USN (Ret.). Companion James Hornfischer, 2004 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature recipient, captivated our companions during the afternoon presentation.

General Council Actions

- Approved Records Management Program and initiative to update the Operations Manual.
- Effect donation of historic Naval Order gavel to the Naval War College Museum.
- Approved changes of General Commandery Officer positions including, Vice Commander General (VCG) for Communications, VCG (At-Large) for Project Management, Asst Treasurer General / Ship Store Manager, Asst Historian General.
- Continue designation of VCG (At-Large) for Continental Commandery Commander.
- Approve \$2,000 expenditure for IRS tax-exempt status/determination.
- Designate Chicago Commandery as "Inactive."

That evening, after a wonderful reception, a solemn tribute to fallen and missing shipmates and a terrific dinner, ADM James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN (Ret.), was presented with the Distinguished Sea Service Award. After a series of toasts to USS *Constitution*, the six maritime services, and the United States, the business of the 2018 Annual Naval Order Congress was concluded.

"Many Hands Make Light Work"

This Chinese proverb is the hallmark of our success ranging from administration to communication. Our world - class organization exists because of the hard

work of companions who diligently carry out their volunteer activities throughout the year for the Good of the Order. The Congress was an outstanding opportunity to recognize these dedicated professionals at the closest thing we have to an "All Hands Event."

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The Houston - based Texas Commandery, led by their Commander, CDR Bryan Lethcoe, USN (Ret.) planned and effected an extraordinary Congress nearly 200 miles away. Although this is a daunting distance for most of us, the host committee brushed it off, noting that "this is nothing in Texas."

The host committee included: RADM Peter Andrus, MC, USN (Ret.); CDR Robert Frazier, SC, USN (Ret.); CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.); LT Steven Howell, USN (Ret.); CAPT W.O. King, Jr., USN (Ret.); and MM2 (SS) Gilbert Raynor, USN (Ret.)

And thank you to the spouses and families who provided support and picked up the slack while the host committee was hard at work. Thank you, BZ Texas Commandery and congratulations for the Commander General's Medals/Certificates of Appreciation!

We also recognized the superb efforts of our Companions who have devotedly served the Naval Order for many years:

CAPT Stan Ellexson, Jr., USN (Ret.); CAPT Robert Hobson, USN (Ret.); CAPT Fran McDonald, USN (Ret.); CAPT Vance Morrison, USN (Ret.); and CAPT Greg Streeter, USN (Ret.)

Thank you and BZ to Recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award!

Several Companions made remarkable contributions to our organization during the past year:

CAPT Ken Arendt, SC, USN (Ret.); LCDR Tom Burden, MSC, USN (Ret.); CAPT Kris Carlock, USN (Ret.); Col Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.); MCCS Robert Hansen, USN (Ret.); Dr. John Hattendorf; Ms. Sarah Koller; CAPT Michele Lockwood, USN (Ret.); Ms. Susie McLaurine; RADM Douglas Moore, Jr., SC, USN (Ret.); CDR Lou Orsini, USCG (Ret.); Dr. Judy Pearson, PhD; Hon. Bill Schmidt; Mr. Don Schuld; CAPT Bill Waylett, USN (Ret.); CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.)

Thank you and BZ to recipients of the Commander General's Medal/Certificate of Appreciation!

RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature

On November 5th, the New York Commandery presented the 2018 RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature to John Wukovits, author of *Tin Can Titans*. This formal dinner was the culmination of the New York Commandery's annual recognition of the American author "who, by his published writings, has made a substantial contribution to the preservation of the history and traditions of the United States Sea Services – the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S. Flag Merchant Marine."

The New York Commandery put substantial effort into the administration and presentation of this prestigious award. The renowned and highly sought-after Samuel Eliot Morison Award attracts the most outstanding authors who understand its value and its impact on their careers. The stringent standard met by the author and the award committee validates its value and prestige. It reflects significantly on the Naval Order and improves our standing in promoting and celebrating naval history. BZ New York Commandery!

Pearl Harbor Commemoration

The Pearl Harbor Commemoration is one of our keystone events. At 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time on 7 December 1941 a Japanese dive bomber bearing the red symbol of the Rising Sun of Japan on its wings appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in a ferocious assault. The surprise attack struck a critical blow against the U.S. Pacific Fleet and drew the United States irrevocably into World War II.

On 8 December, President Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of Congress and declared, "Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."

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After a brief and forceful speech, he asked Congress to approve a resolution recognizing the state of war between the United States and Japan. The Senate voted for war against Japan by 82 to 0, and the House of Representatives approved the resolution by a vote of 388 to 1.

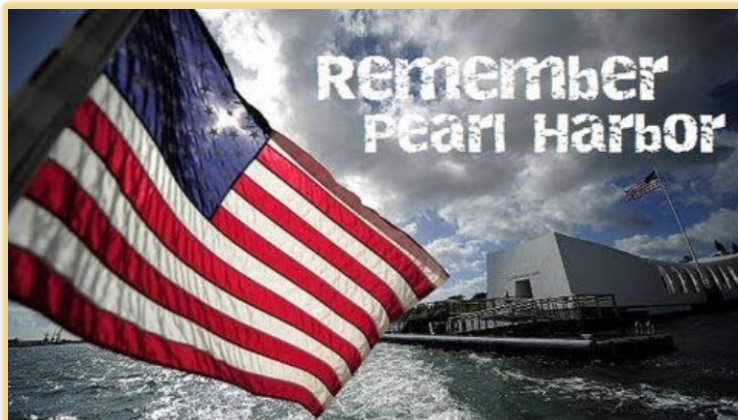


FDR Delivers Pearl Harbor Speech

The sole dissenter was Representative Jeannette Rankin of Montana, a devout pacifist who had also cast a dissenting vote against the United States' entrance into World War I. Two days later Germany and Italy declared war on the United States.

World War II was the deadliest military conflict in history when an estimated total 70-85 million people perished, which was about 3% of the 1940 world population; estimated to be about 2.3 billion. For the United States, it was the third most costly war where .307% of our people perished; behind the Civil War (2.385%) and the American Revolutionary War (1%).

This is an incredibly important part of our Nation's and naval history. Thank you to the organizers of



our nationwide Pearl Harbor Commemorations and to the companions and their guests who participate in them to make them successful.

Local Commanderies and Camaraderie - Our Strength

The greatest potential of the Naval Order rests with local commanderies and the personal relationships between companions. Although we all belong the General Commandery, the only "personal" contact many of us have with each other are this newsletter or when we participate in a Congress. I urge you to get involved, participate whenever possible, and create an atmosphere where we can improve our organization and mission success – to preserve, promote, celebrate and enjoy our Nation's Sea Service history and heritage.

2019 Congress

The Naval Order's 2019 Congress will be held from Tuesday, 22 October through Sunday, 27 October at the Constitution Inn in Boston, Massachusetts, the birthplace of the Naval Order and homeport of our honorary flagship, *USS Constitution*.



The Constitution Inn is located at the head of the Freedom Trail, adjacent to the Charleston Navy Yard in the heart of Boston and in close proximity to many local attractions. It is the perfect base from which to enjoy Boston's rich history, culture, museums and nightlife.

Please consider putting this Congress on your "bucket list" for 2019!

Submitted by CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.)

**2018 Naval Order of the United States Congress
“Come and Take It”: We Are Glad We Did!**

On Tuesday, 23 October 2018, about 35 Companions visited the six acre National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas, the boyhood home of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. The museum is dedicated exclusively to the Pacific Theater battles of World War II. It is the only museum in the Continental United States centered on World War II's Pacific campaign.



National Museum of the Pacific War

The conning tower and foc'sle of USS *Pintado* (SS-387) is at the main museum entrance. *Pintado* was commissioned 1 January 1944. She conducted six war patrols in the Pacific, where she was credited with sinking 13 ships of 98,600 tons, and damaging two additional vessels, one a 28,000 ton aircraft carrier to score a total of 34,300 tons.



Museum's Main Entrance

The George H.W. Bush Gallery exhibitions vividly conveyed the shock and destruction of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, “a date which will live in infamy.” The displays provided high impact experiences, and central to the experience was a spectacular artifact —



the HA-19, one of five Japanese two-man subs that took part in the attack. The HA-19 (also known as Japanese Midget Submarine "C" by the U.S. Navy) is a historic Imperial Japanese Navy Type A Kō-hyōteki-class midget submarine. This submarine was ordered to enter Pearl Harbor, then attack the American warships with its torpedoes and then be scuttled with explosives next to a warship. However, she did not enter the harbor, and was grounded and captured.

The story of the Pacific War is told through media-rich presentations, meaningful testimonials and historically significant artifacts. The Gallery's state-of-the-art 33,000 square foot exhibition features 40 media installations, approximately 900 artifacts in 97 climate-controlled cases, 15 macro-artifacts, and hundreds of photographs. It is clear that the Pacific Theater was not a sideshow to the war in Europe, but a conflict that affected the course of world history.

The displays enabled us to go island to island with the marines and soldiers as they fought their way to ensure America's freedom. We (virtually) sailed with the U.S Navy's Pacific Fleet as they battled for control of the Pacific.

The outdoor Plaza of the Presidents is a tribute to the ten United States Presidents who served during World War II: Franklin D. Roosevelt (Commander in Chief), Harry S Truman (Commander in Chief), General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower (Army), John F. Kennedy (Navy), Lyndon B. Johnson (Navy), Richard Nixon (Navy), Gerald Ford (Navy), Jimmy Carter (Navy), Ronald Reagan (Army) and George H. W. Bush (Navy).

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The Japanese Garden of Peace, a gift of the Japanese government, was designed by Taketora Saita as a replica of the private garden of Gensui The Marquis Tōgō (1848–1934), the main Imperial Japanese Navy commander in the Russo-Japanese War.



The hotel owned by Nimitz's grandfather, Charles Henry Nimitz, was restored to its original design and renamed the Admiral Nimitz Museum. It chronicles the story of Fleet ADM Nimitz, beginning with his life as a young boy through his naval career, as well as the evolution of the old hotel.



On Wednesday, about 20 Companions visited the Briscoe Western Art Museum, which presents art and artifacts from across the history and cultures of the American West over five centuries, from the Spanish



conquest to the present day. It brings to life the vibrant culture and heritage of the Western United States through a permanent collection of Western art and artifacts related to the American cowboy, American Indian, the Vaquero, pioneering women and the many diverse groups that forged the American West. Highlights of the museum include Pancho Villa's last known saddle, an interactive diorama of the Alamo conflict, a restored chuck wagon, and Santa Anna's ceremonial sword. It was a nice complement to our interest in naval history that gave us a glimpse of the western spirit.

Several committees met to discuss ongoing efforts, plans for the upcoming year and other issues that were reported on during the General Session. Most importantly, the hospitality suite was opened that evening where companions renewed relationships with old friends and established new friendships.



On Thursday, we started the day with the remaining committee meetings before about 45 Companions visited the five-acre site of the Alamo, one of the most popular historic sites in the United States.

We toured the chapel, as well as the Long Barracks, which contains a small museum with paintings, weapons, and other artifacts from the era of the Texas Revolution.

Additional artifacts are displayed in another building complex, alongside a large diorama that depicts the compound as it existed in 1836.

A large mural, known as the Wall of History, portrays the history of the Alamo complex from its mission days to modern times.

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That evening the Commander General's Reception provided yet another opportunity for Companions to socialize and enjoy each other's company. Afterward several companions regrouped at the hospitality suite to continue socializing.

On Friday, after a terrific continental breakfast, the 2019 Congress was officially called to order, colors were presented by the San Antonio's John Marshall High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by Our Chaplain General, CDR Michael Zuffoletto, Chaplain Corps, USN (Ret); better known to most of us as "Father Mike".

The first order of business was the "Tolling of the Bell" ceremony, a unique and time-honored memorial that is in keeping with the finest traditions of our naval services, to honor the memory of our Companions who have perished since the last Congress. Parliamentarian General CAPT Fran McDonald, USN (Ret.) led the recognition of 59 deceased companions while Master-At-Arms LCDR Steven Sinclair, USN (Ret.), tolled the ships bell for each in turn. Each tolling was followed by a moment of silent reflection. The tolling of the bell reminds us of the debt of gratitude we owe to our departed companions. We shall never forget them or their service.

Our entire membership comprises the General Commandery which to date has included nearly 10,000 members. About 80 companions and their guests listened as several National Officers reported on their accomplishments over the past year and plans for the next.

CAPT Robert "Pete" Peterson, USN (Ret.) gave the first presentation, titled "A SEAL Plank Owner's Vietnam Experience, 1964-1975." SEALs trained river patrol forces to disrupt Viet Cong river logistics; continuously adapting their tactics to achieve maximum effectiveness. CAPT Peterson shared several vignettes, highlighting personal risks and ingenuity, and the invaluable work done by locals to assist the SEALs in their mission as well as ongoing risks and suffering during the North Vietnamese takeover. CAPT Peterson noted that SEAL experiences and lessons learned in Vietnam formed the basis for operations and specialization by the

current SEAL Teams such as the one that took down Osama Bin Laden.

An awards luncheon took place in the San Antonio Banquet room to honor the Distinguished Sea Service Senior Enlisted Awardee and to recognize a Naval Order Commandery for superior accomplishment in 2018.

The Distinguished Sea Service Senior Enlisted Award was presented to SgtMaj Angela M. Maness, USMC (Ret.). This prestigious award recognizes a United States senior enlisted member of our sea services; who over their total career, has distinguished themselves and the sea services in a manner that sets them apart from their peers; as one who stands "First Among Firsts," an individual who represents the finest qualities of leadership, commitment to duty, and performance.

The Senior Enlisted Award is named in honor of our late distinguished companion and World War II veteran, Chief Petty Officer Howard Snell, USN (Ret.). Col. Allan Cruz, USMC (Ret.), our Commander General-Elect, read the citation. SgtMaj Maness graciously accepted the award; recognizing significant persons, events and opportunities that contributed to her extraordinary career.

RADM Douglas Moore, USN (Ret.), Chairman of the Awards Committee, described the Lee Douglas Award, which recognizes the outstanding efforts of an individual commandery. He then presented the 2018 Award to the Florida First Coast Commander. CAPT Robert Whitkop, USN (Ret.), accepted the award on behalf of the Commandery and recognized the hard work of the many outstanding Companions whose extraordinary efforts contributed to the commandery's achievements.

Companion Mr. Don Kehn's presentation entitled "Be of Good Courage: Asiatic Fleet four-pipers at Balikpapan, 1942" depicted the first Navy surface action since the Spanish-American War, where four small and technically obsolete World War I vintage destroyers, *USS Parrot*, *USS Pope*, *USS Paul Jones* and *USS John Ford*, assisted by the Dutch submarine *K-18*, conducted a nighttime surprise attack on Japanese transports, destroyers and patrol boats at anchor.

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While the material impact of the attack was minimal, the boost to allied morale was significant, given the dismal state of the United States Asiatic Fleet and assertive Japanese operations in the region.

Companion CWO3 Anthony Atwood, USN (Ret.) then spoke about the Miami Military Museum & Memorial titled "This Old Headquarters...Returning NAS Richmond to Service." He recounted the history of the Richmond Headquarters Building in its transition from military service during World War II, to covert operations during the Cold War, to an exhibition of its history, and a transition to modern naval operations in the region. The museum opened in September 2018 and has become the center of gravity for the Naval Order's Southeast Florida Commandery.

On Saturday, after breakfast the remaining National Officer reports on accomplishments over the past year and plans for the next were presented.

CAPT Marc Liebman, USN (Ret.) discussed his experiences as a helicopter pilot conducting "Combat Search & Rescue (CSAR) In and Around North Vietnam." CAPT Liebman shared compelling stories to detail CSAR platforms and equipment, personnel, operations, tactics and challenges. He discussed the evolution of CSAR from Korea to Vietnam including the greater reliance on pilot discretion for the Navy to conduct inland CSAR operations which entail greater risk but are essential in the joint warfighting environment.

A luncheon to honor the Naval Order's Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Awardee was held in the San Antonio Banquet room. It was also an opportunity for presentation of the Navy Supply Corps Foundation Distinguished Alumni Award.

The Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award was presented to Companion Marshall P. Cloyd. This award recognizes a United States civilian eligible for regular membership in the Naval Order whose record of exemplary service sets him/her apart from his/her peers: is eligible for nomination, an individual who represents the finest qualities of leadership, commitment to duty and performance.

CAPT Woe King, USN (Ret.) introduced Mr. Cloyd and CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.), Immediate Past Commander of the Texas Commandery, read the citation. Mr. Cloyd graciously accepted the award; sharing a personal glimpse of noteworthy circumstances, events, opportunities, and persons associated with his remarkable service to our nation.

RADM Michael Lyden, SC, USN (Ret.), the Vice Chair of the Navy Supply Corps Foundation, presented RADM Douglas Moore, SC, USN (Ret.) with the 2018 Navy Supply Corps Foundation Distinguished Alumni Award. RADM Lyden described the award and recounted RADM Moore's service leading to his selection. RADM Moore cordially accepted the award, recognized influential mentors and colleagues, and disclosed several significant and, in most cases, humorous events from his extraordinary career.

Following the luncheon, 2004 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature recipient and companion, James Hornfischer, spoke about his most recent book, *The Fleet at Flood Tide*, with a presentation entitled "Revelation and Reckoning: The Mariana Islands Campaign & Victory in the Pacific War." The discussion covered fighting for the Marianas Islands (Saipan, Guam, and Tinian) and the bombings of Japan, made possible by those victories, and the horrific firebombing of major cities, culminating in the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The Distinguished Sea Service Award Reception and Banquet were the culmination of our 2018 Congress. This award recognizes a United States naval officer who, over their total career, distinguished themselves and the naval services, such that they should be singled out as one who stands "First Among Firsts," an individual who represents the finest qualities of leadership, commitment to duty and performance. The Distinguished Sea Service Award recipient is chosen from among the most senior officers of our naval services who retired during the last three years and whose record of service while on active duty sets them apart from their peers.

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After a tribute to fallen and missing shipmates and a terrific dinner, the Distinguished Sea Service Award was presented to ADM James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN (Ret.) who graciously accepted the award, recounted the events of September 11, 2001 aboard USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65), the eighth United States naval vessel to bear that name, and his address to the crew, notifying them of the terrorist attack as the ship was put into position to strike back.

After a series of toasts to USS *Constitution*, the six maritime services and the United States - "One flag, one land, one heart, one hand, one nation evermore" - the business of the 2018 Annual Naval Order Congress was concluded.

The Naval Order will next meet in Boston, birthplace of the Naval Order and homeport of our honorary flagship, USS *Constitution*, on 23 October 2019.

Submitted by CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret.)

First Time at the National Congress

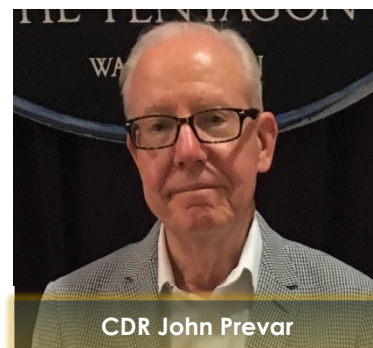
And I thought it was just for commandery executive board members – wrong!

Although I'm a relatively new companion of the Naval Order, I was recently elected to be the Vice Commander, Membership, for the National Capital Commandery, so I decided it was time to attend a National Congress.

CAPT John Rodgaard, our recent Commandery Commander, as well as CAPT Vance Morrison, past Commander General, and CAPT Paul Crissy, the current Commander General (both National Capital Commandery companions), had all encouraged me and the rest of our companions for some time to attend the National Congress, and I finally learned first-hand that it's for all of us. In fact, there were eight of us from the National Commandery in attendance this year, and I noted that other commanderies were also well represented – San Francisco topped the list with 14.

Attending the National Congress gave me a bigger picture of what the Naval Order is all about. "History, Heritage, and Comradeship" came alive as I listened to the guest speakers and awards

recipients, socialized with companions from my own and the other commanderies, and talked with our very dedicated General Commandery Officers in person. It was a distinct pleasure to meet CAPT Kris Carlock, our hard



CDR John Prevar

working Registrar General, who has been a tremendous help to me in keeping our commandery's membership records up to date. Her database is nothing short of awesome!

Finally, there was the venue. San Antonio may not be a Navy town, but it proudly declares itself to be "Military City, USA" and gave us a great welcome. And the host Texas Commandery gets a big Bravo Zulu for organizing such a huge affair far away from its home base in Houston. I very much look forward to the next National Congress in Boston, 23-26 October 2019 and hope to see many of you there.

Submitted by CDR John Prevar, USN (Ret.)

2019 Naval Order Congress Boston - 22-27 October 2019

The Naval Order's 2019 Congress will be held from Tuesday, 22 October through Sunday 27 October at the Constitution Inn in Boston, Massachusetts, the Birthplace of the Naval Order and homeport of our honorary flagship USS *Constitution*.

The Constitution Inn is located at the head of the Freedom Trail, adjacent to the Charleston Navy Yard in the heart of Boston in close proximity to many historic attractions. It is a perfect base from which to enjoy Boston's rich history, culture, museums and night life. The Constitution Inn has 147 rooms and we currently have a room block of 60 reserved; two beds at \$155.35 per night and one king bed at \$161.85 per night. To book a room at the Constitution Inn, please contact Beth Benner at ebenner@ymcaboaton.org or (617) 286-1209.

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The hotel is located in an up-graded neighborhood on the Freedom Trail and adjacent to Bunker Hill and the North End, which is well known for excellent restaurants. The hotel is just across the river from downtown Boston and there is a free shuttle service from a bus stop one block from the hotel to North Station in downtown Boston, and a water taxi for a nominal charge from the USS Constitution Museum to downtown Boston.



Commandant's House

During the Congress we will have docents conducting tours of the USS Constitution. The Commander General's Reception on Thursday night will be at the historic Commandant's House just two blocks from the hotel. In addition to USS Constitution, the Charleston Navy Yard, also known as the Boston National Historical park operated by the U.S. National Park Service, is a very interesting place to visit. It includes the USS Constitution Museum and USS Cassin Young (DD 793), a Fletcher Class Destroyer which is open for tours. There are any number of tour companies which have a wide variety of tours of Boston and its environs.

Submitted by RADM Douglas Moore, USN (Ret.)

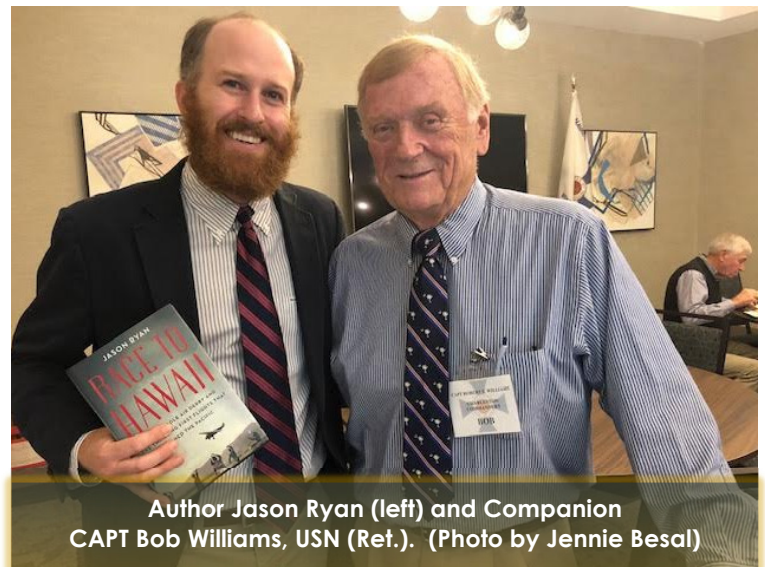
Charleston Companions and guests attending the October meeting were treated to a very special afternoon. Our Companion Gene Blanton hosted the gathering at his company's newest hospitality property - the Mt. Pleasant, SC Cambria Hotel.



Gene Blanton
(photo by Jennie Besal)

The hotel's meeting area served as a perfect venue for the day's program: a presentation by nationally acclaimed author, Jason Ryan, followed by a most delicious seafood buffet. Through Gene Blanton's angling skills and his incomparable generosity, the spread featured king salmon and halibut from his recent Alaskan fishing expedition.

Mr. Ryan's new book, *Race to Hawaii: The 1927 Dole Air Derby and the Thrilling First Flights That Opened the Pacific* details the efforts by wealthy Hawaiian pineapple grower James Dole to promote trans-Pacific flight in the mid-1920s. The author focused his comments on the Navy's efforts to win the Dole Air Derby cash prize by flying 2400 miles from San Francisco, CA to Honolulu, HI.



Author Jason Ryan (left) and Companion CAPT Bob Williams, USN (Ret.). (Photo by Jennie Besal)

Ryan related the story of CDR John Rodgers and his crew in a PN-9-1 flying boat that flew 1541 miles but ran low on fuel and was forced to land. The innovative aircrew fashioned sails from the aircraft's fabric wing covering and set sail for the remaining distance to Hawaii.

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Mr. Ryan concluded that while the Navy's effort fell short to win the Derby prize, CDR Roger's efforts led to further development of longer range Navy patrol and transport aircraft. Less than 20 years later, these improved aircraft were integral in the Navy's WWII Pacific campaigns.

In November, the Commandery met for an informative session and conviviality at our "usual gathering place," the Huguenot Heritage Hall. Companion CAPT Pat Keaveny, USNR (Ret.), who also serves in the Charleston Council of the Navy League President role, offered a presentation detailing the history of previous naval vessels named for our city, as well as the progress toward the commissioning ceremony for the sixth ship to bear the name, the soon-to-be- USS *Charleston* (LCS 18). Keaveny, who also serves as the Chairman of the Commissioning Committee, announced that the commissioning ceremony will take place on Saturday, 2 March 2019, on the Charleston waterfront, and expected attendance will be over 6,000. Details for obtaining ceremony tickets can be found at the following page: navyleaguecharleston.org/uss-charleston-invitation. Following commissioning, *Charleston* will be homeported in San Diego.

Our Companion and local Vice Commander for Public Affairs, Don Campagna, continued his vigorous campaign to ensure the state railway operator complies with local, state, and federal provisions regarding protection of buildings on the Historic Registers.

After observing the incorrect near-demolition of some quarters in the Charleston Naval Hospital Historic District, Don alerted local media and newspapers, who filed their reports to their viewers and readers. Don has personally championed this preservation and protection cause as one of our Commandery's primary missions,



Vice Commander for Public Affairs,
Don Campagna

and has created a Facebook page which we wholeheartedly endorse. Please check out "ADD A FLAG" www.tinyurl.com/yaml56na. The historical photographs and information is really interesting.

On 7 December, Charleston Commandery Companions joined over 400 attendees aboard USS *Yorktown* (CVS-10) for the annual Pearl Harbor Commemoration Service. This memorial event, held in the hangar deck of this historic aircraft carrier moored at Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum, annually brings together area veterans and military organizations to remember and honor those who perished on 7 December 1941, as well as to honor those remaining WWII veterans. This year, Companion John Essenberg and his daughter Lori represented us admirably by casting our memorial wreath from *Yorktown* into Charleston harbor waters.



John Essenberg and daughter,
Lori Essenberg (Photo by Bob Besal)

In all, 97 wreaths were cast, honoring those 2400 men who died during the Pearl Harbor attack.

In keeping with our longstanding Commandery tradition, Companions adjourned to nearby Harbor Breeze restaurant for fellowship, lunch and a reflection on the day's ceremony.



Charleston Companions and guests at luncheon
(photo by Bob Besal)

Submitted by CAPT Hugh DuBose, USN (Ret.)

CONTINENTAL COMMANDERY

It was great to see many of you in San Antonio. We had a great showing of Continentals at the National gathering. We are unique as a virtual Commandery. However, it is always great when we can get together face-to-face at least once per year. We soon start a new year and look forward to getting to know many of you even more. Let's do all we can to raise awareness about the Continental Commandery, as well as find new Companions to join our ranks.

While many were coming together across the Naval Order to remember Pearl Harbor, another tradition was priming up as we headed into the 119th Army Navy Game. It's the only game where everyone on the field is willing to die for everyone who is or is not watching.

"The March On" happened at exactly 12:15 on Saturday, 8 December 2018; each academy marched on in perfect unison filling the field with over 4,000 Midshipmen and Cadets at a time. There isn't a Veteran alive who can't help but remember a time they marched so elegantly, former Academy grads remembering their own march on, and civilians stopping dead in their tracks to look on in awe.

The next thing you know the crowd goes from watching the field to staring up in the sky as the Navy Leap Frogs dive from a C130 carrying the Navy game ball, and clearing the field for the Army Golden Knights to parachute into the stadium leaving the crowd ready to kick off!

Medal of Honor Recipient, Navy SEAL LT Mike Thornton leads the team onto the field and meets President Trump as he flips the coin, giving Navy its only victory of the game.

Tradition dictates that after the final horn, each team sings their school song together. This sign of respect to one another is paramount, as soon they will serve together, leading our brave service members.

In this game, the scoreboard shows an obvious winner and loser but when this military showcase is played, "the land of the free and home of the brave" wins.

I love college football, and I love the Navy, but if you have never experienced the atmosphere of the Army Navy Game, then I would encourage you to do so. I was proud to watch this year's game from the field as I covered it with a press pass for my client.

If you're looking for history, you need to look no further than the Army Navy Game!



Go Navy! Beat Army!

Submitted by ABH2 Michael Little, USN (Ret.)

Congrats to Texas for Congress

May Florida First Coast (FFC) be among the many to congratulate the Texas Commandery on a most rewarding and enjoyable experience during the Congress in San Antonio. Companions from the First Coast deeply appreciated the effort and comradery generated by the atmosphere and the gathering of companions to celebrate our Naval Heritage. BZ!

Lee Douglas Award

The FCC Commandery also greatly appreciates the recognition of the Naval Order by the presentation of the Lee Douglas Award to our group. The efforts of our group to promote and support Naval History is an intrinsic focus and a most rewarding undertaking.

Battle of Midway/D-Day Dinner

This past summer, FCC did our best to promote the remembrance of the important events and occurrences of Naval and Military History. We started with our Battle of Midway/D-Day Dinner in June. The formal dinner event recognized the greatest naval victory during World War II, which turned the tide in the Pacific; as well as the largest naval operation in history, which started the liberation of Europe from Nazi expansionism. The stages of the battles were recounted and companions filled in personal memories and impacts they felt to be of greatest importance to them and in their Naval careers. This is an annual event for the FCC Commandery.

POW-MIA Remembrance Day

On the third Friday in September, the Naval Order joined forces with the Jacksonville Council of the Navy League to host a POW-MIA honors luncheon. POW-MIA Day was commissioned by Congress in 1972 as a day to remember those who suffered in prisoner of war camps, as well as those who have not yet returned to their families and loved ones. The director of the Cecil Field Florida POW-MIA Memorial was guest speaker. A remembrance of companion Senator John McCain was part of the ceremony, and the Missing Man table ceremony was a centerpiece of the remembrance.

There are many memorials around the country for our POW-MIAs, but not nearly enough. A couple of notable ones are the War Memorial in Indianapolis and the National POW Museum in Andersonville, GA (site of a Civil War Prison). The Andersonville museum and stockade shows the Conditions endured by POWs through all of our country's wars. Visit and Remember. We will never forget!

A representation of the abhorrent conditions suffered by POWs at Andersonville Prison



Salvation Army



Mr. AJ Dzedzicki looked good as Santa at the Annual Drive for the Salvation Army.

The Commandery partnered with the Mayport Council of the Navy League to ring the bell for the Salvation Army at a local grocery store again this year. We even got some help from

some future companions to bring in holiday cheer for the Army in their annual fund drive.

Pearl Harbor Dinner

The FCC Commandery welcomed Dr. Wesley Moody, professor of history at Florida State College at Jacksonville as our guest speaker for the Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Dinner. Following the opening, which included the Missing Man Table Ceremony and dinner, Dr. Moody spoke. He compared the Japanese to the Chinese in terms of each country's increasing presence and power in the Pacific prior to World War II and how the Chinese are currently establishing a power base. He reiterated that "History does have lessons for us – as Mark Twain supposedly said 'History does not repeat itself but it often rhymes'."

Continued on the next page...

He emphasized that the lessons of historian Alfred Thayer Mahan were just as important to the military leaders of Japan before the war as they are likewise to the Chinese today!

“What Mahan was writing about in 1890 was what modern theorists call ‘Command of the Global Commons’ - the term now includes air, space, and the internet, as well as the oceans – but the vast majority of the world’s commerce still moves over the ocean.

The Global commons to the Japanese in 1935 – that meant open access to the rubber, oil, and iron of Indonesia.

To the Chinese today – it is Middle Eastern oil and the mineral wealth of Africa – the metals such cobalt necessary for high grade batteries, satellites, and communications equipment are found in the largest quantities in sub-Saharan Africa. China...is greatly increasing their presence in places that are often referred to as “failed states”.

The policy of the U.S. and other western countries is to distance ourselves from countries with brutal and ineffectual leaders. We make it extremely difficult for international companies to do business in these areas. China has moved into this gap with a large civilian presence in these areas; there is a large Chinese presence in Yemen and the Congo (two seriously failed states that are extremely dangerous areas rich with oil and strategic minerals).

He provided many examples concluding with “It just seems obvious to us now that Japan and the US were going to clash in the greatest naval conflict in the history of mankind. It is so obvious that we criticize those who did not see it then.

If a Japanese/U.S. collision was inevitable then, a Chinese/U.S. collision seems obvious now. The signs we found pointing to a Japanese war, we look for in the Chinese today.

Perhaps the tide of history is leading to a conflict with the Peoples Republic, and the U.S. Navy will square off against PLAN (The Chinese People’s Liberation Army Navy). But we must be very careful about selectively picking our evidence or we could miss what is coming.”

Another high point of the evening was the presence of a special guest, Herb Seubert, a 101 years young veteran of World War II, who flew the ‘Hump’ in Burma prior to the war. The event ended with the acknowledgement of commandery officers for 2019.



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**USS Charles F Adams (DDG-2)
to be Scrapped**

On 21 December 2018 the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association (JHNSA) put out a press release that the more than 10-year effort to bring the USS Charles F Adams (DDG-2) home to Jacksonville as a museum ship had been terminated in a decision by the Navy to not release the ship to the Association.



USS Charles F Adams

Despite many years of effort, the City of Jacksonville, while implementing an ordinance in 2014 for the ship to be placed downtown as a museum ship, did not sign the lease for the ship's mooring area, which forced the Navy's hand in deciding not to release the ship. The JHNSA had produced three donation applications (original and 2 revisions) in response to changing requirements from the NAVSEA organization in charge of Inactive ships, but nevertheless, the ship will be scrapped. The Adams, which is in excellent condition for having been at the inactive ship facility since 1991, was to have been sandblasted and refurbished to museum condition. The last of the Cold War guided missile destroyers, Adams will go the way of her sister ships and a part of Naval History will be lost! The JHNSA will not give up the fight to provide the public with access to a ship and will regroup to review the next opportunity. This ship, however, appears to be lost to history!

Submitted by CAPT Bob Whitkop, USN (Ret.)

Greetings fellow companions and friends.

Judy and I found ourselves in San Francisco with fellow San Francisco companions and their guests in the commemoration of the 77th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Many of you who have attended similar dinners at Monterey in the past know that, a decision was made that, after the 75th Anniversary dinner two years ago, we would "darken the mess".

San Francisco Commander John McKnight, host of the dinner at the University Club, offered dinner comments, but I would personally complement the guest speaker RADM Peter W. Gautier, USCG, Commander Eleventh Coast Guard District. I didn't have my Kodak Brownie Camera with me, so I must rely on other photographers.

So why were we in San Francisco? We were there to help honor and recognize two survivors who were there in 1941 at Pearl Harbor and to hear their stories. They represent a generation that will soon be marked only in history. If you had been there, you would have had tears, as many of us did when hearing their comments and later when we had the opportunity to talk individually to them.

Two heroes:

LtCol John Stevens USMC (Ret.) was an enlisted Marine at Pearl Harbor and subsequently became an officer and fought in Korea. He was at the "Frozen Chosin."



Fork presentation to LtCol John Stevens USMC (Ret.)

John recently said that his inspiration to "serve" came from hearing stories from Civil War Veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic when he was in grammar school.

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Chief Johnny (nobody is really sure of his legal surname, so everyone just calls him Chief Johnny), was aboard the USS *San Francisco* at both Pearl Harbor and the Battle of Guadalcanal. Although the *San Francisco* did not suffer any significant damage at Pearl Harbor, it suffered multiple casualties at Guadalcanal. Chief Johnny was the instigator behind the USS *San Francisco* Memorial in San Francisco. Every Memorial Day we gather at the Memorial to remember those who made the "ultimate sacrifice" at Guadalcanal. USS *San Francisco*'s ship's bell is prominently displayed in the lobby of the Marines Memorial Club.



Fork presentation to "Chief Johnny."

Following "Captain Comments" I presented both LtCol Stevens and Chief Johnny (CSC Johnny Jon Gordon, USN (Ret.)) with silver forks recovered from the USS *Arizona* after she was attacked. The presentation was made in honor of all those who served and continue to serve today. For historical purposes the silver is marked 1835 R. Wallace with the Navy anchor on the front and USN on the back.



Fork recovered from USS *Arizona* during salvage operations after December 7, 1941.

On a final note, the 75th Anniversary of D-Day (1944-2019) will be observed this coming June. Judy and I will be aboard the *Seabourn Ovation* on a tour sponsored by the National WWII Museum. One of our many visits will be D-Day at Utah Beach. Maybe I'll see you there!

Submitted by CAPT Ken Johnson, USN (Ret.)

National Capital Commandery Lays a Wreath at Arlington Cemetery

Each year, on 7 December, companions and friends of the National Capital Commandery gather to remember 7 December, in 1941, when Japan attacked the U.S. Naval base in Pearl Harbor, drawing the nation into war.

On Friday, 7 December 2018, representatives of the National Capital Commandery and the Navy History and Heritage Command met at Arlington Cemetery to place a wreath of red, white, and blue flowers on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They were joined by the Commodore Andrew Betton, Order of the British Empire, Royal Navy, the Naval Attaché of the British Embassy, his wife Bettina, and Commodore Peter Leavy, RAN, Naval Attaché of the Australian Embassy.

After the changing of the guard that took place at noon, the wreath-bearers, Escorted by a soldier of the Old Guard, placed a wreath in front of the marble tomb on the hill overlooking the skyline of the nation's capital. A bugler sounded taps while onlookers stood in silent attention, hands over their hearts. Veterans and service members rendered a salute.



The wreath-bearers and a soldier of the Old Guard. Photo by MC2 Mutis Capizzi, Public Affairs Specialist, Navy History and Heritage Command



Cdre Andrew Betton OBE, RN and YN2 Keeana Hodge, USN place the wreath while Companions Mr. John Shanahan, representing the American Legion, and CAPT Bill Steagall, USN (Ret.) salute.

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The wreath-bearers were CAPT Bill Steagall, USN (Ret.) Commander of the National Capital Commandery, Cdre Betton, fellow Companion Mr. John Shanahan, representing the American Legion, and YN2 Keeana Hodge, USN of the Navy History and Heritage Command. Commander General CAPT Paul Crissy USCG (Ret.) was also in attendance.

Representatives of the National Capital Commandery, Navy History and Heritage Command, the British Embassy and the Australian Embassy. (Photo by MC2 Mutis Capizzi, Public Affairs Specialist, Navy History and Heritage Command)



This brief ceremony honors and remembers those who perished, those who suffered, and those who fought at Pearl Harbor.

National Capital Commandery Hosts Pearl Harbor Commemorative Dinner

On 7 December 2018 the National Capital Commandery held its annual Pearl Harbor Commemorative Dinner at the Army Navy Club in Washington, D.C. Over 60 people attended to enjoy good food and fellowship and to honor "a date that will live in infamy."



CAPT Bill Steagall honored CAPT John Rodgaard with a gift from the National Capital Commandery. (Photo by Dr. Judy Pearson)

CAPT Bill Steagall USN (Ret.), in his new role as Commander, presided over the evening's activities.

The evening began with recognition and a gift for CAPT John Rodgaard USN (Ret.), outgoing Commander, for his leadership and guidance to the commandery over the past eight years.

GySgt Chipp Reid USMC (Ret.), excelled as Master of Ceremonies, making the point that sailors and Marines at Pearl Harbor represented a cross-section of American society. Commandery Chaplain, Rev. Eric Linthicum gave the invocation and, later, the benediction.

The evening's speaker was Dr. Sarandis "Randy" Papadopoulos, Secretariat Historian, Department of the Navy. He prefaced his talk by stating that the U.S. Navy was already in an undeclared war against Nazi Germany prior to 7 December 1941. He spoke about German attacks on merchant ships and Royal Navy vessels off the U.S. east coast. Then he narrated the sequence of events that took place on the morning of 7 December. He spoke with eloquence and energy, helping listeners to understand the enormity of the tragedy and the courageous response of U.S. Sailors and Marines. He gave listeners an opportunity to appreciate and remember the significance of a day that marked a turning point in the nation's history.

To thank him for his fine speech, the commandery gave Dr. Papadopoulos a gift: a commissioning painting of the USS *Sioux City*, by naval architect and artist Mr. Peter Hsu. Mr. Hsu was on hand to personally give the painting to Dr. Papadopoulos.



Mr. Peter Hsu presented Dr. Papadopoulos with a painting of the USS *Sioux City*, while CAPT Bill Steagall led the applause.

Those of us who were there that evening were reminded: The legacy of Pearl Harbor is the heroism and sacrifice demonstrated on 7 December 1941. The lesson of Pearl Harbor is the ongoing necessity for vigilance and readiness of our armed forces.

Submitted by Dr. Judy Pearson

NEW ORLEANS COMMANDERY

The New Orleans Commandery celebrated the Christmas season with a special dinner at the beautifully decorated English Turn Country Club. They hosted the Salvation Army Area Director for Greater New Orleans, Major Earnest Hull as speaker.

Major Hull was first on the scene (indeed, a couple weeks before the Red Cross) after Hurricane Michael wreaked havoc on the Florida Panhandle. He had served many years in Oklahoma and said their tornado destruction paled in comparison to the hurricane aftermath he witnessed in Florida. He set up his center of operations in Apalachicola and served more than 750,000 meals, and nearly as many more snacks, after setting up 75 feeding canteens and stations throughout the region.

Major Hull had previously served at ground zero in NYC, and also following Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, where the Salvation Army relief and restoration totaled \$250 million.

The Salvation Army Center of Hope in New Orleans has a 225 bed shelter (the largest in the city). They operate a soup kitchen which serves more than 100,000 hot meals a year. The Army addresses immediate crisis needs and provides a path to self-sufficiency.

In the Christmas spirit, the commandery "rang the bell" and collected \$305 from the companions.

Submitted by CAPT Gary Bair USN (Ret.)



CAPT Gary Bair presents \$305 to Major Earnest Hull, Director, Salvation Army Greater New Orleans Area.

NEW YORK COMMANDERY

The New York City Commandery awarded the 2018 RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature to John Wulkovits, author of *Tin Can Titans: The Heroic Men and Ships of WWII's Most Decorated Destroyer Squadron*, on Monday, 5 November 2018 at a black-tie dinner held at the famed Racquet and Tennis Club on Park Avenue.



Award Committee jointly presents NOUS membership to John Wulkovits, who was awarded the RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature. (Left to Right) William Schmidt, Esq., John Wulkovits, Commandery Commander Norm Keller, Commander General Paul Crissy, Daniel M. Thys, MD.

Tin Can Titans, based on a collection of diaries, letters, and personal interviews with survivors, tells the story of the ships and sailors of Destroyer Squadron 21 which took the Pacific War home to Japan.

The evening also featured the premier of the Naval Order Singers, nicknamed the "Naval Orderlies", who led the attendees with singing the National Anthem, and hummed the Navy Hymn during the remembrance of the missing sailor/soldier. They also sang the various service tunes of the Armed Forces, and concluded with tunes from Hollywood and Broadway. They were a hit!



While the Naval Order Singers sing the Navy Hymn, Commandery Commander Norm Keller leads the remembrance of those missing sailors, marines, and soldiers.

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Mark and Gail Lehman (left), Commandery Chaplain 'Father' Mark Bristol, and Robert Smith.

New York Commandery Commander Norm Keller presented the award and Commander General CAPT Paul Crissy, USCG (Ret) presented Naval Order membership to Mr. Wulkovits.

The RADM Samuel Eliot Award for Naval Literature is given to an American author who, by their published writings, made a substantial contribution to the preservation of the history and traditions of the United States Sea Services – the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S. Flag Merchant Marine. Past recipients have included CAPT Edward L. Beach, USN (Ret.) for *Salt and Steel*; Lt Gen Victor H. Krulak, USMC (Ret.) for *First to Fight*; James D. Hornfischer for *Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors*; James M. Scott for *Attack on the USS Liberty*; Ian W. Toll for *Six Frigates*; Jack Cheevers for *Act of War: Lyndon Johnson, North Korea, and the Capture of the Spy Ship Pueblo*. Former Secretary of the Navy John F. Lehman has been honored twice for *Command of the Seas* and *On Seas of Glory*.

Submitted by CDR John F.V. Cupschalk, USN (Ret.)

The Northwest Commandery Concluded 2018 with Continued Growth and a Change of Command

NOUS Northwest commemorates its second charter anniversary on 17 January 2019 following two successful years of planned activities and growth in membership. Under the guidance of its founding Commander, CAPT Joe Valenta, USN (Ret.), the young Commandery now has a roster of 37 companions with several active applications in process. With that positive record and momentum, CAPT Valenta has now successfully completed his tour as Commander of NOUS Northwest.

At a change of command ceremony on 7 December 2018, CAPT Valenta was relieved by CAPT John Laible, USN (Ret.). The venue was Arnie's Restaurant in Mukilteo, WA, where 23 companions and guests gathered for our annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner. We look forward to CAPT Laible's continued leadership during the next two years.



CAPT John Laible (above left) relieves CAPT Joe Valenta as Commander, NOUS Northwest."

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Of particular note, during 2018, CAPT Laible was solely responsible for initiating and leading our Discussion Group, with meetings held in local venues covering current maritime topics of interest. In 2019, we will add a video conferencing feature so that companions located throughout the three-state NOUS Northwest area can also participate in these timely discussions. The planned topic for 2019 will be "The South China Sea."

Earlier in the quarter, NOUS Northwest companions were fortunate to attend a brunch on 10 November at Naval Station Everett, where we heard an informative presentation by guest speaker Neal Zimmers. Neal spoke on the time of U.S. maritime history around the Spanish-American War of 1898.



Guest speaker Neal Zimmers discusses the Spanish American War

Also, the Northwest Commandery was well-represented at the 2018 National Congress in San Antonio with four companion delegates and their spouses in attendance: John and Cricket Laible; Harry and Nancy Stengele; Gil and Sherry Beyer; and Joe and Cindy Valenta.

The Commandery has now been briefed on the events and messages from the Congress and several companions are already planning on attending the 2019 session in Boston.



Northwest Attendees at 2018 Congress, (L-R) John & Cricket Laible, Nancy & Harry Stengele, Cindy & Joe Valenta, and Sherry & Gil Beyer.

Upcoming Events

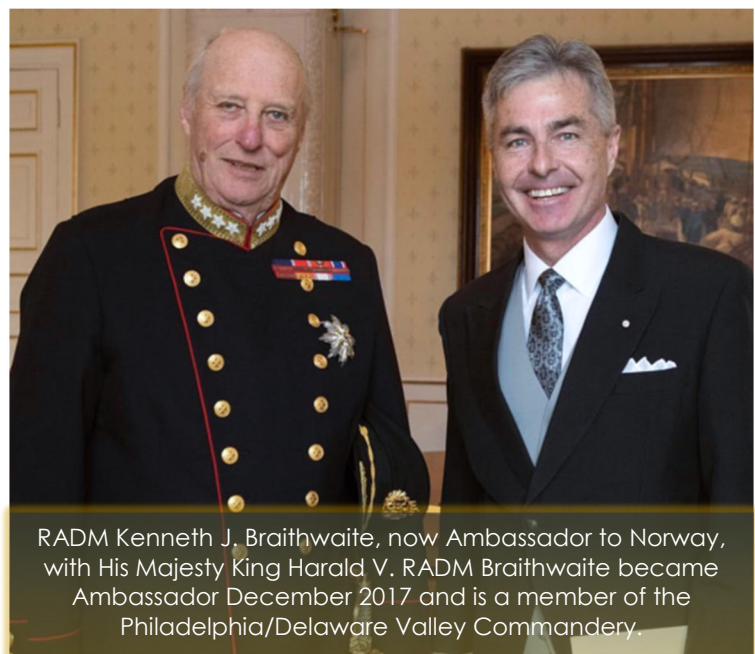
15 March - Annual Dinner at Arnie's Restaurant in Mukilteo, WA. Theme is Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans.

1 June - Historic Celebration Brunch, Everett Naval Station. Theme is Battle of Midway, moderated by Commandery Historian Floyd Kershner.

A complete list of Commandery activities can be accessed at www.nousnorthwest.org. Contact CAPT Solon Webb at mendosolo@aol.com or 707.548.3720 for additional details

Submitted by CAPT Solon Webb, USN (Ret.)

PHILADELPHIA/DELAWARE VALLEY COMMANDERY



RADM Kenneth J. Braithwaite, now Ambassador to Norway, with His Majesty King Harald V. RADM Braithwaite became Ambassador December 2017 and is a member of the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Commandery.

October and Columbus Day brings the last gasp of warm weather to the San Francisco Bay Area before the winter rainy season. It also brings us our annual Fleet Week to remind us of the days when we had a large Navy presence at bases around the Bay Area. Many of our companions were busy with Fleet Week planning and activities which ranged from working the Oakland Navy League's barbecue for the visiting sailors and marines to planning security and coordinating disaster preparedness activities.



(Left to Right) VADM John D. Alexander, Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet, San Francisco Mayor London Breed, RDML Cedric E. Pringle, commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 3, and CAPT Richard E. LeBron, commanding officer of the USS *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6).

Between parades, San Francisco Mayor London Breed visited us at the barbecue and toured the Fleet Week Flagship USS *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6). On Monday, we were privileged to host RADM Cedrick Pringle, USN, Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 3, for lunch aboard the historic museum ship USS *Hornet* berthed at Alameda Point; the location of Alameda Naval Air Station when the annual Fleet Week tradition began in 1981. RDML Pringle remarked on the hospitality the Navy has always received in San Francisco and recalled his previous Fleet Week visit as Commanding Officer of the USS *Malkin Island* (LHD 8).

During the week after Fleet Week, a sizeable contingent of our commandery participated in the Naval Order Congress in San Antonio. We were pleased to see old friends and make new ones in a great event hosted by our Texas Companions. We were honored when our own companions were recognized, especially Past Commander General RADM Doug Moore, who was presented with the "Distinguished Alumni Award" by the Navy Supply Corps Association during the Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award Luncheon.



Companions Kurt Libby (left) and Bob Hansen (right) pose with Fleet Week Barbecue coordinator Lou Lozano and Vice Admiral John Alexander, Commander, Third Fleet

Fleet Week Sunday was not only a day to enjoy a barbecue, but also a day to watch the Italian Heritage Parade, and the Double 10 Parade recognizing the establishment of the Republic of China.



RADM Doug Moore, SC, USN (Ret.) shares sea stories after being recognized by the Navy Supply Corps association at the San Antonio Congress.

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November was also a month for nostalgia. Our luncheon speaker at the Italian Athletic Club was Colonel Brendan Kearney, USMC (Ret.), who recalled the storied history of the Marine Corps in the Bay Area. Kearney noted the importance and uniqueness of the Marines Memorial Association as the only membership military club for United States Service members and their families. Col Kearney is a native San Franciscan who is active in Marine-oriented organizations in the Bay Area.



Colonel Brendan Kearney, USMC (Ret.)

Veterans Day 2018 was historic in that it also marked the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day and the end of the Great War. As he's done in the past, our own companion Wally Levin was key in organizing the Salute to Veterans parade in San Francisco. Companions Chuck Paskerian and Bob Hansen were honored to take salutes on the reviewing stand with local dignitaries.



Dignitaries and Companions at San Francisco's "Salute to Veterans". (L to R) Companion Wally Levin, Judge Quentin Kopp, Companion Bob Hansen, Newspaper Columnist Carl Nolte, and Companion Chuck Paskerian.

Our December luncheon featured author and historian John J. Geoghegan who spoke about Japanese submarine activity along the California Coast during the Second World War. Companions were intrigued by the fact that California and the West Coast came under attack by Japanese submarines during the Pacific War and that the enemy could easily have attacked San Francisco had they chosen to do so. Geoghegan had interviewed an Imperial Japanese Navy submarine captain who recalled being able to see the lights of San Francisco and the East Bay through his periscope.



RADM Peter W. Gautier, USCG speaks at our Pearl Harbor Day commemoration

Our final event for the year was our traditional Pearl Harbor Day commemoration at the University Club. Our special guest speaker was RADM Peter W. Gautier, USCG, Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District. RADM Gautier's remarks focused on the fellowship of the United States Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps. He noted that our companion "Chief Johnny" served aboard the USS *San Francisco* at Pearl Harbor and Guadalcanal. The Battles of Guadalcanal marked the point in the Pacific War where American forces took the offensive. It also marked when Coast Guardsman Douglas Munro earned the Medal of Honor while evacuating Marine Amphibious Forces during a major battle.

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Among the Marines he helped evacuate was legendary Marine Chesty Puller. The USCG *Munro* (WMSL 755) named after Munro is based in Alameda.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation by Monterey Commandery Commander Ken Johnson of recovered USS *Arizona* silverware to Pearl Harbor veterans CSC Johnny "Chief Johnny" Jon Gordon (Ret.) and LtCol John Stevens USMC (Ret.). Chief Johnny spoke of the events of that day, 7 December 1941 and recounted the heroism of his shipmates during Pearl Harbor and Guadalcanal. He noted that the average age of his shipmates was around 20 years old at the time.



The evening closed with formal toasts and best wishes for the holiday season. We are all looking forward to 2019.

Upcoming events

Save these dates and check back for more information at www.navalorder.org/san-francisco-nous-home

- March 4, 2019 – Luncheon at the Italian Athletic Club. Speaker, CAPT. Scott Huseby, MC, USN (Ret.). Topic: "Evolution of a Marine Expeditionary Surgical Field Hospital."
- April 1, 2019 – Luncheon at the Italian Athletic Club, Speaker TBD
- May 6, 2019 – Luncheon at the Italian Athletic Club, Speaker TBD

Submitted by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.)

On 1 December 2018 the Texas Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States conducted their annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony. The ceremony was held on the forecastle of the Battleship *Texas*, berthed at Monument Park in LaPorte, Texas in a slip off the Houston Ship Channel.

Under a bright clear Texas morning sky, CDR Bryan Lethcoe, USN (Ret.), Commander of the Texas Commandery, served as Master of Ceremonies. The ceremony invocation and benediction were provided by MM2 (SS) Gil Raynor, USN (Ret.), past Commander of the Texas Commandery.

Guest speaker was Richard J. Stoll, Ph.D., Albert Thomas Professor of Political Science at Rice University. Dr. Stoll is a Rice faculty scholar at the Baker Institute. Currently, he is serving as the Director of the Undergraduate Studies in the Political Science Department and the Managerial Studies Program.

Dr. Stoll spoke of the role U.S. Naval Intelligence played in providing invaluable information on the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) to Admiral Nimitz in the early days of WWII. He described how Naval Intelligence at Pearl Harbor intercepted and decrypted IJN communications, identifying Midway as the target of the IJN. Armed with that information, ADM Nimitz planned the successful response of the Navy at the Battle of Midway.

The Texas Wildlife and Parks Department opened the Battleship *Texas* as well as provided logistics support for the ceremony. The Houston detachment of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps manned the Quarter Deck Watch and the Battleship's Rail. A Sea Cadet squad provided the Color Guard. The local chapter of the Patriot Guard set up a corridor of National Ensigns on the brow leading to the Battleship. Music was provided by the Community Band of Southeast Texas from Beaumont, Texas. A rifle salute was rendered by a USMC Honor Rifle Squad from the 1st Battalion, 23d Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division based at Ellington Field. A five-plane fly over was flown by members of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF). The flyover ended with the missing man formation. Later, during the ceremony, a CAF B-25 bomber conducted a fly by.

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Honored guests to the ceremony were members of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors Association (S&DPHSA). CDR Lethcoe presented a memorial lei wreath to representatives of the Association. The wreath was then tossed over the starboard bow in honor of those who lost their lives during the IJN's attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941.



Pearl Harbor Sons and Daughters



Presenting the wreath to Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor survivors



Naval Order Members



Marine Rifle Squad

The morning's activities were concluded with a joint TCNOUS and S&DPHSA luncheon at the nearby Monument Inn restaurant, a popular southeast Texas seafood restaurant.

Submitted by CAPT Chuck Hewell, USN (Ret.)

HOW IS YOUR COMMANDERY DOING?

- Do you meet regularly or just now and then?
- Do you have interesting speakers?
- Do you celebrate or commemorate significant and historic naval events such as the Battle of Midway or Pearl Harbor Day?
- Are you enjoying the camaraderie of your fellow members?

Many of our commanderies do meet on a regular basis and enjoy the FULL BENEFIT of Naval Order membership.

If you are a member of a commandery that does not have meetings and social events and would like to see your commandery become more active, I would like to hear from you. I would like to help. Perhaps a call or an e-mail from you will make a difference!

I may be reached at dschuld@juno.com, 973.584.9634 (H) or 201.874.0730 (C).

**Donald W. Schuld, USN
Vice Commander General-Commandery Support**

The Philippines Enlistment Program – Personal Recollections

This quarter's Sick Bay column is a departure from my normal medical history article. Instead, drawing on personal experiences and the few available historical references, I present a personal memoir of the Navy's Philippines Enlistment Program (PEP), the vehicle by which the Navy recruited Filipino nationals until the closure of the U.S. military bases in 1992. From 1974 to 1977, a period that closely followed the end of the Selective Service draft and the establishment of the Navy Recruiting Command, I served as the Medical Representative and one of five Canvasser Recruiters at the Navy Recruiting Class "A" Station, Subic Bay.

Beginning with Admiral Dewey's 1898 victory at Manila Bay, the U.S. Navy has enjoyed a long and enduring relationship with the Filipino people. Although, at times, the relationship has been turbulent, the post-WWII era saw an emergence of the Philippines from a U.S. protectorate to a full-fledged independent republic and valuable American ally for the last half of the 20th Century.

Program Background

Filipinos began serving in the Navy in 1901 when President William McKinley's executive order allowed 500 Filipinos to enlist. Filipinos were generally limited to performing steward duties, and opportunity for other ratings was severely limited. Coincident with the granting of independence to the Philippine Islands in 1946, this source of recruitment was closed, and the executive order was superseded in 1947 by the U.S.-Philippine Military Bases Agreement. Article XXVII of the agreement allowed Filipinos to voluntarily enlist in the U.S. military as foreign nationals without the requirement of U.S. immigrant credentials.

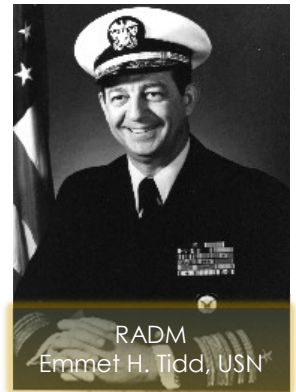
Expanded personnel requirements following the Korean Conflict resulted in an urgent need for additional stewards in the Navy. Consequently, in 1952, an agreement was negotiated based upon the 1947 agreement allowing up to 1,000 Filipino citizens to enlist in the Navy annually. This agreement was amended at the request of the U.S. in 1954 to raise this number to 2,000 a year. Pursuant to these agreements, the Commander Naval Forces

Philippines, under the direction of the Chief of Naval Personnel, became responsible for processing applicants for the U.S. Navy.

End of the Draft and Creation of Navy Recruiting Command

From 1942 to 1971, the Chief of Naval Personnel remained directly responsible for our Navy's recruiting mission. On April 6, 1971, in response to the end of the military draft and an increased emphasis on Navy recruiting, the Secretary of the Navy established the Navy Recruiting Command to serve as a field activity of the Chief of Naval Personnel. The last draft calls were made in December of the following year.

In April 1972, then Rear Admiral Emmet H. Tidd assumed command of the Navy Recruiting Command with orders to "Prepare for the end of the draft and commence recruiting the All-Volunteer Force." This entailed total restructuring of the Navy Recruiting organization, improved selection and



training of recruiters, enhanced field support for recruiters, paid national and local advertising, and support by entertainers, sports personalities, and stars. The first computer tracking of recruit quality and performance, tied to specific recruiters was instituted, along with feedback from the Fleet, and home town youth returning from the fleet to help local recruiters. Recruiters were provided with new vehicles, better offices in clean locations, and top officer and chief petty officer fields were brought into the organization. All this had the full support of the Chief of Naval Operations, Vice Chief of Naval Operations and many flag officers who understood the vital nature of quality recruiting and making manning goals in the All-Volunteer era.

Although the agreement provided for enlistment of Filipinos into any branch of the armed services, only the Navy chose to establish a formal program; It became known as the (PEP). Between 1952 and 1991, about 35,000 Filipinos enlisted locally in the Philippines and served in the Navy.

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From 1952 to 1971, Philippine nationals seeking enlistment in the Navy were required to pass the Philippine Applicant Test (PAT) which was oriented toward the Steward rating. Successful candidates were subsequently enlisted as Stewards. In February 1971, the Navy changed its policy and began allowing Filipinos to be recruited as Seaman Recruits, thus providing the opportunity for Filipinos to serve within a much broader range of Navy ratings. In September 1972, the Applicant Qualification Test (AQT) was implemented for pre-enlistment screening of Filipino applicants. Recruits meeting the minimum AQT scores were offered a conditional school guarantee for one of five ratings open to Filipino recruits—Aviation Boatswain's Mate (AB), Aviation Machinist's Mate (AD), Boilerman (BT), Machine Repairman (MM), and Steward (SD). In recruit training, The Basic Test Battery was administered and those maintaining eligibility were then sent to "A" School. The remaining recruits were assigned to the general ratings, and they could strike for any of the 30 ratings open to Filipino recruits. Since virtually all Filipino accessions were Foreign Nationals, they were automatically barred from ratings requiring access to classified information.

Recruiting Operations

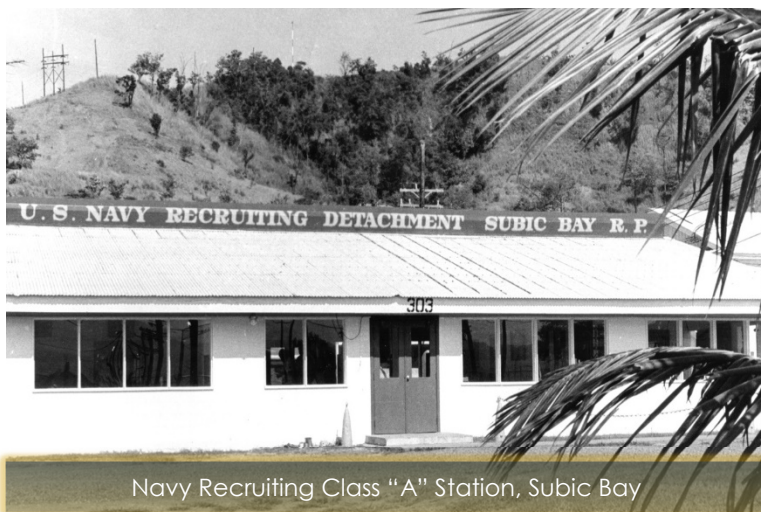
Due, in large part, to economic conditions in the Philippines, competition among Filipinos for enlistment was intense. With a supply of qualified applicants well in excess of the need, the criteria for enlistment under the Philippines Enlistment Program were more stringent than for their stateside counterparts:

- Sex and Age: Males only at least 18 years of age and no more than 26 on the date of enlistment.
- Education: Be at least a high school graduate.
- Aptitude and Language: Score at least 64 out of 100 on the written examination and pass one or more English language proficiency interviews.
- Physical: Meet all enlistment physical and medical qualifications.
- Character: Possess a clear police record and a clearance from the Philippine National Bureau of Investigation.
- Dependency: Be single, never married, and have no one dependent for financial support.

Initially, Navy recruiting operations in the Philippines were located at the U.S. Naval Station, Sangley Point located at the tip of the Cavite peninsula.

Under the direction of an officer-in-charge, a small team of recruiters processed Filipino candidates for enlistment into the Steward rating. Successful candidates, after completing the Philippine Applicant Test, were required to complete an English language interview, pass a physical examination, and submit birth certificates, school transcripts, and police background checks. Roughly, about 1,000 recruits a year entered the Navy from Sangley Point between 1952 and 1971.

In 1972, the Navy's recruiting operations, along with most other Navy functions, were relocated from Sangley Point to Naval Station Subic Bay, and the Navy Recruiting Class "A" Station (NAVCRUITASTA) was established in Building 303 adjacent to the Navy Receiving Station at the Kalaklan Gate. The new facility included office and testing space, transient berthing for about 75 recruits, and an outdoor basketball court. The unit fell under the command of the San Francisco Recruiting District of Area Eight, Navy Recruiting Command.



Navy Recruiting Class "A" Station, Subic Bay

As with their stateside counterparts, recruiters assigned to Subic Bay were required to complete the Navy's three-week Enlisted Navy Recruiting Orientation (ENRO) course. Although primarily assigned to support the Filipino recruiting program, the recruiters also recruited local U.S. citizens, most of whom were dependent children from the Department of Defense.

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schools at Subic Bay and nearby Clark AFB, as well as from the expatriate and diplomatic American community in Manila.

During my tour (1974-1977), the Philippines Enlistment Program became a valuable resource in helping the Navy meet its accession goals under for the new All-Volunteer Navy.

Beginning in early 1974, the NAVCRUITASTA's goals quickly grew from about 20 weekly accessions to a new quota of 50 per week. For about a six-month period in late 1974 and early 1975, the throughput grew to 100 per week.

The NAVCRUITASTA's small staffing complement during this period included an Officer in Charge (LCDR), a Chief Yeoman, a Yeoman First Class, a Boatswain Mate First, two Second-Class Personnelmen, and myself, then a First-Class Independent Duty Hospital Corpsman. All of the enlisted team were ENRO graduates and held the Canvasser Recruiter enlisted classification code - 9585.

Because of the potential for family pressures on recruiters for favoritism, no sailors of Philippine extraction were considered eligible for recruiting duty under the PEP, nor was a recruiter allowed remain on recruiting duty if he married a Filipina.



Recruiting Station Booth at Annual FIL-AM Fiesta

Look for Part II of Notes from the Sick Bay in the Naval Order of the United States' Spring Newsletter.

Submitted by LCDR Thomas Burden, MSC, USN (Ret.)



Lieutenant Junior Grade
George Herbert Walker Bush

We were all saddened recently when President George Herbert Walker Bush "41" passed away. President Bush was more than our "Commander in Chief." He was also one our companions and in 2002 the first recipient of the Admiral of the Navy Dewey Award. Bush postponed his university studies after the attack on Pearl Harbor and enlisted in the Navy on his 18th birthday. He became one of the Navy's youngest aviators. He was the last Commander in Chief to serve in combat during World War II. Past Commander General RADM Doug Moore, SC, USN (Ret.) remembers meeting then President Bush in the White House at a reception honoring newly selected admirals. RADM Moore recalled that President Bush, dressed in his aviator's leather flight jacket with "LtJg Bush" above the breast pocket, went around the room and greeted everyone by name. We all wish you "Fair winds and following seas" shipmate.

The Registrar General has moved!

During October and November, CAPT Kris Carlock, USN (Ret) has been in the process of moving from California to Florida. In mid-November all of the Registrar General's Naval Order files went into boxes and CAPT Carlock is just recovering them now. Invoices did not go out for October and November and CAPT Carlock just started getting them out and will soon be all caught up. For all Registrar General mailings the new address is: Registrar General 6205 7th Avenue North, St Petersburg, FL 33710



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