

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

This award is awarded to Surface Navy Association members, dependents, and retirees whose community-related activities go 'above and beyond' as well as promoting the Surface Navy.

CAPT MICHAEL DAVANZO, USCG



The greatness of the Surface Navy Association is its diversity of membership and outreach to brothers and sisters of the sea services as welcome and equal partners in our mission and vision for our future. CAPT Davanzo, in his role as Commander of the Coast Guard Cutter Forces, has been a vigilant and ardent supporter of the Cutterman's connection to Navy Surface Line in every aspect of his leadership. No single Coast Guard officer could have as much influence as CAPT Davanzo has in the ability to recruit Cuttermen members to SNA. His work in the cutting-edge science of Icebreaker ship construction is an essential element of free passage of the seas and of our maritime national strategy. For CAPT Davanzo's leadership, recruiting initiatives, and groundbreaking work in facilitating freedom of the seas from every sea and environment, we award him the Special Recognition Award, the Associations highest honor.

CAPT EDWARD B. "TED" HONTZ USN (RET)



The Foundation upon which the Surface Navy builds its brilliance lies in the AEGIS class ships, their development, warfighting capability, and acceptance of engineering upgrades that allow it to fight in ways well beyond what they were originally designed to accomplish. Certain names emerge from "those in the know" about how, why and who were responsible for the most successful class of warship ever constructed. Directly behind the name, Wayne E. Meyer (Father of AEGIS) is Captain Ted Hontz. Captain Hontz was a pioneer in the AEGIS program office instantiating the funding and operational requirements for the Cruiser and Guided Missile Destroyer programs, commanded the Cruiser USS Princeton (CG-59), and became a leader in the creation of special tactics employing Cooperative Engagement Capabilities, precision guided missile tactics, techniques and procedures (TTP's), and in every major system upgrade deployed in the Fleet today. While being so accomplished in warfighting, he was an early and powerful advocate for the Surface Navy Association, inspiring generations of officers to join and participate in our Association as thought leaders and professional mariners. Captain Hontz' reputation is so noteworthy, scores of officers and enlisted personnel joined SNA just to be in the same Association as him. For his service to our Navy and Nation in the AEGIS domain, and for his tireless devotion to the promotion of Surface Warfare, he is awarded the Special Recognition Award, our Associations highest honor.

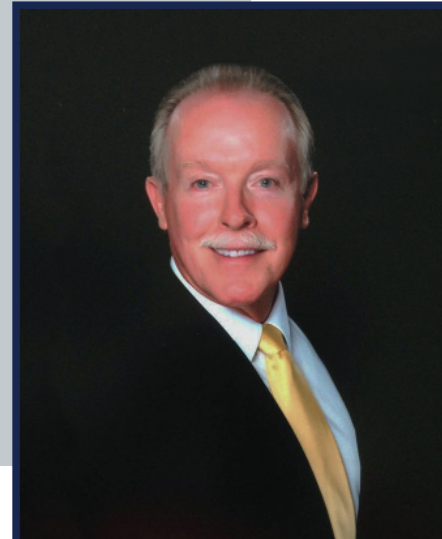
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RDML JON KREITZ, USN (RET)



Looking across the essential elements of a career Surface Warfare Officer, it is imperative for senior leaders to man, equip, and train Sailors to create Warships Ready for Tasking. Admiral Kreitz was a poster-example of this type of officer, succeeding on the deck plates of numerous ships as well as in Command and in Inspecting and Surveying our Fleet's reliability and dependability. Admiral Kreitz admirably used his platform to consistently mentor juniors and peers alike in leadership and in best practices for creating dynamic and effective crews and battle-ready ships. His devotion to his Warfare specialty included an active and hands-on participation in the Surface Navy Association in roles including: The Pearl Harbor Chapter, National Board of Directors and Executive Committee. These assignments are demanding and voraciously time consuming. Admiral Kreitz' efforts and performance in these assignments was brilliant and exemplary. Admiral Kreitz has been a stalwart supporter of our Association and lightning rod for developing new members. For his brilliant career and his direct and enthusiastic support of SNA, he is awarded the Special Recognition Award, our Associations highest honor.

FORCE MASTER CHIEF JAMES MONROE USN (RET)



At the end of any distinguished Naval career all one has remaining is a reputation. Force Monroe was the beacon of the CPO's creed in every significant arena of its tenants. "Ask the Chief" was more than a slogan connected to Force Monroe. As Naval Surface Forces Atlantic's Force Master Chief he was found on the deck plates of nearly every ship, mentoring CPO Messes, young sailors, and implementing Surface Force policies and initiatives. "Servant Leadership". Force Monroe demonstrated the continuum of Faith, Family, Nation, Navy, Ship, Shipmate, Self in every aspect of his career. From ACU-4 to other challenging assignments his reputation was one of extreme competence and love of his Sailors. Upon retirement, Force Monroe quickly engaged in the Hampton Roads Chapter of SNA and brought with him more junior enlisted membership than any Chapter had seen before. He continues to lead by example, in ways that positively affect the Tidewater waterfront. For his steadfast and diligent efforts for all Sailors and the community, he is awarded the Special Recognition Award, our Associations highest honor.