



The Invincible Newsletter

Special Edition

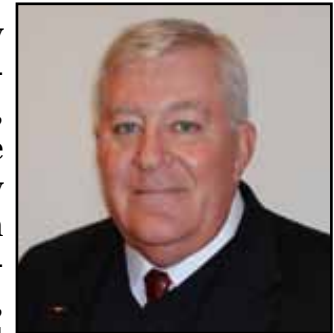
Election of New Officers

At a special meeting on Saturday November 27, 2010 of the Board of Directors of the Texas Navy Association attended by Admiral Jerry Patterson, the Honorable Land Commissioner of the State of Texas, a new slate of TNA Officers was elected.

Our New President

The Board of Directors is delighted and proud to announce that such a distinguished Texan will be at the helm of the Texas Navy Association.

Rear Admiral William W. Pickavance, Jr. USN (Ret) is the new President of the Texas Navy Association. Admiral Pickavance is the current Superintendent of the Texas Maritime Academy at Texas A&M University at Galveston. When he assumed the duties of Superintendent, the Secretary of Transportation commissioned him as a Rear Admiral (upper half) in the Merchant Marine Service. A native of Fort Worth, Texas, he graduated from Texas A&M University at Galveston in 1968 and was commissioned as an Ensign, USNR (augmenting to the regular Navy in 1973) and licensed as a Third Officer, US Merchant Marine. He served in the US Merchant Marine prior to attending US Navy flight training in 1969. He received his wings in 1971 and, as a Naval Aviator, flew all versions of the A-7 Corsair II before transitioning and commanding the Navy's first operational F/A-18 Hornet Squadron, Strike Fighter Squadron 113 (VFA-113). He has flown 3500 hours in the Corsair, 1500 hours in the Hornet and several hundred hours in several other naval aircraft. Additionally, Bill has accumulated over 750 carrier landings. He commanded an A-7 squadron embarked in USS Ranger (CV 61), commanded the first operational F/A-18 Hornet squadron embarked in USS Constellation (CV 64), commanded the Hornet Readiness Training Squadron, commanded the fast support ship, USS MARS (AFS 1) during operation Desert Shield/Storm, commanded the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) during the 1994 Korean crisis and as a Flag Officer, commanded Carrier Group One where as a battle group commander he and his staff embarked in all the west coast aircraft carriers. Although he spent a good portion of his career at sea, he has also served on several staffs: twice on the Navy staff in the Pentagon, the NATO Supreme Headquarters staff in Belgium and, before retiring, was the Director for Operations (J-3) for the U.S. Pacific Command, Camp Smith, Hawaii, responsible to the Commander in Chief Pacific for all operations in the Pacific (which is 52% of the earth.)





Bill has more than 32 years of military service, retiring as a U.S. Navy Rear Admiral (Upper Half) in October 2000. He then spent eight years with a space operations company as the VP for Space Shuttle Launch and Recovery Systems and company Site Director at the Kennedy Space Center. In this capacity he had about 6000 employees who processed and readied, launched and recovered the Nation's three Space Shuttles and Solid Rocket Boosters.

He numbers among his military decorations the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (4 awards), the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal (with 3 gold stars) and several campaign and unit awards. Bill saw combat in Vietnam and Desert Storm.

He graduated from Texas A&M at Galveston in 1968 and subsequently earned a M.S. in Management from Salve Regina University, and a M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. Additionally, he attended Harvard's Kennedy School of Government as a senior official in National Security in 1993 and again in 1999.

In 2003 Florida Governor Jeb Bush appointed Bill to the Board of Florida Space Authority where he served for 4 years. Additionally, he served on the President's Advisory Board of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and Webster University, and was a member/Chair of the Board of Visitors for Texas A&M University at Galveston, Texas. He also served on the Board of the Children's Home Society of Brevard County, United Way, American Red Cross, and the Cape Canaveral

Navy League. Additionally, he is a member of the Naval Institute, the Association of Naval Aviation, the Southwest Commandery Naval Order of the U.S., the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association, the Tailhook Association, the Texas A&M Former Students' Association, and the board of advisors of the Navy & Marine Corp Association. In 1995, Texas Governor, George W. Bush, commissioned him as an Admiral in the Texas Navy. In 2001 he was inducted into the prestigious, "Legends of Texas A&M University."

He and his wife of over 40 years, have two married children and seven grandchildren. Bill and Nancy are both from Texas and currently reside in Galveston and League City, Texas.

Vice President

Admiral Bill Turner is a Past Commodore of the Texas Corinthian Yacht Club. After retiring from a career in Banking, Admiral Turner is now an investor and officer in a software company, which provides software and services to the medical and law enforcement industries. His non-profit Board experience includes: St. Stephens Episcopal School Houston, Vice President, Trustee, Finance Committee and Technology Committee Chairman. Legacy Land Trust, Chairman. Neuhaus Education Center, Corporate Development Committee.

Treasurer

Admiral John Nicholson is Past Commodore of the Houston Yacht Club and current Chairman of the "Blue Gavel", the organization of all past Commodores of the HYC. He is a Senior Vice-President of Contract Land Staff, LLC, a national pro-



vider of consulting services and staffing to the Right of Way Industry. Admiral Nicholson served in the Air Force during the Vietnam era and was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain.

Secretary

Admiral Jim Sterling, of Liberty, is a self-employed Real Estate Broker and Appraiser. He is a graduate of Texas Maritime Academy and Baylor University, is a retired funeral director and is a retired Merchant Marine & Naval Officer (Commander). He is the founder and director of The Invincible Eagle Band, Choirmaster/Organist of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and also recently re-established the Texas Maritime Academy Band.

Other Board Changes

Admiral Swede Andersen, Past President, Admiral Jim Earthman, Past President and Admiral Will Fisher IV are rotating off of the Board of Directors effective December 31, 2010. Admiral Art Wilcox will rotate off of the Board of Directors on March 31, 2010. Admiral Wayne Gronquist and Admiral Tynes Sparks both passed away during 2010.

Past President Dick Brown, Past Vice-President Bob Callanan, and Past Treasurer Pat McEnroe together with the Admirals rotating off the Board will all have Director Emeritus status.

The current Board of Directors deeply appreciates the many many years of dedication these men have given to the Texas

Navy Association. Their continuing advice and counsel will be appreciated in the years ahead.

Business Meeting

At 1pm on January 8, 2011 in room 170 (hearing room with plenty of seating) of the Stephen F. Austin Building of the General Land Office located at 1700 N. Congress Ave., Austin, Texas there will be an open Board of Directors meeting. After the formal opening of the meeting there will be an opportunity for any current/paid member of the TNA to address the Board for a limited period of time on any TNA related topic. The Board will welcome constructive comments to improve the TNA. Admiral Patterson will have a few very interesting historical documents out for view.

Christmas Party

As of November 28, 2010 there are approximately 20 available reservations left for the annual Christmas Party. If you wish to attend please send in your reservation and check ASAP.

Scuttlebutt - An Old Nautical Term

Scuttlebutt in slang usage means rumor or gossip, deriving from the nautical term for the cask used to serve water. Water for immediate consumption on a sailing ship was conventionally stored in a scuttled butt: A butt (cask) which had been scuttled by making a hole in it so the water could be withdrawn. Since sailors exchanged gossip when they gathered at the scuttlebutt for a drink of water, scuttlebutt became a Navy slang for gossip or rumors.