



The Journal

Award Winning Newsletter



**NATIONAL NAVAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER**

Award Winning San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

October 2012

Navy Finally Honors WWII Hero from Menlo Park

By Scott James, Veterans

Menlo Park's Carl E. Clark, 95, was finally honored Tuesday for extraordinary heroism in World War II — recognition he had previously been denied because he is black.

In an August ceremony at Moffett Federal Airfield in Mountain View, in front of a cheering crowd of more than 600, Clark received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with the Combat Distinguishing Device. The medal was pinned to his chest by Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus.

The ceremony was a remarkable, and rare, public rewriting of military history — a reflection of changing times, and the result of efforts to fix what those who heard Clark's story felt was a terrible wrong. "Simply put, Carl Clark was and is a hero," Mabus said.

The crowd shouted, "Clark! Clark! Clark!"

Clark saved his ship, the U.S.S. Aaron Ward, and hundreds of sailors' lives during a series of kamikaze attacks in the Battle of Okinawa on May 3, 1945. Wounded, he risked his life in the heat of battle to douse a raging fire before it reached the ship's ammunition locker, which would have destroyed the vessel.

But because Clark is African-American and was only a low-ranking ship's steward, and because the Navy was deeply segregated at the time, his heroics were never noted — not even in the battle report. "Racism robbed Carl of recognition," said Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-Palo Alto), who had pushed the Navy to correct the record and honor Clark since hearing his story two years ago. "Today we correct that omission," Mabus said. He read aloud a detailed account of Clark's actions that will now become part of the military's record.

Appearing in his old uniform and looking decades younger than his age, Clark said, "I'm so overwhelmed." He then spoke of other African-Americans who served in WWII and whose deeds and deaths were never noted. "Those men went down with their ships," he said. "I want to share this honor with all of those men." Clark also thanked Sheila Dunec, an instructor at Foothill College and former employee of the Department of Veterans Affairs, who first reported the story of this heroic patriot.

Presidential Election 2012

Vote

2012-13 SFBA Chapter Executive Board

President: CAPT Don Flowers, USN (ret)

Vice President: LT Michelle Comeaux, USCG
Secretary: LCDR Deon Scott, USCG
Membership: LCDR James Haskins, USN (ret)

Treasurer: LT Howard Vacco, USCG
Public Affairs: CDR Adolph Keyes, USCG (ret)
Chaplain: Maj D'Emanuel Grosse, Sr., USAF (ret)



From the President's Pen...



Congratulations to the SFBA chapter for receiving recognition at the 2012 National Naval Officers Association, Inc. at the New Orleans Conference for outstanding chapter performance in the San Francisco Bay Area communities, and I am pleased to announce that two of our members (LCDR Mark Harris, USCG and myself, CAPT Don Flowers, USN Retired, also received

recognition for distinguished service in support of the NNOA mission and its goals.

Although we received personal recognition, I attribute our success and recognition directly to the devotion and commitment of each of the chapter members whom have given their time and energy to the success of the chapter.

The work is not done, however. We have an ambitious year ahead of us with many chapter goals to achieve, e.g., scholarship awards, fundraising, Veteran's Day celebrations, and community outreach programs.

I am confident we will be equally as successful, if not more successful, as last year, and I am enthused at the challenge and I am anxious to meet the challenge together.

CAPT Don Flowers
US Navy Retired
SFBA Chapter President

Contents

Page	Feature
1	Navy Recognizes WWII Hero
2	President's Pen
3	Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Distinguished Service Awards
4	Chapter Crab Fest Announcement Post 9/11 GI Bill Information
5	Classified Ad
6	SFBA Calendar Scholarship Foundation Donation Application

Cover Story: Navy Recognizes WWII Hero

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NNOA Mission

National Naval Officers Association actively supports the Sea Services in the development of a diverse officer corps through recruitment, retention, and career development. NNOA is essential in maintaining operational readiness by providing professional development, mentoring, and support of cultural awareness. NNOA establishes and maintains a positive image of the Sea Services in communities and educational institutions.

Election 2012



The membership of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association encourages each of you to cast your vote for the presidential candidate of your choice. The past decade has seen the collapse of the housing market, the need to bail out the banking and auto industries, an enormous decline in American jobs, and families all over America struggling to pay bills, meet medical costs, and raising mortgage costs and declining home values. While the recovery is promising, the need to elect a president that will enhance the process is critical. Let your vote be counted. Be sure to register and vote.

National / Chapter Membership Renewal: June is membership renewal month. To remain in good financial standing please log on to the national website to renew your national membership, and contact LCDR Jim Haskins – Chapter Membership, or LT Howard Vacco – Chapter Secretary to renew local membership.



Since 1980, the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) has made a commitment to the educational development of youth residing in the San Francisco Bay Area. This contribution involves a number of highly successful programs, including; youth mentoring, academic tutoring, and awarding of financial scholarships to college bound high school seniors.

Hadwick and Lily Thompson Scholarship Award Criteria

Eligibility Requirements: Bay Area high school seniors entering an accredited college or university as a freshman are eligible. You must be a U.S. citizen and have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scales (or equivalent). **Please submit your completed package to the address listed below.** Scholarship recipients will be notified in writing.

Details of Award: This one-time award aims to grant an ethnic-based scholarship to a student entering college as a freshman. The recipient will be selected and announced in May.

Award Amount: \$1000

Package Requirements: You are required to submit the following:

- A completed application
- An official high school transcript (with school's official seal).
- Two Letter(s) of recommendation from an individual you know, such as a school official (principal, guidance counselor, coach, etc...) or an official from an organization. These letters should address your potential academic performance at the collegiate level. It should also state your relationship to the official and note any noteworthy/significant accomplishments.
- Three Counselor/Teacher Evaluation Form(s). Evaluation forms must be mailed by the individual completing the evaluation directly to NNOA. (It is recommended that you provide a stamped, pre-addressed envelope to individual completing evaluation to expedite mailing of the document).
- A typed 100 to 300-word essay discussing your educational and career goals
- A current photograph (3" x 5" minimum). Photos will not be returned.
- Copy of ACT and SAT results

Failure to submit ALL requested information will result in disqualification. Students submitting incomplete packages will be notified. All qualified applicants will also be notified of eligibility for an NROTC scholarship.

Mail completed application packages to:

**Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Award
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (NNOA)
P.O. Box 5046
Alameda, California 94501**



Above: Congratulations to Captain Don Flowers, U.S. Navy, Retired, president of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) on winning the National Naval Officer Association, Inc. Distinguished Service Award for distinguished service in support of the goals of NNOA.

Below: Congratulation to LCDR Mark Harris, U.S. Coast Guard, vice president of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) on winning the National Naval Officer Association, Inc. Distinguished Service Award for distinguished service in support of the goals of NNOA.



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER



NNOA Crab Fest



Where: Coast Guard Island, Point Welcome Room
When: March 2, 2012
Time: 6 PM to 9 PM
Price: \$35/\$40 w/Wine (white/red), \$15 – under 16, Infants free
Menu: Fresh Succulent Bay Area Crab
Pasta (marinara or cream sauce)
Fresh House Salad
Warm Dinner Rolls
Events: Door Prizes and Games
Tickets: Adolph Keyes, 510.374.8237 email: alkeyes@comcast.net
LCDR Jim Haskins, 510.635.8869 email: jamesh_haskins@yahoo.com
Donations: Donations will be accepted to support the chapter scholarship foundation named for Hadwick & Lily Thompson supporters of NNOA.

Post 9/11 GI Bill Celebrates Start of Fourth Year

August 10, 2012

773,000 Veterans and Their Family Members Benefit From Program

Washington – August marks the third anniversary of the Post 9/11 GI Bill, and since it was implemented August 1, 2009, the Department of Veterans Affairs has provided educational benefits to 773,000 Veterans and their family members.

“This is one of the most important programs helping our Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans reach their educational goals,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “We’re proud this important benefit is marking such a big difference in the lives of so many Veterans.

The Post 9/11 GI Bill pays tuition and fees on behalf of the Veterans or eligible dependents directly to the school in which they are enrolled. Eligible participants also receive a monthly housing allowance and up to \$1000 annually for books and supplies. The program also allows eligible Servicemembers to transfer their benefits to their spouses and /or children.

The program provides a wide range of educational options, including undergraduate and graduate degrees, vocational/technical training, on-the-job training, flight training, correspondence training, licensing and national testing program, entrepreneurship training, and tutorial assistance. All training program must be approved for GI Bill benefits.

“For over 68 years, GI Bill programs have shaped and changed the lives of Servicemembers, Veterans, their families and survivors by helping them reach their educational goals,” said Allison A. Hickey, Under Secretary of the Benefits. “Benefits provided under the Post 9/11 GI Bill will continue to shape and change the lives of Veterans by helping them build a stronger foundation for their careers.

The Post 9/11 GI Bill is the most extensive educational assistance program since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944. Since its inception, Veteran Affairs (VA) has paid more than \$20 billion in benefits to Veterans and their family members.

A reprinted article from The Coast Guard/NOAA Retiree’s Newsletter, Issue 4/2012



Hirshberg Foundation
For Pancreatic Cancer Research
Lou Gertha Bonner Memorial Fund

Lou Gertha Bonner is the mother of CDR Adolph Keyes, USCG Retired. She was born in Sep '37 in Rayne, LA. A spiritual person, Lou believed strongly in family values and achieving a quality education. Lou moved to California in '57 and worked in the Food Services Industry for 30 years. Her struggle with pancreatic cancer was brief, and she died at home with her family at her side in Dec '08. The family encourages you to join in the fight and donate to the research fund in her memory. Her URL: <http://www.pancreatic.org/memorial/lougbonner>



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2011 Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Foundations:

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LT Christina Jones
CDR Denise McCallaCreary
LCDR Erin Adler
Mr. Willie Parker

Silver Partners

CDR Matthew Wadleigh
LCDR Mark Harris

Individual Partners

Miss Anne Abadilla
Miss Rochelle Keyes
Ms. Gloria Lockett

Photos By PrincezzAnjeliq
"Capturing God's Beauty"



Angelique Keyes

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Place Your Personal Ad

Advertise your business in *The Journal* newsletter. *The Journal* newsletter is circulated to national and local membership and military bases in several Bay Area counties four times a year. Let us advertise your business. Contact Adolph Keyes at alkeyes@comcast.net or (510) 374-8237 for more information.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

The members of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter would like to extend to you and your family wishes for a most joyous Thanksgiving.

Annual SFBA Chapter Calendar:

Calendar Year 2012	
JAN – MLK Breakfast Monterey Chapter	AUG – IZOD Indy Sprint Races Fundraiser
JAN 30 – Chapter Quarterly Report – Tab E	SEP – 49er Games Fundraiser
FEB – Black History Month Observance – CG Island	OCT – Fleet Week / 49er Games Fundraiser
APR – Professional OER Training – CG Island	OCT 30 – Chapter Quarterly Report – Tab E
APR 15 – SFBA Annual East Egg Hunt	OCT 31 – Chapter Annual Financial Report – Tab G
APR – SFBA Chapter Eye Wear Recycle Drive	NOV – 49er Games Fundraiser
APR 30 – Chapter Quarterly Report – Tab E	NOV – SFBA Strategic Planning Review
MAY 07 – Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Announcement	NOV – Veterans Day Visit
MAY – SFBA Strategic Planning Review	DEC – 49er Games Fundraiser
MAY – The Journal Newsletter Ad Renewal	DEC – SFBA Christmas Celebration
Calendar Year 2013	
JUN 15 – Chapter Annual Report – Tab F	JAN – MLK Breakfast Monterey Chapter
JUN 15 – Chapter Management Information Report – Tab D	JAN 30 Chapter Quarterly Report – Tab E
JUN – Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship – Presentation	FEB – Black History Month Observance – CG Island
JUN – SFBA Officer Elections / Chapter Membership Fees	MAR – SFBA Annual Crab Fest
JUN – NASCAR 350 Sprint Cup Fundraiser	APR – Professional OER Training – CG Island
JUL – National Hot Rod Assoc. (NHRA) Drag Race Fundraiser	APR 15 – SFBA Annual East Egg Hunt
JUL – National Professional Development	APR – SFBA Chapter Eye Wear Recycle Drive
AUG 15 – Chapter Quarterly Report – Tab E	APR 30 – Chapter Quarterly Report – Tab E

* Chapter meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 1130: odd months at CG Island Galley Special Events Room – even months teleconference.

Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Foundation

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (NNOA)
P.O. Box 5046
Alameda, California 94501

Ph: CDR Adolph Keyes (510) 374-8237, email: alkeyes@comcast.net, website: www.nnoa.org/



The Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Foundation keeps alive the dream of young minority students aspiring to complete a college education. The Foundation was established in 2003 and has provided Bay Area students with annual scholarship money to attend college, e.g., UC Berkeley and Davis; CSU East Bay, Chico, Riverside, and Sacramento. Your donations help SFBA continue to provide scholarship opportunities to less fortunate and deserving minority students. Please contribute to this worthy cause. Partnership is annual and renewal in January. Help us to promote higher education and develop the leaders of the future.

Benefits of Partnership:

- ✓ Quarterly newsletter subscription – The Journal
- ✓ Sponsorship mention in The Journal
- ✓ Helping to promote continue/advanced education
- ✓ Donation is tax deductible

Partnership Levels:

- ✓ Individual donation - \$10.00
- ✓ Copper sponsorship - \$50.00
- ✓ Silver sponsorship - \$75.00
- ✓ Gold sponsorship - \$100 or more

*** Detach along this line and return with you donation ***

Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Foundation Partnership Application

Name:		Date:	
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip Code:			
Phone:		Email:	
Individual - \$10		Copper - \$50	
Silver - \$75		Gold - \$100 or more	
Make check payable to:		Remit to:	
SFBA NNOA		Hadwick & Lily Thompson Scholarship Foundation San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (NNOA) P.O. Box 5046 Alameda, California 94501	