



## Newly Elected At-Large TNA Board Members

### Admiral James (Jim) Tyson



**Work History:** **Adm Tyson** enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1978 as a computer programmer analyst, with an initial assignment at the U.S. Army Logistics Center. In 1979, he was recruited to the White House Communications Agency, where he performed as programmer for the President, the White House staff, and the National Security Council until completion of his enlistment in June of 1982, earning him a Presidential Service Badge.

Upon leaving the Army, Jim was recruited into an intelligence think tank in the Washington D.C. Area, where he worked on assignments for Rome Air Development Center and other government agencies. Later he work as a sub-contractor at the IBM - Federal Systems Lab in Manassas, Va., working on a sonar simulator for fast attack submarines. Jim was then hired as a Senior Systems Engineer for the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. From the VDMV, Jim was hired by Time-Life, as the Finance and Admin Systems Manager for the books, music and video division. He has worked in the insurance and software development industries. He currently works for the El Paso Corporation as an Internal Consultant (Information Technology) for El Paso. Texas Navy: Jim was commissioned by Governor George W. Bush on May 5th, 2000. He serves as Chairman of the Technology Committee. Jim helped build and maintains the Texas Navy web site.

**Interests and Hobbies:** Jim first came into contact with the Texas Navy in the late 90's, when he was the elected Executive Officer of the PT-309 project – a restoration

of a WWII combat veteran PT Boat – that was occurring in the Clear Lake area. Jim remained Executive Officer until the vessel was relocated to the Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas. Jim is also currently serving as Administrative Officer, Galveston Bay Power Squadron, where he served as Executive Officer in 2011 and Commander in 2012, and is a current Trustee and former Secretary of the Houston Yacht Club. He is an avid sailor.

### Admiral John Nicholson



**Education and Background:** **Adm Nicholson** is a graduate of Texas A&M (Class of 1962) and served as an officer in the Air Force for 5 years during the Vietnam era. John received his Texas Navy Admirals Commission in 1997. He is a native Texan and Houstonian. He has been married to Carol for over 50 years. Their son, John C. Nicholson, M.D. is a Captain in the Navy and is Chief of Surgical Services at Navy Hospital-San Diego.

**Work History:** Professionally John is a Senior Vice President of Contract Land Staff, LLC, a nationwide provider of right of way acquisition services for the pipeline and utility industries. Interests and Associations: John is completing a 3-year term as a TNA Board member and Chairman of the Finance Committee. For the past year he has served as the organization's Vice President. He is a Past Commodore of the Houston Yacht Club and is an avid sailor and power boater. His goal is to continue the progress made in the past year to bring the various elements of the TNA into a more harmonious relationship

with one another and to further the mission to preserve and promote the history of the Texas Navy.

### **Admiral Richard B. Hatch**



*Education:* Louisiana Tech, Professional Aviation. University of Arkansas: 1 year of post grad Masters in Multi-Modal Transportation. University of Houston Law Center: Certified to Mediate Court Appointed Civil cases in 49 states. Certified to Mediate Family Law cases. Certified Arbitrator Domestic and International cases.

*Work History:* 1973-1977 Active Duty U.S. Navy: Duties in Air Traffic Control, Served aboard first crew (a “Plank Owner”) of U.S.S. Nimitz; 1977-1997 U.S. Naval Reserve; Air Traffic Control Facility Officer, Carrier Air Traffic Control Center Officer, Air Traffic Control Instructor. Served aboard U.S.S. Lexington active duty summers for 10 years. (USNR, Retired); 1977-1987 Senior Manager of Field Operations, Federal Express; 1987 to 2011, Chairman and CEO of Dean Management Corporation, which developed, owned and operated The Houston File Room, The Austin File Room, File Pro, San Antonio, and File Pro, Corpus Christi. These facilities store and manage vital records for Hospitals, Law Firms and Banks; 2011 to 2013, Director of Corporate Development for Cornerstone Records Management; 2013 to Present, CEO, Dean Management Corporation.

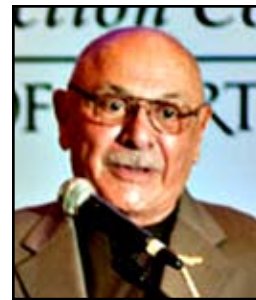
*Interests and Associations:* 1993 Gubernatorial Commission as Admiral in The Texas Navy, Chairman of Airport Advisory Board, San Antonio International Airport (1992-1998), Member of Texas Bar ADR Section, Certified Mediator and Arbitrator, US Sailing trained Yacht Racing Official, Licensed Air Traffic Controller,

Licensed Amateur Radio Operator, and Resident Member of Lakewood Yacht Club. Eagle Scout and Vigil Honor member of The Order Of The Arrow. Member of the Texas Navy Association and the Sam Houston Squadron of the TNA.

## **Newly Appointed TNA Board Squadron Representatives**

*Submitted by Squadron Commanders*

### **Admiral Nicholas D. Ricco**



*Nimitz Squadron Board Representative:*

**Adm Ricco** was born and raised in NY City. He served as a PFC in the 107th Infantry Regiment, attended Fordham University for one year, enlisted in the USAF in 1952, earned rank of Captain while instructor to B-47 and B-52 Pilots, Navigators and Bombardiers. He left active duty for the University of North Texas and earned a BBA in Accounting and Finance while flying in the Air Force Reserves.

Mr. Ricco was awarded a commission in the US Navy the day President Kennedy was shot in Dallas. Adm Ricco served an addition 11 years as aviator, instructor and commanding officer of several aviation squadrons and retired as Commander.

He served as Director of numerous civic organizations including the Navy League of the United States, International Civitans and now the Texas Navy Association, all the while developing Real Estate, Insurance and Finance companies.

He returned to North Texas University in 2000 to obtain a masters in Journalism, accumulating 36 hours of academic and practical

Journalistic experience. The Ricco family awards hundreds of scholarships to 14 colleges of UNT and they serve on numerous advisory boards at those colleges.

As President of Ricco Family Partners, LTD, he is still managing Real Estate and Securities and loan portfolios for Nineteen partners. All this occurred while being married to Anna G. Ricco with whom he raised six children, 13 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

### **Admiral Steve Leth**



*Sam Houston Squadron Board Representative  
(pending TNA membership):*

**Adm Steve Leth** has been a member of Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook, Texas since 1988 and active in Club cruising, racing and planning activities. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1995 and as Commodore in 1999.

In March 2004, he was commissioned as an Admiral in the Texas Navy by Governor Perry.

Steve's business career spans more than 30 years with leadership roles at the American Productivity and Quality Center and Deloitte Consulting. He is an independent consultant to corporations on major strategic initiatives. He holds a doctorate from Purdue University in organizational communication and psychology.

### **Admiral Gordon W. Kelso**

*Commodore Edwin Moore Squadron Board Representative:*

**Adm Gordon W. Kelso** is an Austin native (the "old Seton"... Becker, Fulmore, Wm B. Travis) who has been a radio announcer,

television director, Marine Corps photojournalist, pre-Broadway/Broadway sound designer and theatrical-production stage manager. He has worked for Disney, the three major television networks, the Los Angeles and San Francisco Civic Light Opera Companies, Kennedy Center Productions, Joe Papp's New York Shakespeare Festival as well as the UK's Royal Shakespeare Company. Gordon has designed for Joshua Logan, Gower Champion, and Michael Bennett. He has toured with Yul Brynner, Debbie Reynolds, Bette Davis, Jack Albertson and Sam Levene. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Radio/Television/Film w/ Drama and Journalism minors) from the University of Texas at Austin. He is a federally licensed broadcast engineer, a member of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, the International Association of Assembly Managers and a 49-year member of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. Gordon is a patented inventor with additional projects in various stages of development.

Gordon returned to Austin in 1977 (after opening the newly remodeled San Francisco Orpheum Theatre the same year) to open UT's Frank C. Erwin Special Events Center as its original production stage manager. He left the University in 1989 to become the General Secretary of the Austin Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and is one of the founding directors of the Scottish Rite Learning Center, a school for dyslexic children. In 2004, he founded the Scottish Rite Children's Theatre, retiring in December, 2007. Gordon and his wife Rita, a former principal skater with Shipstads and Johnson's Ice Follies and current Children's Theatre manager, have one daughter, Gwendolyn Anne, an Actor's Equity Shakespearean actress currently earning her Masters degree from George Washington University's Shakespearean Conservatory in Washington, D.C. He is an amateur historian, a Freemason and Deist.

### Admiral Dave Haglund



*Maribeau B. Lamar Squadron Board Representative:*

**Adm Haglund** was born and raised in Virginia where he attended public schools. He is married to Mary and they have two children and four grandchildren. They have made Houston their home for some 35 years where they enjoy the history and different provinces of Texas, particularly the events of the early nineteenth century in the coastal region. He graduated from the University of Virginia with a B. A. in Chemistry and M.S. in Geology. He earned a Ph. D. in Geochemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1968. He is a member of Sigma Xi Honorary Society, Sigma Gamma Epsilon Society, Houston Geological Society and the Society for Sedimentary Geology. He has published articles of geologic nature in technical journals.

David began his professional career with the Virginia Department of Highways Research Council and joined Shell Oil Company in 1968 as a Geologist in the Bellaire, Texas Research Laboratory. A full career with Shell included assignments in petroleum exploration in many provinces of the US including the Gulf of Mexico as well as Africa and Latin and South America. He held several posts in exploration management, as Chief Geologist and retired as Geologic Advisor. David holds a Certificate from the Dispute Resolution Institute of the University of Houston. He served as a Technical Advisor for the Wiess Energy Hall of the Houston Museum of Natural Science. After serving as a Trustee of the Galveston Bay Foundation, David now serves on the Advisory Council.

David received his commission as Admiral in the Texas Navy in 2003 and is a charter member of the Mirabeau B. Lamar Squadron

of the Texas Navy Association. He and Mary are active members of the Houston Yacht Club where David served on the Board of Trustees, as a Flag Officer and as Commodore in 2004. The family is active in water recreation including sail boat racing and cruising and power boating. David and Mary have cruised on sail boats in many foreign venues and on their trawler in many waters of the Gulf and East Coasts and completed the Great Loop in 2011. David earned the certificate for the OUPV License of the US Coast Guard and was elected to Honorary Membership (2004) of the Galveston Bay Power Squadron.

### Admiral Beth Fisher



*Tom Toby Squadron Board Representative:*

**Admiral Beth Fisher** is a native Houstonian whose mother was also an Admiral, Ann Cole Fisher. Beth is a direct descendant of Samuel Rhoads Fisher, Secretary of the Texas Navy during the Republic. Beth and Admiral Curt Osborne co-founded the Tom Toby Squadron in 2013.

Beth holds a BBA in finance from the University of Texas in Austin and has done graduate/doctoral studies at UT SPH Houston. She is a commercial banker of 38 years and has held numerous key banking positions including Senior Vice President at Bank of America where she managed the non-profit, healthcare, and public finance group. Currently she operates her own Company which provides consulting on complex Wall Street securitized transactions. She is very proud of her work on large transactions for the US Treasury PPIP Program and Oaktree Capital over the last 18 months that totaled \$11 billion. She has served on numerous Boards of Directors including Harris County Medical Society Development Board,



Alzheimer Ass, Houston Junior League, UT Speech and Hearing, Counsel on Aging, and Houston Area Carriage Association. She is an active member of the DRT, Colonial Dames, DAR, and TNA. Beth's passion in sports is competing in International combined carriage driving events with her 17.2 hand Dutch horse.

### Outgoing Board Members

Many thanks to out going TNA Board Members **Admiral Diane Dyess** and **Admiral Richard Dempsey** who have completed their full terms at the end of December 2013. They each have contributed individually to the efforts and goals of the Board and willingness to serve is very much appreciated.

### Moore Squadron Commissions New Admiral



(L) Commodore Edwin W. Moore Squadron, **Commander Adm Larry Schroeder**, newly commissioned **Adm Karen Thompson** and **Adm Carolyn Orlebeke** at the January Moore Squadron meeting.

### Texas Navy Association Quarterly Meeting Reminder

The regular quarterly meeting of the Texas Navy Association will be held at 2:30PM, Saturday, February 8th, 2014. The meeting will be held at the Wyndham Hotel, 3300 West Mockingbird Lane, Dallas Texas.

The board meeting will be immediately followed by an open comments/Q&A session. Topics may include, the history of the TNA (what really happened in Austin in 1979?), future projects, volunteerism (how you can participate), a spring social gathering the way it was done back in the 80's and 90's, etc. etc. Both sessions are open to the public. All Texas Navy Admirals, Commanders, Lieutenants, their guests and other interested parties are invited to attend. There is no cost for the TNA meeting, but please help us to plan properly by registering on the TNA website, [www.texasnavy.com](http://www.texasnavy.com). Click on the "Events" tab and let us know you are coming. There is no cost for the TNA meeting.

The TNA meeting is to be followed by a separate meeting and dinner arranged by the Chester W Nimitz Squadron of the Texas Navy Association. Posted on the web site [www.texasnavy.com](http://www.texasnavy.com)

For those preferring to spend the night in Dallas, the Wyndham Love Field has reserved a small block of rooms, at a special rate for Saturday night. Contact the Hotel at: (214) 357-8500

REMINDER: All 2014 meetings of the TNA have been scheduled as follows. Regular quarterly meetings are to be held on the second Saturday of the second month of each calendar quarter. Meetings will be held in various locations around Texas, with exact locations and times to be announced in advance.

**O**ur annual Christmas Banquet was held at the Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook, Texas. All who attended had fun meeting and greeting fellow members of the Texas Navy Association. With much disappointment members and guests living in the northern part of Texas unexpectedly experienced extreme weather conditions preventing them from attending the banquet. Our thanks to the Lakewood Yacht Club staff and management for their excellent service and attention to detail helping to make our event special.



(L) **Adm. Don Genitempo** and wife **Deloris, Sandy Turner**



(L) TNA Board Member, **Adm. Fount McKee** and **Adm. Bob Warters**



(L) TNA VP **Adm John Nicholson**, Newly Commissioned **Adm Jeff Hunt** and TNA Pres **Adm Bill Turner**



SHS Commander **Adm Don Genitempo** and The Tom Toby Squadron Board Rep **Adm Beth Fisher**





**Linda McKee and TNA Board Member  
Adm Fount McKee**



**Pres Bill Turner's wife, Sandy and  
TNA Secretary Adm Tom Taylor**



**Adm Jim Hebert, SHS Dep Comm Adm Marsha Taylor  
and Adm Gary Anderson**



**Dawn Hatch, Adm John Barnett, Adm Rita Mathews, Adm  
Bob Garrett, Adm Ruby Garrett and Adm Dick Hatch**

## Texas Navy Uniform Wins First Place



**Adm Steve von Roeder** and Lyn von Roeder in full costume attended the 40th Dickens on the Strand held in Galveston December 7. Thanks to Lyn's wonderful sewing ability, The 1836 Texas Navy Captain was awarded first place for Military Uniform in the costume contest judged by Queen Victoria herself.

## WWII Hero Recognized

*Submitted by: TNA VP Admiral John Nicholson*



**Ed DeJon** (left) **Admiral Mike Bordelon** (center) and **Adm John Nicholson**. It was my honor to present 94 year old Mr. DeJon, a hero of the battle for Guadalcanal in WWII, his commission as an Admiral in the Texas Navy.

## TNA Ships Store Change of Command



Many thanks to **Admiral Will Fisher, V** who managed the TNA Ships Store for the last two years. Admiral Fisher brought us into the 21st Century with the on-line store where goods could be bought with ease resulting in increased sales. He set up an on-line shipping account for the TNA which made shipping our goods painless. He trimmed the inventory by offering sale items for those that were not selling well; as a result more cash was available allowing new items to be offered. Good job Admiral Fisher!



**Admiral Derek Bateman** is the new Ships Store manager. He was born 2/22/66 in Austin Tx. He has been married to his lovely wife of 28 years Lisa Bateman. They have one son, Ben, who is currently in College studying Chemical Engineering. Adm Bateman's family arrived in Tx in 1821. His Grandfather served in the Texas Navy 1836-1839. He attended Austin High School in Austin Texas. He works for Travis County District Clerk Felony Division. Derek moved from Austin to Dripping Springs Tx in 1999, just west of Austin Texas in the Hill Country. He is an avid Deer Hunter and Fisherman, and likes to travel with his wife and son. They have travelled extensively. They like to do many different adventures whether it be white water rafting in the smoky mountains, to hiking the Mayan ruins on the Yucatan Peninsula. He is very proud of his Texas Heritage, since he is a descendant of Isabella Cox Sherman. She sewed the San Jacinto Flag and gave it to his uncle, General Sidney Sherman of the Republic of Texas and Hero of San Jacinto. We will make an announcement when the Ships Store has changed hands and it is ready for purchases!



By Admiral Marsha Taylor

## Sam Houston Squadron Sponsored the Clear Lake Christmas Boat Parade



**T**he weather this year for the Clear Lake Christmas Boat Lane was clear and beautiful, except for the 20-30 knot gusts. That made it exciting, at least for the participants, as the boats jockeyed into position among 100 or so vessels, some of which sported very colorful characters such as Elvis, Santa, Mr. Grinch, Rudolph & Co., and Frosty T. Snowman. Among the brightly lit flotilla were several LYC SHS members who decorated their boats and participated in the parade. The SHS is a

sponsor of the parade and offers a trophy each year for the "Most Patriotic" boat. Representing the Sam Houston Squadron of the Texas Navy, **Admiral John Ebeling** and wife **Daryl Lynn** led the parade in their boat *Little D*, hosting SHS **Commander Donnie Genitempo**, local VIP's and the Grand Marshal, Texas Land Commissioner **Jerry Patterson**. Also onboard *Little D*, Texas Navy Association President **Admiral Bill Turner** and wife **Sandy**, and SHS Founder **Admirals Jack & Alice Thomas**. **Admirals John & Kendra Broderick** threatened to follow the tradition of **Admiral Gary Anderson's** *Ding Plow* with their sailboat, *French Kiss*, but when *French Kiss* lost her lights halfway across the lake, the **Brodericks** and their crew returned to the slip at LYC and enjoyed the parade from the shore.

**Admirals Tom & Marsha Taylor** filled the red-white-blue bedazzled *Caprice* with additional Admirals and enthusiasts, including TNA Vice President **Admiral John Nicholson** and wife **Carol**, **Admiral Randy & Nancy Bellard**, **Jeff & Janet Southard**, **Admiral Ann Muffeny**, **Admiral John Barnett**, **Admiral Glenn Robinson & Martha Mullins**. And what to the wondering eyes did appear? *Caprice* with First Prize for her category this year! Rumor has it that the judges (and the spectators along the Boardwalk) were won over by the charming holiday caroling performed by the ladies of *Caprice*. From your SHS Texas Navy friends, Happy New Year!



## The Texas Military Forces Museum Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

TMFM Grand Opening was held on November 11, 2013. The ribboning cutting was preformed by **Mr. Gary Guthrie** of Columbus, Tx who put more than 50 original Civil War artifacts on loan to the museum for the exhibit, **Major General William Smith**, commander of the Texas Army National Guard and TNA Pres **Adm Bill Turner**. (Lower right photo) All who attended enjoyed previewing the impressive exhibits. Be sure to visit the museum located at Camp Mabry: 2200 West 35th Street, Building 6, Austin, Texas 78703-1222.





## Houston Yacht Club Launches New Perpetual Award

*Submitted By: William van Ravenswaay*

### The S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy

The wind was “blowing blue blazes” from the North during the 2013 HYC Turkey Day Regatta. The only line able to race in the 20 – 30 knot blasts were the hearty souls on the Pursuit Line. For the most part, these were seasoned offshore racers from the Houston Yacht Club, Lakewood Yacht Club (in Seabrook, TX) and The Galveston Bay Cruising Association sparring in the spray (many of them actually enjoy this sort of sailing...) and they had a fine opportunity to practice their craft at Turkey Day. With so many offshore racers participating, it was uniquely appropriate that HYC selected the Turkey Day Regatta awards ceremony as the venue to launch a new HYC perpetual award – the S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy. This trophy, presented by HYC **Commodore Nancy Edmonson**, is aimed at the non-spinnaker winner of the TORC - The Texas Offshore Racing Circuit. Heretofore, the only trophy awarded for the TORC was the Texas Navy Cup; awarded to the spinnaker boats.

Oral tradition has it that when the Texas Navy Cup was dedicated, the only boats racing offshore were spin boats, therefore the trophy went to the spin class. Now, however, we are seeing a whole new generation of sailors venturing offshore, they know their boats and are eager to test their skills in the Gulf of Mexico in the non-spinnaker class.

The TORC is an annual series of three races. The first in mid-April is the Heald Bank Regatta hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club. The next event is the Houston Yacht Club Offshore Regatta in late April or early May. The third and deciding event is Texas Race Week (TRW) hosted by GBCA in late July.

The HYC Offshore Regatta Committee deliberately dedicated our new perpetual trophy to S. Rhoads Fisher based on the recommendation of Committee member (and Texas Navy Admiral) Past Commodore **John Nicholson**. We wanted our new award for the non-spin racers to complement the offshore racing tradition established by the Texas Navy Cup (awarded by GBCA).

**S. Rhoads Fisher** was the second Secretary of the Texas Navy and the man who developed the organization into a fighting force – directly supporting Sam Houston’s victory over General Santa Anna at San Jacinto.

On hand for the first ever presentation of this trophy was a direct descendant of Secretary Fisher - Texas Navy **Admiral Will Fisher**. An engaging speaker, we learned a significant fact; the Texas Navy employed a classic military tactic – attack the enemy’s supply lines. Santa Anna was re-supplied by sea, the Texas Navy intercepted these ships and supplies. The result was that Santa Anna had to split his forces into thirds so that they could effectively forage for food. It was while leading one of these smaller groups that he was captured at San Jacinto...

We also learned a little about Fisher himself. He, like any good Texan of his day (or of this day for that matter...), was skilled with his sidearm. Accounts tell of Fisher escaping in a long-boat after a raid on a coastal city in the Yucatan. Nearly skewered



by a horse-mounted Mexican lancer, Fisher downed the lancer with a single shot muzzle-loading pistol – a close call! Sadly, Secretary Fisher ended his days in a gunfight back in Texas – we can only hope it was a fair fight!

The first winner of the S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy is a member of Lakewood Yacht Club – **Ted Greak** skipper of *Frayed Knot*. He participated in all three events of the 2013 TORC and managed to edge out **John Swanson**

on *Athena* (GBCA) for the award. The HYC yacht *Sea Nymph* finished third (but they learned a few things – wait'll next year... ). **Ted** and his gracious wife **Liz** were kind enough to attend our presentation ceremony and the trophy will temporarily reside at Lakewood. The deed of gift stipulates the trophy may be displayed at the winner's home club until February 01 of the following year. Fortunately, HYC Member (and Texas Navy Admiral) **Jim Tyson** has

already announced that *Blame it on Buffet* will be the second plaque on the trophy and will bring it back to HYC. With any luck the HYC Offshore Regatta Committee will never have to turn the Fisher Trophy over to a sister club again! Special thanks to P/C's **John Nicholson** and **James Liston** for their wise advice and counsel during the gestation of this new perpetual award.



Winner **Ted Greak** and wife **Liz** enjoy Champaign toasts after the ceremony with attending members, guests and fellow sailors.



**S. Rhoads Fisher  
Trophy**



(L) HYC Commodore **Nancy Edmonson**, recipient **Ted Greak**, Adm **Will Fisher** and Adm **John Nicholson**

## TNA Affiliated Squadrons

### Chester W. Nimitz Squadron

If you live in the Dallas area and are interested in joining a Squadron you may contact Squadron Commander **Admiral Micki Sander** at 972.662.1818 or [micki@thegolfspot.com](mailto:micki@thegolfspot.com)

### Sam Houston Squadron

If you are a Texas Navy Admiral and a member of Lakewood Yacht Club or a reciprocal club to Lakewood Yacht Club and are interested in joining the Sam Houston Squadron, please contact the Sam Houston Squadron Commander, **Admiral Don Genitempo**, at 832.771.3222 or [dtempo@msn.com](mailto:dtempo@msn.com)

### Commodore Edwin Ward Moore Squadron

If you live in the Austin area and are interested in joining a Squadron you may contact Squadron Commander **Admiral Larry Schroeder** at [lschroeder@grandecom.net](mailto:lschroeder@grandecom.net)

### The Mirabeau B. Lamar Squadron

If you are a Texas Navy Admiral and a member of the Houston Yacht Club and are interested in joining the Mirabeau B. Lamar Squadron, please contact Squadron Commander **Ed Bluestein** at [marshed@swbell.net](mailto:marshed@swbell.net).

### The Tom Toby Squadron

If you live in Houston area and are interested in joining a Squadron you may contact Squadron Commander **Admiral Curtis Osborne** at [curtosborne@windstream.net](mailto:curtosborne@windstream.net) (281.242.4972) or **Admiral Ron Brown** at 713 621-5660.

## Non-TNA Affiliated Squadrons

### Captain Jeremiah Brown Squadron

If you live in the Fort Worth area and are interested in joining a Squadron you may contact Squadron Commander **Admiral Jim Sutton** at [jim@suttonsonline.com](mailto:jim@suttonsonline.com)

*A new Squadron is in the beginning stages of forming. If you live in Corpus Christi and have an interest please contact **Admiral Mark Underhill** at [mark.b.underhill@uscg.mil](mailto:mark.b.underhill@uscg.mil) or 409.882.4675*

### Nautical Quiz

Every mariner knows the difference between port and starboard. Hundreds of years ago, however, a different word was used to refer to the left side of the boat. What is it? Do you know the origin of these terms?

Answer on page 15

## The Texas Navy Time Line

### 1838

**November 18:** Samuel May Williams, founder of the original Texas Navy, signs a contract with shipbuilder Frederick Dawson of Baltimore to build a 500-ton sloop-of-war, two 300-ton brigs and three 130-ton schooners for the Texas Navy. That same month, General James Hamilton is appointed by the incoming president, Mirabeau B. Lamar, to take Williams' place. (The previous month, Hamilton completed a contract for the east coast steamer Charleston, which would be brought to Texas, armed and re-christened the steamer Zavala.)

November 27: During the “Pastry War” between Mexico and France, French Admiral Charles Baudin launches an attack on Castle San Juan D’Ulloa at Veracruz after a lengthy blockade of the major Mexican port, capturing or destroying the entire Atlantic Mexican Navy in the process. French troops would soon take control of the castle, and Mexican General Santa Anna lost a leg in the attempt to recapture the position. After negotiations, the Pastry War is ended and Baudin returns home via Galveston. Baudin’s actions effectively buy Texas several months of peace, during which time Texas is able to rebuild its naval forces.

**December 9:** Mirabeau B. Lamar is sworn in as Texas’ second elected president, replacing outgoing Sam Houston. One of Lamar’s top priorities was rebuilding the Texas Navy from the disasters of 1837.

## 1839

**January 10:** Texas Congress passes an act sanctioning the purchase of the steamer Charleston. The steamer would be refitted in Philadelphia and New Orleans as the armed steamer Zavala, and would be the most technologically advanced ship of the Texas Navy.

**January 21:** Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, Texas’ arch-nemesis, is declared interim president of Mexico. (Having suffered disgrace for his loss and capture at San Jacinto, he became a new national hero after losing his leg fighting the French at Veracruz in late 1838.)

**January 23:** Texas Congress passes joint resolution approving of President Sam Houston’s withdrawal of annexation proposal.

**January 26:** Texas Congress passes an act appropriating \$250,000 for the Texas Navy, primarily to pay for the six ships ordered from

the Baltimore shipbuilding firm of Frederick Dawson & Brother. That same day the Texas Congress passes a law ordering a survey of the harbors of Texas.

**February 9:** Steam packet Charleston leaves New York Harbor for Galveston. When she arrives, she would be rechristened the Zavala and given four guns, becoming the Texas Navy’s only steam-powered warship.

**March:** United States Navy Lieutenant Edwin Ward Moore travels to Texas and meets with President Lamar. No records are left of this meeting, but it is believed President Lamar offered Moore the job of commander-in-chief of the Texas Navy at this meeting. Moore would later resign from the U.S. Navy and become the Texas Navy’s greatest commander.

**March 9:** France concludes a treaty with Mexico, ending the “Pastry War” and setting the stage for Mexico’s emergence as a regional naval power again. On his return to France, Admiral Baudin pays a courtesy call at Galveston and is saluted by the Texas steamer Zavala.

**March 18:** The steamer Charleston arrives in Galveston to be converted into the warship Zavala, the Texas Navy’s only armed steamship. On March 23, she would be commissioned as a Texas Navy vessel.

**March 22:** Commander John Grant Tod is appointed by President Mirabeau Lamar to oversee the construction of six powerful warships in Baltimore. The six ships form the core of the second Texas Navy, the most powerful naval force in the Gulf in its day.

**April 17:** The U.S. Navy Department ordered Lieutenant Edwin Ward Moore to respond to reports that he had been offered



command of the Texas Navy. By the end of the month, reports had reached U.S. newspapers to this effect, and Moore denied that he had been given the job.

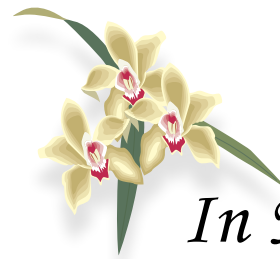
**April 21:** Commodore Edwin Ward Moore's commission as Post Captain in the Texas Navy takes effect from this date.

**April 29:** Secretary of the Navy Memucan Hunt orders Commodore Moore to purchase 180 revolving carbines and revolving pistols from Colt's Firearms Manufacturing Company. The pistols, five-shot .36 caliber Paterson No. 5 models, are the first workable revolvers to arrive in Texas, and are the precursor of the famous Colt Peacemaker, "The Gun that Won the West."

Many of these revolvers would be transferred to the Texas Rangers, where their exploits would save Colt from bankruptcy and earn the ranger force lasting fame. Samuel Colt would later show his appreciation and love of the Texas Navy by engraving a naval battle scene, the Battle of Campeche, on the cylinder of his popular Model 1851 pistol with "Engaged 16 May 1843" appearing below it, and the pistol would become known as the "Colt Navy" model.

### **Nautical Quiz Answer**

The term originally used for the left side of the boat was larboard. Given its similarity in sound to "starboard," you can see how the term "port" became preferable over time. "Starboard" derived from Old English terms for steering board (on the right side of historic ships). Larboard possibly came from the words for loading and board - and ships were traditionally docked on their left side for loading. "Port" is thought to have the same meaning: the side put to the wharf when in port.



*In Memory Of*

**Admiral Leland Mebine**

*Fair Winds and Following Seas!*

