





Independence, Brutus, Liberty, Invincible, Potomac, Zavala, San Jacinto, San Antonio, San Bernard, Wharton, Austin, Archer





Dec 1st, 2020

Newsletter



Charles E. Hawkins Squadron Galveston, Texas



Mirabeau B. Lamar Squadron Shoreacres, Texas Chester W. Nimitz Squadron Dallas-Fort Worth



Samuel May Williams Squadron San Antonio, Texas



The Tom Toby Squadron Houston, Texas



E. W. Moore Squadron Austin Texas



Sam Houston Squadron Seabrook, Texas







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The Texas Navy Association salutes, preserves and presents the fabulous history of the officers and men who so gallantly served to free and protect The Republic of Texas. Their story is amazing and is truly a story worth telling. Without the contributions of the Texas Navy, there would most likely never been a Republic of Texas, continuing to improve its financial well being, and always invites and is most thankful for your generous contributions. Please be a part of our wonderful organization.

https://texasnavy.org



Image by by Bruce Marshall.







Texas Navy Association Board & Squadron Commanders



Governor's Appointee to the Board Jerry Patterson

2020 Officers

President: Richard Dempsey - rmdempsey@utdallas.edu Vice President: Jim Tyson - admtyson@texasnavy.com Treasurer: Mike DeHart - mikedeh@msn.com Secretary: Paula Morris - tnapaulamorris@gmail.com

Past President: Richard Hatch

2020 Elected Directors

Chester Barnes Jeff Corbin Richard Dempsey Mitchell Fuller Andy Hall Peter Rindlisbacher James Tyson David Wetzel



Image by by Bruce Marshall

Squadron Commanders

C. E. Hawkins Commander - Chester Barnes Squadron Representative - Paula Morris

Chester W. Nimitz Commander - Tim Weiland Squadron Representative - Nicholas Gilliam

Edwin Moore Squadron Commander - Wayne Courrages

Squadron Representative -



Sam Houston Commander - John Ebeling Squadron Representative - Mike DeHart

Samuel May Williams Commander - Richard Hatch Squadron Representative - Richard Weitzel

> Tom Toby Commander - John Martin Squadron Representative -

Mirabeau B. LamarCommander - Robert Williams Squadron Representative - Dave Haglund









Word from Our President \checkmark





Admiral Richard M. Dempsey President **Texas Navy Association**

As I look back on this past year, it certainly wasn't as like I envisioned it to be last January. Even relatively simple things like delivering the "Announcing Victory" painting to the USS San Jacinto (CG-56) have turned out to be extremely difficult. The good news is that the Texas Navy Association has been able to adapt and embrace technology. Our quarterly Board of Directors' meetings have been held virtually via the Zoom software platform. Three of the Squadrons (with another in the planning stage) have held their periodic meetings via Zoom and the TNA sponsored

a well-received Zoom presentation to celebrate Texian Navy Day. I was personally able to participate in three of the Squadron meetings this year, aided by their having a virtual format. Of course, what we were missing the most is the opportunity to interact face to face, socialize and foster the development of lasting fellowships. Most disappointingly, we had to cancel our 'gala' dinner which had been scheduled at the Houston Yacht Club in conjunction with the Annual Membership Meeting. Hopefully, next year will bring a return to more normal times.

On some other positive notes, we have brought our Ship's Store back on line, restarted the publication of the quarterly newsletter – "Invincible", and we have maintained financial stability even in these trying economic times. Additionally, for the first time in several years our various Committees are fully staffed and functional.

I want to provide my personal congratulations to our three newly elected Board of Directors members – Admirals Derek Beck, Mariann Laughlin and Gordon Blocker. They each bring an impressive level of experience and skill sets to our Board. I look forward to working alongside them this coming year. Also, we bid farewell to our two off going members of the Board - Admirals Jeff Corbin and Mitch Fuller. I am also happy to announce that Admiral Beth Fisher has agreed continued next page









Word from Our President



Admiral Richard M. Dempsey President Texas Navy Association



to take on the Chair for the Commemorative Services Committee. She is committed to reinvigorating the efforts of the Texas Navy Association in this important function.

I appreciate the advice and counsel of the Executive Committee, and continued support of the Board of Directors as well as the TNA membership in general in assisting me and our Association navigate this difficult time period. Thank you all for your wonderful assistance.

May everyone remain safe and healthy, treat each other with dignity and respect so that we may all enjoy life to its fullest.



Sincerely

Admiral Richard M. Dempsey **President Texas Navy Association**









News From Our Squadrons:









Like other components of the Texas Navy Association, the Charles E. Hawkins Squadron in Galveston has had to meet the challenges imposed by social distancing and limits on large gatherings. The Squadron switched to holding meetings over Zoom earlier in the year. To date, we have had two meetings in this format, that were a great success. Although we hope to get back to traditional, in-person meetings as soon as we can, we are continuing to meet and work together online to meet the goals and objectives of the squadron.



Commissioning of Lt. Cdr. Eric
VanVelzen, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.),
as a Texas Navy Admiral, July 7, 2020.
Adm. VanVelzen's commission is

presented by Adm. Chester Barnes,
Commander of the Charles E.
Hawkins Squadron in Galveston.

The first, on July 7, was for Lieutenant Commander Eric VanVelzen, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.), who currently serves as Commandant of Cadets at the Texas A&M Maritime Academy in Galveston. VanVelzen retired from active duty in June 2019 while serving with U. S. Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia, at Manama, Bahrain, after thirty years of military service, of which twenty-five were on active duty. He is a 2002 graduate of Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG), and has worked on multiple historical and underwater archaeology projects, including the study of the Civil War blockade runner DENBIGH at Galveston. VanVelzen is taking a leading role in organizing a TNA-affiliated group for students at TAMUG, as discussed below.

Continued next page









News From Our Squadrons:









Commissioning of KPRC Chief Meteorologist Frank Billingsley aboard the 1877 Iron Barque ELISSA, September 26, 2020. Adm. Bill Rouse (left) pins on Adm. Billingsley's stars while Adm. Chester Barnes (right) looks on. Image via KPRC Channel 2.

On September 26, the Hawkins Squadron hosted the commissioning of Frank Billingsley, Chief Meteorologist from KPRC Channel 2 in Houston, aboard the 1877 Iron Barque ELISSA in Galveston. Billingsley is a well-known and trusted guide to the weather on the upper Texas coast, particularly in the fall during hurricane season. In addition to his own contributions to the community, Adm. Billingsley is a descendent of Jesse Billingsley (1810-80), Captain of Company C of the First Regiment of Texan Volunteers, that fought at the Battle of San Jacinto. Adm. Billingsley was nominated for his commission to the Governor's office by Adm. Bill Rouse.

On October 22, the Squadron hosted the commissioning of Jeff Modzelewski at the Galveston County Courthouse. Modzelewski is a retired CPA, but his contributions to the community and local history organizations are legion. He is a longtime member of the Galveston Historical Foundation, and a founding member and Past President of the Laffite Society in Galveston. He and his wife Kathy are Life Members of the East End Historical District Association, and volunteered for many years in organizing ARToberFEST in Galveston. Adm. Modzelewski currently serves as Secretary of the Tucker Lodge No.297 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Kathy is Director of the Galveston Diaper Bank, a non-profit that provides diapers to families in need through day-cares, parenting classes, and so on, for which Adm. Modzelewski volunteers multiple hours per week.

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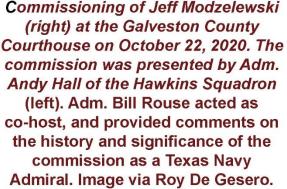




News From Our Squadrons:











Special recognition goes to Adm. Frank R. Brown, who nominated Adm. Modzelewski to the Governor's office, and shepherded his commissioning through the process.

The Hawkins Squadron hopes to organize a commissioning event soon for former astronaut Colonel Mike Fossum, U.S. Air Force Reserve (Ret.) Superintendent, Texas A&M Maritime Academy, and Chief Operating Officer for TAMUG.

Two lineages of members of the Hawkins Squadron are of note during this quarter. Our Squadron Commander, Adm. Chester Barnes, was recently inducted into the General Society of the War of 1812. The society, first organized in 1854, is a lineage organization composed of male descendants of American veterans of the War of 1812. Adm. Barnes is a descendant of Wyatt Hall, Sr., who served in Nelson's Thirteenth Mississippi Militia during that conflict. Hall immigrated to Texas in 1826 with

the "Second Three Hundred" settlers to Austin's Colony, and settled in Brazoria County. He later fought in three battles during the Texas Revolution.

Adm. Lawren Hall, Past Secretary of the Hawkins Squadron, is a descendant of Thomas F. McKinney (1801-73) who, with his business partner Samuel May Williams, financed much of the Texas Provisional Government's military expenditures in 1835-37, including the purchase and fitting out of the first ships of the Texian Navy.

Continued next page









News From Our Squadrons: \star



Finally, the Hawkins Squadron is currently working with Adm. VanVelzen to establish a Squadron-sponsored detachment, under the aegis of the Hawkins Squadron, for TAMUG students interested in Texas- and maritime history. Membership in the organization will be at no cost to students, and all TAMUG undergraduates will be eligible to join and participate.

The past few months have presented challenges for the Hawkins Squadron, as they have for the rest of the TNA, but we continue to press forward into the gale.

Respectfully submitted,

Adm. Chester F. Barnes II Commander, Charles E. Hawkins Squadron **Texas Navy Association**











Recent Events Involving The Texas Navy



Quarterly Report Search for the *Invincible* Committee

Texas Navy Association
October 24, 2020

On October 20, 2020, we ran a long-delayed ground-penetrating radar survey of the site at East Beach that we have been investigating over the last two years as part of the Search for the INVINCIBLE Project. The crew consisted of project archaeologist Bob Gearhart, Adm. Jerry Patterson, and myself. Special thanks go to Adm. Patterson, who made a very long drive from Austin to Galveston to assist, and to Adm. Dennis Mills of Austin, who made available the specific



Getting an early start at the site. After postponements for Hurricanes Laura and Delta, it was nice to see the weather cooperate.

GPR system we used. On this occasion we were using the GSSI 200HS ground-penetrating radar, the same type that we had some technical difficulties with about a year ago. It is a new system, operating on a 200 MHz wavelength, that uses proprietary "stacking" software for interpreting and presenting radar data. It was our hope that this would be more effective than most ground-penetrating radar systems are in saline soil conditions.

Bob ran a total of eleven 200-foot-long lines running North/South, and nine 250-foot-long lines running East/West. These were done at 25 foot spacing, the same as used in the original magnetometer survey in November 2018, and in fact was keyed in to cover the same tracks as then. In addition, Bob did two more North/South lines 200 feet long, at 50 and 100 feet east of the main grid. The GPR survey today encompassed the largest clusters of magnetic anomalies detected previously.

The GPR system seemed to work well, generating profiles down to 20, 25, and 30 feet or more below the surface. This is substantially deeper than we believe the bottom was when INVINCIBLE was wrecked in 1837. Our initial look at the profiles, though, does not seem to show significant materials or disturbances that we would expect for the scattered remains of a vessel the size of









Recent Events Involving The Texas Navy



Quarterly Report Adm. Andy Hall Chairman Search for the *Invincible* Committee

Texas Navy Association

October 24, 2020



Project Archaeologist Bob Gearhart prepares to run a line with the GSSI 200HS system. there are any indications in the GPR data that match features

of INVINCIBLE. I don't think it's a problem with the sensitivity of the GSSI 200HS, because in several places the profiles showed long, sloping features that are geologic in nature, like the change in density between sand and clay layers, ranging from 10 to 25 feet below the surface.

This is a disappointing result, to be certain. We will have to await full analysis of the generated profiles, that Bob is going to overlay on the other data from the site to see if there are any indications in the GPR data that match features

located before. A more detailed report will be available then. But so far, nothing stands out.

The East Beach site has been the priority target because it was first identified as an area of interest based on archival research, and then supported by an informal magnetometer survey done of that area in the early 2000s. A Phase I Survey permit was acquired through the Texas Historical Commission, and work begun with a magnetometer survey in November 2018. The East Beach site has been the best, and most specific, lead or prospect the Search for the INVINCIBLE Project has had over the years.









Recent Events Involving The Texas Navy

October 24, 2020







Quarterly Report

Search for the Invincible Committee

Texas Navy Association



The water table near the center of the site was found to be just over two feet below the surface.

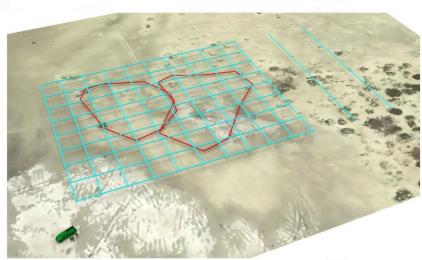


Illustration showing the GPR survey lines (light blue) done on October 20, 2020, at 25-foot spacing. The red lines indicate the broad groupings of magnetic anomalies recorded in November 2018. The truck (lower left) shown for scale.

Unfortunately, subsequent work done at the site has not been able to corroborate the presence of features we would expect to find from a shipwreck, that correspond to the original magnetometer data. We have applied, in a systematic and deliberate way, multiple avenues of remote sensing and probing, without notable success. The sources of the strong, scattered magnetic anomalies revealed in the 2018 magnetometer survey remain undetermined.

It had been our hope that the GPR fieldwork just completed, using the latest hardware/software combination, would provide critical data confirming the presence of possible shipwreck, but that does not now appear to be the case. The bottom-line summary is this: if there's a shipwreck at that location, we can't show that it's there. In light of this, the Search for the INVINCIBLE Committee will be discussing, along with TNA leadership, a re-assessment of the project and potential paths moving forward.









★ Texas Navy History Brief: ★





Texas Navy Association

Historical Article





- Artwork courtesy Adm. Bruce Marshall

"If the Texas Navy had not been able to keep the crucial supply lines to New Orleans and America open, the Texas revolution would have failed."









🌟 Texas Navy History Brief: 🬟



Commodore Charles Edward Hawkins (Fleet Commander, March 1836 - 11 February 1837)

harles E. Hawkins was one of those swashbucklers who brought color and adventure to the navies of the Western Hemisphere to rival any of those of the Old World. Born in New York in 🖊 1802, Hawkins left a life on land at age 16, when he joined the U.S. Navy as a midshipman. He served on board the fabled frigates Constitution, Constellation and Guerriere. After serving along the Atlantic coast, he was transferred to the U.S. West Indies squadron which was commanded by another of the U.S. Navy's bright stars, Commodore David Porter. Commodore Porter, a hero of the War of 1812, was court-martialed in 1825, and resigned to join the Mexican Navy, where he had been offered command of the fleet. Porter began recruiting naval officers to serve Mexico, and one he took with him was the young Midshipman Hawkins. Taking a furlough from the naval service, Hawkins resigned his commission and joined the Mexican Navy. As a Mexican commander, Charles Hawkins spent several adventurous years raiding Spanish shipping in the Gulf of Mexico, particularly around Cuba. He sailed the Gulf in his five-gun brig Hermon, and used the abandoned U.S. naval base at Key West as his center of operations. He was arrested by U.S. authorities for violating the Neutrality Act of 1819, but he was released on bail and quickly sailed back to Veracruz for further orders. Soon, however, fortune turned against him. Mexico's naval funds began to dry up, and a wave of distrust of American officers caused Hawkins to resign his commission and move to Texas, where he became a civilian riverboat captain.

As dissent turned into revolution, Hawkins joined General José Antonio Mexia, who was planning an invasion of the Mexican mainland at the port city of Tampico. During the invasion, Hawkins, now a major, served as Mexia's aide, and took part in the attack on the city. The attack failed, however, and Hawkins escaped certain death by hitching a ride on a passing ship bound for Brazoria. From there, he journeyed to San Felipe, where he met General Sam Houston and offered his services as a navy captain to the revolutionary government. Houston recommended Hawkins to Governor Henry Smith, who in turn recommended him to Texas's agents in New Orleans, Stephen F. Austin, Branch T. Archer, and William H. Wharton. The agents hired Hawkins on the spot, and put him in charge of acquiring and fitting out the eight-gun schooner Independence, formerly the U.S. revenue cutter Ingham. Hawkins greatly distressed the cash-strapped Texas agents with his extravagant expenses, but he fitted the schooner out as his flagship and was soon prowling the Gulf for Mexican shipping as a captain without a commission, which he did not receive until March 12, 1836. At the time of his appointment, President Burnet considered Hawkins to be the senior captain of the squadron, so he was referred to for the rest of his life as Commodore of the Texas Navy.

As Santa Anna's army marched relentlessly from Mexico to the Alamo, Goliad, San Felipe and Harrisburg, Hawkins maintained his base of operations at Matagorda, then removed it to Galveston as the Mexican army closed in. He oversaw the naval defense of Galveston until the Texas victory at San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, then removed his fleet to New Orleans for repairs and recruiting. A strict disciplinarian, Hawkins was known to put ship captains in irons as quickly as a lowly sailor, and one evening in May 1836, while sailing aboard the warship Brutus, he leveled a cannon and fired it at the Invincible, thinking it might be a Mexican warship lurking in the darkness. He tried to sack Captain William Hurd of the Brutus, but Hurd's crew refused to allow any replacement officers on board, and Hurd remained one of Hawkins' enemies in the service.

After the revolution, Hawkins slowed down his activity, preferring to stay close to port in New Orleans while waiting for the impoverished government to scrape up enough money to pay his men and provision his ships. President Burnet ordered Hawkins to blockade the Mexican port of Matamoros, on the Rio Grande, but the Invincible and Brutus sailed to New York without orders, remaining there until the following spring. The Independence was therefore outnumbered by the newly rebuilt Mexican fleet,









★ Texas Navy History Brief: ★

and Hawkins was reluctant to leave his safe berth at the mouth of the Mississippi. His flagship wintered in the Crescent City while Hawkins took up residence at a boarding house on Canal Street. In early 1837, Hawkins caught smallpox, and he died on February 11. Commodore Hawkins was buried with full military honors, leaving command of the fleet to Captain George Wheelwright.

For further reading, see The Texas Navy in Forgotten Battles and Shirtsleeve Diplomacy, by Jim Dan Hill, and "Charles E. Hawkins: Sailor of Three Republics," in Gulf Coast Historical Review, volume 5 (Spring 1990), beginning on page 93, by Professor James H. Denham. Also, review the Texas Bibliography at_ this web site. The New Handbook of Texas

Prepared by Admiral Johnathan W. Jordan Copyright © 2000-2003









★ TX Navy Member Appreciation: ★ The Daughters of The Republic of Texas 4th Grade Texas Navy Essay Contest State Winner



Hudson Boatwright

break it up, and sell it for scraps.

State Winner <u>Hudson Boatwright's Essay</u>

The Texian Navy started in 1835. Though the Texian Navy was small they protected the coastline from the Mexican vessels and helped keep our freedom. We had the Texian Navy only for a short time.

The first Texian Navy had four ships. Their names were Liberty, which was 60 tons, Invincible, Independence, and Brutus, all 125 tons. Texas president, David G. Burnet, picked the ship captains. The Liberty was sold in 1836 because the government could not pay the repair bill. The Invincible got captured by Mexican ships and was destroyed. The Independence also got paid. They decided to run it aground, break it up, and

Edwin Ward Moore, 29-year-old commander-in-chief of the Navy of the Republic of Texas was told by then president, Sam Houston, to go back to Galveston, but Moore said no. Sam Houston called the Navy pirates. President Houston said if any allies see the Texian Navy, they were to capture them, and bring them in.

In November 1843 all the ships were put up for auction because the government would not give Moore any more money to keep going. The people of Galveston stopped the auction because they needed a navy. Then the ships were returned to the Republic of Texas. Texas got admitted to the United States on December 29, 1845 as the 28th state. In June 1846, the Texian Navy transferred to the U.S. Navy. In 1958 the 3rd Texas Navy was established. Naval headquarters were moved back to Galveston in 1970 by Preston Smith.

The 1st Navy ruled the Gulf of Mexico, took the Mexican supplies and gave them to the Texian troops. They also destroyed Mexican ships and kept Santa Anna's men away. The 2nd Navy damaged the Mexican coast, helped the Yucatan forces and prevented the invasion of Texas by sea. The 3rd Navy was a commemorative organization. Even though they were small, could not afford to repair ships, and lost ships, the Navy is important because they kept our freedom.

Continue Next page







★ TX Navy Member Appreciation: ★ The Daughters of The Republic of Texas 4th Grade Texas Navy Essay Contest State Winner



Hudson Boatwright

State Winner Hudson Boatwright's Essay

Hudson Boatwright is 10 years old with two siblings, Mason (11 years) and Kiersten Boatwright (6 years). He started his school career overseas in Korea at Hyundai Foreign School where he attended from Pre-K until third grade. He started fourth grade in Leakey the 2019/20 school year. Hudson enjoys swimming, being outside, and playing with friends. He has a great imagination, is very inquisitive, and likes to learn new things.

The great contributions to Texas history made by the Texian Navy should not be forgotten. Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the oldest women's patriotic organization in Texas, suggested in 1955 that September 3 should be Texian Navy Day. It took until 2005 for Texian Navy Day to receive permanent recognition and is now observed each year the third Saturday in September. Never forget the Lone Star Navy.













After The Hurricanes Buried Treasure of The Texas Navy

by Admiral James P. Bevill

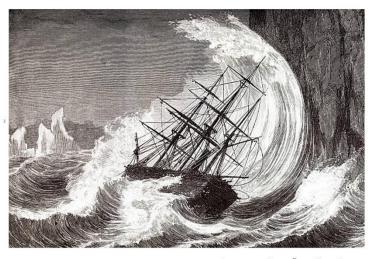


image by Grafissimo

Hurricanes almost never do good things. Even minor hurricanes and tropical storms often leave a wake of destruction from wind driven rains, massive flooding and storm surges that wash away sand dunes, roads, and foundations out from under beachfront homes. Surprisingly, in 1971, two back-to-back storms uncovered the largest and most historically important hoard of Texas Navy artifacts ever discovered – although the find had been kept secret for decades. Perhaps this was the exception.

In the fall of 1971, back-to-back hurricanes lashed the Texas gulf coast with a one-two punch of high tides and storm surges. Hurricane Fern crossed southeastern Louisiana as a tropical depression on September 4 before swinging back out over the Gulf of Mexico. Fern reached hurricane status on September 8, reaching a peak intensity of 90 mph before making landfall near Freeport, Texas two days later. Galveston took the brunt of the dirty side of the storm with flash flooding from heavy rains and storm surge.

At the same time, hurricane Edith was moving across Nicaragua and Honduras and the Yucatán Peninsula, eventually weakening into a tropical storm as it emerged into the Bay of Campeche on September 12. continue next page









After The Hurricanes Buried Treasure of The Texas Navy

by Admiral James P. Bevill

As Edith moved inland into Mexico, she turned to the north-northeast, accelerating offshore into the Gulf of Mexico. By September 15 she was skirting the Texas coastline, bringing a heady storm surge to Freeport, Galveston and Bolivar before slamming into the Louisiana coast as a Category III hurricane.



Plot of Galveston and the harbor showing the Navy Yard and the McKinney warehouse around 1836. Texas State Library and Archives

In the days which followed hurricane Edith, an unusual find was discovered along the harbor side edge of Galveston Island somewhere in the vicinity of the old McKinney and Williams warehouse which used to lie between 26th and 28th streets. That warehouse had been obliterated in an 1837 hurricane, now known as Racer's Storm. A contemporary account in the Houston Telegraph and Texas Register of October 11, 1837 notes that the "waters were driven in with such violence that they rose 6 or 7 feet higher than ordinary spring tide. They inundated a large portion of the east end of the island ... The new warehouse of Mr. McKinney and the new Customs House were completely destroyed and the goods scattered over the island."

Amidst the rubble was a previously unknown hoard of Texas Navy military insignia that had been covered up and

buried by several feet of the mud. It just sat there, until 134 years later, when these back-to-back hurricanes and tidal surges in 1971 removed enough of (continue next page)







Texas Navy Assoc. Speaker Presentation:∳

After The Hurricanes **Buried Treasure of The Texas Navy**

by Admiral James P. Bevill

sand and dirt until some of it became visible. We have no way of knowing what the finders saw first, but it is highly likely that one or more of the finders observed one or more of the artifacts poking through the mud...

Over the next few years, the finders swore themselves to secrecy and returned with metal detectors, uncovering buttons, belt buckles, and plates and had stars with the names, Texas Navy, Brutus, and Invincible emblazoned on the artifacts. At the time, there was not a lot of published research on the disposition of the first four ships of the Texas Navy. It is still not known the founders knew the historical significance of what they had uncovered and sequestered away for



Republic of Texas Navy plates in as found condition

decades in a garage. Over time, family members of the finders began to discreetly peddle these old belt buckles, hat stars, badges and military insignia at various gun shows and Civil War collectible shows across the country. Hundreds of pieces have now found new homes in private collections of individuals both inside and outside of Texas. Fortunately, some of these artifacts are still in their original or "as found condition" within a mass of hardened clay.



Plate, button, and star encrusted in original mud.

(continue

These collections were brought to the attention of noted marine archeologist, Jim Delgado, who wrote: "The latter are very instructive, as they represent stacks of badges and clusters of buttons which indicate this is an archaeological deposit of unsold merchandise specifically created for crews of Texas Navy vessels, next page) including those specifically marked for Brutus









After The Hurricanes Buried Treasure of The Texas Navy

by Admiral James P. Bevill

and Invincible, which dates those artifacts specifically to 1836-1837."

After examining these, Delgado wrote, "Because these artifacts were discovered decades ago on private property in Galveston, and were buried in close association, my belief is that these collections represent a deposit of merchandise from the warehouse and store of McKinney and Williams that was destroyed by Racer's storm, which struck Galveston on October 6, 1837 with a wind driven high tide that crested several feet over the entire island and leveling all standing structures."



Brutus - Rectangle Sword Belt Plate.



Brutus - Rectangle Sword Belt Plate. Reversed

The design is on a lightly stamped brass plate measuring approximately 1 5/8"wide and 2 1/16" high. The design features the word "BRUTUS" across the top of the plate in a slight arch. A five-pointed star is beneath the "U" in Brutus. An angled fouled anchor is in the center of the plate. The anchor rope ring is in the two o'clock position, under the "S" in Brutus and the bottom of the anchor is pointing to the seven o'clock position. The design is on a plain field with a light border. The attachments on the back of the plate consist of a brass strap for the belt and a brass hook.

(continue next page)







Invincible - Oval Shoulder Belt Plate

Invincible - Oval Shoulder Belt Plate. Reversed

The plate is orientated vertical. The plate measures approximately 2"wide by 2 5/8" high. The design features the words "TEXAS NAVY" across the top of the plate from the ten o'clock to the two o'clock positions. The ship's name "INVINCIBLE" is across the bottom of the plate eight o'clock to the four o'clock positions. A five-pointed star is at the twelve o'clock position, beneath the "S" in TEXAS NAVY. The design is on a plain field with a light border. The attachments on the back of the plate consist of two brass hooks on one side of the plate and one brass hook on the other.

The pieces in the collections are quite remarkable, bearing the names of not only the ships Brutus and Invincible, but also the other ships Liberty and Independence as well as Texas Navy and the Texas Marine Corps. These include uniform insignia, badges, coat and cuff buttons, hat, belt, shoulder and sword plates includes items specifically marked for the individual ships. The recent discovery of artifacts bearing the name Liberty dates their manufacture to early 1836, as that ship was seized by creditors in New Orleans in May 1836.

A formal and scientific authentication process has been underway for about three years, which included a metal and soil analysis by noted experts in their respective fields. We still have much to learn about these pieces, not only about their origins and manufacture, but also why there were literally hundreds of unworn pieces sitting in a warehouse at the time of its demise? We suspect these items were of a private enterprise by McKinney & Williams, to be sold to the officers, sailors and marines of the Texas Navy - although most of which were too cash strapped to afford these formal accourrements. With so much time spent at sea and a formidable and well equipped enemy to fight, purchasing this impressive military insignia was most likely a low priority for the crews.

James P. Bevill

Author of The Paper Republic, The Struggle for Money, Credit and Independence in the Republic of Texas (2009).









🖊 New Members

Levels of Membership of The Texas Navy

Admiral Annual Membership - \$50.00 (USD)

Subscription period: 1 year

No automatically recurring payments

One must hold a commission as Admiral in the Texas

Navy which is awarded by the Governor of Texas.

Commander - \$37.50 (USD)

Subscription period: 1 year

No automatically recurring payments

Must be age 26 and up

Lieutenant - \$25.00 (USD)

Subscription period: 1 year

No automatically recurring payments

Must be age 16 to 25

Associate Member - \$25.00 (USD)

Subscription period: 1 year

No automatically recurring payments

Admiral Walt E Wilson



Admiral Walt Wilson of the Texas Navy is a former U.S. Navy Captain and intelligence officer. He served for 31 years, with duty on aircraft carriers, at the Pentagon, and overseas in Korea, Japan, and the United Kingdom. In his civilian career, he was Vice President of a Defense consulting firm and Assistant Director for the Texas Department of Information Resources in Austin.

He now resides in San Antonio and is a board member of the Texas Map Society, past president of the San Antonio Navy League, and lay leader of Coker United Methodist Church. As an author, his published works include the books "Civil War Scoundrels and the Texas Cotton Trade," "The Bulloch Belles", and a biography of Commander "James D. Bulloch," plus articles about Civil War naval operations in the Southwestern Historical Quarterly (Spring 2021), UT Rio Grande Valley's Regional History Series and the Louisiana History Journal.













★ New Members



Admiral Steve Baczewski



Served 23 years in the Texas State Guard and retired as a Lt Col. I am currently working a government contract at Ft Bliss McGregor Range (NM) in support of the COVID-19 mission to the DoD. I also was a contractor in Iraq during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Iragi Endurance (3.5 years). I was raised in the Rio Grande Valley to a blue water shrimp vessel owner/operator who also was a Veteran of the US Navy in WWII. I was always proud of my fathers service during WWII and his later dedication to the seas and feeding the world the best seafood.

Admiral Robert Clark



Lifetime sailer, family of four, founded high purity chemical company for semiconductor industry venture capital financed, BS ChE, MBA, officer 82nd Airborne Division

Admiral John LeBourhis



Started a marine warranty service in Houston in 1976 and was very successful (see John Lebourhis & Associates, Inc.) After 40 years, sold the company to London Offshore Consultants.

Admiral Gregory Lippe



I am the oldest son of a Navy Chief and a former Navy WAVE. Upon graduation of high school I entered the US Navy and served 4 years mostly on the west coast with trips to the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea. After my enlistment, I worked with my father for a time repairing appliances. By chance, I took the test for firefighter in Waco, Texas and 32 years later am still at it. I live in a suburb of Waco (Robinson) and for 15 years I volunteered with that fire department. Additionally, I was an adjunct instructor at McLennan Community College at the fire academy from 2000 to 2010. I have a AAS in Fire Protection and Safety Technology. I enjoy this career and everything that goes with helping my fellow citizen.









New Members



Admiral Joseph Leonard



Joe Leonard retired from the Coast Guard as a Commander after 30 years of service. He is a nationally recognized emergency responder, incident manager, and trainer with over forty years of United States Coast Guard, United States Army, volunteer municipal fire service, and private-sector experience responding to natural disasters, oil spills, hazardous materials releases, marine fires, mass rescue operations, mass care and shelter events, national special security events, and maritime homeland security events.

He continues to serve the Coast Guard as a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary where he currently serves as the Division Commander of Division 081-06, District 8 (Coastal Region) District Staff Officer-Emergency Management, and as the Flotilla Staff Officer-Public Education for Flotilla 081-06-12 based at Sector Houston-Galveston. Auxiliarist Leonard's awards include three Coast Guard Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medals, four Meritorious Service Medals, eight Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, the Department of Transportation 9-11 Medal, the Coast Guard Auxiliary Achievement Medals, seven Coast Guard Achievement Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, the Coast Guard Auxiliary Letter of Commendation Medal, six Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbons, as well as numerous unit and service awards. He is authorized to wear the Auxiliary Operations Device, Coast Guard Marine Safety Professional Pin, Coast Guard Aviator Wings, the Army Parachutist Badge, and the Army Air Assault Badge.

In 2006, he was recognized with the prestigious U.S. Navy League's Captain David H. Jarvis Award for Inspirational Leadership and was named a Fox News "Power Player of the Week" on 11 September 2005 for his services as the FEMA-designated Area Commander-Houston Area Mega-Shelter Operations following the devastating landfall of Hurricane Katrina. In 2018, he received Honorable Mention as the US Coast Guard Auxiliarist of the Year. He was appointed an Admiral in the Texas Navy by Governor Rick Perry in 2014.

He has a Bachelor's Degree in History from the Virginia Military Institute and a Master's Degree in Engineering Technology from Murray State University. He holds certifications as a Master Exercise Practitioner, Master Continuity Professional, Certified Emergency Manager, Certified Homeland Protection Professional, and Certified Port Executive. Auxiliarist Leonard is the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer with the Emergency Management Solutions, an emergency management training, response, and consulting company.









★ New Members



Admiral Lorena Repaal



Native Texan born in Corsicana; grew up in Tyler and spent 23 years as a Nurse Officer in the USAF. Served in Thailand at the end of the Vietnam War and cared for many refugees coming out of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam as well as the US Marines from Kotang Island. Learned why I am blessed to be and American and a Texan. Since retiring have researched my lineage and am a member of the DAR, DRT, and the War of 1812. My GGGrandfather was at San Jacinto and know the blockade by the Texas Navy was but one reason he survived.

Commander Raymond Paul Albrecht



3rd generation native Texan. Graduate of University of Texas School of Law and licensed Texas Attorney. Retired but now working for the church as Executive Director of Catholic Cemeteries for Galveston-Houston.

Commander Raymond Lothar Gellert



Study of Law Professor of Law with the Governmental University of Administrative Sciences Union Commander-In-Chief and Admiral of the Navy Corps of the International Lazarus Union

Commander Raymond Michael Marotta



I am a senior technical writer for information systems. I also publish non-fiction about business, culture, and technology. My hobbies include numismatics and astronomy.

Commander Raymond William Mayse



Preservation of the Naval history of the Republic of Texas. I am a retired paralegal and I live fifteen miles from Galveston.









New Members



Commander Michael von Hirschberg



Michael was born on 05 January 1972 in Nelson, New Zealand and currently resides at 79 Fifield Terrace, Christchurch, New Zealand. He currently is the Executive Director (CEO) of CIOs Without Borders, a UN affiliated Charity Organization established by the Assistant Secretary General to use technology to address the humanitarian needs in developing countries. He is the first person outside of North America to be appointed to this role. He has been a member of this organization for over ten years, and in this time he has led them to implement a system for tracking the impacts of Agent Orange in Vietnam, set up the War-crimes Tribunal database in The Hague, and put in a clinical system in Rwanda to aid them in dealing with their one Doctor for every twenty-five thousand people issue. Currently he is leading a project in Africa to combat the Buruli Ulcer, a terrible flesh-eating disease and through he own personal efforts and self-funding, he has already managed to break down the genetic code of the bacteria and scientists and now developing a camera that will be able to identify any infected tissue thus allowing minor surgery as opposed to the current treatment of amputation. Michael was a Lieutenant in the New Zealand 2, 2/4 Royal New Zealand Navy as a reservist before being posted to South Africa for two years in a peacekeeping and policing role following the disestablishment of apartheid. During his term there he was responsible for handling a lot of inter-tribal disputes and ensuring that the human rights were observed. He was awarded a citation for bravery under fire during his two years of service there. Onreturning to New Zealand, Michael was forced to retire from active service due to an injury sustained in the service. He then became a technologist and volunteer for a number of philanthropic organizations including being a board member of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals, a volunteer ambulance officer, a member of the Red Cross Search and Rescue Team and also a fully qualified medic for the International Urban Search and Rescue Team that has seen him responding to disaster zones in New Zealand, Haiti and Australia. Michael commits his time in getting his organization of over seven hundred volunteer technologists to use technology to deliver to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and other than his current project in Africa, he is also working on getting backing to combat Human Trafficking on the Dark Web.









New Members



Commander Jonathan Huth



I am an Assistant Team Leader in Emergency Manager and Environmental Consultation. I focus on environmental impacts to coastal waters and have a passion for the waters of the world. I served in The Navy active duty for 5 years as a Master-at-Arms from 2003-2008

Commander Cody Stroope



I grew up just outside of Lubbock, TX. I served in the US Navy as a enlisted sailor. I have a degree from the University of Texas at Arlington. I am a pilot for JetBlue Airways.

Commander Matthew Mulligan



I'm a 32 year old father and husband. I was a police officer for 10 years and during my service I was active in many specialized capacities such as SWAT, Field training, Special Weapons Instructor and a General Instructor. Now I serve as a Coordinator for a large tree company that works hand in hand with major electric companies across the south from Tx-FL to prevent damage and reestablish power in areas effected by storms.

Commander Daniel Perea



D.L. Perea is a an award-winning writer, documentary filmmaker, and multimedia producer with experience in live broadcast. Perea's work has documented cultural events, culinary arts, and alternative sports across the world. Perea is also a roots musician preserving rockabilly, blues and bluegrass styles through performance and educational exhibitions.





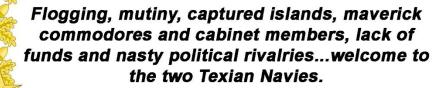




Book Recommendations:

God Favors the Bold:

Voices of the Texas Navy 1836-1845

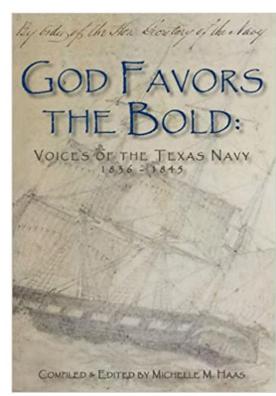


God Favors the Bold gathers previously unpublished journals of Texian Navy sailors for the first time to give a true and genuine voice to an arm of the Texas Revolution woefully neglected by students of Texas history. It serves as a reminder that Texas did not win her independence from Mexico by land battles alone. Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!

But don't forget the Battle of the Brazos, or the likes of Commodore Edwin Ward Moore and Secretary Samuel Rhoads Fisher-each viciously attacked and dragged through the mud by the anti-navy Sam Houston and each a colorful addition to the landscape of Texas history.

Through the writings of Samuel Cushing,
Cornelius Cox, Alfred Walke, George Fuller and
James Mabry, we learn about life on board the
naval vessels of the Republic of Texas. Through
the speeches and writings in defense of Moore
and Fisher, we understand a bit more about the
inner workings of the Republic and its
leadership.

And with the help of contemporary newspaper articles compiled by Lt. William A. Tennison, who served in both Texas Navies, we are afforded a clear chronology of the mighty seafaring branch of the Republic of Texas.



by Michelle M. Haas

Available

at

amazon

https://www.amazon.com/God-Favors-Bold-Voices-1836-1845/dp/0988435756





KAREN R. THOMPSON PAST PRESIDENT GENERAL, DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TEXAS NAVY ASSOCIATION MAY 17. 1944 - SEPTEMBER 26. 2020

Karen Ruth Dannelly Thompson passed away Saturday September 26, 2020 at Baylor Scott & White Hospital, Temple, at the age of 76 after a long battle with pneumonia. She was born in Austin May 17, 1944, the only child of Celeste Ruth Luck Dannelly and Robert Oliver Dannelly.

History was always a part of family life since her maternal third great grandfather, J. Philip Luck, was a founder of New Braunfels, Republic of Texas and her paternal third great grandfather, William A. Bass, settled in Stephen F. Austin's "Little Colony" in Bastrop, Republic of Texas in



1833. Karen had nine family members settle in the Republic of Texas. Earlier family included Jamestown in 1607 and ancestor Henry Whitfield in 1639. The Whitfield House is the oldest rock house in New England.

Karen was raised in the Tarrytown neighborhood, Austin where in 1950 she was in the first grade when the new Casis School opened. The family moved to Lake Travis in 1957 where she got her beloved horse Roy. Karen met David Thompson at Leander High School, where they graduated in 1962. They were married in 1966 and made their home on the Thompson Farm in Jollyville.

Soon she was digging into David's family history, especially his great-great-grandfather Col. C.C. Mason, a founder of Bagdad, Texas. She started working for the IRS in 1966 and would retire with 30 years of service. Daughter, Kathy, was the first baby born in Austin on January 1, 1969 and soon Mason made life hectic in 1971. Despite the many distractions, her gathering history continued. She authored seven history books and as Mason once told a new friend, "if my Mom says the fifties, she means 1850". Continued next page









KAREN R. THOMPSON
PAST PRESIDENT GENERAL, DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS
MAY 17, 1944 - SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

In 1994, she organized Save Texas Cemeteries, Inc., serving as president until her death. In 2013 Governor Rick Perry appointed her an Admiral in the Texas Navy and soon she was on the board of the Texas Navy Association, where she helped established a medallion to place on the tombstones of sailors in the Republic of Texas Navy. In 2017 she became chairman of the newly- organized Leander

Historical Preservation Commission.

The list of honors she received throughout her life is long but two honors stood out for her. In 2019, the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce awarded her special recognition for 3 decades of service with Leadership Round Rock. The most important award to her was being named Citizen of the Year for Leander in 2019.

She is survived by daughter Katherine (Kathy) Ruth Howell and husband Jonathan, son David Mason Thompson and wife Darla Simpson Thompson, all of Leander, grandson Cassidy Robert Thompson, of Austin and great-granddaughter Melanie (Thompson) Hanson of Michigan, two nieces, Karen Adrain and Sharon Blumrick and several very special cousins.













Gildo John Micheletti, left this world for a better place and joined his beloved wife, Ruby Marie (Guttenberger) Micheletti, son Robert Paul and parents Evergisto J. and Lilly Marie Micheletti, younger brother Robert Louis Micheletti. His is eternally proud of his mother and father for dedicating their entire lives to the welfare and education of their 10 children.



Longtime resident of Dickinson, he was born in Galveston in 1924 and is a 1941 graduate of Kirwin High School and Draughton's Business College. He entered the Army Air Force as a private in February 1943 and continued studies through USAFI. After his honorable discharge, he continued his education at University of Houston and University of Texas with 31 years of active and ready reserve duty. He retired as Lt. Colonel, USAF in 1982 as Chief

of Public Affairs Office. Beginning 1952 until his retirement, he participated in all major flood and hurricane recovery activities along the Texas Gulf Coast. During the Great 1973 Missouri-Mississippi River Flood he was temporarily assigned to the Corps' Lower Mississippi Valley Division and and received a special citation from the Chief of Engineers, Washington. In 1999, 17 years after retirement from the Engineers, he was honored by being inducted into the Galveston District's Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees.

A longtime scouter, in 1971 he received the Silver Beaver Award from the Bay Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, and in 1983 he was a nominee for Galveston's Annual Rabbi Henry Cohen Humanitarian award. He was a 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and served as Grand Knight of Dickinson Council and Trustee with the La Marque 4th Degree Assembly. A lifetime member of The Retired Officers Assn, Reserve Officers Assn, Texas Navy Admiral, member of Air Force Assn, Citizens Police Academy Alumni Assn, and an active member of Citizen on Patrol.





A Texas Navy Association Special Recognition:

KAREN R. THOMPSON

PAST PRESIDENT GENERAL, DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TEXAS NAVY ASSOCIATION MAY 17, 1944 - SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

ON OCTOBER 1ST, ORGANIZATIONS FROM ACROSS THE STATE CAME TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO A PILLAR IN THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMUNITY



A report from October 1st, 2020 astounding send off for Past President General Karen Thompson by Admiral Gaylon Finklea Hecker

You will be proud to know that DRT, as expected, despite the COVID curse, was well represented, many as requested wearing pins and tartan at Karen's funeral. We all wanted to hug and cry together, instead wearing masks and touching elbows, a pitiful substitute. But we stood out. Our flowers were beautiful. Our PG Carolyn Raney spoke wonderfully to a packed crowd of friends and family, all admirers of Karen's intelligence, energy, inquisitiveness, good humor, devotion to Texas history, DRT and local history.

Continued next page







In Memoriam

A Texas Navy Association Special Recognition:

KAREN R. THOMPSON

PAST PRESIDENT GENERAL, DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TEXAS NAVY ASSOCIATION MAY 17, 1944 - SEPTEMBER 26, 2020



A bagpiper led the assemblage on a sunny walk from the pavilion to the gravesite, the family behind the casket, followed by friends.

The funeral was held in a packed open-air pavilion in Leander's historic Bagdad Cemetery. Our Karen loved pomp, tradition, ceremony, reveled in planning and executing a spectacular, memorable event . . . and would have approved of how her daughter, Kathy, and the family had planned her moving send off.



The SRT showed up in their scruffy ROT uniforms with their muskets and the ground-shaking boom of the cannons saluting her.





Wayne Courreges and the smartly uniformed SAR Colonial Honor Guard only added to the magnitude of the day, and along with the American and Texas flags, the Texas Navy flag was displayed. Karen loved the TNA, as you know. She would have loved all of this pageantry.

Continued next page







KAREN R. THOMPSON
PAST PRESIDENT GENERAL, DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS TEXAS NAVY ASSOCIATION
MAY 17, 1944 - SEPTEMBER 26, 2020





AA flag that flew over the Alamo (Kathy remarked that with much forethought her mother had bought the last 20 flags that flew over the Alamo during DRT's custodianship) had draped her casket. The Texas Navy and VFW men ceremoniously folded it, and it was placed in the casket with her. She will be wrapped in Texas history, much of it she either helped shape or chronicled, for eternity.



Speakers included noted historian Dr. Felix Almaraz, who recalled (many of you may have attended this event in Alamo Hall) the evening at the Alamo when he spoke when a 1716 copy of an Alamo-related diary was presented to DRT by Mexican Senator Jesus Maria

Ramon, due to Karen's influence and relationship with the family. Also speaking warmly and humorously was former GLO Commissioner and The Texas Navy Associations's official representaive Jerry Patterson, who told wonderful stories of his professional relationship with Karen, as the state phased out DRT's 106-year custodianship of the Alamo, and how painful and challenging that was for both of them. He said contracting with DRT to continue its custodianship, with Karen at the helm, was a no-brainer. They remained friends, and belonged to the same TNA chapter.

Continued next page





A Texas Navy Association Special Recognition:





A judge spoke, the Leander mayor spoke. Several others spoke during an open-mic that Kathy said was necessary because her mother loved nothing more than an open mic. The assemblage laughed. Kathy said Karen had told her never to write out a speech, but to just speak from the heart. Kathy spoke from her heart. I spoke.

John Williams spoke. Two young women, Karen's step-granddaughters, spoke tearfully and sang in their sweet soprano voices "I'll Fly Away" while they stood in front of the open casket. Also speaking was documentarian Bill Millett, whose documentary of Karen's trip (and other DRT Daughters) to Coahuilla, Mexico, and the site of the first Alamo at Mission San Francisco de Solano in Guerrero, was to have played on a giant screen, but the sunlight was just too bright to be seen. He told of the wonderous, rare night when he filmed Phil Collins and Karen alone together inside the Alamo. He said something to the effect, "That night, Phil just acted like himself with Karen, not an entertainer. It was the impact of that night with Karen, I am convinced, that sealed the deal for him giving his \$70 million Alamo collection for the Alamo museum."

At the gravesite, a bugler played "Taps." We sang multiple verses a Capello to "Amazing Grace," repeated the Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm. People greeted Kathy and Mason, who invited all to Karen's house for a reception. A large spray of yellow roses lay on the casket. Karen was a Yellow Rose. A newspaper reporter wrote about it all for the local paper, familiar with this local hero.

What a day. For me, it was the end of a DRT era of impact and importance, a time of learning and respecting and having happy times with my mentor, the best, most devoted, knowledgeable Texas historian I will ever personally know. But ironically, dying the same day was noted Texas historian and professor Dr. David Gracy. Dusky passed around a sympathy card for his family. I suppose they held hands on the elevator up, planning the Texas history classes they could set up for non-Texans in Heaven.

RIP, dear Karen. There is nobody like you. There will be nobody to replace you. We are all diminished without your gutsy leadership, loving friendship and fun demeanor. May your memory be for a blessing.









https://texasnavy.org/ShipsStore



(FOR ADMIRALS ONLY) TXN Baseball Cap (Blue/Low Profile) \$25.95

(FOR ADMIRALS ONLY) TNA Commemorative Medal shipped in a black logo box with ribbon for wearing on the neck or optional pin ribbon for wearing the medal on the lapel.\$82.00





TNA Coffee Mugs \$10.95

Texas Navy Ladies Flag Pin/Penant. \$29.95











Other Historical Organizations





For The Republic & State of Texas Was Built By Heroes

Find Yours Today, by joining The Sons of The Republic of Texas

If your family was in Texas prior to February 19, 1846 and you have a love of Texas History, the Sons of The Republic of Texas is the organization to be a part of. The goal of the SRT is to promote, preserve and protect the history of the Great State of Texas. During these times while history is under siege men who love this state need to step forward and help protect it's history. We need you, Texas needs you.

Download & Fill out your Application at http://www.srttexas.org

or Contact your Local Chapter, info listed below **Honor Your Ancestors, Honor Texas!**



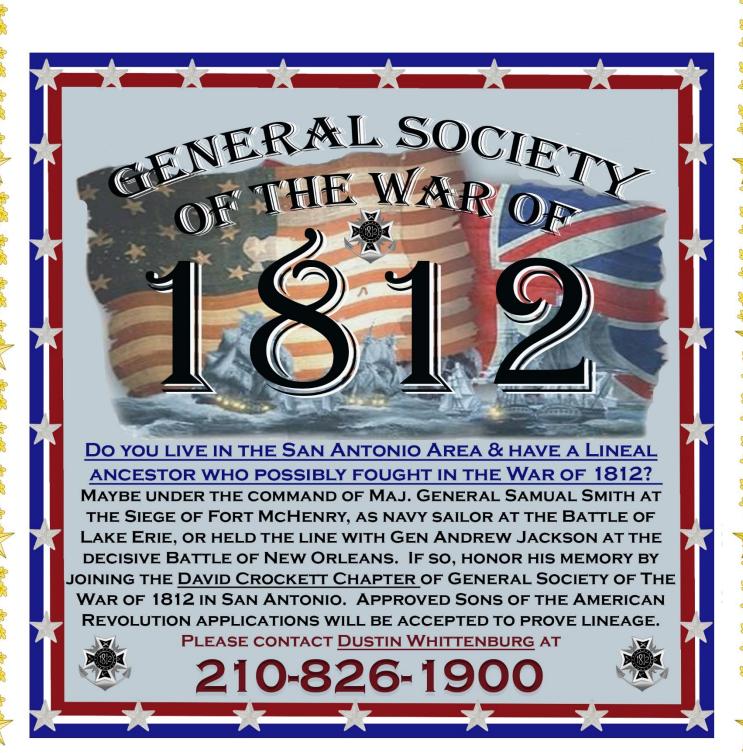






Other Historical Organizations













Calendar 🔸



Texas Navy Association Board of Directors' Annual Membership and 4th Quarter Meeting Announcement

Texas Navy Association Members,

It has been determined by the Texas Navy Association Executive Committee that the Annual Membership and 4th Quarter Board of Directors' combined meeting will need to be a virtual Zoom meeting rather than the face to face gathering which had been planned with a social element at the Houston Yacht Club. This meeting is scheduled to be at 1:30 pm on Saturday December 5th 2020. More information will be forthcoming on how to attend.













