

Two Ship Trip – Richmond Navy League - 19 April 2018

Aircraft Carrier USS GERALD R FORD and hospital ship USNS COMFORT

Richmond Navy League members and guests attended one of the best tours ever at Naval Station Norfolk. This was made possible by special people. First of all, we appreciate the Public Affairs Officers and Specialists who organized this with us.



Once aboard, the crews of both ships were outstanding. The level of enthusiasm and generosity of time spent with us was exceptional. Tours of the FORD hangar bay, flight deck, tribute room, and flight control “ouija board” room were made even more special by a visit from the Executive Officer. The ships crew was busy with many activities, including a fire alarm that chased some of us out of the ship’s store. More meaningful was not a purchased hat, but a memorable day aboard a 1100 foot-long gray leviathan filled with living and working sailors.

After lunch at the NEX, our private tour moved on to Military Sealift Command’s hospital ship USNS COMFORT. Beginning in the wardroom, the ship’s Master, Captain Murrin gave us safety instructions. Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) Commanding Officer Buckley reviewed many of humanitarian missions accomplished by the ship and its crew. He and other medical staff personally led us on extended tours of the operating rooms, intensive care units, and helicopter deck. Plans are underway for one of the MTF COs to be our summer luncheon guest speaker on 13 June.