NAVAL ORDER MEMORIALS

The Naval Order has placed the following Naval History Memorials:

★ Navy D-Day Monument, Normandy, France
★ Great White Fleet bronze relief tablet at the Navy Memorial, Washington, DC
★ USS Houston Memorial monument, Houston, Texas
★ Admiral Farragut informational tablet at Farragut Square, Washington, DC
★ National Liberty Ship Memorial, SS Jeremiah O’Brien historic plaque, San Francisco, California
★ Admiral Dewey Memorial bronze bas relief at Battery Park, New York City, New York
★ FADM Nimitz Statue at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
★ Chief John Finn bust in USS John Finn (DDG 113)

NAVAL ORDER RECOGNITION – AWARDS

★ Three highest scoring U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen in political science issues,
★ Outstanding graduate of Naval Air Training Command Flight Officer program,
★ Outstanding midshipmen and cadets at U.S. Merchant Marine Academies and at Naval ROTC programs,
★ National History Day
★ Outstanding Junior Officer Instructor at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy,
★ Samuel Eliot Morison Award for naval literature,
★ Distinguished Sea Service Award to one eminently outstanding Sea Services Vice Admiral or Admiral and for one enlisted person E-9 or above, shortly after retirement
★ Admiral of the Navy George Dewey Award to one US civilian eligible for Regular membership in the Naval Order, whose record for service sets them apart among their peers.

COMMANDERS GENERAL

NAVAL ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Charles Calhoun Philbrooke 1890-1893
LCDR John Codman Soley 1893-1895
RADM John Grimes Walker 1895-1907
ADM George Dewey 1907-1917
RADM Francis John Higgins 1917-1925
CAPT Herbert Livingston Satterlee 1925-1928
RADM Albert Gleaves 1928-1931
RADM Reginald Bowman Belknap 1931-1937
CDR Frederick Bernard Craven 1937-1943
CAPT James Harvey Tomb 1943-1946
VADM William Augustus Read 1946-1949
CDR Charles Hann, Jr. 1949-1958
RADM Thurston H. James 1958-1961
CAPT Douglas Wilson Dodge 1962-1964
CAPT Jeremiah Francis O’Shea 1964-1966
ADM Joseph James Clark 1966-1969
CAPT Robert Granville Burke 1969-1971
CAPT Malcolm Townsend Munger 1971-1973
RADM Alban Weber 1973-1975
CAPT Robert Bashford Bolt 1975-1977
CAPT Edward Sydney Anderson 1977-1979
CDR Albert Frederick Kempe 1979-1981
LCDR Raymond Edward Cross 1981-1983
RADM Winston Holbrook Weese 1983-1985
CDR Stanley John Majka 1985-1987
CAPT Frederick Daniel Carl 1987-1989
CAPT Wallace Howard Lloyd, Jr. 1991-1993
Col William Richard Bremer 1993-1995
RADM William Firman Merlin 1995-1997
CAPT James Franklin Brooke III 1997-1999
RADM Lester Robert Smith 1999-2001
RADM Thomas Francis Brown, III 2001-2003
CAPT Fred Case Hawkins, Jr. 2003-2005
CAPT Carter Barry Conlin 2005-2007
CAPT Kenneth Albin Johnson 2007-2009
CAPT Gregory F. Streeter 2009-2011
RADM Douglas M. Moore, Jr. 2011-2013
CAPT Vance Hallam Morrison 2013-2015
CAPT Michele H. Lockwood 2015-2017
CAPT Paul H. Crissy 2017-2019
Col Allan F. P. Cruz 2019-2021
CAPT Robert N. Whitkop 2021-

Naval Order of the United States

Founded July 4, 1890

US CONSTITUTION
“Old Ironsides”

Honorary Flagship of the Naval Order

History ~ Heritage
Comradeship

Preserving and Promoting Maritime History
NAVAL ORDER HISTORY

On 04 July 1890, Charles C. Philbrook, Charles F. Bacon Philbrook, and Franklin S. Frisbie, descendants of New Hampshire families identified as mariners since 1636, sharing a common interest in naval and maritime history met in Boston, Massachusetts. By formal resolution, they established a temporary organization that they titled the "Naval Commandery of the United States of America". A permanent organization was established on 10 November 1890, the 115th anniversary of the organization of the US Marine Corps.

Eligibility for membership was based upon service "in any of the wars or in any battle in which the United States Navy or Marine Corps has participated, or who served as above in connection with the Revenue or Privateer Services."

Seeking a national base, the new Naval Commandery soon established branches in several states. On 19 June 1893, the Naval Commandery entered into a provisional consolidation with the Naval Legion of the United States, a smaller society. This merger was soon ratified under the name NAVAL ORDER of the UNITED STATES. The first Congress of the Naval Order was held on 15 August 1893 in Faneuil Hall. The General Commandery of the Order was formed at this meeting and the constitution adopted with provision for local commanderies in the various states and "Members" becoming "Companions."

Historical records in the archives of various states attest to the efforts of individual companions in the establishment and training of Naval Militia in the Eastern and Midwestern states during the 1890's. As a result, trained and ready Naval Militiamen were available to our nation to answer the call to the colors at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War.

UNIQUENESS

★ Oldest American hereditary exclusively naval society.
★ Dedicated interest in Naval History encouraging its recording and preservation.
★ Provision for membership based upon lineal descent, ensuring strong continuing interest in the deeds and accomplishments of our forebears in perpetuity.
★ Our linkage with our predecessors forges a common bond of responsible, honorable service to our country.

HISTORICAL THRUST

★ Naval Order records are held in our Naval Order Archive at the John B. Hattendorf Center for Maritime Historical Research at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.
★ This includes all original copies of Applications for Membership with their detailed narrative of their naval service and eligibility.

NAVAL ORDER MISSION

To preserve, promote, celebrate and enjoy our Nation's Sea Service history and heritage.

To accomplish this we will:
★ Commemorate American Sea Service Heroes and important historical events;
★ Support the study of Naval History through writing, speaking and educational events;
★ Preserve Sea Service historical artifacts, documents and monuments;
★ Promote camaraderie among our Companions and members of similar organizations.

MEMBERSHIP

Regular Membership:
- Any US citizen serving, or having served as a member of any of the Naval services or other Federal Military Maritime services of the United States or its allies, and their descendants, over 18 years of age.

Associate Membership:
- Spouses of present or deceased regular members.
- non-US citizens of allied seagoing services.
- any person who has distinguished themselves in the interest of naval service.
- Membership in the Naval Order is by invitation. Interested parties may make application through any Companion or Commandery

Additional information about the Naval Order may be found at the Order’s website:

http://www.navalorder.org

ORGANIZATION

The General Commandery is the umbrella over the Commanderies across the country, which are:

Arizona  Atlanta  Charleston
Jacksonville  Monterey  Hampton Roads
Massachusetts  Newport  National Capital
New Orleans  Northwest  New York City
San Diego  Philly/Del Valley  San Francisco
SE Florida  Texas  Continental

Each commandery:
★ holds an annual meeting of its affiliated membership,
★ sponsors a local Pearl Harbor Day and Battle of Midway observance.
★ holds other business and social meetings/ functions as prescribed by local by-laws and tradition, to include formal functions such as a "dining out" or a Navy Birthday dinner/ball.
★ may have monthly or quarterly luncheons.
★ meets at an Annual Congress.

OBSERVANCES

Mindful of historic lessons history teaches the need for eternal vigilance, and in gratitude for gallant service, the Naval Order sponsors the following annual observances through its local commanderies:
★ Pearl Harbor Day
★ Victory at Midway
★ Victory at Manila Bay and tribute to Admiral Dewey
★ USS Maine Day
★ USS Houston Day
★ Admiral Farragut Day
★ The Founding of the United States Navy
★ The Founding of the United States Marine Corps
★ The Founding of the United States Coast Guard
★ POW - MIA Remembrance Day

"History has proven too often and too recently that the nation which relaxes its defenses invites attack.

★ Fleet Admiral Chester William Nimitz