

*Texas Navy Brotherhood of Admirals Induct a
New Member ... And Honor a Chili Legend,
Ed "Chill Lee" Paetzel*



As a crowd gathered on the Military Plaza of the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, there was a look of curiosity and puzzlement on their faces. The gentlemen wearing yachting garb certainly looked dignified and there seemed to be an air of solemnity when bugler Bill Smallwood sounded the start of the ceremony with military precision. What was up? Senior Admiral of the Brotherhood of Admirals of Admirals of the Texas Navy, Duke Walton orchestrated a series of events, as Admiral Kevin Paetzel read the Proclamation of Grandest Importance and presented Dr. Ben Bradshaw, distinguished professor of demography at the University of Texas, San Antonio with his commissioning papers from Texas Governor Rick Perry, appointing him as an Admiral in the Texas Navy. Dr. Bradshaw was duly welcomed into the "Brotherhood

of Admirals”, a small and non-elite, pro active group within the membership of Texas Admirals as well! A surprise presentation was made to Saralyn Walton, awarding her the coveted “Yellow Rose of Texas” designation, also signed by the Governor, for all her good deeds to and for the citizens of our great state! This award was presented by Janie Burruss and Johnye Harriman, former executive director of the Chili Appreciation Society International, a nationwide group that raises money for local charities from the proceeds of chili cook-offs!

Finally, under the thoughtful direction of Admiral Duke “Ducky” Walton, the attending Admirals, guests, and attentive onlookers paid tribute to Senior Admiral Ed “Chili Lee” Paetzel, founder of the Brotherhood of Admirals. Famous (or near famous) cowboy poet, Walt Perryman read an original poem in honor of Ed. There was humor and pathos in his tome and the people “lightened up”, even though they didn’t know anything about the gentleman he was talking about! They had to figure he was special. Both of ’em!



Ed “Chili Lee” Paetzel