



### Commander General Report to the Order

#### Admiral Nimitz Statue

The Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz statue project is proceeding on schedule. The facial features of the clay model have been reviewed and approved by members of the Nimitz family. The uniform has been reviewed by several Nimitz

historians for accuracy. The final version of the statue has been approved by the Foundation directors and the bronze casting phase is under way. The statue will be released by the sculptor in late July which will permit the statue to be properly installed on the pier causeway adjacent to the battleship *USS Missouri* in advance of the dedication on Monday, September 2, 2013. Any Naval Order Companion who wants to attend the dedication ceremony and the reception on the fantail of the battleship following the dedication should e-mail: [jackiem@ussmissouri.org](mailto:jackiem@ussmissouri.org).

Members of the extended Nimitz family, local Pearl Harbor senior Navy officers and government officials will attend the dedication ceremony which is being held in conjunction with the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Commemoration of the End of World War II.

Admiral Tom Fargo, who had tours of duty as Commander Pacific Fleet and Pacific Command will be the key note speaker at the dedication.

The fund raising for the statue project is almost complete and any further contributions would be welcome.



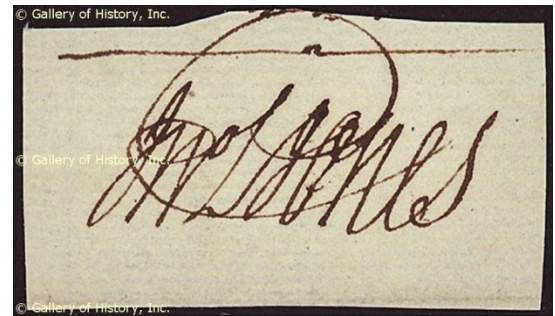
Doug Moore, Rip Caswell and Al Serafini with Admiral Nimitz Statue

### Annual Congress in Charleston South Carolina

The Congress Planning Committee is putting the final touches on the program and activities.

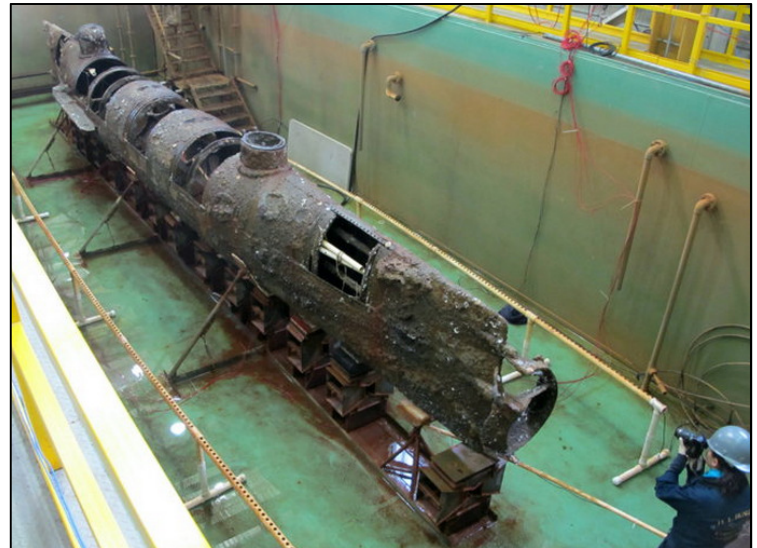
The theme of the Congress is “The U.S. Navy from John Paul Jones to Nuclear Power.”

As usual, the committee meetings will be held on Wednesday and the General Session of the Congress will begin on Thursday afternoon



John Paul Jones' signature

followed that night by the Commander General's Welcoming Reception at the Charleston Library Society which will have on display original documents of John Paul Jones when the Navy was being originally outfitted.



Confederate submarine Hunley

Following the Lee Douglas Award Luncheon on Friday, optional tours of the Hunley Museum at the Charleston Shipyard and a horse drawn carriage tour of the Charleston Historic District will be available.

Historic presentations on Saturday will include the remarkable history and recovery of the Confederate submarine Hunley, the attack on *USS Liberty*, the siege of Charleston by the Union Navy, the maritime historical significance of the Southern ports, and a current update of nuclear submarines.

Commander General's Report continued on page 2....

## Distinguished Sea Service Award

**Admiral Timothy J. Keating has been selected for the 2013 Distinguished Sea Service Award.**

Admiral Keating graduated from the Naval Academy in 1971. After serving aboard *USS Mason* (DD-852), he went to flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator and served in various squadrons deployed in the Mediterranean and the western Pacific/Indian Oceans.



He was Deputy Commander Carrier Air Wing 17 during combat operations in support of Operation Desert Storm on board *USS Saratoga* (CV 60).

He was a Chief of Naval Operations Fellow with the Strategic Studies Group at the Naval War College. Following duty with the Joint Task Force Southwest Saudi Arabia, he deployed as Deputy Commander Carrier Air Wing 9 aboard *USS Nimitz* (CVN 68) to the Arabian Gulf and then was Commander Air Wing 9.

In November 1994 he reported to NAS Fallon Nevada as Commander Naval Strike Warfare Center. After tours in Washington at Naval Personnel Command and the Joint Staff as Deputy Director for Operations, he assumed command of Carrier Group 5 homeported in Yokosuka Japan before returning to OPNAV in Washington as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans, Policy and Operations. He assumed command of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and U.S. Fifth Fleet in October 2003.

Prior to his retirement in 2010, Admiral Keating was Commander, United States Pacific Command headquartered in Pearl Harbor. Previous Flag officer tours included Command of the United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command, Director of the Joint Staff in the Pentagon and several Navy operational commands including the United States Fifth Fleet and the *USS Kitty Hawk* Battle Group.

His awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star, Legion of Merit with three Gold Stars, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, three Air Medals, Navy Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars and Combat "V" and various unit and campaign awards. He has over 5,000 flight hours and 1,200 arrested landings.

Admiral Keating and his wife will attend the Annual Congress in Charleston and accept the Award during the DSSA Banquet on Saturday November 2, 2013.

Commander General Doug Moore

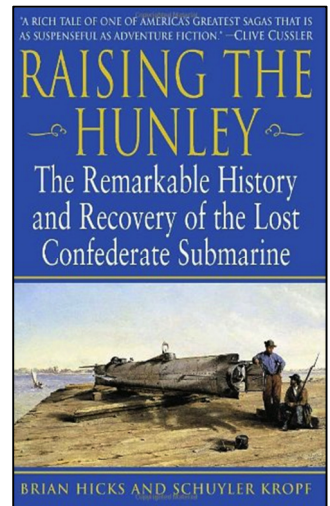
## 2013 National Congress Preview Program - The Confederate Submarine *CSS H.L. Hunley*

The greater Charleston, SC area is blessed with an abundance of naval history. The 2013 NOUS Congress will highlight much of that narrative, including the story of the world's first submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat.

The *CSS H.L. Hunley*, in 1864, was that submarine. The *Hunley* was lost that night as well, and her whereabouts remained a mystery for almost 150 years. The wreck of the *Hunley* was discovered in 1995, and finally raised during the summer of 2000. The study and conservation of this historic vessel is ongoing.

The story of the *Hunley* and its disappearance was incorporated into Charleston's rich history. A museum on Broad Street devoted to the submarine kept the mystery "alive" for generations after the end of the War Between the States, until it closed in the late 1970s.

2013 Congress attendees will hear first-hand the story of the search, recovery and preservation of this historic vessel. Brian Hicks and Schuyler Kropf, co-authors of *Raising the Hunley: The Remarkable History and Recovery of the Lost Confederate Submarine* will discuss the decades-long efforts to find and recover the ill-fated vessel. The authors, both local newspaper reporters, had an insider's perspective to the successful efforts to apply modern maritime search and recovery efforts to salvaging the one of world's submarines.



After the presentation, your Congress hosts have arranged a special trip to the former Charleston Naval Shipyard, where the *CSS Hunley* has been undergoing a pioneering process. You will see not only the submarine, but also many of the artifacts discovered inside the hull that have enabled historians to more fully understand the technology and strategy of the *Hunley's* successful attack and subsequent unexplained sinking. Hear



first-hand from the scientist involved about the state-of-the-art preservation efforts required to keep the submarine intact for future generations to study.

Submitted by Hugh Dubose

## New Commander

We are pleased to announce that CDR Kevin Meyers has assumed command of the San Diego Commandery.

Kevin was recently a member of the National Capitol Commandery and moved to San Diego to be the Force Training and Readiness Officer at Naval Surface Forces Pacific.



He is looking for several people to support his efforts to reactivate the S/D Commandery. If you are in that area and are willing to help reestablish the camaraderie in this commandery, please contact him at 619-822-1173.

He "stepped up", how about you?

## Call for Papers

In conjunction with the annual McMullen Naval History Symposium occurring 18-20 September, 2013, at Annapolis, MD, the Naval Order of the U.S. (NOUS), National Capital Commandery (NCC), is sponsoring a separate panel to review issues pertinent the 1939-1945 Battle for the Atlantic. A prize for best presentation will be awarded by the NOUS, National Capital Commandery.

Topics presented should focus on issues related to anti-submarine warfare (ASW) tactics, techniques, procedures against the German U-boats, ASW research and development, psychological factors, ASW doctrine and training, command and control, the role of intelligence, naval leadership during the ASW campaign (tactically, operationally and strategically), Allied/coalition/joint contributions to the U-boat campaign, etc. during the period 1939-1945.

Authors selected will be given a 45-minute period to present their research/findings during the Panel discussions. Papers must not exceed twenty-five (25) pages and be in standard graduate paper/publishing style and format.

Deadline for submission of Paper Proposals and Abstracts (not to exceed 250-words) and a one-page Curriculum Vitae is 30 May, 2013. E:mail proposals to CAPT John Rodgaard, or CDR John Hooper, at john\_rodgaard@yahoo.com, johndhooper@yahoo.com respectively. Selectees will be notified by 15 June with the deadline for Paper submissions being 1 August, 2013.

Information on the 2013 McMullen Symposium can be found on line at [www.usna.edu/History/Syposium](http://www.usna.edu/History/Syposium). Specific inquiries can be directed to CAPT Rodgaard/CDR Hooper, Dr. Lori Bogle, or CDR Chris Rentfrow at [navalhistorysymposium@gmail.com](mailto:navalhistorysymposium@gmail.com).

The Monterey Bay Commandery will hold their annual Battle of Midway "Dining Out" at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey on 1 June.

Over the years, this event has grown with greater participation within the local military and civilian communities on the Monterey Peninsula Coast.

Rear Admiral Jan Tighe, USN, NPS President, will be the honoree "President of the Mess". Captain Gerral David, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activities, Monterey will return as President of the Mess. Mr. Vice will be CPT Milad Afkham, USMC, and a fellow student at the school.

The 2013 theme is Command, Control, and Communications at the Battle of Midway. Dean Emeritus Captain Wayne P. Hughes, Jr., USN (Ret.) is the guest speaker and will discuss the six C3 factors that collectively were decisive in the Battle of Midway.

Special invited guest will be Ms. Jill Kleiss, daughter of Captain N. Jack "Dusty" Kleiss, USN, who then as a LTJG was awarded the Navy Cross for his action during the battle as a member of VS-6 SBD Dive Bomber squadron aboard the USS Enterprise (CV-6).

Additional information can be found by calling 831-657-9793 and asking for Battle of Midway reservation or visiting [www.nps.edu/midway](http://www.nps.edu/midway).

For military guests attending from out of the immediate area, BOQ rooms can be arranged through the Navy Gateway Inns and Suits here on the NPS campus at [npsvqresrv@nps.edu](mailto:npsvqresrv@nps.edu). New Companions joining this reporting include Mr. Tracy Schultz.

Submitted by Ken Johnson

## Keel Laying of the *USS THOMAS HUDNER* (DDG-115)

Captain Vance Morrison, the President of the Naval Order Foundation and Commander General-elect will represent the Naval order at the keel laying of USS Thomas Hudner (DDG-115) in Bath, Maine. The ship is named for Hudner, a naval aviator who is the last living Navy recipient of the Medal of Honor from the Korean War.

The Medal of Honor was awarded for uncommon valor during an attack on his wingman, the first African American naval aviator to fly in combat, Ensign Jesse L. Brown. During the Battle of Chosen Reservoir, anti-aircraft fire hit Brown's aircraft, damaging a fuel line and causing him to crash. After it became clear that Brown was seriously injured, Hudner purposely crashed his own aircraft to join Brown and provide aid. Hudner was injured in the crash landing and stayed with Brown until a rescue helicopter arrived. Hudner and the rescue pilot worked in the sub-zero, snow laden area in an unsuccessful attempt to free Brown from the smoking wreckage.

Australian Ambassador Kim Beazley AC with his wife Ms. Susie Annus, Consul General Mr. Mauro Kolobaric and his wife Silvana Kolobaric and the Honorary Consul General of Houston, Ms. Nana Booker met on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at the USS Houston display at the M. D. Anderson Library of the University of Houston.



Hosting the meeting was Ms. Julie Grob, Coordinator for Digital Projects and Instruction in Special Collections of the University of Houston Libraries, who gave a brief summary of the history of the *USS Houston* (CA-30) and the display of the various artifacts contributed mostly by the survivors and their relatives. She also presented the Ambassador with a copy of the book, "Ship of Ghosts" by James D. Hornfischer which gives a very complete history of *USS Houston*.

Don Kehn, Jr., Historian of both the survivors' association and the Naval Order that built the monument in Sam Houston Park, downtown Houston, also gave some of the history of the ship in addition to presenting the Ambassador with an artist's drawing of HMAS Perth, the Australian cruiser that also sank in the Battle of Sunda Strait on March 1, 1942.

Past Commander General of the Naval Order, Captain Carter Conlin gave some welcoming remarks from Mr. John K. Schwarz, Executive Director of the *USS Houston* (CA-30) Survivors Association and Next Generations and gave some additional history of the ship's bell that is mounted at the top of the monument in Sam Houston Park. He also presented the Ambassador with a brochure that summarizes the battle and the history of the monument. Ambassador Beazley expressed his appreciation to Ms. Grob for the display sponsored by the University of Houston that features both *USS Houston* and HMAS Perth. He explained his interest in this particular part of World War II history by explaining that he had grown up in Perth, Australia where the subject is very well known.

This is the second visit that the Ambassador has made to Houston to pay homage to the memory of the two ships and their crews.

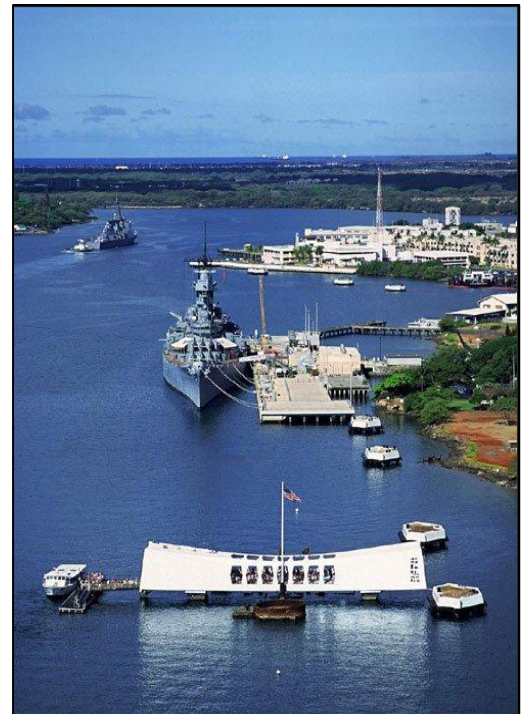
Submitted by Carter B. Conlin, Captain, USN (Ret.)

## Fleet Admiral Nimitz Statue Dedication Ceremony to be held on Monday, September 2, 2013 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

The Naval Order's dedication ceremony of the unveiling of the FADM Chester W. Nimitz, USN statue will be at the *USS MISSOURI* on Ford Island, Pearl Harbor Hawai'i. It will be held in conjunction with the commemoration of the signing of the Instrument of Surrender conducted on the deck of the *USS MISSOURI BB-63* in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. This is an annual ceremony at Pearl Harbor that includes the Navy Band, Color Guard, Dress Ship and other formalities.

The theme this year, as a result of our participation, is "Admiral Nimitz returns to Pearl Harbor".

The Naval Order is fortunate to have been invited to have a major role in this event and have its dedication ceremony included in this impressive commemoration.



The backdrop of the ceremonies will be the *USS ARIZONA* Memorial. Those who participate will have a memorable and enjoyable experience.

After the dedication ceremony, Naval Order Companions and their guests will have a private reception on the fantail of the *USS Missouri*. This reception will be by invitation only and will be catered.

The commemoration and dedication ceremonies will be attended by the Commanders of the Commands located at Pearl Harbor. Civilian community leaders will also be in attendance.

There will be easy access to all of the events. There is access to Ford Island by bridge. There is ample parking near the ship and access to the ship via elevator. Shuttle service to the ship from the Valor in the Pacific National Park is available.

Submitted by Captain Al Serafini

## Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Returns to Pearl Harbor

The Naval Order of the United States (NOUS) has selected the Battleship Missouri Memorial as the home of the Admiral Nimitz Sculpture. Crafted by Oregon artist, Rip Caswell, the 8 foot, 600 pound bronze statue pays tribute to the legendary World War II commander.

The statue is scheduled to be unveiled in conjunction with the Battleship Missouri Memorial's *End of World War II* ceremony held annually on September 2.

"We are honored and thrilled to host the statue and are sure that it will be a focal point for many years to come," said Michael A. Carr, President and COO of the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

"FADM Nimitz was the United States' signatory at the historic World War II surrender ceremony on the decks of the USS *Missouri* (BB-63). The reunion of these two icons in America's history is a fitting homage to the day that peace was restored to the world."

Caswell, who studied in Italy with an expert anatomy sculptor, was selected after an 18-month-long application process that included reference and background checks, as well as a personal visit from the commander general and director of the NOUS.



Rip Caswell sculpting. Photo credit: caswellsculptures.com

Prior to sculpting the statue, Caswell did in depth research on the famed Fleet Admiral including studying Naval archival footage, visiting the Admiral Nimitz State Historic Site in Fredericksburg, Texas and even referencing his own grandfather's diaries that documented his Naval service during WWII.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 8 am to 4 pm or from 8 am to 5 pm during summer months (June, July and August). General admission, which includes choice of a guided tour, is \$22 per adult and \$11 per child 4-12. Military, kamaaina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information or for reservations, call (toll-free) 1-877-644-4896 or visit [USSMissouri.org](http://USSMissouri.org).

The Battleship Missouri Memorial, located a mere ship's length from the USS *Arizona* Memorial, completes a historical visitor experience that begins with the "Day of



Infamy" that saw the sinking of USS *Arizona* in Pearl Harbor and ends with Imperial Japan's unconditional surrender aboard USS I in Tokyo Bay.

Following an astounding career that spans five decades and three wars, from World War II to the Korean conflict to the Liberation of Kuwait, the "Mighty Mo" was decommissioned and donated to the USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which operates the battleship as a historic attraction and memorial.

The association oversees her care and preservation with the support of visitors, memberships, grants and the generosity of donors. The Battleship Missouri Memorial is one of Hawaii's top 10 attractions according to Pacific Business News and starred in Universal Studios' Battleship.



The Naval Order First Coast Commandery made a special presentation to the JU NROTC. Commandery President J. Michael McGrath (CDR, USN, Ret) along with Captain Edward Froehlich (USN, Ret) presented the Unit with an exceptional autographed and numbered Dean Mosher print of the Battle of Flamborough Head. Captain Froehlich is also the grandfather of JU NROTC Freshman, Midshipman William E. Froehlich.



Capt (Ret) Ed Froehlich & Pres J. Michael McGrath of 1<sup>st</sup> Coast NOUS present the Dean Mosher print to XO and Battalion Staff of JU NROTC Unit



The print is a depiction of one of the most celebrated Naval Battles in American History. The Battle of Flamborough Head was a tactical victory for the

American Navy during the Revolutionary War.

Led by Navy Captain John Paul Jones Commanding the *Bonhomme Richard*, the battle was fought against a Royal Navy Ship Convoy of over 50 ships in the North Sea off the Coast of Yorkshire on 23 September 1779. Jones and his American-French Task Group took on the experienced RN ship escorts for the convoy, he maneuvered his forces including the *Frigates Pallas and Alliance*, and the Brigantine *Vengeance* to attack; ultimately stopping convoy escorts *HMS Serapis*, one of the most powerful British ships and the *Arm'd Ship Countess of Scarborough* for one of the key moral Naval victories by American led forces.

John Paul Jones is known best for his quote during this battle, when others questioned whether they should surrender... "I have not yet begun to fight!" which was more likely "I have not yet thought of it, but I am determined to make you Strike..."

JU NROTC stated that they consider this print especially significant because it signifies the very core values that midshipmen strive to apply to their daily life, as well as their career of "Honor, Courage, and Commitment." The print of the Battle of Flamborough Head will be on permanent display in the Tilley Fowler NROTC Unit building on the JU Campus.

The presentation of the Dean Mosher Print to Jacksonville University closed out a yearlong effort by the Commandery to find permanent and suitable display locations for each of the Dean Mosher prints that the Commandery had acquired almost a decade ago. This collection included "Damn the Torpedoes. Full Speed Ahead" (David G. Farragut); "The Battle of Mobile Bay"; "Close Action" (Master Commander Thomas Macdonough at Plattsburg Bay) and the Battle of Flamborough Head. These prints can be seen on [www.deanmosher.com](http://www.deanmosher.com).

The two prints dealing with the Battle of Mobile Bay were given to the Mobile Museum of History, Mobile, Alabama and accepted by their Board of Directors as part of their permanent collection and given prominent display. The remaining prints (Macdonough and John Paul Jones) were donated to the University of North Florida and are on display in their Military transition center. All of these prints have a plate which identifies the Naval Order as the donor.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Coast Commandery also enjoyed a President's Day Event Dinner held at the Queens Harbour Yacht and Country Club on February 22, 2013. This was the second in a series of naval historical presentations scheduled by the Commandery.



Chuck Veit

A social hour was enjoyed by the participants followed by a plated dinner. The guest speaker and presenter was Mr. Chuck Veit, president of the Navy & Marine Living History Association, a non-profit organization of about 500 members, dedicated to researching and sharing America's naval history with the modern public. His

organization has cooperated for the past decade with the Office of Naval Research and NOAA in the search for the Navy's first submarine, Alligator.

He is author of two books of U.S. Navy history, *A Dog Before a Soldier: Almost-lost Episodes in the Navy's Civil War* and *Raising Missouri*, being the lost story of the eight-year salvage of America's first steam frigate. In researching these books, Chuck discovered a major mission secretly undertaken by Monitor; discovered the first use of an all-black Navy crew; resolved the riddle of the First Battle of Fort Butler; and alerted archaeologists and local historians to unknown naval battlefields in Louisiana and Virginia. He speaks with approximately 10,000 people annually. He has been happily married to his 'long-suffering editor' for thirty years, and lives in Massachusetts.

It was a great evening of Naval History.

**Submitted by Capt Bob Whitkop (USN, Ret) and Midn Mary Kate Meier (JU NROTC PAO Asst)**

In January 2013 RADM Moore related that on 01 November 2012 we signed the contract with the Admiral Nimitz sculptor. He related that while a student at Cal, NROTC members were invited to Admiral Nimitz's home in the Berkeley Hills to socialize and play horse-shoes.

He also reminded the members that the *American Tax Payer Relief Act of 2012* has extended the IRA Charitable Rollover to 2013. Gifts for the Nimitz project are still needed.

CAPT Serafini, working with RADM Moore, spoke of their efforts to insure accuracy in the statue. For example, the detail of his missing left ring finger, due to a machinery accident.

Col Al Cruz displayed a unique picture of FADM Nimitz (approximately circa 1965) at the entrance to the Treasure Island Officer's Club, named in his honor. Col Cruz discovered the picture in a Martinez antique store.

All Companions are urged to attend the dedication on Monday, September 2, 2013, Pearl Harbor, Ford Island, Hawaii.

Distinguished speakers for the quarter included CAPT Richard Alexander, USN (Ret) who spoke on the topic, United States Naval Intelligence, Past, Present, Future.



The Naval Intelligence Department was established by The Secretary of the Navy in 1882. Its charge was to study and report on other nation's navies. In WW II it was responsible for decoding enemy message traffic, later this responsibility was moved to The Office of Cryptology.

The "Intelligence Cycle", where every officer is assumed to be an information collector, consists of Collection, Analyzing, and Disseminating information. It is interesting to note that two areas of specialization have developed: one, The Atlantic, with NATO, and the other The Pacific, principally Asia, China and the Orient.

USMC Gene Redding left active duty after 10 years for a civilian career. A chance meeting with Don Reid moved him to re-up as a SELRES. Later he was selected for, and graduate from OCS.

Maj Redding discussed his experience in Afghanistan, establishing, manning, fitting out, training, and supplying the new Afghan Army. He developed this force, from scratch, with little official support.

Col. John C. McKay, USMC (Ret). is currently an intelligence research specialist with the DEA and has just been designated as the DEA HQs coordinator for the Central America Strategic Studies Group.

Colonel McKay discussed the current movement to establish a program for women in combat. His particular concern is placing women in infantry combat situations. Some countries have put women in these ground combat units, with qualifiers. The Russians had separate units, either all men or all women, never coed. The Israelis have coed units but, reassign the women when combat is anticipated.



CAPT M. Kristine Carlock, USN (Ret), Membership Chair., presented several new members to the Commandery. The Commandery is proud to accept new Companions CAPT Deborah A. Lyle, USN (NC), (Ret), Life Member, Daniel M. Selby, Curator of the California State Military Museum, CDR Richard Rosenberg, Ronald Martini. All were approved by a voice vote.

CAPT Dave Foote brought discussion to the members regarding the actions of the outgoing Sectary of Defense regarding the creation of a "Distinguished Warfare Medal" (a misleading title for a noncombatant decoration) which will rank above the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. David urged the Companions to contact representatives in Washington and express our thoughts about this decoration, developed by an appointed administrator rather than the elected Congress.

A general serious discussion ensued.

In addition, CAPT Foote informed the membership about the status of CAPT Jack Kopf's, USN (Ret) health, which is good. Jack is a naval aviator who joined the Navy in 1942, and earned a number of combat decorations. He was shot down during the battle for Truk Island in February 1944. Jack joined this Commandery on 01 June 1952, and as such is the most senior companion, time wise, in the Commandery.

Submitted by Kathleen Mero

## State Pledges \$20 Million for New Coast Guard Museum in New London

by Kathleen Edgecomb for theday.com

The city will donate a piece of waterfront property and the state will pledge \$20 million toward plans for a new National Coast Guard Museum, according to a series of letters among the mayor, the Coast Guard and local businesses.

A new ferry terminal for Cross Sound Ferry and a pedestrian bridge across the railroad tracks connecting Union Station and the museum is also part of the project, which is expected to cost \$100 million.



"I have been in close contact with all the necessary parties and stakeholders for this project here in New London, and in the state of Connecticut," Mayor Daryl Justin Finizio wrote in a March 19 letter to Adm. Robert J. Papp Jr., commandant of the Coast Guard, and James J. Coleman Jr., president of the National Coast Guard Museum Association.

"Cross Sound Ferry acknowledges the land use parameters for the museum, The Blackwall Company (owner of Union Station) acknowledges the need for a pedestrian bridge on their property, and the State of Connecticut commits up to \$20 million for the project," Finizio wrote.

Finizio had no further comment on the letters Friday. A press conference is scheduled for 10 am next Friday at the Science & Technology Magnet High School.

City Council President Michael Passero praised the city and the community for coming together and said there is strong support for the project among councilors.

"I think it's great all the different parties are collaborating and trying to reach a consensus on moving forward," Passero said. "The plans are exciting."

The council, state legislators, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, U.S. Sens. Chris Murphy and Richard Blumenthal and U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, D-2nd District, have all pledged support for the project, Finizio said in the letter.

Ben Barnes, secretary of the state Office of Policy and Management, said in a March 14 letter to Finizio that the state would provide up to \$20 million to fund a pedestrian bridge and improve the city's regional intermodal transportation center. Part of the funding would be used for ancillary work such as purchasing property, feasibility studies and traffic redesign.

Cross Sound Ferry and the owners of Union Station, which are located on either side of a 0.37-acre city-owned lot in downtown New London where the proposed museum is expected to be built, also sent letters to Finizio backing the efforts.

The museum project will include a "future new passenger terminal adjacent to the National Museum for the Coast Guard," according a March 7 letter to the mayor from John Wronowski, president of Cross Sound Ferry.

"This plan will be a springboard to economic development in the downtown and is consistent with the long term goals of the ferry services," Wronowski wrote.

The train station, owned by Barbara Timken and Todd O'Donnell, will be the initial point of arrival for museum visitors and will serve as "the primary means of access via the proposed bridge to the Museum," according to a March 15 letter signed by Timken and O'Donnell.

All the letters included the caveat that support is based on detailed reviews of plans, financing and permitting approvals. The city has been in discussions with the Coast Guard for more than a dozen years about the possibility of bringing a Coast Guard museum to New London.

In early 2001, the Coast Guard was looking the feasibility of putting a museum in Fort Trumbull, on land that was the subject of a prolonged legal battle over eminent domain. *Kelo v. City of New London* went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in 2005 ruled in favor of the city, saying it was legal for New London to take private property for economic development. Development plans never went forward, however.

In 2006 there was renewed effort for a museum at Fort Trumbull, only this time in a location that did not include land taken by eminent domain. Those plans were put on hold with the downturn in the economy.

The Coast Guard also started looking at other possible locations, including Battery Park in New York City. But in 2010, New London again pushed for the museum.

A grassroots group emerged, promoting the city's train station as a possible location for the museum. Conceptual plans showed the museum inside the depot, which was designed by architect Henry Hobson Richardson.

Finizio, who took office just over a year ago, made it a priority, he said, to work with the Coast Guard and local businesses to bring the museum to the city.



## Notes from Sick Bay

*This time, your Surgeon General reflects on the "History Mystery" that is confronting today's Navy and our citizens - and the Naval Order's "historical" role in overcoming "Sea Blindness".*

Since its founding in 1893, the Naval Order's Mission has been to:

- encourage research/writing on naval and maritime subjects
- preserve documents, portraits and other records of prominent figures deeds and memories of our naval and maritime history
- through fellowship of our members, advance the Naval Order's unselfish service and worthy aims for the security and enduring well-being of our country.
- to foster, among all American citizens, informed interest in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, with the understanding that their efficiency is essential to national security and that readiness to make victory in war certain and speedy will deter aggression and minimize dangers to world peace.

Of late, several writers have observed that the Navy is doing a poor job of inculcating an "historical sense" among its officers. The Naval Order's most recent Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Awardee, Dr. John Hattendorf, was an early (2004) herald of the Navy's neglect of its own history, and there has been a steady bombardment about the matter in the U. S Naval Institute *Proceedings* ever since. In February, Gregory Martin fired the latest *Proceedings* salvo with "The History Mystery – Why is the Navy, Alone among the Services, so Uninterested in the Past?" The Naval Historical Foundation's most recent newsletter features an interview with former British First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jonathon Band entitled "Naval History: Doing It the Royal Navy Way."



"Those who don't study history are doomed to repeat it. Yet those who *do* study history are doomed to stand by helplessly while everyone else repeats it."

This Torb cartoon (acknowledgment to *Commander Salamander*, who didn't source it), captures the essence of the problem: we have plenty of historians, but how do we get the historical message to the people who should be learning its lessons?

For the Naval Order, I submit, the question - if we are to follow our Mission – should be, "How do we get the historical story out to 'all American citizens'?"

Pointedly put, what does history tell us about the risks of not

investing, and the benefits of providing for, a very capable and flexible naval force?

It's become cliché to point out that 90% of our international trade occurs on the world's waterways, and that without naval assurance of secure lines of communication, the nation's economic health would be at risk.

But how do we make that notion "stick" in a world full of information noise; or, in Admiral Band's words, how do we overcome our nation's "Sea Blindness"?

To be sure, with history foremost in mind, many Naval Order Commanderies make solemn observance of Pearl Harbor Day and the Battle of Midway. And these events uniquely capture the "risk" of naval negligence and the "benefit" of appropriately used naval power. But these events are typically closed, "preaching to the choir" evolutions. We should open these events up to a larger public, taking particular care to invite in our communities' "opinion leaders" for a good look at what we see as important.

The Naval Order's recent placement of an interpretive marker beside the Commodore James Barry statue in Washington DC's Franklin Park and the Navy Normandy Monument at Saint Marie du Mont are tangible evidence of our leadership in getting naval history before the public eye. Our Nimitz statue – the first ever to memorialize the Navy's greatest 20<sup>th</sup> century Admiral – that will be dedicated near USS *Missouri* in September is just the latest in these efforts.

But as good as these symbols are, people have to travel to see them and be inspired by their message.

Our battle against "Sea Blindness" must, I believe, first and foremost be a "local" thing. We must speak in our communities; take our naval message to local PTAs, libraries, museums and service clubs. I've argued elsewhere that it's incumbent on professional historians to get out into their communities to "tell the history" story, but we Companions, people who have been to a degree party to the Navy story, can also be very effective disseminators of navy history.

By starting in our communities, we can begin to create a culture of historical awareness, even a hunger to learn about naval history. And you all know, the Navy has, and is, a great story to tell!

We all can do this. It doesn't have to be fancy. Sure, you can set up a nice PowerPoint slide show, but hand-drawn flip charts on paper will serve just as well. Just be sure you pick a good story (a local "hook" is always effective), make sure your historical facts are correct, keep "politics" out of it, make sure your story has a "moral" (a strong navy is important; intrepid naval people help protect our way of life, etc.), and then go out and promote.

I guarantee you – from personal experience - people love to learn their history, and you will be invited back, if your presentation is just a bit lively and interesting! I urge each Companion to work up and present a talk at least twice a year. Even more fun: get a bunch of people together for a collaborative effort, and take your show on the road. Good luck, and good teaching!

Submitted by Captain Tom Snyder, MD

## Spotlight - CDR Charles "Chick" Parsons

We in the Naval Order are tasked with fostering our Naval Heritage. Too often we limit our heritage to John Paul Jones, or the Admirals Dewey, Spruance, and Halsey. We honor our heroes from Pearl Harbor and Midway but there are others not as notable that we honor as well. One of these heroes from World War II was Commander Charles "Chick" Parsons, United States Naval Reserve.

Chick Parsons was an American expatriate who lived and worked in the Philippines for most of his life. As an officer in the United States Naval Reserve he was called to active duty when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. He initially stayed in Manila working with the U.S. Navy submarine forces supplying Bataan and Corregidor. Taking his chances when the enemy entered Manila, he burned his uniforms and ran the Panamanian flag up a flagpole outside his home. He somehow convinced the occupation authorities that he had diplomatic immunity due to his status as an ad hoc assistant Panamanian consul. He was given permission to leave the Philippines with his wife and sons. While waiting to be evacuated, he gathered intelligence and was able to smuggle his notes out of the country in his son's diaper bag. Well respected in the business community, not even the local Japanese he knew personally reported him to the authorities.

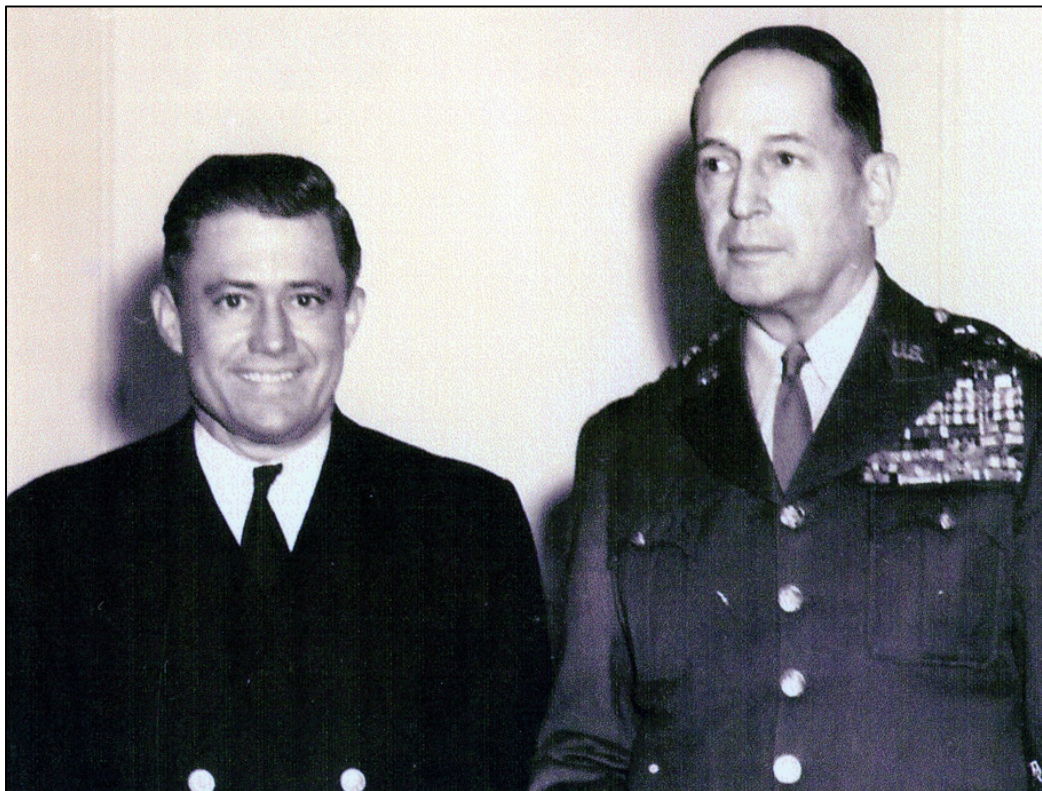
When he returned to America, President Roosevelt, at the behest of General Douglas MacArthur, a personal friend, recruited him to organize and co-ordinate guerilla activity against the occupying forces. His years in the Philippines had gained him an intimate knowledge of the people and the geography of the country. He spoke both Spanish and Tagalog like a native. With his skinned browned by years in the tropical sun, in peasant clothes he easily passed for an ordinary Filipino. Under orders from the President himself, Chick was

smuggled back into the Philippines by submarine and immediately went to work.

He was so effective in his guerilla activities that the Japanese put a bounty on his head. Ostensibly he stayed in Mindanao in the south but many witnesses saw him Manila dressed as a peasant gathering supplies or a Spanish priest gathering intelligence while "hearing confession." One time while obtaining supplies for the guerillas at La Insular Tobacco

Company where he had once worked, the General Manager even introduced him to the official Japanese overseer. He was easily taken for a local.

In 1945, Parsons accompanied the first troops into Manila where he saw the devastation of battle first hand and helped arrange supplies for the civilians newly liberated from the internment camps.



CDR Charles "Chick" Parsons with General Douglas MacArthur. Photo courtesy of Peter Parsons.

After the war he resumed his business activities and lived there until his death in 1988.

For his distinguished military and public service, Parsons was awarded the Army Distinguished Service Cross, two Navy Crosses and the Bronze Star Medal from the United States, and numerous awards from the Philippines and even the Vatican. He never requested a Purple Heart for wounds received during skirmishes with the Japanese. That included one wound caused by a Japanese saber that opened up the right side of his neck. General Douglas MacArthur, in talking about Parsons, called him "the bravest man he had ever known."

Details and photo are courtesy of Chick's son, Peter Parsons. Information about his visit to La Insular Tobacco Company was from my grandfather who was the General Manager that Chick visited during the Japanese Occupation.

Submitted by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN, (Ret)

## Lock Down the Date! 2013 NOUS Congress in Charleston, SC October 30 – November 2

In 2012 Charleston was voted "Top Destination in the United States" in the Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards for the second consecutive year, and for the first time, "Top Destination in the World."



More than ever, hotel accommodations are in high demand. In order to guarantee desirable rates and availability at the historic Francis Marion Hotel, it is recommended that you make your 2013 NOUS Congress plans early in the year.

Keep your eye on the NOUS website for updates and links.



We have reserved a block of 50 rooms for the dates of the Congress at a rate of \$179 per night. There are other Charleston area events, as well as the late fall tourist traffic that will compete for downtown hotel rooms. Keep in mind that the historic Francis Marion Hotel is very popular, and last-minute rooms bookings, if available, may be at a higher rate.

Those wishing to queue up early can contact the Hotel directly to reserve rooms. The toll free phone is 877-756-2121; website [www.francismarioncharleston.com](http://www.francismarioncharleston.com). Or contact Hartley Porter, Host Committee Chairman at [porter.hartles@gmail.com](mailto:porter.hartles@gmail.com). We look forward to having you join us this year!

**Submitted by Hugh H. DuBose, Jr.**  
Charleston Commandery NOUS  
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Charleston, SC 29422-3535

Resolutions Committee Chairman Capt John R. Wheeler, MSC, USN/Ret invites all Commanderies and Companions to submit resolutions for consideration by the 2013 Congress to him at [CaptJRW@aol.com](mailto:CaptJRW@aol.com).



## Naval History Magazine Program FINEX

As announced in the last newsletter, our NOUS subscription program ended on 1 April. All subscription services for Naval History Magazine have shifted to the U.S. Naval Institute. The shift resulted in a reduced fee of \$40 for annual dues payers. As your current subscription nears expiration, you will

receive notices in the mail to renew at the current USNI member rate of \$22.75. It is hoped that you will take advantage of this attractive rate and continue to receive and enjoy reading Naval History, the official magazine of the Naval Order.

Life members for whom your subscription was funded by your initial dues payment and ordered on an annual basis by NOUS, you fall into two categories. The 1st is for those who became life members before 2006 and are considered to have received a subscription value roughly equal to what they paid up front. The 2nd category is for those who became life members on or after 2006. They have the option of writing off their equity as a donation for the good of the Order and will be so recognized; or applying for reimbursement. If you are in the latter category, you will be receiving correspondence with instructions on how to register your option. If not received by 1 May, contact CAPT Kent Siegel, Magazine Subscription Program Manager at [ksiegel@cox.net](mailto:ksiegel@cox.net) or (703) 360-8948.



We note the passing of our fellow NOUS members. May their memories be a blessing.

### 2011

-Rear Admiral Clay W. G. Fulcher  
-Samye M. Nestlerode  
-Captain Billy B. Traweek

### 2012

-1 CPO William H. Eckel--Pearl Harbor Survivor  
-Captain Donald L. Hetherington--Senior Naval Science Instructor at Clements High School, Sugarland, TX  
-Rear Admiral William T. McMullen--former Superintendent of the Texas Maritime Academy, Texas A & M University at Galveston, Galveston, Tx  
-Rear Admiral James D. Ramage--World War II Aviator and member of the Carrier Aviation Hall of Fame  
-Rear Admiral Donald M. Showers--World War II Naval Intelligence Officer



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- NOUS Ball Cap 'eggs' Flag Officer	_____	\$16	_____
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