

*The Western Naval History Association presents:*

# **Expanding Naval History VII**

## **Naval History Symposium**



## **PROGRAM OF EVENTS**

Saturday 1 February - Sunday 2 February 2025  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm each day

Live and Virtual Event  
Streamed from the USS Midway



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1, 20245

0800-0830: Registration and Refreshments

0830-0845: Welcome Remarks: Sam Tangredi, WNHA President and CEO  
Midway, Terry Kraft

0845-0945: Presentation (live) Ed Offley:  
"USS *Scorpion* --Buried at Sea"

0945-1000: Break

1000-1130: Roundtable (live): "The Scorpion Debate--What Sank Her . . . Reduced overhaul, Hot torpedo or Soviet Sub?" Jim Bryant, Ed Offley, Mike Hannon, Bill Toti

1130-1230: Lunch/Book & Wargame signing/Midway Walkabout.

1230-1330: Workshop (live): Steven Shay,:  
"Collecting Naval Postal Covers."

1330-1345: Break

1345-1430: Presentation (live): Carla Rahn Phillips: "Who Was Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, Explorer of San Diego Bay?"

1430-1445: Break

1445-1530: Presentation (live): Parks Stephenson, "Diving on Warship Wrecks."

1530-1615: : Presentation (live) Thomas Snyder "History of Mare Island Naval Hospital."

1615: Recap and Closing of First Day



Ed Offley is a seasoned military reporter and Pulitzer Prize nominee. He is the author of *Scorpion Down*, *Turning the Tide* and many other works. Mr. Offley served with the U.S. Navy in Vietnam.



Capt. James Bryant, USN Ret, served on three Thresher-class submarines including the USS Guardfish (SSN-612), which he commanded.



Chief Petty Officer Mike Hannon, USN Ret is a former COMSUBLANT radioman.



Steve Shay is an industrial engineer who has been collecting naval covers for more than 35 years. He is the secretary of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society.



Dr. Carla Rahn Phillips is a retired professor of modern history and the 2023 winner of the *Premio de Órdenes Españolas*, an annual history prize awarded by the Spanish government. Her list of publications, positions, and awards is twenty-seven pages long.



Parks Stephenson is the CEO of the USS *Kidd* museum, an Annapolis graduate and technical advisor to James Cameron. Stephenson has dived on the *Titanic*, along with many warships



Thomas L. Snyder, M.D. is a retired urological surgeon and Navy Reserve medical officer. He lives in Vallejo, California and is the author of *Mare Island Naval Hospital*

SUNDAY 2 February 2024

0800-0830: Registration and Refreshments

0830-0930: Presentation (Live) Richard Frank: "Did U.S. Submarines Kill More Japanese than the USMC in WWII?"



Mr. Frank is an award-winning author and historian whose works include *Downfall: The End of the Imperial Japanese Empire* and *Tower of Skulls: A History of the Asia-Pacific War, July 1937-May 1942*.

0930-0945: Break

0945-1045: Presentation (live): Bernard Cole and Mike McDevitt: "Retrospective on the Vietnam War--Offshore and On the Beach, Shooting at the VC and NV A.



Dr. Cole is a retired navy captain and author who as a young lieutenant in the U.S. Navy he served off shore and directed fire support missions. Rear Admiral McDevitt served ashore requesting fire support.

1045-1100: Break

1100-1145: Presentation (live) Leonard Heinz: "Radar in Pacific Night Battles, 1942-1943."



Leonard Heinz is a retired attorney and war game designer. He is the author of a forthcoming work on the Spanish Civil War and the co-author or contributor to three Naval Institute books regarding naval warfare and technology.

1145-1230. Lunch/Book & Wargame Signing/ Midway Walkabout

1230-1330: Workshop (live) David Winkler & David Kohnen: "Utilizing, Editing, and Publishing Combat Dairies and Memoires."



Dr. David Kohnen is professor of history at the Naval War College. His most recent publication is *King's Navy: Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King and the Rise of American Sea Power, 1897-1947*. Dr. David Winkler is a noted naval historian. His most recent work is *Fleet Air: USS Langley and the Dawn of Naval Aviation*.

1330-1345: Break.

1345-1430: Presentation (live): Brian Walter, "Central Role of Maritime Logistics in WWII."



Mr. Walter is a retired U.S. Army officer and author specializing in the British military in WWII. His most recent work is *Forgotten War: The British Empire and Commonwealth's Epic Struggle Against Japan, 1941-1945*.

1430-1445: Break

1445-1530: Presentation (live): Hal Friedman: "Base Planning in Paradise: OPNAV Plans for a Pacific Base System, 1946."



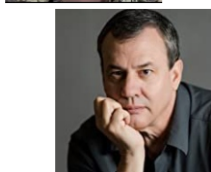
Hal M. Friedman is professor of modern history at Henry Ford College. He is the author of *Governing the American Lake: The US Defense and Administration of the Pacific, 1945-1947*

1530-1615: Round Table Q&As. "Puzzling Questions and Unauthorized Answers about the WWII Pacific War." Jonathan Parshall and Bill Toti



Jonathan Parshall is the co-author of *Shattered Sword: the Untold Story of the Battle of Midway*. Capt. Bill Toti, USN Ret is the former skipper of USS Indianapolis (SSN-697)

1615: Closing, recap and farewell





## What is the Western Naval Historical Association?

The Western Naval History Association (WNHA) is a membership organization open to all individuals with an interest in naval history through academic affiliation, professional activities, publications, interests in modeling, gaming, or association with family or veterans. Its mission is to advance the practice of, and interest in, naval history by creating a congenial community of like-minded individuals and providing its members with a forum to share resources and knowledge.

### Our goals:

- Sponsor or co-sponsor an annual meeting and conference on selected topics in naval history
- Encourage regional chapters
- Publish a periodical or newsletter
- Affiliate with existing organizations, such as the Naval War College and the Naval Institute, as well as west coast maritime museums and veterans associations to advance the WNHA's mission and goals, and to assist such organizations in meeting their goals
- Provide speaker services to organizations, schools or professional groups

Provide resources to members. These may include but are not limited to:

- Participation in conferences
- Peer review services
- Library/research cooperation
- Networking
- Provide mentoring for emerging historians



### Why Do this?

To provide an organization that allows Naval historians and enthusiasts on the west coast of the United States in particular, to gather, socialize, and advance their craft, profession, or interest, as the case may be. The WNHA recognizes that naval history is a discipline that has always welcomed and encouraged amateur historians—and indeed, many outstanding works of naval history have been written by authors who had no formal academic credentials.

### Want to Join?

Send your contact information to [info@wnha.net](mailto:info@wnha.net). Annual dues \$60/\$30 students