

UNDERSEA

Q U A R T E R L Y

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL UNDERSEA MUSEUM AND THE NAVAL UNDERSEA MUSEUM FOUNDATION



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DISCOVER E DAY - 2010

Discover E Day was again a big success. Over 400 people participated in nine stations. The Museum had excellent help from a local Naval Reserve unit and NUWC Keyport.



NAVAL RESERVIST ASSISTS WITH THE EVER POPULAR RAW EGG OLYMPICS



NUWC KEYPORT VOLUNTEER HELPS WITH CARTESIAN DIVERS.



NAVAL RESERVISTS HELP WITH GEODESIC DOMES



MAKING ELECTROMAGNETS

UNDERSEA Quarterly

SPRING 2010 Volume 14, Number 1

Undersea Quarterly is the newsletter of the Naval Undersea Museum and the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation. It is published quarterly by the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation in Keyport, Washington. The Naval Undersea Museum Foundation is a private, nonprofit, charitable corporation dedicated to supporting the Naval Undersea Museum. The foundation is not a part of nor sponsored by the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy, which operates the museum.

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Printed on recycled paper © 2010 NUMF

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From the President...

BOGEN'S HEROES



Bruce Harlow

If you received this issue of the *Undersea Quarterly*, then you are benefitting from the volunteer efforts of "Bogen's Heroes". John Bogen, Joe Ekstedt, Frank Hutson, Dick LeVon, Art Schrom, and, at

times, Bob Burritt and Maldor Jacobsen, are members of the team that faithfully assembles whenever the Foundation, the Museum staff, or the Store requires minds, manpower and muscle.

Four times each year, they come to the office to prepare the newsletter for mailing. They seal, label, fill the bulk mailing troughs and deliver the newsletters to the post office, all the while catching up on the local news. As most of "our guys" (as I call them) are retired from Keyport, there's usually enough talk to occupy them. During February each year, they are called upon to prepare the consumable materials used by the children who attend Discovery E Day. They cut and strip wire, cut wood, insert screws, and more, to prepare for the various learning stations placed around the museum that day.

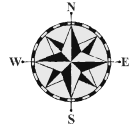
When the Science Education Alliance was in the first throes of acquiring materials, John and his crew used their trucks to pick up the shelving needed for the storage area, carried everything down to the basement area and spent the day assembling and stocking the shelves. When the Store needed new displays installed, we had only to call on our guys and the work was completed.

Over the past 20 or more years, our guys have provided their able and always willing assistance cheerfully and competently. Bogen's Heroes are our behind-the-scenes men. I find it most difficult to imagine how the above mentioned projects would have happened without their willingness to volunteer.

BRUCE HARLOW

From the Director...

LOOKING FORWARD...



Bill Galvani

The annual meeting of the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation, to be held in May, is approaching, and I hope you will attend. The meeting gives you the opportunity to express your ideas about the Foundation's operations and future. At the meeting you will hear from the Foundation's leadership about the past year's actions and the plans for the future. Your participation is important, because the Foundation needs the support of all its members; a small number of people cannot do all the work. The more you participate in the Foundation's activities, the better you will understand what it and the museum are accomplishing. I hope to see you there.

Olivia Weatherly, the museum's Operations Manager, has put together an excellent museum annual report for 2009. If you would like a copy, please let Bettye Shifrin know and she will send one to you.

The museum is a week or two away from completion of its Strategic Plan for 2010-2014. An important need that the planning group identified was a robust website to give the museum a web presence that it has lacked for several years. The fact is that if an organization, whether a museum, a government agency, or a business, doesn't have a website, it simply doesn't exist. With Foundation help, and the particular financial contribution of one very supportive Board member, the museum will develop a homepage and website that will let people know we are here. The website will tell them about our programs, exhibits, and special events. It will provide information about undersea history as well as photographs and documents from the collections. The website will be an important part of our effort to provide better service to our customers, whether they are local visitors or people halfway across the globe who are interested in the Navy's undersea history.

The museum's programs continue to attract a steady and loyal audience. Engineers' Discover "E" Day in late February drew more than 400 family visitors as moms, dads, and kids tried nine different engineering and science activities. Joyce Jensen arranged "E" Day and it was a fine success. Thanks to Joyce's work, we have also had several excellent authors and speakers this winter,

Meet Your Volunteers..

PATT HANNAN



DON'T CALL HER SPRY!

Patt has been a volunteer here at the Museum for sixteen years. She is one of those rare staff members who enjoy working on Sundays. Patt hails from New England and has spent all of her life living minutes away from the ocean. For a brief time during World War II, Patt was a machinist at Boeing. She says she did learn to buck rivets but her real job had more to do with B-17 fuel pumps. She wasn't a Rosie the Riveter. She says that she is one of only a few people who fell from a B-17 and lived to tell the tale. She actually fell through the plane while she was working on it. She does have battle scars from this incident but at least the plane wasn't in the air!

In 1943, at the thick of World War II, Patt's brother brought home a buddy and a short time later, Dennis and Patt were married. Dennis survived the attack on Pearl Harbor and eventually served aboard USS *New Jersey* as well as other assignments in a long Navy career. Dennis and Patt had two daughters; her husband retired from Mare Island and came to work at Keyport. The family lived in Port Ludlow for many years and Patt still lives there. She says that she is Unofficial Port Ludlow historian.



About eighteen years after her daughters were born, Patt and Dennis welcomed a surprise son to the family. This surprise is the light of his mother's life and he still lives nearby. If you want to hear a funny story, get Patt to tell you about the time her son helped her redecorate the bathroom.

Patt's husband eventually retired from Keyport and was interested in the Museum up until his death in the early '90's. Patt chose to volunteer here as a way to honor her husband, but she soon discovered that she enjoyed many new friendships

as well as the nautical connection that the Museum provided.

Patt is active in the Port Ludlow Garden Club, she enjoys playing mahjong and she enjoys visiting Point No Point Casino for a little gambling and the seafood buffet. Patt is energetic and has a quick sense of humor. But she says that "it really curls my bacon when someone calls me 'spry'." Patt Hannan is a wonderful friend to the Museum. She has brightened many a Sunday morning. We are delighted to have her on our staff. **JOYCE JENSEN**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

From the Director..

and on March 27 Brad Matsen, author of the new biography, *Jacques Cousteau: The Sea King*, will speak in the Jack Murdock Auditorium.

Curator Steve Crowell and Exhibits Chief Ron Roehmholdt are developing a new exhibit "The Skin You're In" that gives people a look at the diving suits used by U.S. Navy divers during the past 50 years. We hope to open it this summer.

Collections Managers Jennifer Heinzelman and Lorraine Scott have wrested constantly with the official Navy software for collections management and seem to have finally beat the system into submission so that it does what we want it to do

rather than vice versa. The details are too technical to go into, but the process has been long and difficult, and they deserve much credit for their patience and perseverance.

A lot of museum work is like a lot of work at many other places: much of it is done quietly, in the trenches, by people who work hard and attend to the details. Only occasionally does our work become visible as blockbuster exhibits and gala openings. The Naval Undersea Museum has a fine staff, and I thank the Foundation for its support that contributes to our ability to do our jobs successfully. **BILL GALVANI**

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT C. GILLETTE, CAPTAIN USN (RET)

Robert Charles "Bing" Gillette, 93, a retired Navy Captain and submariner, died February 17, 2010, at his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland. He served at bases in Coronado, CA, New London, CT and Charleston, S.C. After he retired in 1969, he settled in the

Washington DC area with beloved wife of 62 years, Margalee Corcoran.

Capt. Gillette was a 1939 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and attended Submarine School in New London CT. During World War II, he served as Navigator and Executive Officer of the USS *Lapon* (SS-260) for eight war patrols, for which the *Lapon* received the Navy Unit Citation for sinking or damaging over 100,000 tons of Japanese shipping. Capt. Gillette received two Silver Stars for his part in that outstanding record. He then became Commanding Officer USS *Blackfish* (SS-221). While CO, the *Blackfish* was responsible for the rescue of eight downed aviators during one of their patrols, for which he received a Letter of Commendation. Upon his retirement in 1969, he received the Legion of Merit for his 30 years of naval service.

After the war, he served in numerous assignments including command positions on the USS *Pomodora* (SS-486), USS *Fulton* (AS-11), and

USS *Howard W. Gilmore* (AS-16). He attended the Armed Forces Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

From 1969 to 1973, he was employed by General Dynamics. He was then selected to serve as Director of Field Operations for the Emergency Energy Allocations Program, the precursor to the Department of Energy and continued with the Department until 1981 after it was elevated to a Cabinet-level agency. At the request of the Navy, Captain Gillette served as the Executive Director of the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation at Keyport, WA, raising over \$11 million and overseeing its construction until its opening in 1991. He supported this effort until his death.

He was a long-time member of The Church of the Little Flower, Kenwood Country Club in Bethesda, MD and the Army-Navy Town Club in Washington, DC. His wife, Margalee Corcoran Gillette died in 2009. A daughter, Laura Gillette Johnson, died in 2005.

Survivors include his four children, Robert Corcoran Gillette (Nancy) of Shepherdstown, WV, Elise Gillette of Chevy Chase MD, Annalee Regensburg (Richard) of Alexandria, VA, and Amy Pace Groesbeck (Todd) of Hagerstown, MD and six grandchildren Pace, Robb, Laura Lee, Brooke, Dorothy and Alice.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at The Old Post Chapel at Ft. Myer on Wednesday, June 23, 2010 at 10:45 a.m. Interment at Arlington National Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made in his honor to the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation, PO Box 408, Keyport, WA 98345.

The following individuals and organizations have sent donations in memory of Captain Gillette. The Foundation is most grateful for their remembrances.

We will miss his support, his optimistic spirit and his enthusiasm for life.

Emmett P. Bonner III
Dorothy Carroll
Mae & Sloan Coleman
Dana & Patrick Crawl

Communication Resource Inc.
Dana & Patrick Crawl
Diana Dunnan
Ann C. Forquer
Susan & Jacob Gillespie

Alan Innes & Family
Mary E. Loomis & Family
Don & Marquita Miller
Thomas Weschler



Book Review from a Guest Contributor. **LARRY TUCKER**, Museum Volunteer

JACQUES COUSTEAU: THE SEA KING

Brad Matsen, October 2009, Pantheon, 320 pp, ISBN-10: 037542413X, ISBN-13: 978-0375424137

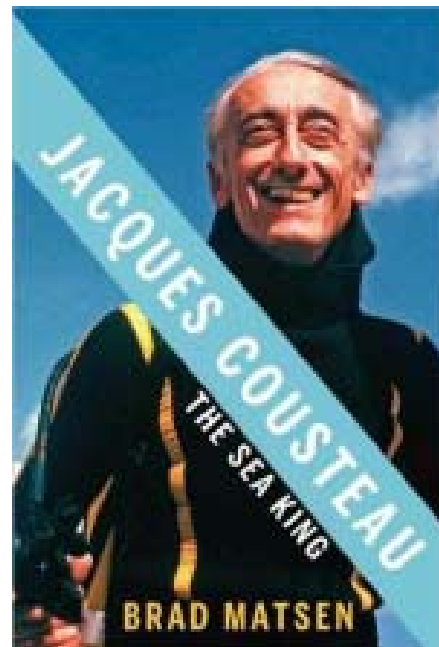
Jacques Cousteau - The Sea King is a thorough analysis and representation of material that casts a new light on the life of the legendary Jacques-Yves Cousteau. This biography is a responsible, conservative, and neutral story of Cousteau by Brad Matsen. Matsen's first-rate research is again evident, as it was in his last book - *Titanic's Last Secrets*¹. As you may recall evidence was presented that revealed executives knew about *Titanic's* structural defects – and tried to counteract them – before its fatal voyage, and that they staged a cover up after the ship sank.

You will be thoroughly captivated with Matsen's effective exposé of the life of the man and his legendary exploits. With the cooperation of many of Jacques Cousteau's collaborators, friends, and family, Matsen gives us the first full picture of Cousteau's remarkable life. We discover that we hardly knew Cousteau. He was more than a man in the red stocking hat with a gravelly Gallic accent, who took us beneath "ze-ocean". In an early chapter you will read about the "dark side" of the Cousteau brothers – one working for the French resistance and the other a anti-semetic journalist working with the Nazi's during World War II.

Later in the book you will read about another Cousteau secret. The public saw a happy and adventuresome Cousteau with his wife Simone and son Philippe on their famous ship *Calypso*². Cousteau's secret was revealed after Simone died, and the widowed Cousteau told his surviving son, Jean-Michel, that he was planning to marry his longtime mistress - Francine. Cousteau also disclosed that Francine was coming to the Cousteau Society to be a major influence in managing the Society, as well as inherit the Cousteau fortune. This disclosure created a rift between father and son and Jean-Michel left the Cousteau Society to start his own business.³ A bitter family feud began that continues to this day – even amongst Cousteau grandchildren.

The Sea King never loses sight of the many accomplishments by Cousteau and his numerous close and dedicated friends – some who die in their quest for knowledge of our oceans and its

inhabitants. We are treated to much about the famous and public side of Cousteau. He wanted to be a filmmaker, and many of his activities were driven by a desire to take his cameras underwater and share those ocean experiences with the world. Cousteau's first underwater movie (1938) was 18 minutes of blurry and disconnected scenes of divers. Later a screening of another Jacques' movie, "Sixty Feet Down," (1942) was for an audience of German officers and Vichy politicians in occupied Paris. He continues to improve his skills and equipment, and eventually after an exploration of the Red Sea, he made his first feature-length documentary film of *The Silent World*. This movie won an Oscar from the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 1956, and he eventually won two more for later films. Cousteau captivated tens of millions of us with his series of TV specials, "The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau" as well



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JACQUES COUSTEAU: THE SEA KING

hundreds of documentaries; and publishing more than fifty books. The popular series of television documentaries (between 1968 and 1976) chronicled the adventures and discoveries of Cousteau aboard his ship *Calypso*. He was probably one of the most recognized men in the world. The name Cousteau is also synonymous with developing the SCUBA ⁴(self-contained underwater breathing apparatus) regulator which led to the world's largest scuba equipment manufacturing firm and eventually became a legendary catalyst of the worldwide recreational scuba diving movement.

Jacques-Yves Cousteau was born on June 11, 1910. This year we celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the man who made such an enduring impression on our planet and its oceans. It seems befitting that Brad Matsen's biography of *Jacques Cousteau - The Sea King* comes to us now during this time of remembrance for Cousteau. Perhaps the best

way to describe Jacques Cousteau's character is by using his own words.

"From birth, man carries the weight of gravity on his shoulders. He is bolted to earth. But man has only to sink beneath the surface and he is free. Buoyed by water, he can fly in any direction—up, down, sideways—by merely flipping his hand. Under water, man becomes an archangel."

Brad Matsen has been writing about the sea and its inhabitants for thirty years in books, film scripts, essays, and magazine articles. His twenty-plus books – some found in our museum bookstore - are a marvel to read. *Jacques Cousteau - The Sea King* has been identified by the readers of the Seattle Times as one of the good and great books published in 2009.

LARRY TUCKER

FOOTNOTES

1 *Titanic's Last Secrets: The Further Adventures of Shadow Divers* John Chatterton and Richie Kohler, Twelve – Hatchett Book Group, 2008.

2 *RV Calypso* is a former British Royal Navy Minesweeper converted into a research vessel for the oceanography researcher Jacques-Yves Cousteau, equipped with a mobile laboratory for underwater field research. Keel laid in 12 August 1941 and struck from the Naval Register in 1947. The Irish millionaire and former Thomas Loel Guinness bought *Calypso* in 1950 and leased her to Cousteau for a symbolic one franc a year. She was severely damaged in 1996, and is undergoing a complete refurbishment. The ship is named after the Greek mythological figure Calypso. Some interesting facts about *Calypso*. It was built in 1942, here in Washington at Ballard Marine Railways. Construction used Port Orford cedar, unique to our forests here in the Northwest. After a long court battle between the Cousteau family members regarding ownership, the *Calypso* is currently scheduled to leave the shipyards at Brittany, France this year after an extensive six-year overhaul. *Calypso* will sail again as an ambassador for the seas and oceans, carrying the legacy of Captain Cousteau and the Cousteau flag all around the world

3 Ocean Futures Society, 325 Chapala St. Santa Barbara, CA 93101, USA

4 The first open-circuit self contained breathing apparatus was co-developed by Emile Gagnan and Jacques-Yves Cousteau in 1943. The demand-valve, or regulator, was designed for regulating gas in gas-generator engines, but was found to be excellent for regulating air-supply under varied pressure conditions.



Ron Roehmholdt

From the Exhibits Director...

WHO AM I?

It is interesting (to me) that when I am introduced to someone within our business, museums and other scholarly institutions, I eventually get asked about what my *degree* is in. People like to see how you get to where-you-got on what-you-have by how you listened to others ideas and beliefs, which I believe bypasses the what-you-know and what-you-are capable of reasoning. It is assumed first that I have one and that it must be in art or a similar graphics design-oriented field of study. Oddly I am never asked if it may be in psychology or maybe another area of learning, maybe playground management, computer science or even office management. And most times the alma mater is what really seems to be all that matters to some.

So the best answer to those that do ask and that I can give to you (now that you are interested) is, oh about...360 degrees give or take a degree or two.

The world of science (and they are in their own little world) is talking a lot about genes...well, I can tell you how important they are. I am who I am because of those genes, as we all are to one degree or another...but since this is my article I am talking about mine. I teasingly said my degree is 360° and I was being very truthful. First that is the encompassing area of my study. The area within my sight as I grew up...every direction I looked, I was amazed, amused, delighted, scared, offended, hurt, saddened, frustrated, left quizzical because of an inquiring mind, a little bit rascally and above all just sing-song happy to be part of this big production called life. I was an empty head waiting to be filled (and fortunately, though possibly disputable, not with sawdust). I know I drove my parents and sisters crazy just being me, being me, being me, being whoever struck my fancy at a given mental moment. Sleep would have deprived me from seeing, feeling, hearing, imagining, just being, so I really didn't do much of that. Late at night I would tell whoever was in earshot that I couldn't sleep. That never went over well.

I think the main and great character of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty", a 1939 short story by James Thurber, really fit my spirit descriptively (see SECOND NOTE). Here I was a little boy, who to this day, indulges in fantastic daydreams of personal triumphs (not so quietly anymore though). In my life, there always seemed just so many parts to learn and by-golly I was going to see how many I could fit in to my life. I played and learned from them in



the deep recesses of my mind and outwardly was a bit of a troublesome, adventurous, injury-prone, stubborn little person who knew more than what was good for me and always pushed the limit of those things and people around me. Hope my sisters read this and find understanding and why Mom came to my defense time and again. She knew, she really knew there was a person that had a misdirectional compass but would end up in an ok place...TA DA! And by the way, thanks Mom and Dad, Grandpas and Grandmas for letting me wear your genes: compassionate, caring, loving, brilliant, creative, productive persons each with a special talent. Have to mention Great Aunts and Great Uncles too (there are some good stories there). And yes, Sheila and Susan got some of that also.

So throughout my life I have absorbed what I lived, what I saw, what I experienced and then reapplied parts to the projects, the work I have been involved in. Eclectically, in no order, I have worked in first ever projects designing special configurations for Special Warfare communication vans; redesigning vacuum tube type airborne radio systems into solid-state electronic packages; designing and constructing prototype circuit boards for torpedoes; creating camera ready electronic circuit board art for various Navy projects; developing miniature and micro-miniature electronic repair techniques for both NAVAIR and NAVSEA programs and developing and certifying schools, instructors and technicians; part owner of an advertising/public relations firm; designing and constructing audio-animatronics and special effects for Walt Disney Productions; worked on the original animation computer programming for the show robotics; oversaw Disney theme park new construction for theme park shows and Disney World (including underwater set dressing); worked on spring training television projects for the San Diego Padres baseball team and a development project package for televising pro-volleyball for Executive Producer

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WHO AM I?

David L. Wolper; sold gas, tires and batteries for Standard Oil of California (didn't we all); was a frameman for Pacific Telephone; stripped, cleaned and painted fighter aircraft and helicopters; worked electronic/electrical repair and R&D on Vietnam era fighter jets; served in the U.S. Air Force (no underwater theme there); first time job at a little camera store in Pacific Beach where I only really remember washing the store windows in a shirt and tie and not much else; add to that drawing, painting, sculpting, remodeling, gardening/landscaping, biking for fun and charity, hiking, surfing, scuba diving, even parachuting, having three wonderful children, and the list does go on, but I think you get the idea. There is a degree there...it just happens to be written on my two feet, two hands and in my heart. One of the greatest things I've been taught and have learned is giving, no matter how it is done is of greater reward than whatever you can be given. So when I can give a little creativity, a little flare, a little effectiveness, a little self to what I am doing, I am happy.

I have been very fortunate throughout my life to have many opportunities placed within my grasp and allowed to make many choices which to this day I would not change one, not one.

NOTE (of importance): *I am truthfully really glad that I work with people of degrees from institutions of higher learning. They chose paths that in the greater scheme of things combined, make a wondrous mix for which I am thankful to be a part of. I learn from them also and I would hope they learn from me.*

SECOND NOTE: *In 1947, Norman McLeod directed an MGM Technicolor musical with the same title based on Thurber's story. The film, which extends Mitty's imaginary adventures over a two-day period, stars Danny Kaye as the affable daydreamer. It was this movie that came to be a little bit of what defined me. The difference being is with each daydream I applied what I was being to make it a real part of what I could do. I'm happy to be me and WHO I AM!*

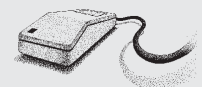
BEST, RON

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- Mr. William J. Keiderling
- Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Langton
- Ms. Margaret J. Larson
- Mr. John C. Lynch
- CDR Richard McCrory, USNR (Ret)
- Ms. Kathleen Meacham
- Mr. & Mrs. James I. Middleton
- Mr. James W. Minor
- Mr. & Mrs. Dwight E. Roof
- LT Clifford L. Sayre, Jr., USNR (Ret)
- Mr. & Mrs. Melvin C. Schmuck
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Singer
- Ms Veronica Slayer
- Ms. Helen Langer Smith
- LT & Mrs. Thomas Thompson, USN (Ret)
- Mr. Donald R. Tjossem
- Mr. Ernest E. Varnum
- CAPT & Mrs. D. C. Welling, USN
- Mr. Ray W. Whitmore
- Dr. & Mrs. Charles R. Zentner
- CAPT Christos Zirps, USN (Ret)

Personnel Directory



Websites

- Naval Undersea Museum navalunderseamuseum.org
- Navy Band Northwest <https://www.navybandnw.cnmw.navy.mil>

Foundation Personnel email addresses

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- Daina Birnbaums, Museum Store MuseumStore@wavecable.com

NUM Personnel email addresses

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- Bill Galvani, Museum Director William.Galvani@navy.mil
- Jennifer Heinzelman, Collections Mgt Jennifer.Heinzelman@navy.mil
- Joyce Jensen, Education/Volunteers Joyce.Jensen@navy.mil
- Ron Roehmholdt, Exhibits Ronald.Roehmholdt@navy.mil
- Lorraine Scott, Collections Management Lorraine.Scott@navy.mil
- Olivia Weatherly, NUM Admin Olivia.Weatherly.ctr@navy.mil



Jennifer Heinzelman

From Collections Management..

ARTIFACT RESTORATION



2009 was a successful year for artifact donations to Navy Museum Northwest. The curatorial staff accessioned, numbered, cataloged, cleaned, photographed, and stored 98 donations totaling 4,136 items. The total number of artifacts in Navy Museum Northwest's collection is 45,320. The museum has 34 active outgoing loans totaling 52 artifacts. These loans are on exhibit in institutions from Wisconsin to Texas, and California to New York, even Australia. The collections management software, KE EMu, has been updated and the server moved to the Naval History and Heritage Command. We are currently working on converting the Puget Sound Navy Museum database to KE EMu and combining it with the Naval Undersea Museum database this spring.

The Ralph Enos Library has also been growing and now holds 7806 volumes of books. The bulk of the collection is held at Naval Undersea Museum Library, with a study collection held at The Frank and Louise Reh Library at the Puget Sound Navy Museum. The library database is viewable to all patrons online, any where in the world, thanks to the financial assistance of the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation.

At the end of January, Dana Senge of DKS Conservation returned the USS *Sealion* (SS-315) Battle Flag, the Miller-Dunn Divinhood Style 3, and the MK V Diving Helmet to the museum. Mrs. Senge was under contract to conserve and build specialty mounts for the three artifacts. In the case of the battle flag, Mrs. Senge, cleaned it, stabilized damaged areas, and attached it to supportive mount for exhibition. The flag is currently being displayed in the WWII Submarine exhibit.



**MILLER-DUNN
DIVINHOOD
STYLE 3 HELMET**

LEFT - BEFORE
RIGHT - AFTER



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ARTIFACT RESTORATION

Mrs. Senge also conserved the two helmets by removing layers of corrosion and stabilizing the metal surface. The corrosion was due to salt water dives and the use of metal polishers, such as Brasso. Once cleaned, she then coated them in an archival wax for preservation purposes. Specialty storage mounts were also made for the helmets. As you can see from the photographs, the before and after results are very dramatic.

Mrs. Senge also led a basic conservation course on how to remove tape from bare and painted metal surfaces. Collections Managers and Curators from both museums were present for the course. Once the supplies are in, Lorraine and I, plan on removing the tape from the Grebe which is on exhibit next to the *Greenling* Control Room. The technique for safely removing tape is a long process that requires great patience. We image the Grebe project will take a good stretch of time due to its size and the amount of tape on it. We are looking forward to putting our new skills and knowledge to work.

JENNIFER HEINZELMAN



**MK V DIVING
HELMET**

LEFT - BEFORE
RIGHT - AFTER



Why not become a Museum Volunteer?

The Museum and the Museum Foundation offer many opportunities to volunteer your time, your talents, your knowledge. Are you a people person? Become a **Docent** or work in the **Museum Store**! Do you love organizing? The **Library** could use your enthusiasm! Are children your specialty? **Family Day** and **Discover "E" Day** are just the ticket! For more information, contact **Daina Birnbaums**, MuseumStore@wavecable.com, 360/697-1129 or **Joyce Jensen**, joyce.jensen@navy.mil, 360/396-5547.

Guest Contributor. **BING GILLETTE**



HOW TO DIVE AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER

Nowhere in the annals of carrier operations is recorded an example of a carrier emulating a submarine in executing a crash dive. However, if it were not for the quick response of an unknown ship handler, such an evolution probably would have been recorded one sunny day off Hawaii.

My happy home was the USS *Lexington*, (CV 2), which was preparing to launch aircraft off the coast in the fall of 1941. The weather was clear with zero wind. The sea was calm with a long running swell of about four feet. Flight quarters had sounded, the Navigator, as was customary, had relieved the Officer of the Deck and had conned the ship to the launch course. The *Lexington* was building up to a speed of 27 knots prior to launch. At this point, one of the first planes scheduled to be launched developed a problem and had to be struck below via the forward elevator. While this evolution was underway, the Navigator determined that, in order to stay within the exercise area, a new launch course would be required. The prevailing "no wind" conditions required maintaining the 27 knot speed. The order of "Right Standard Rudder" was given and the *Lexington* commenced turning slowly to starboard. As the rate of turn accelerated, the *Lexington* began heeling to port and shortly thereafter she dipped her port bow into one of the long swells. The sea rolled down the flight deck and poured into the forward elevator well, grounding it in the down position. The flat flight deck now acted like the bowplanes on hard dive on a submarine, forcing the bow further under and pouring additional water down the elevator well. This resulted in the *Lexington* initiating a crash dive with the bottom a distinct possibility.

At this critical point, midst consternation and near panic on the bridge, the orders, "All Back Emergency" and "Shift Your Rudder" were given by a person unknown and the *Lexington* slowly began to surface.



USS LEXINGTON (CV 2)

The results of this near catastrophe were amazingly minor. The elevator being down prevented the seawater from charging into the aircraft spotted forward for launch. No personnel casualties occurred as, preparatory to launch, all hands were clear of the flight deck. There was some structural damage as several "I" beams forward supporting the flight deck were bent inward about eight inches, which lowered the flight deck near the bow.

Forthwith, the *Lexington* returned to Pearl Harbor for emergency repairs which mainly consisted of drying out and desalting the elevator equipment along with bracing and jacking up the forward end of the flight deck. The slight dip remaining in the forward end of the flight deck actually assisted subsequent take offs and should have alerted our technical people to the possibility of a "ski jump" carrier design.

Shortly after the experimental submergence exercise, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the incident disappeared into the annals of history.
BING GILLETTE



From the Museum Store...
OUR SUPER VOLUNTEER
OLIVIA GALLES

Just when you think your life is busy, you meet a class of people that I like to call "super volunteers". **Olivia Galles** is just such a person. Not only does she volunteer in the museum store where she is our book buyer, but she and her husband Fran are museum docents as well. Did I mention that she is also a past president of the Lady Elks and currently serves on several committees and that she is an active parish member and volunteer at her church? Yes, she is retired, but the words "slowing down" don't seem to be in her vocabulary, and all of the organizations to which Liv so generously gives her time have benefited tremendously.

Liv and Fran are amongst the museum's original volunteers, participating in docent training classes back in 1991. Liv doubled her duties by volunteering in the store starting in 1995 and in the last three years has taken on the additional duties of becoming our book buyer. Needless to say, book sales have risen under her watchful eye, even in the face of recessionary trends in the retail world.



Come in to the store and take a look at Liv's hard work – we have both fiction and non-fiction titles on all things submarine, torpedo and diving as well as popular titles and books of local interest. If you don't see what you are looking for, please ask, and we will do our best to find a book or direct you to another source if we are unable to fulfill your request.

We hope to see you at one of our upcoming book signings. When you are in, please make sure and thank Liv and all of our other volunteers that work so hard to make your visit to the store and the museum a pleasant one. We couldn't do it without them!

DAINA BIRNBAUMS

Those who can, do.
 Those who can do more, volunteer.
 ~Author Unknown



SUPPORT YOUR FOUNDATION, YOUR MUSEUM



Have you ever wondered what to give your parents, your grandparents, your grandchildren, your friends for their birthday, for the holidays, to acknowledge their retirement, to celebrate their anniversary? A membership in the Foundation is an excellent gift in so many ways. The articles and information in the newsletter alone are well worth the membership cost. Many veterans and seniors appreciate the memories that the book reviews evoke. Send all contributions to

Naval Undersea Museum Foundation
 P.O. Box 408, Keyport, WA 98345

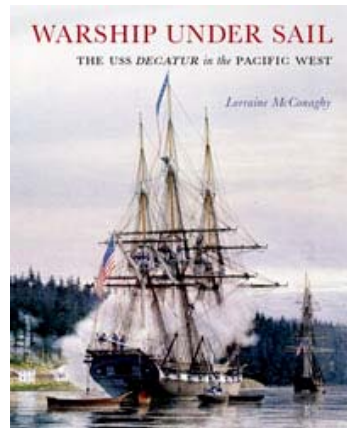
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS SERIES



Joyce Jensen

LORRAINE McCONAGHY, WARSHIP UNDER SAIL

On April 10, Lorraine McConaghy, author of Warship under Sail: The USS Decatur in the Pacific West will speak in the auditorium at 2:00 pm. Ordered to join the Pacific Squadron in 1854, the sloop of war *Decatur* sailed from Norfolk, Virginia, through the Strait of Magellan to Valparaiso, Honolulu, and Puget Sound, then on to San Francisco, Panama, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, while serving in the Pacific until 1859, the eve of the Civil War. Historian Lorraine McConaghy presents the ship, its officers, and its crew in a vigorous, keenly rendered case study that illuminates the forces shaping America's antebellum navy and foreign policy in the Pacific, from Vancouver Island to Tierra del Fuego.



CALLING ALL COLD WAR BUFFS AND ENGINEERS...

We have a program in April that is tailor made for engineers! Film maker Michael White will be here for a showing of his film, *Azorian: The Raising of the K-129*. A mysterious CIA cold war operation, sometimes called the Jennifer Project, this film includes some never before seen footage of Azorian's actual salvage attempt and new documentary evidence relating to the success and failures of the project.

At midnight on the 11th of March, 1968 the Soviet ballistic missile K-129 and its crew of 98 was lost in the depths of the central north Pacific. The Soviets were not able to locate the submarine but the Americans had heard its death throes and located it within weeks. With the help of Howard Hughes and a team of highly skilled engineers and scientists the Americans set out to find and retrieve the secrets within K-129.

Working at the cutting edge of technology during the early 70's the CIA crafted a program of unparalleled imagination to secretly raise part of the submarine and with it invaluable secrets of naval technology. After more than 30 years of secrecy this fascinating story is told by the men who were there and made it happen.

This is an engineering story for the ages! Plan to come and bring your friends. April 24th at 2:00 in the Jack Murdock Auditorium.

JOYCE JENSEN



MAKING THE DREAM COME TRUE

I believe in the Naval Undersea Museum's vision of the future and I want to help make it come true!
I want to see the Museum complete with state-of-the-art exhibits, quality supporting facilities, and exciting educational programs.

Please sign me up for the following:

- ___ *Seat(s) in the Future* \$500 each
- Dedicated to _____
- Sustaining membership*
- ___ Foundation Associate *\$1000+
- ___ Patron *\$500-\$999
- ___ Benefactor \$250-\$499
- ___ Builder \$100-\$249
- ___ Provider \$25-\$99

Make checks payable to the Naval Undersea Museum Foundation (NUMF)
VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover accepted.

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P.O. Box 408
Keyport, Washington 98345

*Donors of \$500 or more may participate in the Seat-in-the-Future program by dedicating a seat in the Jack Murdock Auditorium for each \$500 given.

- Other*
- ___ As a one-time gift

Sustaining members receive regular quarterly newsletters, invitations to special events. The NUMF is a registered nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts and memberships are tax-deductible for federal income tax purposes.

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*SOJOURNER TRUTH, AS PORTRAYED BY RETIRED NAVY CHIEF, **BARBARA PIXTON**, GAVE HER IMPASSIONED "AIN'T I A WOMAN?" SPEECH.*



*FOLKSINGER **LINDA ALLEN** PRESENTED "HERE'S TO THE WOMEN", A MULTI-MEDIA PRODUCTION ABOUT NOTABLE WASHINGTON WOMEN.*



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Schedule of Events

Detailed information on some events may be available in other newsletter articles.
All programs are FREE. Call 360/396-5547 with questions.

EXHIBITS

Service and Sacrifice: The Trident Family - Pier Room
Women Divers: Part of the Navy Team - Exhibit Hall
The Trieste: Teen Docent Exhibit – Lobby

PROGRAMS

- Apr 10 Distinguished Speakers Series
Lorraine McConaghy, author of *Warship under Sail: The USS Decatur in the Pacific West*
2:00 pm. Auditorium. FREE
- Apr 24 Distinguished Speakers Series
Michael White. Film.
Azorian: The Raising of the K-129
2:00 pm. Auditorium. FREE.
- May 27 Tolling the Boats Memorial Day Observance
Navy Band NW, Group 9, Navy Subvets
10:00 am.

CHIEF MARKHAM ASSISTS ROCKET SCIENTISTS



FAMILY DAY - THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

Families with children pre-school to age 12 are invited to Family Day the first Saturday of each month. Each Family Day will include an experiment or make-and-take project, a story and song time, and a tour of the galleries. The fun begins at 10:00 am and ends with the tour about 12:00 pm. Parents or a responsible adult must accompany the children.

