



Milwaukee – USS Des Moines Historic Naval Ship Project, Inc.

Post Office Box 144
Greendale, Wisconsin 53129-0144



“Freedom Is Not Free”

CAPT Richard F. Caswell, CEC, USNR (Ret) – President, Board of Director Member

Richard Caswell graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1958 with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering Degree granted with Distinction and later earned a Mechanical Engineering Master of Science Degree while a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

CAPT Caswell served as a Naval Midshipman on the USS Des Moines (CA-134) in 1957. He was commissioned as an Ensign in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps on 25 June 1958. After two years of active duty with the Ninth Naval District Public Works Office at Great Lakes, Illinois for which he was responsible for the operation of the District Motor Pool, he returned to civilian life and started his Naval Reserve Career. In 1969, CAPT Caswell volunteered for active duty with the navy and served as the Public Works Officer during two Deep Freeze deployments to the Antarctic with the Antarctic Support Activities. Transferring to the Naval Construction Battalion Center at Davisville, Rhode Island in 1971, he served as Technical Officer. Returning to the inactive Naval Reserve in 1973, he served in various billets, commanding as many as 2,000 and planned mobilization and training for 18,000 Reserve Seabees. He retired from the Naval Reserve on 30 September 1985.

In his civilian career, Capt. Caswell worked in responsible design engineering positions including Senior Development Engineer, Chief Engineer and Engineering Manager.

He retired on 31 August 2000 and lives with his wife Darlene in Greendale, Wisconsin. He is currently serving as the President of the Milwaukee – USS Des Moines Historic Naval Ship Project, Inc whose mission is to bring the Navy's Heavy Cruiser USS Des Moines (CA-134) permanently to Milwaukee as a historic naval ship.

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