



2005 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

NAVAL  
HISTORICAL  
FOUNDATION

*Preserving and Promoting Our Naval Heritage  
Since 1926*

(Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Naval Historical Foundation on 13 June 2006)

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# Mission Statement

*To preserve and promote U.S. naval history through:*

- Collection of art, artifacts, manuscripts and oral histories on behalf of the Navy.
- Outreach to the Navy and the American public with speakers, publications and symposiums.
- Support of the Naval Historical Center (Center), particularly The Navy Museum, by donating goods, services and funds to the Navy.
- Response to public requests for Navy related merchandise, historic photograph and document copies, and historical research.

Collection:

- Art, artifacts, documents and photographs for donation to the Navy.
- Manuscripts and personal papers for donation to Library of Congress.
- Artifacts and papers for donation to other unique federal and private repositories.
- Oral histories in support of a Sea Services oral history program.

Outreach:

- Attracting new members interested in naval history.
- Publication of periodic newsletter, *Pull Together*, with naval heritage content.
- Maintaining Naval Heritage Speakers Forum to address public gatherings.
- Publication, both print and digital, of important naval history topics.
- Sponsoring symposiums on high interest historical subjects.
- Coordinating with other service historical organizations to promote military history initiatives.

Support for Naval Historical Center programs:

- Soliciting private and corporate contributions to support naval history.
- Donating funds and services for prizes, internships and conferences.
- Donating funds and services for Navy Museum exhibits and educational programs.

Public Response:

- Distinctive gifts and books in the Navy Museum Gift Shop.
- High quality reproduction of photographs, cruise books and documents in the Navy's collections.
- Accurate historical research services on naval history topics.



## *Message from the President*

As you will see in the following report, the Naval Historical Foundation has expanded its mission to preserve and promote our naval heritage. We have achieved success through seeking and working with partners with like-minded objectives. Our closest partner is the Naval Historical Center, which hosts our activities at the Washington Navy Yard. In return, all branches of the Naval Historical Center benefit from services and funds provided by our Foundation. The Navy Museum, an important branch of the Center, has received additional support through our operation of the Museum Gift Shop and our fund raising efforts to support the design, construction and installation of the Cold War Gallery in a building adjacent to the main museum.

With pride we can claim the Navy-Marine Corps team is alive and well because we maintain a great working relationship with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. We salute their effort to mount a capital campaign that will fund a new Marine Corps Museum to open in November 2006. We have also forged partnerships with other service-support organizations on a variety of projects. For example, the Foundation joined with the Naval Submarine League to stage "Raiders From The Deep" a program held in April at the Navy Memorial. Other organizations that we work closely with include the U.S. Naval Institute, Historic Naval Ships Association, Naval Order of the United States, and the Navy League of the United States.

Our new chronology, *U.S. Navy: A Complete History*, is in its second printing and our first coffee-table book, *The Navy*, is being considered for a major revision. These books have proven to be very popular with veterans and the American public. We continue to fill requests for our heritage speakers although we would like to see even more requests for this valuable service. We have facilitated greater use of the internet as a source for navy history with the continued support of the International Journal of Naval History [www.ijnhonline.com](http://www.ijnhonline.com), the upgrade of our own web site at [www.navyhistory.org](http://www.navyhistory.org), and the purchase of equipment and software to allow the Naval Historical Center to bring its [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil) website into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Of course we continue to meet our challenges because of the generous donations of time and funds from members and others interested in naval history who are committed to our mission of preserving and promoting our naval heritage for many years to come. All in all, 2005, our 79<sup>th</sup> year, was a busy and rewarding year for the Naval Historical Foundation!

Robert F. Dunn  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired)

# Organization

The NHF Board of Directors is empowered by the By Laws to exercise governance of the organization with responsibilities for policy guidance and continuing oversight, and has appointed standing committees with accountable chairmen to carry out many of these functions, including Finance and Audit. The Board meets semiannually to review the operations of the Foundation and vote on recommended changes to policy. Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN (Ret.) serves as the Chairman. Admiral Holloway has also volunteered to led the Cold War Gallery fundraising effort.

The President, Vice Admiral Robert F. Dunn, USN (Ret.), is a member of the Board and functions as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NHF. While he is not a paid employee, as CEO the President establishes the organizational and operating procedures used by the NHF, evaluates the personnel, and serves as the primary contact point of the NHF with external activities. (A full listing of the Officers and Directors of the NHF may be found on the Foundation's web site.)

The Executive Director, Captain Charles T. Creekman, Jr., USN (Ret.), serves as the Chief Operating Officer, responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the organization. He oversees the activities of NHF employees, and is responsible to the President for administrative and financial matters. He advises the President of any action, issue, policy, request, or change from any source that is considered of interest to the President through daily communication.

The Director of Programs and Development is Dr. David F. Winkler, a Commander in the Naval Reserve. He is the Cold War Gallery Capital Campaign Director. He also manages the oral history program, speakers program, monograph publications, newsletters, symposiums, and other programming functions. He also seeks revenue sources to support the NHF and fund naval historical projects.

The Office Manager and Museum Shop Manager is YNC Andre H. Dyson, USN (Ret.). He handles reports and correspondence, maintains the Foundation's financial records, and manages the two main revenue generation aspects of the Foundation.

In 1999, the NHF received a grant of \$25K from the Department of Interior to hire individuals to support a Collection Reconciliation Project facilitating the transfer of the remaining significant holdings of the NHF collection to the Library of Congress, the Naval Historical Center, and other repositories. Generous donations from Foundation members have enabled curator Constance Strickland to continue this important distribution with a goal of completion within the next two years.

Laura Waayers, with the assistance of Bill Dilda, operates the NHF Historical Services Division, conducting photographic and related research for paying customers. John Reilly has also handled some fee-related research requests, although as the holder Middendorf Naval History Research Chair, Reilly performs much of his research to support member and general public inquiries.

## REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP

**Background:** In 2005 there was a membership drive to sign up retired Flag officers and convert Navy Museum donors to permanent members. We gained 258 new members. The membership level of 1268 represents a 25% increase from the previous year.

### Remarks:

In 2000, the Foundation began the work to enhance membership benefits through the issuance of various items (hats, pins, etc.) for each level of membership. The following benefits for each level of membership were approved for implementation during 2001, our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, as new members are received and renewals processed.

Active: Membership Card

Sustaining: Lapel Pin and Card

Associate: Coffee Cup, Lapel Pin and Card

Fellowship: Coffee Cup, Lapel Pin and Card

Life: Coffee Cup, Ball Cap, Life Member Lapel Pin, Card and Certificate

All members presently receive the Foundation's *Pull Together* newsletter, invitations to Foundation sponsored events, and progressive discounts on Museum Shop items and Historical Services photo reproductions.

## REPORT ON COLLECTIONS

**Background:** Since 1999 the Foundation has obtained outside funding to conduct a "collection reconciliation project" to inventory the Foundation's 80 years of naval artifact acquisitions, enter the information in a database, and distribute the items to appropriate repositories.

**Remarks:** In 2005 we continued an innovative process, first tried in 2001, of facilitating the donation of important naval artifacts, photos and papers from aging veterans and their families directly to the collections of the Naval Historical Center without accessioning the material into the Foundation collection. In addition, we continue to transfer items from our holdings to the Naval Historical Center, Library of Congress and other repositories. During 2005, 1263 items were transferred. In addition, procedures will be put into place in 2006 to deaccession items that have no naval heritage value. Sale of such items at auction will generate funds to conserve the existing collection.

## REPORT OF PROGRAMS: ORAL HISTORY

**Background:** Current program initiatives began in 1996 with the commencement of an oral history program to support the Naval Historical Center. At that time, the Foundation received a \$20,000 grant from Ambassador William H.G. Fitzgerald to hire a part-time oral historian to survey what was available to researchers and conduct interviews as necessary. In December 1997, the program solicited the membership for volunteer interviewers and transcribers. Membership participation enabled the program to expand into a national collection effort and minimize expenses.

### Remarks:

- The volunteer interviewer pool consists of approximately 60 volunteers with about one dozen “hard-core” participants. Interviews continued to be conducted and transcribed from coast to coast. Copies of these interviews are provided to the Navy Department Library and libraries at the U.S. Naval Academy, Naval Postgraduate School, and Naval War College.
- The Foundation completed support of the effort by the Marine Corps Historical Center to digitize the deteriorating audio tape collections of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard in the Sea Services Oral History Project. In September, the digitization equipment that the Marines used was transferred to the Naval Historical Center Operational Archives. The Foundation retained former Marine Corps archival staff with the remaining funds from the \$150,000 grant from the Dillon Fund to continue digitization work on Navy collections. .
- The Foundation published and distributed to its volunteers and to other naval oral history projects four issues of its oral history newsletter *All Ears*.
- The Foundation purchased published interviews from the US Naval Institute oral history program to continue the practice of ensuring a complete collection of these volumes in the Naval Historical Center’s Operational Archives.
- The Naval Historical Foundation is a partner with the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, and Foundation historian has conducted a number of interviews of prominent Americans, such as Senator John Warner of Virginia, on behalf of the Library of Congress project. The Library lists Naval Historical Foundation interviews as part of its growing online database.

## REPORT OF PROGRAMS: NAVAL HERITAGE SPEAKERS PROGRAM

**Background:** The current program was initiated in late 1998 with a call for volunteer speakers. The Foundation maintains and promulgates its roster of speakers, and acts as the go between for the speakers and those organizations that desire a speaker on naval topics.

### Remarks:

- The number of volunteers enrolled in the program was 98.
- During the year talks were given by Adm. Holloway, Vice Adm. Robert Dunn, Dr. David Winkler, Kirk Ferguson, and Robert Cressman.
- Cost to administer and publicize the program was under \$1,000.

## REPORT OF PROGRAMS: SYMPOSIUMS

**Background:** The Foundation has assisted the Naval Historical Center with funding to stage symposiums, seminars, and authors nights on naval history topics, particularly in the Navy Museum. In 1999, the Foundation began to actively sponsor and conduct symposia.

**Remarks:** This initiative continued in 2005.

On 7-8 April the NHF co-sponsored with the U.S. Naval Institute the Second Annapolis Naval History Symposium titled "Expeditionary Warfare." The symposium was held at the U.S. Naval Academy.

- On 13 April the Foundation partnered with the Naval Submarine League to host "Raiders from the Deep" This event, also conducted at the Navy Memorial, featured three presentations on special operations from submarines.

All programs were well-attended and received favorable comments.

## REPORT OF PROGRAMS: PUBLICATIONS

**Background:** Over the years the Foundation has published a series of monographs on naval history topics and continues to offer 46 such publications for sale at the Navy Museum Gift Shop. In 1999, the NHF contracted with authors to write monographs to be published by the Naval Historical Center on different topics relating to the Korean War. In addition, following in the wake of the successful coffee table book *The Navy*, published by Hugh Lauter Levin Associates, the Foundation signed a contract with the same company that resulted in the publication of *U.S. Navy: A Complete History* in September 2003.

### Remarks:

- *The Navy*, a 350 page illustrated book, edited by Foundation Vice President Rear Adm. Jerry Holland, features articles by historians and naval officers covering the past and present operations of the U.S. Navy. Since its release in September 2000, nearly 280,000 copies have been sold nationally at book store chains and through the Navy Museum Gift Shop. *The Navy* has produced over \$300,000 in royalties for the Foundation to date.
- *U.S. Navy: A Complete History* was released in September 2003. Over 40,000 copies have been sold so far, generating over \$60,000 in royalties to date.
- The *U.S. Navy Scrapbook* is a companion to the coffee table books, and has enjoyed steady sales since its debut in the fall of 2003.
- The Foundation also signed contracts with Tide-Mark Press to produce a Navy Art collection calendar for 2006 through 2008. While not generating large sales volume, these calendars help show case the Navy's priceless art collection and serve to publicize the Foundation's role in naval history preservation.
- Three Editions of *Pull Together* were published in 2005. The Spring edition focused on the Naval Historical Center's Det. 206 coverage of the Navy's response to the tsunami. The Fall



edition focused on the centennial of the return of John Paul Jones. A special edition was also published in September as a case statement for the Cold War Gallery.

- Four editions of *All Ears* were published and sent to members and other organizations performing naval oral history.
- The Foundation's historian, Dr. Winkler, continues to publish a monthly historical retrospective column in the Navy League publication *Sea Power* and a quarterly column in Surface Navy Association *Surface SitRep*.

## **REPORT OF PROGRAMS: PRIZES**

**Background:** The Foundation has, for a number of years, provided annual support to the Naval Historical Center for the awarding of the Center's Rear Admiral Ernest M. Eller Prize for the best article on naval history. The \$1,000.00 award is split evenly between the Center and the Foundation. In addition, the Foundation has sponsored a \$500.00 naval history special prize at the National History Day competition held annually at the University of Maryland. In 2001 the Naval Historical Foundation established a Naval History Prize to be granted at the direction of the USNA History Dept. for outstanding achievement in history. With the passing of Captain Beach, a long-time board member, the award has been renamed "The Captain Edward L. Beach Prize"

### **Remarks:**

- In June 2005, Brynne Piotrowski of Pensacola, Florida won the Foundation's \$500 prize for the best naval history entry in the National History Day competition. Her presentation was titled "Anticipated Arrival" discussed the role of intelligence at the Battle of Midway.
- Mrs. Ingrid Beach joined Foundation Director Rear Admiral Larry Marsh to award Midshipman First Class Seth K. Powell the Naval Historical Foundation "Captain Edward L. Beach, Jr. Naval History Prize" for his paper "Train for the Known, Educate for the Unknown: The Navy's Struggle for Clarity with Graduate Education in the Humanities." The prize consisted of life membership in the Foundation and a copy of *U.S. Navy: A Complete History*, as well as one of Ned Beach's books presented by Mrs. Beach, and a subscription to *Naval History* magazine presented by the U.S. Naval Institute.

## **REPORT OF PROGRAMS: PUBLIC OUTREACH**

**Background:** The Foundation has, for a number of years, responded to inquiries from service members, historians and the American public for naval history information. In some cases the Foundation has been able to provide information at no charge, for example when responding to a request for ships' history information with reference to an entry from the *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*. In other cases, Foundation staff members have been able to direct inquiries to the appropriate branch of the Naval Historical Center or other repositories including the National Archives and Library of Congress. The utility of the Center's and Foundation's web sites has encouraged researchers to contact us. For the most part, the Center's Email addresses are not available to the public, due to staff limitations in the face of thousands of mail

and phone inquiries currently being received on an annual basis. Accordingly, the Foundation staff has been responding to an ever increasing number of Email inquiries.

**Remarks:**

- John Reilly, the former head of the NHC Ship's History Branch, continues to work on a two-day per week basis to handle public inquiries. Board member Ambassador Middendorf has underwritten the bulk of Reilly's salary with a generous annual donation, and consequently, John Reilly holds the "Ambassador J. William Middendorf II Naval History Research Chair." Public response to his tireless efforts has been effusive in praising Mr. Reilly's wealth of naval history knowledge and his enthusiasm in sharing it.

**REPORT OF PROGRAMS: HISTORICAL SERVICES**

**Background:** Historical Services is a fee-based research and reproduction operation that is designed to fulfill those functions of the Naval Historical Center that the government can no longer fund or staff. It has existed in one form or another since 1993, and has fallen exclusively under the auspices of the Foundation since 1997. We currently have one full time employee and one part time employee, whose salaries are paid from the business they generate.

**Remarks:**

- Gross sales for the year 2005 totaled \$119,428, a slight decrease from 2004. Through flyers and letters to various organizations throughout the country, our cruise book reproduction (which started in 2000), has been flourishing. We have practically doubled our production from 2001 and expect further increases with more advertising. The quality and timeliness of work provided by Historical Services has been appreciated by the public and earned repeated favorable feedback.

**REPORT OF PROGRAMS: NAVY MUSEUM GIFT SHOP**

**Background:** NHF has operated the Navy Museum Shop as authorized by SECNAVINST 5755.1A (Navy Museums) and a Memorandum of Understanding between NHF and the Naval Historical Center of November 1996. Proceeds from the Gift Shop operation in the form of funds, goods and services are donated to the Naval Historical Center for the support of the Museum's programs in accordance with Navy gift acceptance procedures.

**Remarks:**

- Gross sales for 2005 totaled \$154,861 down from the 2004 figure of \$178,120, and still substantially lower than sales experienced prior to September 11, 2001.
- A display case remains in the Town Center, with sales items that are changed out on a monthly basis and prominent signs directing consumers to the Museum Gift Shop.
- The NHF book donation program has enabled members to donate books and receive a tax-deduction and has added inventory to the store at no cost. John Reilly manages the program which has generated brisk sales, and provided important books to the Navy Department Library.

## **REPORT OF PROGRAMS: SUPPORT OF THE NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER AND THE NAVY MUSEUM**

**Background:** Support for the Naval Historical Center has been an important aspect of the Foundation's mission since the Navy Museum opened in the early 1960s in the Washington Navy Yard. The NHF began operation of the Navy Museum Gift Shop in 1983 under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Navy that permitted the Foundation to donate goods and services funded from the proceeds from the Gift Shop operation in support of naval history programs. In addition to Museum support, the Foundation provides funding for other Center branches to acquire historic art, artifacts, books and papers, and to support important Center events.

### **Remarks:**

- NHF provided over \$321,000 in direct financial support and contributory staff assistance to the Center in 2005.
  - Assisted with Museum educational program and exhibit updates.
  - Provided a large number of photos from the Navy's historical photograph collection and other repository collections for illustrations in several book and monograph projects..
  - Purchased art, artifacts, books, and oral histories to enhance the Center's collections.
  - Purchased archival storage containers, and compact disks to support the Operational Archives and Navy Department Library.
  - Supported or co-sponsored important naval history conferences.
  - Continued to sustain the unique on line academic publication, *International Journal of Naval History*.
- Additional Foundation staff support involved hundreds of hours to:
  - Answer many public inquiries on naval history matters by providing historical data, photograph reproductions, cruise book and publication copies that would otherwise have been the responsibility of the Naval Historical Center to handle.
  - Solicit from the public and then facilitate the donation to the Center's collections of a wide variety of books, memoirs, photographs and artifacts.
- The continuing initiative in 2005 was the commitment by the Naval Historical Foundation to fund the design and installation effort for the exhibits to be contained in the Cold War Gallery in building 70, adjacent to the main Navy Museum building. That building was turned over to the Center in 2004 after completion of a \$2.6M Military Construction Project funded by the Navy to convert the historic David Taylor Experimental Model Basin building to an-exhibit ready museum building. The Foundation has already partnered with the Naval Submarine League to successfully remove the "Fast Attacks and Boomers" submarine centennial exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History when the exhibit closed in 2003. That exhibit's components will form important parts of the Cold War Gallery. A scriptwriter has been hired by the Foundation to assist the Naval Historical Center in developing the story line for the exhibits.

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