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PRESS RELEASE

FLEET WEEK SAN DIEGO SELECTS NEW 2009 BOARD MEMBERS

SAN DIEGO, March 10, 2009: Fleet Week San Diego is proud to introduce the new board members who join an already distinguished roster of community leaders and military supporters. The board is responsible for all executive decisions related to upholding the mission of Fleet Week and all of the Fleet Week events, which honor and celebrate the men and women of the military. The newest Fleet Week board members are:

2009 Chairman – VADM Jim Zortman (USN, Ret.)
2009 President – VADM Pete Hekman (USN, Ret.)
2009 Vice President – John Pettitt
2009 Treasurer – Henry Johnson
2009 Secretary – Jim Bedinger
Joe Craver – President, American Red Cross
Pete Hedley – President, Galaxie Defense Marketing Services
Aimee Heim – Manager of Government Relations & Business Planning, General Dynamics - NASSCO
Jim Phillion
Cathy Spetter – Regional Marketing Manager, Navy Federal Credit Union

Most notably, the incoming Chairman and President are responsible for overseeing board members, organizing board meetings and for the overall success of the 2009 Fleet Week events. Please read on for more information about the 2009 Chairman and 2009 President, Jim Zortman and Pete Hekman.

About Jim Zortman – 2009 Chairman

Jim Zortman is sector vice president, Global Sustainment at Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems headquartered in El Segundo, California. Supporting sector strategy of “design anywhere, build anywhere, he provides sector-level leadership of the full spectrum of logistics and product support functions. He is responsible for ensuring that the same excellence in integration now represented in design and production at Aerospace Systems is fully exploited in anticipation and fulfillment of product support requirements.

Previously, Zortman joined Northrop Grumman in January 2008 following a distinguished career in the U.S. Navy, where he ultimately attained the rank of vice admiral. In his most recent assignment, he served as Commander Naval Air Forces and CEO, Naval Aviation Enterprise. He has earned the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (4), and the Bronze Star.

Zortman earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and completed a fellowship in strategic studies with the Naval War College. In addition, he

has completed courses in executive business and strategic planning at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and the University of North Carolina Business School at Chapel Hill, respectively.

About Pete Hekman – 2009 President

Peter M. Hekman retired from active naval service in 1991 with the permanent rank of Vice Admiral. He has been residing in San Diego and remains active as a Private Consultant in both management and technical matters to a variety of firms and organizations since 1999. He actively participates in both leadership and participatory roles with the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, in Civic and cultural organizations, as a Director of Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) and as a Director of the six-state Southwest Defense Alliance (SWDA)

Hekman is a life member of the American Society of Naval Engineers and the recipient of that Society's most prestigious award – the H. E. Saunders Award for Career-long contributions to operational engineering, technical excellence, and personal leadership in the broad field of naval engineering. In addition to numerous awards stemming from his military service, which includes the Bronze Star Medal, four awards of the Presidential Legion of Merit, and the Defense Department Superior Service Award and Medal.

He holds a Master of Science in Management degree and is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and the Navy's Nuclear Power Training Program. Peter is a native of Ripon, Calif.

Fleet Week San Diego is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation. In addition to honoring the military services through the annual Fleet Week events, the foundation's goals are to foster awareness of the contributions made by enlisted military personnel and their families, to enhance relationships between the civilian, business and military communities, to provide events that Military personnel and their families can attend at little or no cost, and to raise funds for charitable efforts benefiting enlisted service members and their families. For more information, or for a complete listing of all of the Fleet Week events, please visit www.fleetweeksandiego.org.

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