



# The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — August 2014



## Chairman's Message

Norm Scarpulla

Over the last three months, we learned of the death of two long-time CDSG members, Ray Lewis and Bob Burt. Ray Lewis was CDSG member #6, one of the original six founding members in July 1978, and the author of *Seacoast Fortifications of the United States: An Introductory History*, the seminal work on the subject. Bob Burt attended many conferences and most of the tours to exotic places. We will miss them both.

Alfred Chiswell has been elected director for a three-year term, replacing Mike Fiorini who completes his third year as a director. Alfred, Quentin Schillare, and I are your directors for October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

Our 2014 annual conference will be in San Diego and Los Angeles from October 1 to October 5. The details and sign-up are included with this Newsletter and on our website. Please plan to attend to see the fortifications and meet other members. Because of the need to reserve buses at San Diego, and security at US Navy controlled sites, Mike Fiorini must have your registration form by August 25.

Mark Berhow continues to improve our website. The photos on the homepage draw attention to our organization. In July, we replaced our list of surviving coast defense artillery, a pdf file that can be accessed through the website. Thanks to the work of Tom Batha, the list now includes two cannon that we had not cataloged previously. Please explore the website, and use the information that you find there.

Remember that this is a volunteer organization. We need members to write articles for the Journal and Newsletter. Even a short report about a visit to a fort is useful. And we need site representatives. A site representative does not need to be the expert about the fort or coast artillery, but rather he or she needs to maintain contact with the site owner or manager and be the conduit for communication both ways.

Currently, we have 375 members, up from 359 at the end of 2013. However, we need to continue to recruit new members. When you visit a fort or a military event, be an ambassador for the CDSG. Wear a CDSG shirt, hat, or patch. Talk to people about the organization and point them to our website, CDSG.org. Can you recruit one new member in 2014?

## CDSG Announcements

Alfred Chiswell has been elected to serve a three year term on the CDSG Board of Directors. He will replace Michael Fiorini on October 1, 2015.

The Annual Business meeting of the CDSG, Inc. will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in San Pedro, California on Friday October 3, 2014 at approximately 7 PM.

## CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

Please advise Terry McGovern of any additions or changes at [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

2014 CDSG Annual Conference  
October 1 - 5, 2014  
Los Angeles /San Diego HDs  
Mike Fiorini, [mrfiorini@comcast.net](mailto:mrfiorini@comcast.net)

2015 CDSG Annual Conference  
April 2015  
Delaware River HD  
Chris Zeeman, [c\\_zeeman@hotmail.com](mailto:c_zeeman@hotmail.com)

2016 CDSG Annual Conference  
September 2016  
Tampa Bay & Key West  
Charles Bogart, [cmabogart@aol.com](mailto:cmabogart@aol.com)

Proposed CDSG Special Tour  
June 2015  
Panama Canal Zone  
Terry McGovern, [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

Proposed CDSG Special Tour  
June 2016  
Defenses of Switzerland  
Terry McGovern, [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

## Other Meetings and Tours

August 30 - September 6, 2014  
ECCOFORT Reg. Association Tour  
Pula & Croatia  
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, [hrv.neumann@t-online.de](mailto:hrv.neumann@t-online.de)

September 5 - 8, 2014  
Fortress Study Group Annual Conference  
East Anglia  
Alistair Graham Kerr, [bill\\_clements@btinternet.com](mailto:bill_clements@btinternet.com)

September 2014  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting  
Koln (Cologne)  
Andreas Kupka, [anja.reichert@uni-trier.de](mailto:anja.reichert@uni-trier.de)

September 18 - 22, 2014  
Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaires Tour  
Maginot Line & Verdun  
Maurice Lovisa, [president@www.asmem.ch](mailto:president@www.asmem.ch)

October 11, 2014  
Stiching Menno van Coehoorn Tour  
Zaltbommel, Netherlands  
Frits van Horn, president@asmem.ch

September 11-15, 2015  
Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaries Tour  
Hamburg, Germany  
Marc Girard, president@www.asmem.ch

October 17, 2014  
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting  
Portsmouth, UK  
Luc Fellay, lucfellay@bluewin.ch

October 2015  
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting  
Antwerp, Belgium  
Luc Fellay, lucfellay@bluewin.ch

February 2015  
ECCOFORT Reg. Association Tour  
Punjab, India  
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

May 2016  
Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour  
Menorca/Majorca  
TBA, casemate@fsgfort.com

May 2015  
Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour  
South Portugal  
Charles Blackwood, casemate@fsgfort.com

Sept/Oct 2016  
ECCOFORT Reg. Association Tour  
Edime, the Dardenelles, Istanbul  
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

May 2015  
Council on America's Military Past  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Marylou Gjernes, mgjernes@earthlink.net

October 2016  
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting  
Berlin, Germany  
Luc Fellay, lucfellay@bluewin.ch

July 2015  
ECCOFORT Reg. Association Forte Cultura Pilot Tour  
Germany-Austria-Italy  
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

August/September 2015  
ECCOFORT Reg. Association Tour  
Verona/Italy  
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

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### Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss

The largest preservation issue this past two years has been the future of the coast defense structures at Gateway NRA. The NPS has a draft General Management Plan with a preferred alternative that relegates most (though not all) of the concrete batteries as being in "ruins" areas. The CDSG, as well as individual members has provided input to this during the public comment period this past fall. Now a decision has been made and it is in favor of the option most promoting recreation and showing least consideration towards preservation and the coast defense structures. With the damage from Hurricane Sandy and now being placed at the bottom of the priority list, the future of many of the coast defense related structures there looks bleak. At this point, as far as I know, there are no further options for input from the CDSG on this and unfortunately we can only wait and see how it is implemented and if there will be any future decision points where we may have a chance to influence the direction.

Information about the draft General Management Plan can be found at <http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=237&projectID=16091&documentID=54826> .

At Fort Pickens (HD Pensacola) action on Battery Cullum-Sevier has been deferred for the time being because of work on more pressing projects. These include Historic Structure Reports (HSRs) that are being done for some structures that will undergo work in the near future, including the BC Station tower at Battery 234. A HSR is expected to be done at Cullum-Sevier before any significant work is done on it. Meanwhile, vegetation control and rust-inhibitor treatment will continue. There has also been some funding for work on the National Register nomination for Fort Pickens, but I don't have any further information on this at the current time.

The only change I am aware of in the situation at Fort Monroe is that it was voted to allow development in the former Wherry housing area rather than preserving it as green space. Nothing specific has been proposed for it as of the current time. Batteries Parrott and Irwin have not yet been included in the National Park Service boundaries but have also not had anything negative impact them. They and some other parts of Fort Monroe are still under

control of the Army, possibly due to an issue between the Army and Virginia regarding cleanup. Information on Fort Monroe can be found at the Fort Monroe Authority's website (<http://www.fmauthority.com/>) .

In San Francisco work continues to obtain or fabricate the material they need for interpretation at Battery Townsley. On the other side of the Golden Gate the Doyle Drive/Presidio Parkway project continues to move forward and they are well into Phase 2 now. The southbound Battery Tunnel has been completed, and after the northbound one is done, there will be direct access to the cemetery batteries. I continue to get announcements regarding occasional highway and <http://www.presidioparkway.org/> .

The Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower have been continuing to raise money for the cleanup and preservation of the tower and also to ensure repairs to the exterior concrete necessary before the town can accept ownership. They are continuing to have open houses and will have a couple of more later this year. Further information can be found at the Friend's website at <http://www.friendsofpulпитrocktower.org/> .

If you have a Preservation issue, or for further information on any of the items I've mentioned, contact the Preservation Committee Chair, Gordon Bliss, at [preservation@cdsg.org](mailto:preservation@cdsg.org).

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### **Railroad Gun Rehabilitated at Fort Lee, VA**

Greg Hagge

After a long winter break, the refurbishment of M1895A1 gun No. 19 on M1918 12-inch gun railway carriage No. 20, at Ft. Lee, VA, has been completed. The contract was let last fall and was nearly done in November 2013, when work was halted by the environmental office. After much debate and hoop jumping, the contractor was able to complete the finishing touches May 28, 2014. The complete weapon was sand blasted to bare metal and the worst of the rust cleaned off. It was thoroughly primed and painted inside and out. The last paint job by the navy was likely sometime in the late 1950s-60s, and the gun was last fired in 1964. The original army green paint was visible inside the car under the loading platform.



Some minor restoration was done. Several missing stanchions were replaced; others that were bent have been straightened. The contractor also reproduced the chain box for the loading crane and manufactured an authentic muzzle cover. The finished product looks great and can be seen from SR 36 which passes through Ft. Lee. The gun can be viewed up close at any time on the Ordnance School campus. Access to Ft. Lee, VA, is



very easy, with just a photo ID for all passengers over 18 years of age. Also at Ft. Lee are the Quartermaster Museum and the U.S. Army Women's Museum. All are free to the public. M1895 gun No. 19 was built at Watervliet Arsenal and sent to Ft. Hamilton, NY. In 1918 it went to Marion Steam Shovel Company in Ohio, where it was modified to M1895A1 for use on a railway carriage. In 1920 it was mounted on an M1918 RR carriage as a one-of-a-kind weapon. For 22 years it was stored at APG with other RR guns, until it was transferred to the navy for use as a launcher for bomb aerodynamic studies in 1942. It was last used to project what became the "Bull Pup" air-launched missile. It remained at the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Dahlgren, VA, until returned to the army in 2011. One urban legend can be put to rest. Many had speculated that the M1895 gun tube had been modified by the navy for the test programs, bored out smooth or lined down to a smaller caliber, etc. All not true! Remarkably, the navy kept the breech well greased and the breech block is fully functional. Having opened the breech, the chamber and barrel are clear and unaltered, as manufactured by Watervliet Arsenal. The only modification noted is that the mushroom head spindle has been threaded to accept the navy firing mechanism.

The gun is now part of the Ordnance Training and Heritage Center (formerly the Aberdeen Proving Ground Ordnance Museum) collection. The BRAC program moved the Ordnance School from APG to Ft. Lee, VA in 2008-10. The Ordnance Museum is part of the school and moved with it to Ft. Lee. The permanent collection from Aberdeen has largely been dispersed, and at this point, there is no "Ordnance Museum" as such. It may be years before an Ordnance Museum is open to the public at Ft. Lee.

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### **Helicopter Mission**

Helen Hays

*Friends of Great Gull Island*  
Vol. 5, Number 2, February 2014

Melinda Billings and I arrived at Jim and Barbara Sorensen's in Ledyard, Connecticut April 15 planning to spend the night there, then head for Great Gull Island to prepare for the Connecticut Air National Guard bringing 29,000 pounds of lumber to the island. The lumber was dedicated to expanding areas where



Roseate Terns, an endangered species, would be able to nest by creating terraces and to build twenty blinds to observe the terraces as well as areas shared by Common and Roseate terns. We planned to have people on Great Gull Island as well as in Groton to help load and unload the lumber. The Air National Guard would carry the lumber by slings on pallets under a Chinook helicopter and fly it from Groton to Great Gull Island. Bob Kane, a Great Gull Island volunteer, calculated the weight of the different lengths of lumber and sent the total numbers of each length to the Air National Guard so they could calculate total weights for the multiple loads the helicopter would carry to move the 29,000 pounds of lumber.

Due to very windy weather we could not land on Great Gull Island April 16 and so returned to the Sorensen's, which became our command post for the next three days. We reached Great Gull Island April 18, the same day we received a contract from the Air National Guard which had to be signed by all parties in the agreement before the mission could proceed. By April 23 all signatures had been obtained and Major Ian Feyk called me at 3:00 pm to say the mission was on for Friday April 25!

I called Jeff Aldrich at Ring's End in Niantic who had been waiting for this moment since last fall. He directed Aaron Prior to pack the lumber and Alex Yatzook to deliver it to Groton, following the packing instructions they had received from the National Guard. When the lumber arrived the National Guard commented on how well it was packed and proceeded to put it on the pallets to be slung under the Chinook helicopter. Everything went smoothly and in the end the volunteers, waiting at the airport to help were not called upon, but we appreciated the fact they went to the Groton Airport to help if needed.

Suzanne Payton called me about 1:15 pm on April 25 from Groton to say the lumber would be on its way soon. She and Juliana Barrett both obtained grants that made it possible to fund the expansion of Roseate Tern nesting areas on Great Gull Island and they both were on hand at Groton to see the helicopter take off. Bud Bray, one of our new volunteers, called at 1:25 to say the helicopter with the lumber would take off in five minutes! At that point a black helicopter with a National Guard reporter,

Jordan Werme, circled the island. At about 1:30 the Chinook helicopter carrying 130 2 X 12's flew in from the south around the eastern end of the island and landed the lumber in a section of the island we call Middle Earth, just east of the headquarters gun emplacement.

It did not take long for the helicopter crew to detach the lumber and the Chinook took off returning with a second load at 2:00 pm and a third and final load at 2:30 pm.

The weekend of May 2-4 Lottie Prushinski heard terns at 4:40 am the morning of May 3. We had not seen terns when we arrived on the island the afternoon of May 2. Over 1500 birds came in the morning of May 3 and over 2,000 on May 4. These were early dates for so many individuals and we really felt the terns were pushing us!

Work on the island May 3 began at 8:00 am. Bud Bray had recruited professional carpenters: John Einbellig, Mark Einbellig and Jay Sullivan who volunteered their skills to work on the blinds. In two days they framed 15 and finished one by putting a floor in it. Bud also recruited four strong young men to help with the heavy lifting: Charles J. Satti, Shane Batista, Glen Piette and Damian "Dame Dash". They started by lifting fifty of the 2X12's off the pallet in Middle Earth and setting them out along the south side of the island where we would use them for terracing. Each of the 2 X12's weighed 79 lbs. By 9:00 am, Matthew Male and Rob Bareiss had started the tractor and Matthew moved the rest of the 2x12's to different terracing spots on the island. Volunteers moved about half the wood off two other pallets on Friday. On Saturday morning Boy Scout Troop 34 arrived and helped finish unloading the pallets, after they unloaded and stacked about a cord of wood for island use during the next two years. Charles Satti brought his saw and the power team cleared the backline to make it ready for terracing. Needless to say everyone was tired and ready to leave the island by Sunday.

On the weekend of May 9 - 11, we had a wonderful surprise, Bud Bray arrived with Jay Sullivan the professional carpenter, who had volunteered the preceding weekend and volunteered this weekend to cut wood for the Roseate houses. Peter Paton made an unexpected visit and brought his student Kevin Rogers who



will work on Great Gull later in the season. Jay cut lumber for the Roseate houses all day and Peter and Kevin, with help from Bud, nailed the houses together. Jay signed the roof of the last Roseate shelter nailed together by Peter and Dave. Bob Kane then loaded the houses on the tractor and distributed them. Together Jay, Peter, Kevin and Bud produced 80 Roseate shelters each with 6-7 compartments. Keep your fingers crossed that the Roseate Terns are as enthusiastic about them as we are!

I thank all the people mentioned above for their hard work in putting the Roseate terracing project together. I thank Suzanne Paton and Juliana Barrett for grants to support the terracing project. In addition I thank Smidgie Macphail for visiting the Groton airport before the lumber was lifted off and getting some good pictures and also for visiting Ring's End and getting pictures.



Judy Benson's articles in the New London Day were wonderful surprises and recently we have enjoyed Jordan Werme's article about the project and links to it. Many thanks to all of you who contributed your fine pictures for this article. They really make the article!

We all thank the Connecticut Air National Guard for undertaking this conservation mission. Needless to say it would not have been possible without you. Major General Martin, the Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard made the decision to undertake the mission. Colonel Scott A. Panagrosso corresponded with Suzanne Paton and Major Ian J. Feyk, Flight Operations Officer, spoke a number of times with me between April 15 and April 25. You undertook an exciting mission for us and I will let you know how the Roseate Terns react to our combined efforts at the end of the summer. Thank you again!

Finally, heartfelt thanks from all of us to George Main and his great lobster boats for getting us to Great Gull Island and back in April and early May. George, you and your mates took very good care of us – no wet feet. Matty Poitras has rebuilt the old scow which had a hole in it in the spring. He has painted it and can't wait for everyone to see it.

Picture Credits: Norman Lasca, John Walsh, George Main

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### News from Battery Townsley

John Martini  
June 2, 2014

National Park Service Volunteers Pat Martinez and Dan Pfankuch completed mounting an original Battery Townsley chain hoist and restoring it to operational condition.

The hoist had been "borrowed" by a 1950s GI stationed at Fort Cronkhite who took it home to Texas and used it in his home garage. The veteran later returned the hoist to Townsley when the battery was re-dedicated and opened to the public in 2007.

At that time, the hoist was missing its trolley wheels that allowed it to be rolled along the overhead rail system within the magazine rooms. For nearly seven years the dismantled hoist lay on the floor of the projectile magazine as a somewhat forlorn interpretive display.

Using historic photographs, Pat Martinez was able to locate two sets of trolley wheels and replicated their missing swivel brackets. Pat is an experience welder and steel worker, and his attention to detail was phenomenal. Together, Pat and Dan were able to



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### CDSG Logo Hats, Shirts & Patches

The CDSG is pleased to offer custom-made hats, T-shirts and patches to our membership. Wearing these hats, T-shirts and patches are a great way to make others aware of the CDSG and its goals. It is also an excellent way to promote new memberships in the CDSG.

The CDSG patches have been available for several years. Designed especially for the CDSG, these quality patches combine the Coast Artillery Corps and the Corps of Engineers symbols to reflect their involvement in U.S. coastal defenses. This logo is now on hats and a set of T-shirts which are great for showing the CDSG "flag."

To order your hat, T-shirt or patch, please complete the order form below and send it along with your check (made out to CDSG, Inc.) to Terry McGovern at 1700 Oak Lane, McLean, VA 22101-3326 USA (e-mail: tcmcgovern@att.net).

CDSG hats, T-shirts and patches ordering information

Black T-shirt with white ink:

Size & # \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_2XL \_\_\_3XL

Red T-Shirt with white ink:

Size & # \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_2XL \_\_\_3XL

Kaki T-Shirt with black ink:

Size & # \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_2XL \_\_\_3XL

Navy T-shirt with yellow ink:

Size & # \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL \_\_\_2XL \_\_\_3XL

Total Number: \_\_\_ times \$ \_\_\_ = Total \$ \_\_\_  
(domestic \$18/overseas \$26 each)

Patch: \_\_\_ times \$ \_\_\_ = Total \$ \_\_\_  
(domestic \$4/overseas \$6) each

Hats: \_\_\_ times \$ \_\_\_ = Total \$ \_\_\_  
(domestic \$20/overseas \$25) each

Be sure to include your name and shipping address.

You can also order online at <http://cdsg.org/shopping/>

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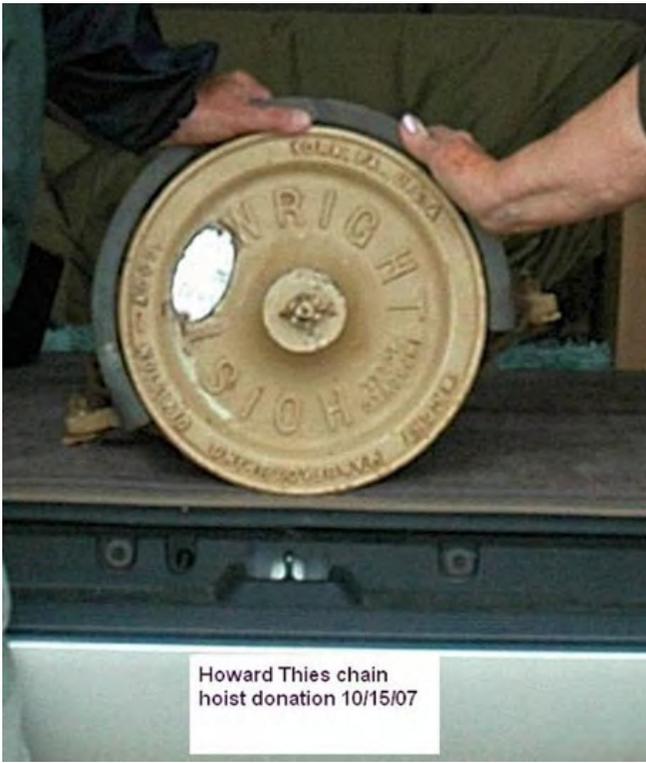
### The CDSG Fund

The CDSG Fund supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc., by raising funds to support preservation and interpretation efforts concerning seacoast defenses around the United States. The CDSG Fund is seeking tax-deductible donations for preservation projects around the United States consistent with the goals of the CDSG.

The CDSG Fund is always seeking proposals for the monetary support (up to \$500) of preservation and interpretation projects at public parks and museums. A one-page proposal briefly describing the site, the organization doing the work, the project to be done or supported, and how the money would be used, should be sent to Terry McGovern, Mark Berhow, or Sam Stokes.

Send donations and proposals to:

The CDSG Fund  
C/O Sam Stokes, Trustee  
P.O. Box 807, Bodega Bay, CA 94923-0807  
sestokes@sonic.net



reassemble the dollies, unsnarl the chains, and put the hoist back into fully operating condition. The completed assembly was set onto the overhead rails for display in the projectile magazine. For the first time in over 60 years, there's a fully operational trolley inside Battery Townsley.

Successfully completing the rehabilitation of an original piece of Townsley's history and setting it back into its original setting was hugely satisfying for all the volunteers involved. (Note: for safety purposes, the hoist will only be used for hoisting replica foam-filled projectiles, not actual rounds.)

The entire project would not have been possible without the permission and full support of the staff at the National Park Service's Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

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## Result of 2014 CDSG Election

The CDSG Teller reports the election of Alfred Chiswell as the next CDSG director. Mike Fiorini's term will end on October 1, 2014. Alfred's term will begin at that time and run for the next three years. Therefore, the directors for the next year will be Norm Scarpulla, Quentin Schillare, and Alfred Chiswell. They will select the Chairman of the Board for the coming year as well as Chairmen for all the committees. The CDSG Board of Directors thanks both Alex Hall and Alfred Chiswell for their willingness to serve the CDSG in this role. Next year's nominations committee will be Mike Fiorini (chair), Chris Zeeman, and Tom Kavanagh.

### Summary of the 2014 Member Survey Responses

Three questions posed to our membership via our 2014 election ballot gave members an opportunity to provide feedback to our Board of Directors. Here is a sample of responses. All responses were provided to the board for their review.

The first question was "How would you rate the CDSG's current publications and activities?". Sample responses are: CDSG publications are top notch – Look forward to receiving the *Journal* 4 times a year – We have on tap some very competent authors that contribute to the *Journal* – Allow me to read about the coast defense sites that are not within my geographical location. Hard for me to get time off from my job to attend activities – suggest yet again smaller 2 day seminars in the field for the non-retired crowd. Very Good. Excellent. Good. Am extremely satisfied with the quality of the publications. Very good. Excellent. Publications – good and Activities – Quite Pleased. I think they are of good quality, and well supported with drawings and photographs. Good – conference is key item. No complaints. Excellent. Good. Outstanding. As always, interesting, but always need more contributors. Excellent in all regards, but as with all things there is room for improvement. Good. Excellent. I can't see any way to improve on anything given the all-volunteer nature of the CDSG. Excellent – please do not go to an all digital format on pubs. Need regional CDSG meetings. I enjoy every issue of the *Journal*. I like the publications – I was just in Norway and really liked how interesting the 2013 Norway Tour reports were. Please offer the ASD3 in print as soon as possible. More preservation and work party activities. Publications and activities are first rate. Excellent job on both. BW and Mark are really dedicated pros. Excellent. Now that Bill has passed away the *Journal* should publish a collection of Bill Gaines's Harbor Defense series. New Website good. Publications are great! I can't say enough about the enthusiasm, abilities, and efforts of the officers and working members. Great! If we can only distribute these publications out to bookstores, etc., so the general public can purchase and learn what the organization is all about. The CDSG Press should publish a guide book on America's seacoast fortifications. The *CD Journal* is the best non-profit, volunteer publication hands down. I like the *Newsletter* and *Journal* very much. Quite good for an organization with only a few people/members who actually contribute. Ok – do tours every two years.

The second question was "What should be the future of the CDSG – more of the same or new goals/programs?": Sample responses are: We should be doing local seminars on coast defense subjects – We should be printing local field guides for all the forts in the continental United States. We should be the go-to source of all things coast defense related in the United States. The current goals & programs are well founded and valid. The Board should be open to suggestions from the field for new or enhanced programs but I have none to propose. More of the same – at least until we get more members who are willing to take on more responsibilities. More of the same with a few new programs. Perhaps CDSG could plan more regional "mini-conferences," that way CDSG members could meet more often and build personal/professional/topical relationships. New programs good, but "more of the same" lets new members learn from old members just as we old guns learned from old guys when we joined. Continue present programs and expand. More of the same. Perhaps improve the website, make publications orderable via online and/or downloadable rather than on a mailed CD/DVD, more representation at sites to steer people to website for more info, etc. Some of both. Would like to see more photographs in publications, possibly a formal photo book/CD of each of the harbor defense sites. Hold the course. More of the same – recognize that a 400 person organization can only do so much. Color photos, more local meeting, better writing – articles are wordy, boring, and humorless. More of the same. About the same – I am getting old. Increased emphasis on recruiting and fostering new members. Coast defense site owner database needed. Preservation and membership. What happened to the Representative/Outreach committee? Membership growth – get today's site owners to join. Preservation and growth. Consider expanding more from the core brick/stone/concrete. The same, but with a special emphasis on reaching out for new members. I would like to see more active participation by the membership. Then and now photo books on coast defense installations. Continue what we do and focus on building membership and site representative program. More emphasis on preservation and education. The BOD should work more closely with the CDSG Representative program. Require each member to recruit one new member each year. The CDSG has failed to reach out to the owners of former coast defense sites - we need to educate those owners on the historic value and need to preserve these structures - We need a program directed at those hundred or so owners!! Formation of local CDSG chapters to assist in "care and feeding" of sites would be great. CDSG should try to gain more members so that we can have more impact on preservations issues. Investigate the possibility of the CDSG winning grants from foundations to expand its impact and reach. More advertising for new members and more efforts to preserve former coast defense sites. I echo the plans to encourage new members and hope that CDSG will be successful – Perhaps new and younger members with technical preservation skills (masonry, carpentry, etc.) should be recruited. Increase participation with living history and preservation groups.

The third question was "Where should the CDSG hold its future conferences and special tours – and would you organize one?". Sample responses are: As always, conference to San Fran-

cisco would be great. Tours to Turkey, Bermuda, and Panama. Continue present process. Conferences to be held as per current plan of revisiting sites in same order as previously – Suggested special tours: Newfoundland, Gaspé, New Brunswick, Dutch Harbor, Prince Rupert. Chesapeake Bay area. I would love some West Coast stuff, but that's mainly because that's where I am located – I would love to help organize conference to Columbia River. Keep cycle we have now – Watch we don't become sub-FSG w/ tours – Keep tours to US stuff. Hawaii. Wish I could get around well enough to do it! I have not attended an annual conference but may go to the regional conferences should they happen. Continue the 20-year cycle or continue it the main 15 HD, giving up some of the smaller sites or merging them into another tour. Eastern Long Island and Southern New England. Delaware River – yes. More tours – Panama and Alaska. Conference – New York. Tour to Latin America. Delaware/NJ area, Hawaii, and Bermuda. Hawaii would be good. Perhaps some of the inland River forts. I am looking forward to one in Southern California. Late April – May dates better than late March. Conferences to LA/San Diego and Puerto Rico. Set the conferences in an order then ask for volunteers. If unavailable skip to next one on the list. The forts of Bermuda I hear are nice - Tour to Florida – Fort Clinch, St John's Bluff, Saint Augustine, etc. plus Tampa. The CDSG should hold a tour to Panama - We have been or will be to Manila Bay four times since our tour to the Canal Zone in 1993. We should include a work party during every CDSG conference so we can put our back where our mouth is on the preservation of fort sites. With certain minor adjustments, repeat annual conference sequence. Make sure to mix East Coast and West Coast and large and small defenses - No repeats within 10 years. What happened to the tour to the defenses of Australia and New Zealand? Annual meetings in no particular order, just spread them out geographically (west coast every 5 years). I would like to see another CDSG conference at Fort Stevens and the HD of Columbia River. Channel Island tour would be great. I would be willing to co-host a HD of NY tour for Forts Tilden, Wadsworth, Jay, Hancock, and Totten in 2016 – Let's discuss.

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### **Members' donations closing in on our challenge goal for Battery Lewis' 16-inch/50 caliber barrel**

Monmouth County Park System, New Jersey  
Terrance McGovern, Trustee

The CDSG Fund has challenged our membership to match its \$1,500 donation to The Friends of the Parks for the Monmouth County Park System, NJ, to help them restore Battery Lewis and transport a 16-inch/50 barrel from St. Julien Creek Naval Annex to the battery. Since February 2014, members have donated \$1,375 towards this project but we need more donations to reach the \$1,500 challenge goal. Over the past two years the CDSG Fund has donated funds from our members to help several 16-inch/50 barrels find good homes.

We provided \$3,000 to the Fort Miles Historical Association to help them to move a barrel to Cape Henlopen, DE, from St. Julien Creek and also provided \$3,000 to help move a barrel to the USFWS at Cape Charles, VA. We want to do the same for The Friends of the Parks for the Monmouth County Park System, NJ. Having a 16-inch barrel in the gun casemate will give visitors a better understanding of the function of these massive structures. Your donation can make this happen. Remember your gift is the CDSG Fund is tax-deductible for federal tax purposes and 100% of your gift will go to the Battery Lewis 16-inch/50 Project (please indicate this purpose on your check). Please send your check, payable to the CDSG Fund, as soon as possible as the CDSG Fund will match your gift dollar-for-dollar up to \$1,500. Your check should be mailed to Sam Stokes at P.O. Box 807, Bogeda Bay, CA 94923-0807 USA. You can also make a donation via the CDSG website at [cdsg.org](http://cdsg.org).



Battery Lewis, Hartshorne Woods Park



Remaining five 16-inch/50 barrels at St. Julien Creek Naval Annex.

We continue the task of finding good homes for the remaining four barrels (three off the USS *New Jersey* and one off the USS *Iowa*) to take on the financial and organizational effort to move a 16-inch/50 barrel to their site. The US Navy has proposed a November 1, 2014, deadline for this effort. We need your help in finding organizations that will take barrel and give it a good home and we need to do it now. Please let Terry McGovern know at 703/934-3661 or [tcmgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmgovern@att.net) if you have a good home in mind for these 16-inch/50 barrels.

\* \* \*

### Support the CDSG.ORG Website

The CDSG supports its web site ONLY through donations. If you download PDF files from the website, please help the CDSG continue to maintain it by donating a shareware fee. The suggested fees will be noted next to each PDF document. We suggest a minimum donation of \$5.00. Thank you for supporting the CDSG web site!



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