



FROM THE QUARTERDECK

DIRECTOR'S CORNER: 9/11 COMMEMORATION

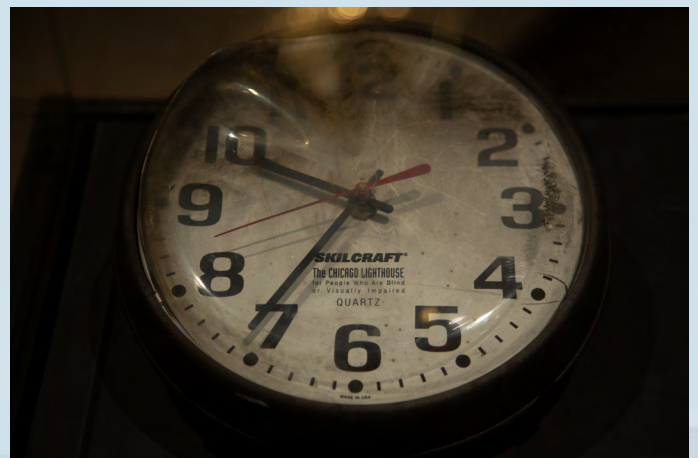


NHHC, photo by Lieutenant Valentine Mulango

September 11 marks the 25th anniversary since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon—a day that forever changed America and the world. To commemorate the victims and the brave individuals who took heroic actions to save lives, the Command organized a remembrance ceremony with speakers discussing the Navy's response to 9/11 both on that day and in the years following, the importance of preserving the history and remembering the lives lost, and the support from transatlantic partners in responding to al-Qaeda. Guests included representatives of the Navy, foreign dignitaries, and historians. During the ceremony, NHHC Deputy Director Captain (ret.) Patrick Burns gave a first-hand account of the Navy's efforts to help survivors and New York City administrators in the immediate aftermath. In their accounts, speakers stressed the need to never forget the victims and the millions who responded in America's darkest hour.

ARTIFACT SPOTLIGHT: PENTAGON CLOCK

On [September 11](#), as the news began to reach employees at the Pentagon of the two aircraft crashing into the World Trade Center, American Airlines Flight 77, bound for Los Angeles, was hijacked, and diverted to the Pentagon. At 9:37 am, Flight 77 crashed into the western wall of the Pentagon. A total of 189 individuals perished, including 125 Department of Defense employees and 64 passengers and crew. The five al-Qaeda terrorists were also killed. Among the items recovered in the weeks that followed by Department of Defense museum personnel was a [9-inch circular office clock](#) from the Navy Command Center. The time on the clock is frozen and severe damage due to heat is visible. Today this clock is on display at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City.



Courtesy 9/11 Memorial & Museum

C-2A GREYHOUND RETIRES TO NEW HOME



US Navy, photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Jon Jezreel Andres

On July 28, the C-2A Greyhound marked its final in-service flight after participating in a formation flight with the Blue Angels. Manufactured by Northrop Grumman, the C-2A Greyhound served the US Navy for 62 years and was primarily designed to carry cargo and personnel to and from aircraft carriers. Landing at the historic Naval Air Station Pensacola, the aircraft was transferred to the [National Naval Aviation Museum](#) (NNAM) when Commander Paul Ingram transferred the logbook to the deputy director of NNAM, signifying the completion of the C-2A's service in the Navy. NNAM is one of the 10 NHHC museums and includes more than 150 restored aircraft from the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The C-2A will undergo conservation treatment before becoming an exhibit in 2027. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting new addition.

NAVY WEEK BURLINGTON

Last month, NHHC's Outreach team took part in the Burlington Navy Week. Stopping in multiple locations around the Lake Champlain area, the team interacted with locals interested in learning about Navy history. During the week, NHHC partnered with the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, setting up displays of 3D-printed models of sunken craft, leading a Lake Champlain shipwreck tour, presenting at museum lectures, and participating in a storytelling event with children where the soon-to-be released book on Commander Bond was read for the first time. As part of the trip, NHHC underwater archaeologists, a photo archivist, and a collection manager explained the Command's important work, highlighted how NHHC assists in preserving the naval history of Lake Champlain, and discussed ways the public can utilize NHHC resources.



US Navy, photo by Navy Office of Community Outreach

BEYOND THE CANVAS: COMBAT ART JOINS USS *NIMITZ*



Doug Rowe, photo by US Navy

On June 26, Navy combat artist Doug Rowe boarded USS *Nimitz* (CVN-68) at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, to travel with the crew to New York City for the International Naval Review (INR) as part of America Sail250 celebrations. Arriving in New York City on the morning of July 3, the crew dropped the anchor just north of Verrazzano Narrows Bridge off of Staten Island. While aboard, Mr. Rowe accompanied the media team, gaining access to areas of the ship and interacting with the crew. His first two paintings completed during the deployment depict the INR on July 4 with the ship decorated in red, white, and blue. Future paintings will include USNS *Medgar Evers* pulling alongside *Nimitz* for several hours as munitions were off-loaded via MH-60 helicopters, fireworks over New York Harbor, and everyday activities of sailors on deployment. Stay tuned to see these upcoming paintings!

UNDER THE SEA: REVOLUTIONARY WAR GUNBOAT



NHHC, photo by Underwater Archaeology

You may have heard of “Champ,” the Lake Champlain sea monster, but did you know the lake is also the graveyard for over 300 shipwrecks? Among them rests the [Revolutionary War](#) gunboat *Spitfire*, which sank after being damaged during the Battle of Valcour Island. Located in 1997 by the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM), *Spitfire* had been missing for 221 years. Upon its discovery, LCMM notified NHHC underwater archaeologists and began working with NHHC to preserve and protect this sunken military craft. In 2025, NHHC and LCMM visited the wreck and assessed its condition. The ship remains intact with the vessel’s mast still standing upright. This summer, NHHC released a digital story map covering *Spitfire*’s history, discovery, and recent investigations. The story map includes underwater videos and photogrammetric 3D models taken by archaeologists to better understand the ship’s construction and how it operated during battle. Click [here](#) to learn more.

NAVY WEEK BILLINGS

As part of the Navy’s “Road Trip to 250,” the Navy arrived in Billings, Montana, for the city’s first-ever Navy week. Over 80 sailors traveled to the city to engage with residents on the Navy’s history and showcase the Navy’s capabilities. As the Navy’s history department, NHHC attended to explain the historic connections between the state of Montana and the Navy and outline the many free resources available to the public, such as ship histories, deck logs, and command operations reports. All of these can be used to learn about general Navy history and, in some cases, about a family member’s time in the Navy. The event concluded with the Yellowstone International Airshow featuring the Blue Angels. This Navy week was part of the Navy’s overall plan of expanding outreach efforts and reaching areas of the country that do not typically get to interact with the different Navy communities.



NHHC, photo by Mimosa Gonsalves

CPO HERITAGE DAYS WITH THE HAMPTON ROADS NAVAL MUSEUM



US Navy, photo by Hampton Roads Naval Museum

From August 25-27, the [Hampton Roads Naval Museum](#) hosted the 25th Annual Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Heritage Days event, which is designed to increase pride among CPOs and their knowledge of naval history. As part of the event, 2,000 CPOs and 859 new chief selects attended discussions on Navy history covering the following topics: lessons from the [Vietnam War](#) by Navy veteran R. G. Smith; the experience of USS *Cole* by the ship’s retired command master chief, James Parlier; a sailor’s perspective of [9/11](#) by retired Master Chief Quartermaster Michael Ferrara; and the experiences of a Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) by retired MCPONs Duane Bushey and James Herdt. This event highlights the important role NHHC has in educating the Fleet and ensuring that sailors have the historical knowledge to address current problems.

INAUGURAL ARMY VS. NAVY HOOVER-BALL

This year, as part of the annual Hoover’s Hometown Days in West Branch, Iowa, the Army and Navy took part in an exciting exhibition game of Hoover-ball! Hoover’s Hometown Days is an annual festival celebrating the life and history of the 31st President, Herbert Hoover. Hoover-ball was invented to keep President Hoover fit while in office. The goal is to throw a weighted medicine ball over the net to the opposing side and have the ball land in bounds prior to the opposing team returning the ball, similar to tennis and volleyball. This year’s contest ended in a Navy victory! NHHC had personnel onsite from Washington, DC, and the [National Museum of the American Sailor](#) to answer questions and discuss the importance of Navy history. The festival provided both NHHC and the Navy with the unique opportunity to interact with a new community while also honoring that community’s history.



US Navy, photo by Petty Officer 1st Class
Melissa Russell

UPCOMING EVENTS

-  **Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum Grand Opening**, September 11, Minneapolis, Minnesota
-  **World War II Weekend at the Eisenhower National Historic Site**, September 18-20, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
-  **Naval Air Station Oceana Air Show**, September 19-20, Virginia Beach, Virginia
-  **USS *Constitution* Underway**, September 25, Boston, Massachusetts
-  **Baltimore Sailabration**, September 26, Baltimore, Maryland
-  **Fleet Week San Francisco**, October 5-12, San Francisco, California
-  **250th Anniversary of the Battle of Valcour Island**, October 12, Saratoga, New York
-  **Navy 250: *The Legacy Exhibit* closes** October 18, Baltimore Visitor Center, Baltimore, Maryland