

The Watch

For twenty-five years this Sailor has stood the watch.

While some of us were in our bunks at night, this Sailor stood the watch.

While some of us were in school learning our trade,
this Shipmate stood the watch.

Yes... even before some of us were born into this world,
this Shipmate stood the watch.

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on the horizon of
history, this Shipmate stood the watch.

Many times he would cast an eye ashore and see his family standing there need-
ing his guidance and help, needing that hand to hold during those hard times,
but he still stood the watch.

He stood the watch for twenty-five years. He stood the watch so that we, our
families and our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety each and every
night, knowing that a Sailor stood the watch.

Today we are here to say "Shipmate, the watch stands relieved. Relieved by
those you have trained, guided and lead. Shipmate, you stand relieved, we have
the watch."

Retirement Ceremony

In honor of

**Master-at-Arms
First Class
Daniel R. Fescenmyer**



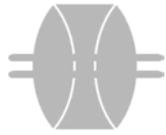
Fair Winds and Following Seas



November 25, 2009

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)

Sequence of Events



Master of Ceremonies

MACM(SW/AW) Robert Ford



Arrival of Official Party

Sideboys



Parading of Colors

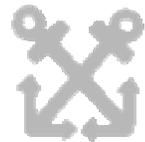
(Guests please rise)

National Anthem

Color Guard

Invocation

LCDR Jerry Bartee



Guest Speaker

LT Ruben Garza



Presentation of Awards

CDR A.T. Calandra

Retirement Certificate

CDR A.T. Calandra

Old Glory Presentation

Flag Detail

Navy Hymn "Eternal Father"

LT Dennis Jensen

Reading of "The Watch"

MACM(SW/AW) Robert Ford

MA1 Fescenmyer is piped ashore

Honors Boatswain's Mate/Sideboys



Ceremony Reception

Aft Mess Decks



Ruben Garza Jr. LT, USN

LT Garza is the Security Officer in charge of the Security Division onboard USS George Washington CVN 73. LT Garza was born in Alice, TX. After graduating from Alice High School in 1988, he enlisted in the US Navy.

LT Garza began his career as an Electronic Technician in the Trident Submarine community. He completed Submarine School, Strategic Weapons Systems Electronics "A" school, Navigation Aids "C" school in route to his first assignment, USS Ohio SSBN 726 (Gold) in August 1989. LT Garza was subsequently medically disqualified from submarines.

He then accepted orders to the forward deployed Oceanographic Unit 3 embarked onboard the USNS H. H. Hess TAGS-32. His tour was from November 1990 – October 1991. LT Garza then transferred onboard the USS Canopus AS-34 where he served from October 1991 – October 1993 as a Quality Insurance Inspector. In October 1993 he attended the Navy Law Enforcement Academy in Lackland and received the 9545 NEC before reporting to NAS Corpus Christi, TX (February 1994 – January 1997) in 1996 while at NAS Corpus Christi LT Garza was approved for conversion to the Master-at-Arms rate. In March of 1997 LT Garza reported to the Pre-Commissioning crew of the USS Harry S. Truman CVN 75 where he served until January 2001 as the Operations Chief. In March 2001 LT Garza reported onboard Naval Technical Training Center Detachment Lackland AFB, TX as an instructor and Division Officer where he served until his selection as Limited Duty Officer. In April 2004, LT Garza reported to Commander Naval Activities UK, in London, England where served as Security Officer until April 2007. After leaving London, LT Garza reported onboard USS Blue Ridge LCC-19 home ported in Yokosuka, Japan where he served as the Security Officer until his transfer to the USS George Washington in September 2008.

His Military Awards include; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (4), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Battle "E", Navy Good Conduct (3), National Defense Medal (2), Global War on Terror Service Medal, Sea Service Ribbon, Arctic Service Ribbon, Expert Marksman Pistol Medal and Marksman Rifle Ribbon.

LT Garza is married to Debra L. Martinez and they have two sons, Ruben Garza III and Justin Alejandro Garza.



Navy Hymn

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

Eternal Father, Lord of hosts,
Watch o'er the men who guard our coasts.
Protect them from the raging seas
And give them light and life and peace.
Grant them from thy great throne above
The shield and shelter of thy love.



Participants

MA1 Fescenmyer would like to give special thanks to the following participants:

Sponsor-MA1(SW/AW) John Allsup; Flag Detail Choreographer-MA2(SW) Damieyon Titus; Sideboys Choreographer-MA2(AW) Marvin Jones; Honors Boatswain's Mate-BM3 Justin Lane; Sideboys/Flag Detail-MA1(SW/AW) Mark Delisle, MA1(SW) Richard Moon, MA2 (SW) DeWayne Combs, MA3 Johannes Hemmes, AO3 Charissa Owens, ABHAN(AW) Rachel Bremerman; Color Guard-ABEC(AW/SW) Livel Clark, AT2 James Howes, AT2 Luis Jimenez, ABE3 Brian Gillies, AZAN Jeremy Johnson, ABEAN Michael Smith; Music Coordinator-MA1(SW/AW) Jose-Daniel Reyes; Supply for the great cake and Deck Department for the use of the world's finest foc'sle.

MA1 Fescenmyer's Biography

Daniel R. Fescenmyer is a native of Knox, Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Navy May 21, 1985 at the age of 19. He reported to Great Lakes, Illinois where he graduated Recruit Training on August 20, 1985 and Opticalman "A" School on April 8, 1986.

His first duty station was the USS Simon Lake (AS-33) in Holy Loch, Scotland. He was assigned to the Repair Department where he repaired and overhauled periscopes, binoculars, sextants, alidades, night vision, compasses and stadimeters until he transferred in 1989.

His schools include Submarine Periscope Repair School, Naval Training Center, Great Lakes Illinois, Correction Specialist School, Fort McClellan Alabama, Type 18 Periscope School, Pensacola Florida and Master-at-Arms "A" School, Little Creek, VA.

He was stationed onboard the USS Holland (AS-32) from 1989-1992 at Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, South Carolina, Naval Consolidated Brig, Charleston, South Carolina from June 1992 through May 1995. USS McKee (AS-41) in Point Loma, San Diego, California from September 1995 through September 1997, Souda Bay, Greece from October 2006 through October 2007.

He joined the Naval Reserves in 1997 and served with Assault Craft Unit 4 Det 2 from June 1997 through April 1998 at Naval Reserve Center Raleigh, North Carolina, Military Sealift Command Wilmington 107 from May 1998 through April 2000, Naval Reserve Center Raleigh, North Carolina, Amphibious Construction Battalion Det 107 from April 2000 through August 2000 Naval Reserve Center Raleigh, North Carolina, Amphibious Construction Battalion Det 305, Naval Reserve Center, Erie, Pennsylvania, Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare 208, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba from March 2002 through July 2002, Naval Weapons Station Charleston, South Carolina from July 2002 through February 2003.

He has an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Electrical/Electronics Technology from Robeson Community College.

He has been stationed onboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) since November 2007 and plans to retire in Pennsylvania with his wife Ricki Lynn Fescenmyer and their three boys, Hunter, Chandler and Ashton.

His awards include the Navy Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Battle "E" (2), Good Conduct Medal (6), Navy Reserve Meritorious Service, National Defense Service Medal (2), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment (5), Navy Overseas Service, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Navy Rifleman Expert, Navy Pistol Expert.





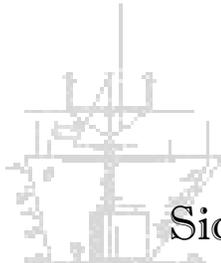
Tradition



Color Guard

Since early history, flags and banners have been used by armies in battle. They served to assist in identifying units, to signal movements and be a common point of reference for soldiers on the field, which allowed them to keep formations organized.

The flag was a symbol of the unit and to lose it was shameful and could cause the unit to break up. So, for this reason, leaders developed an elite group of men whose job it was to protect the flag.



Side Boys

In the days of sail, it was not uncommon for the Commanding Officers of ships sailing in convoy to convene aboard the flagship for conferences. It was also not uncommon for COs to invite each other to dine aboard their vessels. Unfortunately, there was no easy way to bring visitors on and off a ship while underway. And there was no dignified way for a high ranking officer to scurry up or down a rope or ladder hanging down the side of a ship.

Often the boatswain's chair, a rope and wood sling, would be used to hoist the guest onto and off the ship. The Boatswain's Mate would control the heaving by blowing the appropriate commands with a whistle known as a Boatswain's Pipe. The number of "strong backs" needed to bring the visitor aboard depended upon the size of the "load" being hoisted. Somewhere along the line, it was noted the more senior the visitor's rank, the more Sailors were needed to "man the side." Over time, the need to hoist visitors on and off Navy ships went away, but the custom of mustering the Side-boys and piping distinguished visitors aboard ship remained.



Old Glory Presentation

I am the Flag of the United States of America. My name is OLDE GLORY. I fly atop the world's tallest buildings I stand watch in America's Halls of Justice. I fly majestically over Great Institutions of Learning. I stand guard with the Greatest Military Power in the World. LOOK UP and see ME!

I stand for Peace, Honor, Truth and Justice. I stand for Freedom! I am confident, I am arrogant, I am proud. When I am flown with my fellow banners, my head is held a little higher, my colors are a little truer.

I bow to no one! I am recognized all over the world. I am worshipped... I am saluted... I am respected... I am revered... I am loved... I am feared!

For more than 200 years, I have fought in every battle of every war... Gettysburg, Shiloh, Appomattox, San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, The Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy, the jungles of Guam, Okinawa, Tarawa, Korea, Vietnam and in the heat of the Persian Gulf and a score of other places.

Long forgotten by all, but those who were there with me... I was there...

I led my Sailors and Marines, I followed them, I watched over them, they love me. I was on a small hill on Iwo Jima. I was dirty, battle torn and tired but my Sailors and Marines cheered me! I was proud!

I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries that I have helped to set free. It does not hurt, for I am invincible. I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of my own country and when it is done by those whom with I have served in battle. It HURTS! But I shall overcome, for I am strong.

I have slipped the surely bounds of earth and from my vantage point on the moon, I stand watch over the new frontiers of space. I have been the silent witness to all of America's finest hours.

But my finest hour comes when I am torn into strips, to be used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the field of battle, when I fly half mast to honor my Sailors and Marines and when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother at the graveside of her fallen son or daughter... I am proud!

MY NAME IS OLDE GLORY LONG MAY I WAVE DEAR GOD, LONG MAY I WAVE!!!

Shadow Box

When a Sailor retires and departs the ship for the last time it is bad luck for the Sailor's shadow to touch land before the Sailor, so the Sailor's shipmates will traditionally construct a sturdy box in which to display the mementos of the Sailor's accomplishments, symbolically creating a "shadow" of the Sailor, which will remain onboard until the box can be given to the Sailor at a later time on shore.

Ideally, a shadow box serves not only as a reminder of achievements and accomplishments, but as a summation of a career. These usually include awards, medals, duty stations, insignias, rating badges and uniform devices showing the Sailor's progression.

The national flag is placed inside the shadow box to symbolize the country that has benefited from the faithful service of the recipient of the shadow box.

—"On behalf of your fellow shipmates, we present you with this shadow box. Within the shadow box lie a Sailor's most honored and cherished possessions, including the flag of the United States of America, representing a lifetime of valiant and faithful service."