From The Director's Chair

As 2018 draws to its close I wanted to let you all know that it has been a very productive year for The Battleship Texas. Earlier this month Phase II of structural repairs were completed by Taylor Marine. Phase I and Phase II structural repairs represent a total investment of approximately $39 million dollars. These much-needed repairs put The Texas in a much-improved condition. I have included a few photographs to give just a hint of the magnitude of the work.

We have also been hosting a number of events around the State of Texas that we have called Come and Save It. We have had really great turn outs and we have had thousands of people sign on to our petition to save The Texas. Again, I am including a few photographs for you to see.

Finally, I am happy to share with you that after a lot of effort we believe that shortly we will be able to offer an audio tour of The Texas. I especially want to Thank TPWD and Shell Oil for their efforts to make this dream a reality.

From all of us at The Battleship Texas Foundation we wish for you and your family a wonderful holiday season. Thank you for all of your support in the past.

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From The Director’s Chair continued

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and enjoyed themselves immensely. Nevertheless, the low number of visitors was a disappointment. It seems, though, that there were abundant alternative venues competing for attendance that weekend, including the ever popular Wings Over Houston air show, with its headliners, the Navy's Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team. Everyone believes the upcoming November tour, scheduled for Saturday the 17th, will bring FTV back to its typical numbers. For more information, please go to www.firsttexasvolunteers.org.

The FTV will also assist Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Battleship Texas Foundation in commemorating the end of World War I and the armistice 100 years ago this year. Ceremonies and activities for the entire family will be presented on Saturday, November 10.

By Don Fischer

**Restoration**

In this seemingly short quarter since the last edition of the *Dreadnought*, work has continued on the various projects currently underway. Real progress is being made within the Combat Information Center (CIC). The project is at a stage where individual pieces of equipment, of which there are many, are set for restoration.

The 40mm anti-aircraft gun mounts on the fantail are progressing, although it is difficult to see the efforts at this point. So much work is internal to the gear boxes. Once the team is confident in the mechanics, then the cosmetics will call the public's attention to the great efforts involved in this project.

This coming weekend, members will be on-hand to assist in what is commonly called the PPG Deck Painting Project. The current wood deck, installed during 1989-90, has been decaying for years, with many hours of manpower and efforts, including many board feet of plank replacement seemingly going for nought. The PPG Corporation feels they have a product that can help arrest further decay and present a uniform appearance until a new wood deck can be funded. Further plank replacement is still expected for the worst. All are hopeful that greater safety from potential trip hazards will be attained along with a much improved appearance for all our visitors.

**Docent Services**

The October Hard Hat Tour was a qualified success. All 40 of our visitors agreed it was an entertaining and education highlight...
Battleship TEXAS Overnight Youth Education Program

By Kandace Trujillo

We are having a busy Fall at the youth overnight education program. We thank the 20 groups and 403 campers that participated through the months of August through October. We welcomed back the Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma on October 18th. This is the group’s third trip to the ship. Each year they bring a new set of girl scouts and their chaperones. Their leader, Maureen McMahon received her third tour patch. She has successfully spent the night aboard the ship three times. We are looking forward to hosting the them again next year.

The Overnight Program Staff participated in an outreach event. They took the 20mm gun trailer to the Wings Over Houston Air Show. The show was October 20th and October 21st and took place at Ellington Airport in Houston. Air Show events included the Blue Angels, Team Oracle, Jack Link’s Screamin’ Sasquatch, and Tora! Tora! Tora!, a living history recreation of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Some of the overnight program staff got to participate in the living history events.

In addition to the gun trailer, items from the education collection were brought to be shown. They were a big hit with the public.

Amid all that fun, the overnight crew also helped get more signatures for our “Come and Save it Petition” Thank you to everyone who signed the petition.

Pieces of Steel from the ship were also given for donations to the ship. Come and Save It Tshirts were also available.

We are approaching our busy season and are booking in to next year. If would like to participate in an overnight program, please contact:

overnight@battleshiptexas.org or (281) 542-0684 (office)
Battleship TEXAS Overnight Youth Education Program

By Kandace Trujillo

New Overnight Space Update

We have some exciting news for the ship and the overnight program. The expansion project has been completed. We have gone from being able to support 80 participants to 150 participants in the overnight program. The final piece that was completed was the new overnight washroom. The washroom contains trough style sinks and urinals. This will allow more people to use the facilities at the same time, which means shorter bath room lines. We are so thankful to the TPWD and Taylor Marine crews who completed the project.

The new washroom is in the Decontamination Station 2, which is in the same passageway as the sleeping quarters. Our first group to use the washroom was a JRTOC group from Pearland. Our participants have liked the new addition, especially the shorter lines.
Armistice 100th Anniversary

This November, Battleship TEXAS State Historic Site commemorates the one hundredth anniversary of the Armistice that brought an end to World War I. Did you know that TEXAS served alongside the British Grand Fleet in 1918? The ship and her crew witnessed several significant events of the war firsthand, including King George V’s visit to TEXAS’ sister ship, USS NEW YORK, and the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet. In December 1918, TEXAS also served as part of the escort to transport U.S. President Woodrow Wilson to France to participate in treaty negotiations that would determine the shape of the post-war world. On Saturday, November 10, ship staff offered a variety of special programs included with the price of regular admission that underscored TEXAS’ role in the conflict. Professor Jonathan Rayner of the University of Sheffield in England gave an educational presentation about the ship’s history during World War I. Docents interpreted the ship’s history and provided visitors with hands-on learning opportunities using WWI-era items from the ship’s education collection. Visitors of all ages contributed to a large-scale mural titled “Lest We Forget” depicting a field of poppies composed of hundreds of individual thumb prints. On the evening of November 10, Battleship TEXAS held a free screening of “The Battle of the Somme” at the San Jacinto Museum of History. On Sunday, November 11, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department waived admission fees to all state parks, including Battleship TEXAS and San Jacinto Battleground, in honor of Veterans Day. San Jacinto College sponsored a moving “Bells of Peace” ceremony aboard the ship in collaboration with the World War I Centennial Commission’s initiative to mark the hour of the Armistice with twenty-one bells ringing in communities nationwide.

December is a great opportunity to introduce friends and family to Battleship TEXAS. The ship will be decorated for the holiday season throughout December; decorations are inspired by historic photos of the crew's own celebrations. On Saturday, December 1, Battleship Texas Foundation and the Texas Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States will host the annual Pearl Harbor Commemoration Ceremony at 11:00 AM aboard TEXAS. On Saturday, December 8, celebrate the season like a sailor at Yuletide TEXAS, a family friendly event, from 11 am to 3 pm. Admission to this event is included in regular admission and gets you access to special activities, crafts, refreshments, musical performances, and a photo opportunity with Santa.

Please note that Battleship TEXAS State Historic Site will be closed to the public on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. The site is open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm every other day of the year. If you’d like to learn more about upcoming events at the ship, visit our website (https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/battleship-texas) and follow us on Facebook (@San Jacinto Battleground/Battleship TEXAS - Texas Parks and Wildlife) and Instagram (@battleshiptexas).
In Honor Of

Christine Richardson

Roy L. Hammonds USMC

R.L. O’Glee
Membership Application

I am pleased to support the USS TEXAS with my membership in the Battleship TEXAS Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) non profit organization.

☐ Individual $35.00 | Name ____________________________
☐ Family $45.00 | Address ____________________________
☐ Supporting $150.00 | City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
☐ Benefactor $500.00 | Phone ______ Fax ______
☐ Corporate $2,000.00 | Email ____________________________
☐ USS TEXAS Veteran $10.00

☐ Check here to receive your Dreadnought by email.

Membership Benefits

Individual. $35 Entry level membership entitles Member to receive a free subscription to the BTF quarterly e-mail newsletter “The Dreadnought” and a free subscription to TPWD’s bi-weekly e-mail newsletter “The Battle Report” (if you provide your e-mail address).

Family. $45 Everything above, plus invitations to San Jacinto Site activities and special events.

Supporting $150 Everything above, plus one (1) Hard Hat Tour.

Benefactor. $500 Everything above, plus two (2) Hard Hat Tours

Corporate $2,000 Everything above, plus publication of your firm’s name in “The Dreadnought” and at special events held aboard the TEXAS.

USS TEXAS Veterans. $10 Benefits the same as for Individual Member.

Mail to:

BATTLESHIP TEXAS FOUNDATION
One Riverway
Suite 2200
Houston, Texas 77056

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