

The Invincible

From the Helm

Fellow TNA Members,

The new year is well underway and I find myself the new president of the Texas Navy Association. I'm not sure if I was shanghaied, drafted, or if I volunteered, but regardless, I was elected and am honored to be at the helm of this organization.

Before I outline my vision for the TNA, I would like to bestow a well earned "Bravo Zulu" to my predecessor, Admiral Bill Turner, as well as the TNA Board of Directors of the past several years.

Bill was president of the TNA for three years and a board member before that. He presided during a period of more significant progress than had occurred in the entire past history of the TNA.

During Bill's tenure the TNA drafted new by-laws that empowered the local affiliated squadrons by providing each a seat on the TNA board. We also instituted a policy by which at large

When weather permits, Adm Jerry Patterson's preferred way of travel to TNA Board meetings!



This aircraft is a 1944 Stinson OY-1 (aka L-5) that was flown by VMO-2 in the Battle of Okinawa.

directors were elected by the entire general membership, not selected by the incumbent board.

In the recent election we were pleased that over one half of the membership returned their ballots and voted, indicating our membership is engaged and interested in the future of the TNA. We are proud to note the new TNA board is comprised of Admirals from Houston, Austin, Dallas and San Antonio. San Antonio is the home of the



newest TNA affiliated squadron, which will be the Samuel May Williams squadron.

Additionally, the TNA has funded two Texas Navy museum displays, one at the Texas Seaport Museum in Galveston and one at the Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry in Austin. The U.S.S. Lexington will be the home of our next Texas Navy museum display, and a \$35,000 grant was obtained from the Ed Rachal Foundation to help fund that effort. With an annual visitation of 300,000 the display at the "Lex" will introduce many more Texans to the little known legacy of our heroic Texas Navy. Furthering our interest in educating Texans about the Texas Navy, the TNA has paid a small stipend to several experienced Texas history teachers to draft a Texas Navy history lesson plan for public and private school teachers. The lesson plan and research materials will be available on our website for free.

Proving that not all good ideas come from the top, the Lamar, Tom Toby, Sam Houston and Nimitz squadrons, led by Admirals Beth Fisher and Karen Thompson conceived the Texas Navy Memorial Medallion program. This new TNA project will identify as many gravesites of Texas Navy officers, sailors and Marines from the Texas revolutionary period and place a memorial medallion on the gravestone or near their final resting place. These squadrons funded the initial effort out of pocket, and the TNA contributed funds as well. Admiral D. A. Sharpe made a significant cash contribution as well. This medallion and a Texas Navy Admiral medallion for Admirals of the "third" Texas Navy, are now available on our website.

Perhaps the most exciting news is the recent discovery of an 1850 ships log that we believe will aid in pinpointing the wreck of the Invincible. When that happens, hang on for some excitement. A discovery and recovery of the Invincible would put the Texas Navy in the news, and finally in the minds of

Texans for quite some time.

There's more good news to report and I encourage you to visit www.texasnavy.org to find out what else we've been doing. Peruse the whole website, get up to speed by reading the past several quarterly newsletters, and stop by the ships store and make a purchase.

Now as to that vision thing I mentioned earlier. My vision is very simple. I wish to continue the efforts and progress made over the last several years, embark on new projects, expand the membership of the TNA in number as well as locale, and move the TNA to prominence similar to other historically focused organizations such as the DAR, DRT, SRT, SCV, UDC. At the end of my tenure it is my desire that 100's of thousands of Texans become aware that yes, there actually was a Texas Navy and that without the Texas Navy there would have been no independence achieved at San Jacinto on 21 April 1836.

I hope you will join us in that effort.

God Bless Texas,
Jerry Patterson
LtCol., USMCR ret.
President,
Texas Navy Association



Inside: Table of Contents

- 1 From the Helm**
Meet our new President and a read about his plans for 2016
- 4 Texas Navy Association New Affiliated Squadron**
A new squadron has been formed in San Antonio. They have their Commander and Deputy Commander named and they have big plans for the future
- 6 Election Results**
Meet the 2016 Board who TNA members overwhelmingly voted in to serve
- 9 Texas Navy Cup Winner**
A short history of the various sailing races and what the Texas Navy Cup represents by Admiral Marsha Taylor, Commander of the Sam Houston Squadron
- 11 S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy Award**
Houston Yacht Club recognizes the non-spinnaker winner of the TORC - The Texas Offshore Racing Circuit
- 13 Texas Navy Association Affiliated Squadrons**
Look over the list of the Squadrons who are affiliated with the TNA and how to contact them
- 14 Sam Houston Squadron**
Report on the SHS meeting held on November 21, 2015 at the Lakewood Yacht Club. Find out what else the SHS does for enjoyment.
- 18 E. W. Moore Squadron**
The Moore Squadron makes a big start to 2016. Check out their list of goals and other squadron activities
- 21 Visit our Ships Store**
- 22 Tom Toby Squadron**
Adm Ron Brown gives a report on their bi - monthly meeting and how they plan to celebrate Texian Navy Day
- 23 New Nimitz Squadron Chapter**
A Nimitz Squadron Chapter was established in San Antonio. Check out their plans for the new chapter
- 25 In Memory Of**
Fair Winds and Following Seas





Welcome Aboard!

Samuel May Williams Squadron

A group of 15 met Jan. 14 in historic downtown San Antonio Club Giraud for a planning session for the establishment of a San Antonio Squadron of the Texas Navy.

The group included community leaders, business professionals and owners, retired military and educators. The TNA President, Jerry Patterson, TNA Vice-President Richard Hatch and Past TNA President Admiral Bill Turner also attended.

"We are establishing a San Antonio squadron due in part to the rich military history that is connected to the battles at the Alamo and the events that led to the creation of the Texas Navy," said Joe Martin, who was elected commander of the San Antonio squadron during the inaugural meeting. "We must find ways to continue to honor the memory of those who were a part of winning Texas' independence."



The group discussed the many opportunities for a San Antonio Squadron before voting to moving forward and officially establish a new squadron. The group also elected Dr. Amy Jo Baker as the deputy commander.

"I am honored to be associated with such a fine group of people who share a passion for education and history," Baker said. "I believe this new squadron is important to San Antonio and the Texas Navy because San Antonio is Military City USA. Many are not aware of the strong Navy presence at Joint Base San Antonio - Ft. Sam Houston and Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland. The San Antonio Squadron gives us the



Samuel May Williams Squadron



(L) Admiral Amy Jo Baker - Squadron Deputy Commander
and Admiral Joe Martin - Squadron Commander

opportunity to tell the story of the Texas Navy, the role the Texas Navy played during the Texas Revolution, and to educate the public about the Texas Navy's illustrious history that links it to the United States Navy of today."

The soon to be established San Antonio squadron continues to plan the next meeting to officially establish the Samuel May Williams Squadron and begin efforts to share the history of the Texas Navy.

"A San Antonio squadron is a great opportunity," Martin said. "It will provide a platform to share with others in the community the little-known history of the Texas Navy and involve others who are as passionate about history as we are."



Welcome Aboard!

Many thanks to all members who voted for the candidate of their choice. And, a huge thank you to those elected who are volunteering their time and expertise to help make the TNA a more successful organization.



Admiral Tom Taylor was voted back in for another three year term. Tom was the past Secretary of the TNA and will remain as a Director since the By-Laws prohibit him from continuing as Secretary. His term is: 1/1/2016 to 12/31/2019



Admiral Vince Morvillo also was voted back in for another three year term as a Director of the Texas Navy Association. His term is: 1/1/2016 to 12/31/2019



Admiral Richard Dempsey was serving the remainder of Admiral Underhill's term and Admiral Dempsey was voted back in for another term. His term is: 1/1/2016 to 12/31/2019



Election Results

Our "New" Board members who were voted in by the members are as follows:



Admiral Amy Borgens
was voted in for a two
year term. Her term is:
1/1/2016 to 12/31/2018



Admiral Jeannie Coffey
was voted in for a two year
term which is: 1/1/2016 to
12/31/2018



Admiral Richard Hovey was
voted in for a two year
term which is: 1/1/2016 to
12/31/2018



2016 TNA Board Officers

The TNA Board Officers for 2016 were voted in by the 2015 Board members at the December Open meeting. They serve for the 2016 year as Officers and are as follows:



Texas Navy Association
President is Admiral Jerry
Patterson



Texas Navy Association Vice
President is Admiral Richard
Hatch

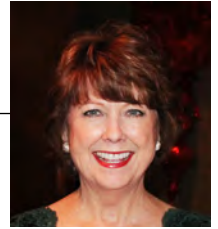


Texas Navy Association
Secretary is Admiral Jim
Tyson



Texas Navy Association
Treasurer is Admiral James
Fatheree





Texas Navy Cup Winner!

Many of you along the Texas Gulf Coast know about the major offshore sailboat races that occur every year in Texas. There is the Harvest Moon Regatta (Lakewood Yacht Club), the Galveston to Pensacola Race (also LYC) and a series of races called the TORC, short for Texas Offshore Racing Circuit.

The TORC consists of Houston Yacht Club's Offshore Regatta, Lakewood's Heald Bank Regatta, and Galveston Bay Cruising Association's (GBCA) Texas Race Week.

All these races go miles outside sight of land and skippers and crew absolutely must be skilled sailors, understanding the capabilities of their boat as well as weather and tide conditions, navigation and Texas coastal waters.

In a tradition dating back to 1971, the boat and skipper with the best combined score from the three TORC races is awarded the Texas Navy Cup, a trophy inscribed with the boat and skipper name. This trophy is kept at the GBCA club house and is brought out each year for a presentation ceremony, which was often done at a TNA holiday event. Several years ago, under the guidance of Admiral Tynes Sparks, a keeper trophy was added so the winning skipper had something to take home as well.

Then somehow along the way, the Texas Navy Association became no longer involved with GBCA's award presentation. Until 2015! SHS Adjutant Officer, Admiral John Barnett, (who has sailed his boats in these races for many years) became aware of the former traditions, and made efforts to restore the involvement of the TNA.

This year, SHS Admirals and TNA Directors Tom & Marsha Taylor, representing the TNA, were honored to be invited to attend the event and present the Texas Navy Cup at ceremonies held November 7 at GBCA's Club house in League City, Texas.

It was particularly a treat for the Taylors to present the award in light of the fact that former SHS Commander, Don Genitempo had won the title in the 1970's. The night of the 2015 presentation, Admiral Genitempo was in Europe with an international sailboat racing rules committee.



Texas Navy Cup Winner

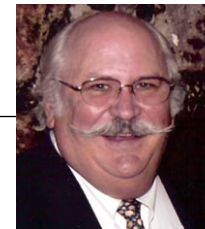
Seen accepting the Texas Navy Cup in the picture below, left to right, Charles Broaddus, Reed Cleckler, Marty Pedowics, and Kevin Bednar accepting for his dad Bee Bednar (Skipper of Stinger), presenters Tom & Marsha Taylor and GBCA President Chris Dees.



The Texas Navy Cup presentation was held after the November 2015 GBCA bay race.

In another event the following Saturday at Lakewood Yacht Club, Bee Bednar was also named Lakewood's Yachtsman of the Year, an award bestowed by past recipients. Congratulations to Texas Navy Cup recipient Bee Bednar on an extraordinary winning year of sailing!





S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy

In honor of the Secretary of the Texas Navy, Samuel Rhoads Fisher, the Houston Yacht Club launched the perpetual award — the S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy in 2013. S. Rhoads Fisher was the second secretary of the Texas Navy supporting Sam Houston's victory over General Santa Anna at San Jacinto.

The Fisher Trophy is aimed at the non-spinnaker winner of the TORC - The Texas Offshore Racing Circuit. 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 Galveston Bay Cruising Association.

The HYC Offshore Regatta Committee, with past HYC Commodore and TNA Admiral John Nicholson's recommendation, deliberately dedicated the S. Rhoads Fisher award to the non-spin racers to complement the offshore racing tradition established by the Texas Navy Cup.

The 2015 winner is Jim Apple, skipper of the "Tenacious".



S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy Award



Far left is Commodore Gordie Keenan, TNA Admiral Will Fisher V, Speaker TNA Admiral Will Fisher IV, Butch Boos, Jim Apple

TNA Admiral Will Fisher, IV shared his knowledge about S. R. Fisher with the attendees.

Jim Apple was awarded the S. Rhoads Fisher Trophy by TNA Admirals Will Fisher, IV and Will Fisher, V. Both direct descendants of Samuel Rhoads Fisher.



Mr. Apple was also awarded a personal trophy to take home with him.



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 Mike Lambert at mikelambert2@aol.com or 817.368.9076

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 Marsha Taylor, at marshataylor1@icloud.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 Wayne Courreges wcourreges@icloud.com ; 512-422-1300

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 Admiral Tom Deen at tdeen55@comcast.net

The Tom Toby Squadron

If you live in Houston area and are interested in joining a Squadron you may contact Squadron Commander Admiral Ron Brown at ron@ronwbrown.com ; 713 621-5660.

Samuel May Williams Squadron

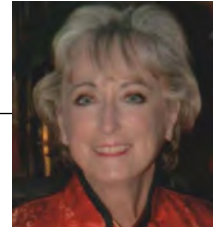
If you live in the San Antonio area and are interested in joining a Squadron you may contact Squadron Commander Admiral Joe Martin at texnavysa@gmail.com

New Squadrons Forming

A new Squadron is in the beginning stages of forming. If you live in **Corpus Christi** and have an interest in joining please contact Admiral Peter Davidson at peterd@cctexas.com

A new Squadron is in the beginning stages of forming in **Galveston**. If you live on Galveston Island or near by and have an interest in joining a Squadron please contact our Vice President Admiral Dick Hatch at rhatch@texas.com





On Saturday, November 21st, the Sam Houston Squadron (SHS) had a well attended dinner at Lakewood Yacht Club. Approximately 50 people enjoyed a delicious dinner. Also, Artist Peter Rindlisbacher brought two of his paintings for our viewing pleasure.

Painting: *"Parting Shot" is available for purchase with some of the proceeds going to the TNA.*



Photo: (L) Adm Steve Leth with artist and TNA Adm Peter Rindlisbacher in full Texas Navy Costume.



Sam Houston Squadron

After dinner, participants enjoyed a presentation by Mr. Tracy Lamm, Chief Operating Officer Space Center Houston. Mr. Lamm discussed what went on behind the scenes during the movement and placement of the full-scale, high-fidelity replica of the Space Shuttle. Parked outside Space Center Houston, the shuttle measures 122.7 feet long and 54 feet high. The replica gives you the look and feel of an actual shuttle.

Photo: (L) SHS Commander - Adm Marsha Taylor presents a gift to guess speaker Mr. Tracy Lamm



Sam Houston Squadron



The SHS was proud to commission a new Admiral Jayne Gillis, since she was unable to make her original commissioning.

Photo: Commissioning (L) Deputy Commander - Adm Marisa Hegyesi, Adm Jayne Gillis, Straton Gillis, Adm. & SHS Commander Marsha Taylor



Sam Houston Squadron



On December 4th-6th, the SHS traveled to New Orleans. Friday evening, 17 enjoyed savory dinners at Emeril's. Saturday was spent viewing the presentation Beyond All Boundaries, took part in the USS Tang Submarine Experience, and spent hours roaming through The National WWII Museum. Several of the group also attended the Saturday afternoon sneak preview of the new exhibit, The Road to Tokyo. That evening, most of the group met at yet another part of the museum for dinner and a special Christmas stage production of The Victory Belles, a singing group.

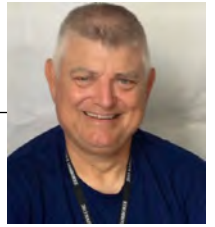
Photo: (L) Adm. Jack Frassanito, Steve Hegyesi, Joyce Frassanito, Alan Hill, Adm. Marisa Hegyesi, Adm. Peggy Hill, Alice Marinos, Marion DeHart, Adm. Lou Marinos, Adm. Marsha Taylor, Adm. Mike DeHart, and TNA Director Adm. Tom Taylor.

It was a great weekend and a perfect way to launch the Christmas season. Best Wishes to All for a happy and healthy New Year!

Admiral Marisa Hegyesi

www.texasnavy.org





Our Quarterly E. W. Moore Squadron meeting was a great success and a good time was had by all.

We began the meeting with a special ceremony conducted by Deputy Commander Mike Young recognizing our newest TNA Admiral Scott Dunbar (photo on the left). His beautiful wife, Marilyn, received the Yellow Rose of Texas as well. Please welcome Admiral Scott as he joins us in our important work!

We then talked about the positions in our Squadron that need to be filled. Hugh Hornsby has joined our merry band and stepped up to volunteer for the position of Squadron Treasurer. Please thank Hugh for taking on this important responsibility. We will be opening our Squadron Bank Account next week.

We are in great need of a Squadron Secretary. Please respond to volunteer for this important position. It is not time consuming and will allow you to develop new friendships: wcourreges@icloud.com

Current Squadron Staff Officers are:

Commander – Admiral Wayne Courreges; Deputy Commander – Admiral Mike Young; Secretary – Open; Treasurer – Hugh Hornsby; Chaplain – Admiral Gordon Kelso; Texas History Liaison Officer – Admiral Tom Hauser; Washington on the Brazos Event Officer – Admiral Larry Schroeder; TNA Board Representative – Admiral Karen Thompson.





Admiral Karen Thompson (photo on the left), TNA Memorial Medallion Committee Chair and TNA Board Representative, shared with us the exciting news surrounding the new "Memorial Medallion" and our plans to honor Republic of Texas Navy heroes as we identify their gravesites. We will start with our very own interred in the Texas State Cemetery. Admiral Karen is so excited about this new opportunity that we can't help but be excited ourselves! If you would like to be part of this important effort, please contact Admiral Karen directly: gravelady@sbcglobal.net

Admiral Steven von Roeder (photo right) captured our imagination by describing the uniforms of the men serving in the Republic of Texas Navy. He shared several of his weapons used during this period with us. We now have an incentive to follow in his footsteps by getting our very own uniforms to wear to the grave dedications that Admiral Karen envisions. I really liked the vintage musket! He is a handsome devil in his uniform. Thank you Admiral Steve!



E. W. Moore Squadron

We will be hosting a table at the upcoming Washington on the Brazos event the first weekend in March. The E. W. Moore Squadron will be telling the Republic of Texas Navy story. Please volunteer to help us make this possible. Helping us to man the table for short periods of time will be immeasurably helpful. This is our first year and we intend to make this an annual Squadron event. If you want to be part of the story, please contact Admiral Larry for more details: lschroeder@grandecom.net

We were honored to have as our guest speaker TNA President Admiral Jerry Patterson (photo on the right). He shared so many wonderful stories of our Texas past as well as his vision of the future of the Texas Navy Association. Admiral Jerry is a member of the E. W. Moore Squadron and we are blessed to have him!

Please let him know how much we appreciate his service.

As a Squadron we have a vision of where we want to go:

- We want to make a commitment to man the Texas Navy exhibit at Camp Mabry once a month to tell the Republic of Texas Navy story.
- We want to make the Washington on the Brazos an annual event.
- We want to be the flagship for the "Memorial Medallion" effort.
- We want to partnership with other like-minded organizations to promote Texas history in our schools.

We will do this by going to local schools to tell our story and other methods.



We had several new members join us last Sunday. Welcome Aboard!



E. W. Moore Squadron

Thank you for mailing me your annual Squadron dues of \$24.00. So many of you have already given your dues check to me. It is not too late to send me yours. We want you and need your leadership and talent with us!!!! Please mail your check made out to "Moore Squadron-Texas Navy" if you wish to remain on the rolls to: Admiral Wayne Courreges, P. O. Box 9266, Austin, TX 78766

Please mark your calendar for our next quarterly meeting. It will take place on April 10th at Texas Land & Cattle in their "Longhorn Room" beginning at 1 PM.

[Address and Directions](#)

Our guest speaker will be the Honorable Judge John Powers. He has written several papers on the ships of the Republic of Texas Navy and will be sharing his knowledge with us. Admiral John has not only served the Great State of Texas for many years, but he and his wife are highly respected in the arts. He is a wonderful speaker!

Calm Seas and Following Winds,
Admiral Wayne



Visit Our Ships Store
By Clicking On the
Ships Store Logo

The next quarterly meeting of the Texas Navy Association will convene @ 1300 (1 P.M.) on 13 February 2016 at the Rosenberg Library in Galveston, TX.

More details along with the agenda will be sent out to our members via email shortly.



By Admiral Ronald W. Brown - Tom Toby Squadron Commander



The Tom Toby Squadron met on Jan. 5, 2016 for the bi-monthly meeting at the usual place, Christies Seafood, in Houston. We had about 40 Admirals and guests in attendance.

Jim Bevill presented a talk on Commander Moore of the Texas Navy and his compliments. Thanks to Jim for a great speech.

The Officers for this year are: Commander: Admiral Ron Brown; Vice Commander: Admiral Jeff Corbin; Executive Officer: Admiral John Martin; Treasurer: Admiral Jim Fatheree; Secretary: Admiral Paul Powell; Chaplain: Admiral Joe Davidson; Past Commander: Admiral Curt Osborne

Our next meeting is March 1, 2016 at Christie Seafood on Westheimer, in Houston. The speaker will be the Honorable Jerry Patterson. We are all excited to hear from him. Everybody is invited to attend.

We are already gearing up for Texian Navy Day. This year it is planned to be held on board the Tall Ship Elisa, permanently docked in Galveston. It will be held on Sept. 17, 2016 at 11:00 am. We will be auctioning off a ride on the Elisa. Stay tuned for additional information.

We have been in touch with the Sea Scouts and the Coast Guard for their participation. It should be a great day and ceremony. We're trying to keep up the tradition started by Past Commander Curt Osborne. We enjoyed our relationship with TNA Past President Admiral Bill Turner. I hope we can do as well as they did.

Fair Winds and Calm Seas
Admiral Ron Brown

**2016
Texian Navy Day**

Honoring
The Texian Navy

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 11:00 AM

The 1877 Tall Ship Elisa
2200 Harborside Drive
Galveston, TX 77550

Pier 19 State Historic Site
Galveston, Texas 77571

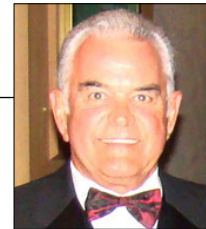
TEXAS SEAPORT MUSEUM
1877 TALL SHIP
ELISSA
Historic Harbor Tours and Dolphin Watch

Ceremony organized and hosted by:
The Sons of the Republic of Texas

SRT sponsored by:

Contact: Ronald W. Brown / 713 621 5860 / ron@ronwbrown.com
(www.srttexas.org for additional details)





On December 4th, several admirals from the Dallas Chapter of the Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Squadron traveled to San Antonio to formally commission eight new Admirals. The ceremony was conducted by Dallas Chapter Nimitz Squadron officer Adm. Pat McEnroe.

Photo: (L) John L. Tomerlin from Beeville, TX; W.D. Williams from Corpus Christi; Malcom Lee Johnson from Fredricksburg; Frank Galindo from San Antonio; Patrick Carney from San Antonio; Ken Winburn from Beeville; Craig Radtke from Boerne; and down in the chair on your far right, Michael O'Grady from San Antonio.



Nimitz Squadron

In addition, the San Antonio Chapter of the Adm. Chester W. Nimitz Squadron was launched under the leadership of Adm. Bob Clemons. Adm. Clemons outlined his plans for

the Squadron, which included educational outreach about the history of the Texas Navies, and a parade float in San Antonio parades.



The next meeting of the Squadron will be in 1st Quarter 2016, and all Admirals in the area who are interested are invited to attend. Please contact Adm. Clemons at clemonsrr@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list for notifications of meetings and news.

Admiral Mike Lambert
Squadron Commander



Not on our E-News mailing list?

Comments or Questions?

[Contact Us](#)

I would like to make a Donation to a
Project of the Texas Navy Association.

[DONATE NOW](#)

Many thanks to our Ships Store Sponsor



**Uncle Bob's
Storage**

If you would like to become a Ships Store Sponsor and have your Logo in the upcoming issues of the newsletter with a link to your website, please contact our Marketing Director/TNA Vice President, Admiral Richard "Dick" Hatch at richardbhatch@gmail.com



In Memory Of

Admiral Sam Rogers

Admiral C. W. "Swede" Andersen

Fair Winds and Following Seas

