## USS Yorktown CG-48 Reunion July 5-8, 2018 Knoxville, TN

## YKTN Bulletin (4): November, 2017

## **Guest Speaker**

Did you record that amazing presentation at the 2014 reunion about Ms. Mary, the USS Yorktown's ship's sponsor? No! I thought you did? I didn't! Hey you over there with the



smartphone ... did you record the presentation? Huh? .... Ahhh.... Nope! *Oy Vey!!!!!* Do not fear, the great presenter Dr. Frances Holt will be at the 2018 reunion! We goofed in 2014 by not capturing this informative presentation, but we will "*get-er-done*" this time! Dr. Holt was Ms. Mary's confidant and best friend, and she has an amazing story to share about our Ship's Sponsor. Go to the history page and learn more about Ms. Mary Mathews, an amazing lady and patriot:

https://ussyorktowncg48association.org/history.

Of note, Dr. Holt also intervened and stopped the officials of York County, VA from selling off the ship's history at auction. The famous "*Tin Man*" created by R-Division, signed by numerous Plankowners and displayed in Ms. Mary's restaurant for years was slated to become a lawn ornament for the highest bidder! Nevertheless, Dr. Holt prevailed by negotiating the recovery of the statue in honor of her friend Ms. Mary, and the ship and crew she loved! Dr. Holt will be a guest speaker at the reunion on Friday evening July 9, 2018, see agenda for details: <a href="https://ussyorktowncg48association.org/agenda">https://ussyorktowncg48association.org/agenda</a>.

## Who is Dr. Frances Holt? A leader, champion, and pioneer in Naval Ordnance Management

Dr. Frances Goodwin Holt is a native of Apex, North Carolina. She attended North Carolina State University, studied chemistry and science, and graduated in 1962 with highest honors as one of ten female students among 1200 graduates. Dr. Holt was hired by Dow Chemical Company as a research chemist and head of the microscopy laboratory for polymer research. She performed significant research on imaging fiber surfaces and coagulation processes, and she wrote several technical publications. She continued her education, earning a master's degree in Management



Engineering from George Washington University, and a doctorate from the College of William and Mary in public administration and higher education.

Dr. Holt began her Federal career in 1966 as a chemist for the Naval Mine Engineering Facility in Yorktown, Virginia. For the next 48 years, she served in progressively more challenging positions within the naval ordnance community:

- Test Engineering Department and Head, Engineering Department of the Naval Mine Warfare Engineering Activity;
- Technical Director for the Weapons Quality Engineering Center of the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown;
- Deputy to the Commanding Officer of the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown; and
- Deputy to the Director of Combat Systems, Field Operations, and the Ordnance Support Group of Naval Sea Systems Command.

In 2000, Dr. Holt supported efforts to consolidate naval ordnance programs, which led to her selection as the Executive Director for the Naval Ordnance Center's Atlantic Division. From 2003-2006, she led and began merging successor organizations responsible for the Atlantic Fleet's ordnance operations. In 2006, Dr. Holt's vision and leadership established the Navy Munitions Command (NMC), which provides worldwide ordnance support to fleet forces. Dr. Holt was appointed Director of NMC, and served until her retirement from civil service in 2014.

Dr. Holt is a pioneer in the field of Fleet Ordnance Support, and the first female to hold each position she had during her career. She is a tireless advocate for the advancement of women in the civil service and served as role model and mentor to countless civilian and military personnel. Dr. Holt's has been recognized for superior leadership and managerial efficacy throughout her career. She has made, and continues to make, significant contributions to numerous civic, nonprofit and commercial organizations and associations.

Today, Dr. Holt is the Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operations Officer of Technology Commercialization Center, Inc. She is married to Hugh Milton Holt, a retired NASA Senior Executive, and they live in Williamsburg, VA and Apex, North Carolina.