

List of Naval History Books Available for Review

10 January 2023

BIOGRAPHICAL

Submariner: 30 Years of Hijinks & Keeping the Fleet Afloat

by Lt. Cdr. Jerry Pait, USN (Ret.) (2022)

A semi-autobiographical collection of sixty stories from his service with the submarine fleet from the perspective of an individual who served in enlisted and officer ranks covering the 1960s into the 1980s, including the recovery of CHALLENGER.

Be Bold: How a Marine Corps Hero Broke Barriers for Women at War

by Tom Sileo, Fidelis Publishing (2022)

Sileo tells the story of USNA graduate Major Megan McClung who was the first female alum to die in combat in Iraq.

A World War II Secret: Glenn P. Larson and the U-505

by Beverly Larson Christensen, Hellgate Publishing (2022)

A daughter chronicles her father's service in the Atlantic during World War II. Larson was assigned to USS *Guadalcanal* under Captain Dan Gallery and was a member of the boarding party that captured U- 505.

20th CENTURY TO PRESENT

A Strange Whim of the Sea: The Wreck of the USS Macaw

by Tim Loughman, University of Kentucky Press (2022)

On 16 January 1944, the submarine salvage ship USS *Macaw* ran aground at Midway while attempting to tow the stranded submarine USS *Flier*. As the title indicates, it did not go well afterwards. Loughman provides a history of the loss of the ship and an overview of this auxiliary ship's service in the Pacific in the USN.

Crushing the Japanese Surface Fleet at the Battle of the Surigao Strait: The Last Crossing of the T

by Walter S. Zapotoczny Jr., Fonthill Press, UK (2022)

Besides overview narratives, Zapotoczny has published the action reports of the various U.S. surface combatants involved in the engagement and has included eight appendices to include biographies of the lead admirals on both sides. This could be considered more of a reference book.

Hitler's Secret Commandos: Operations of the K-Verband

by Helmut Blocksdorf, translated by Geoffrey Brooks, Pen & Sword, UK (2008, 2022)

This narrative details the formation of a German Commando unit in 1943 modeled on British and Italian special force units to operate from mini U-Boats and small craft with a mission of disrupting any allied assaults on the continent.

Calmness, Courage, and Efficiency: Remembering the Battle of the Leyte Gulf

by Martin R. Waldman, NHHC Washington DC (2022)

Part of a new softcover booklet initiative to get history out to the fleet in handy packaging covers the various aspects of this notable climactic battle.

More Lives Than A Ship's Cat: The Most Highly Decorated Midshipman in the Second World War – G A (Mick) Stoke MBE DSC RN

by Jeremy Stoke, Pen & Sword, UK (2022)

An interesting biography written by Stoke's youngest son.

The Royal Navy in Action: Art from Dreadnought to Vengeance

by John Fairly, Pen & Sword (2022)

A hardcover, coffee table-type book with splendid illustrations of the Royal Navy broken into WW I, WW II and post war sections. Narrative discusses the art and the actions depicted.

Tales of the Sea Cloud: Luxury Yacht, Integrated Naval Vessel, Legendary Ship

Kenneth W. Sayers, Texas A&M University Press (2022)

This narrative discusses the history of a 1920s sailing yacht built for Marjorie Merriweather Post that comes into the service of the U.S. Coast Guard in WW II and serves as a platform for an integrated crew to include some 80 African Americans including three Black officers.

Mao's Army Goes to Sea: The Island Campaigns and the Founding of China's Navy

by Toshi Yoshihara, Georgetown University Press, DC (2022)

Described as a "definitive account of a little known yet critical moment in China's naval history" covering the 1949-1950 period where the Communist leaders saw the need to establish maritime capabilities to carry on the fight to the Nationalists.

19th CENTURY & AGE OF SAIL

Death by Fire and Ice: The Steamboat Lexington Calamity

by Brian E. O'Connor, Naval Institute Press, (2022)

Gripping account of the explosion, burning, and sinking of the steamboat *Lexington* in Long Island Sound on 13 January 1840. Only four of 147 survive, and that's only the beginning of the story.

MARITIME/MISCELLANEOUS

Our Greatest Strength: Navy Wives and the Manpower Crisis in the 1970s US Navy

by Joel Hebert, NHHC, Washington, DC (2022)

Another new NHHC publication in an easy to carry soft-cover format aimed to get good naval history content out to the fleet about a critical period in the post-Vietnam era when the decision to have an all-volunteer force meant you needed to accommodate spouses and families.

A Tradition of Change: CPO Initiations to CPO 365 and Back

by Master Chief Petty Officer James Leuci USN, (Ret.), Self-Published (2021)

This is an expanded edition of an earlier volume that shed light and destroyed mythology about a uniquely Navy ritual.

HISTORICAL FICTION

In the Shadows of Guadalcanal

by Phillip Parotti, Casemate (2022)

Story of the CO and crew of a Patrol Craft that after escorting convoys up and down the East Coast is sent to the South Pacific to support operations off Guadalcanal.

Hunters in the Stream: A Riley Fitzhugh Novel

by Terry Mort, McBooks Press (2021)

Riley Fitzhugh goes through officer training and is assigned to PC 475, a new anti-U-boat vessel stationed in Key West. The 475 is nicknamed Nameless by her crew because patrol craft vessels were only given numbers.

Guidelines for Book Reviews

For Reviewers: Please contact **Dr. David Winkler** david.winkler@usnwc.edu if you have an interest in reviewing one of the books on the availability list. Once a reviewer requests and in time receives the book, please write the review with a general but knowledgeable audience in mind. Reviews run anywhere from 300-900 words, depending on the book/author/topic/reviewer. We do not have a policy about publishing negative reviews. We ask reviewers to keep the audience in mind and to be judicious, clear, kind, appropriate, insightful and concise. Footnotes and reference notes are not included in *Tuesday Tidings* book reviews. For samples of previously published reviews in *Sea History* magazine, please visit www.seahistory.org/bookreviews.

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