



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 25 ISSUE 5

Glenn Wiltshire, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

MAY 2014

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

JUNIOR OFFICERS' PARTY

MAY DINNER SOCIAL

JOIN US IN SHOWING OUR
SUPPORT OF OUR MILITARY

FLEET WEEK 2014
JUNIOR OFFICERS' RECEPTION

Tuesday, April 29, 2014
6:00 – 9:00 PM

Briny's Irish Pub Restaurant
305 South Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale
(Las Olas Riverfront on the New River)
www.brinyirishpubs.com/riverfront

Two free drinks for military guests
in uniform

Cash bar for civilians

Free Buffet for all

Entertainment

For additional information, email
browardnavyleague@gmail.com or contact Erwin Sefton
at 954-868-2107

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Cocktail hour 6:30pm Dinner 7:15 pm

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale,

Guest Speaker
Tim Lewis

TSA Deputy Federal Security Director
Miami International Airport (MIA)

Mr. Lewis will speak to us about his current
challenges providing aviation security at MIA
as well as his Air Force experiences

Dinner Selections
Prime Rib
Baked Boston Scrod

Members and Guests - \$35
Active Military and Spouses: \$25

Please RSVP your dinner choice on or
before May 1 by e-mailing
browardnavyleague@gmail.com or
calling Joan at 561-336-3610

E-MAIL - browardnavyleague@gmail.com - Visit our Web Site - www.bcnnavyleague.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My thanks to all that were able to make it to our April joint dinner meeting with the Fort Lauderdale Council at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club that featured Captain Austin Gould, US Coast Guard Sector Miami Commander, as guest speaker. We learned about all the missions that the Sector carries out, including the challenges of intercepting illegal migrants trying to enter South Florida by boat from the Bahamas and hearing current information about an oil spill in the Port of Miami entrance channel that occurred the night before but didn't get much media attention. We also welcomed back Connie Christensen as a Council member and new member Fran Messina, whose son serves aboard the USS GEORGE H. W. BUSH. I received a number of positive comments from their Council members about the joint meeting format and have been working with Lynn Drucker to schedule a joint meeting that we host. We also held a great Easter Egg Hunt for Coast Guard families on Saturday, April 12th at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. While I couldn't be there due to a conflict with the Florida Region meeting in Tampa that same day, the photos on our website and Facebook page tell the story. A special thanks to Shelley Beck for organizing the event and to the other members that helped out. While you're checking the photos on our Facebook page, also take a look at the recent videos and photos from our two adopted US Navy ships, the USS BATAAN and USS LEYTE GULF; great job Marianne!

Our next dinner meeting will be on Thursday, May 8th at Tropical Acres, and our guest speaker will be Tim Lewis, Col. USAF Retired. Tim is currently the Deputy Federal Security Director for the Transportation Security Administration at Miami International Airport, and was previously the Federal Security Director at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. Prior to joining TSA, Tim retired from the US Air Force after spending much of his career supporting Special Operations units. I hope you will join us for what will be a very interesting speaker.

As noted, I attended the Florida Region Navy League meeting led by Florida Region President Skip Witunski on April 11th and 12th in Tampa. The meeting was held at the Grant Hyatt Tampa Bay near Tampa International Airport, the location of the 2015 National Convention. The focus of the meeting was to nominate the slate of National Officers and Directors from Florida (including Rudy Oetting, Simone Ramos, and Chuck Black from the Fort Lauderdale Council), hear about best practices for membership recruitment and retention being used by Councils throughout the state, and to discuss local concerns with the current direction of the National organization and the limited information available on proposed changes to the National By-Laws that will be considered at the National Convention in June in San Diego; one of the proposals would reduce the number of National Directors. Bill Waylett, Senior Director of Regional Activities, also attended and provided some good information for Council Board members. Lynn Drucker was also recognized as the Florida Council President of the Year for 2013.

Fleet Week 2014 is now here, and the results of months of planning and hard work by Broward Navy Days and the numerous other volunteer organizations (including many members from our Council) will be shown as we welcome the USS NEW YORK, USCGC DEPENDABLE, and USCGC BERNARD C WEBBER to Port Everglades. I hope that you will come out to the Junior Officer Party on Tuesday, April 29th at Briny's Pub that our Council is hosting, as well as the numerous other events. Our Council will also be setting up a booth during the week to sell water and soda to the ship visitors as well as to tell them about the Navy League; thank you again to our members who volunteered to assist.

Finally, there are a few other events coming up to get on calendars. LT Paul Turner will be relieved by LT Mark Ketchum at the Change of Command at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale on Friday, May 2nd, and long time Council supporter CAPT Rick Kenin will be retiring on Friday, May 23rd, at USCG Air Station Miami. Let me know if you didn't get an invitation to attend either of these events and I will forward one to you. While invitations aren't out yet, please add our adopted unit USCG Air Station Miami Change of Command on July 2nd to your calendar.

As always, please feel free to contact me at 718-619-7402 or at wiltbrit@aol.com if you have any ideas on what our Council should be doing to make your membership more valuable to you.



Glenn Wiltshire
CAPT, US Coast Guard Retired
Broward County Council President



Council challenge coins will also be sold at the Council's booth at Port Everglades during Fleet Week. They are also available to any Council member for \$10 each; email the Council if interested.

GUEST SPEAKER



Tim Lewis
Deputy Federal Security
Director
Miami International Airport

Tim Lewis is the Transportation Security Administration's Deputy Federal Security Director for Miami International Airport. Selected for this position in July 2013, he supports the Federal Security Director (FSD) in leading over 1,500 security profes-

sionals providing security services to all transportation modes in Miami-Dade County.

From 2007-2013, Mr. Lewis served as the FSD for Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood and Key West International Airports.

Previously, Mr. Lewis was the Senior Security Policy Advisor for in the office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

Prior to retirement from the Air Force in 2003, Mr. Lewis was the commander of all specially qualified strategic airlift and air refueling units under a Joint Special Operations Task Force. Mr. Lewis led the Task Force during Operation Iraqi Freedom commanding combat operations to austere sites throughout Iraq and the Baghdad airport from a forward base on the Iraqi border.

From 2000-2001, Mr. Lewis commanded an aviation Wing and Air Base in Kuwait. He was responsible for security and combat operations including airlift, Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle missions, and a Command and Control radar unit.

From 1998-2000, Mr. Lewis was the Chief, Programs and Requirements Division on DoD's Joint Staff, Combating Terrorism Directorate. He also served as the Executive Assistant for the JCS J-3, Director of Operations.

From 1988-1998 he served in and commanded two squadrons under our Nation's most elite Special Operations command. He was an instructor and evaluator pilot leading "Black-World" Special Operations. Mr. Lewis retired with over 6000 flying hours and attained Flight Examiner status in five different operational aircraft.

Mr. Lewis has a BS degree in Military History from the US Air Force Academy. He was a Distinguished Graduate in his MA degree and was a Distinguished Graduate from the Air Force Squadron Officer's School. He was his class's Top Graduate in the elite Combat Aircrew Training School. Mr. Lewis received TSA's Leadership Award in 2012 and the 2012 South Florida Federal Executive Board's Leadership Award for Combined Federal Campaign support.

Mr. Lewis is married with two children and three grandchildren. He enjoys his family and fishing.

HONORING THE MILITARY

On April 9, President Glenn Wiltshire participated in presentation of the Enlisted Person of the Quarter (EPOQ) and Enlisted Person of the Year (EPOY) awards at Coast Guard Air Station Miami. Persons in the photo from left to right are SK2 Trevor Fleischer (EPOQ), SK1 Giovanni Beltran (EPOY 2013), HS3 Miranda Mobley (EPOQ) and Glenn Wiltshire.



U S SOUTHERN COMMAND

Members of our Council attended Fort Lauderdale Council's February dinner social where they heard Rear Admiral Daniel Fillion, Director of Plans, Strategy and Policy at US Southern Command, give a briefing on the general state of affairs in the area of responsibilities of the command. He emphasized the serious challenges being faced in the region. He noted that even in this difficult environment, the men and women (military and civilians) of Southern Command are executing the policies in place to accomplish the mission of "Partnership with The Americas" and to keep our nation safe from all the threats in the region.



Above: RADM Fillion, LCDR Alan Starr and Shelley Beck
Left: RADM Fillion and Council President Glenn Wiltshire



ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

The Council hosted its annual Easter Egg Hunt and BBQ for Coast Guard personnel and their families on April 12. The event was held at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale where there was a bounce house, face painting and a coloring contest to entertain the children. Council members Bob Marks and Charlie Schmidt did an awesome job handling the grill. A special thanks goes to our community affiliate, Ship's Supply, for making a generous donation which was used to purchase the food. Thanks also to Station personnel for providing the Easter bunny and to Shelley Beck for coordinating the event! Prizes were given out to contest winners and each child went home with 2 prizes of their choice. Below are photos of many of those who were there to enjoy the day!



APRIL JOINT DINNER SOCIAL

On April 16, Council members joined Fort Lauderdale Council members at Coral Ridge Yacht Club and heard a very entertaining yet informative presentation given by Captain Austin Gould. Captain Gould is the Commander of Coast Guard Sector Miami. Colors were presented by the Spruance Division Sea Cadets. The group got to meet and welcome Cdr Michael Long who will be replacing Captain James Pruet as Deputy Commander at Sector Miami.



Captain Gould was presented with gifts from Council President Glenn Wiltshire (left) and Fort Lauderdale Council President Lynn Drucker (below)



Above: L to R: George Reeves, Captain Pruet, CDR Long and Oscar Romano

Left: Mary Anne Gray (Broward Navy Days) and Trish Pruet



Below: CDR Long with Diane and Charlie Schmidt



Above: Spruance Division Sea Cadets with Lcdr Alan Starr
Below: Council welcomed back member Connie Christensen shown with George Reeves



FLEET WEEK 2014



APRIL 28— MAY 5

Come out and meet the crews of the USS New York, the USCG Cutter Dependable and the USCGC Bernard Webber.

The following is a listing of some of the events that are open to the general public. Events are free unless otherwise designated. We encourage you to attend these events to show your support of our military men and women.

Monday, April 28 6 PM – 8 PM
ALL HANDS ON DECK WELCOMING PARTY
Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino
Paradise Shops Courtyard
1 Seminole Way, Hollywood No Ticket/RSVP required

Tuesday, April 29 7:30 AM – 3 PM
FLEET WEEK PORT EVERGLADES GOLF CLASSIC*
Fort Lauderdale Golf & Country Club
415 Country Club Circle, Plantation
*You can enjoy a day of golf with our active duty service members as well as prizes, a silent auction and buffet luncheon. For more information on the golf classic, contact event chair Pete Swanson at 954-821-2867.

Tuesday, April 29 6 PM – 9 PM
JUNIOR OFFICER PARTY No Ticket/RSVP required
Briny Irish Pub & Restaurant (Las Olas Riverfront)
305 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

Wednesday, April 30 11 AM – 1:30 PM
SALUTE TO VETERANS No Ticket/RSVP required
Independence Hall
1629 NE 26th Street, Wilton Manors
Guest speaker Captain Christopher Brunett, USS New York; event includes a BBQ lunch. This event connects yesterday's veterans with today's generation of heroes. It gives civilians and active duty service members an opportunity to mingle and visit with veterans.

Thursday, May 1 5:30 PM – 8 PM
ENLISTED PERSON OF THE YEAR RECEPTION*
Hosted by the Fort Lauderdale Council Navy League
Blue Martini, 2432 E Sunrise Blvd, Fort Lauderdale
\$50 per person; \$25 for military Tickets available on ftlnavyleague.org

SATURDAY, MAY 3RD, 6 PM – 9 PM
GALLEY WARS COMPETITION *
Hugh's Culinary, 4351 NE 12th Terrace, Oakland Park
\$100 per person (\$75 for Broward Navy Days members)
This competition pits teams against each other in a timed contest to see who can prepare the best food using a surprise ingredient (similar to the Food Network's Iron Chef show). Tickets available on browardnavydaysinc.org

COAST GUARD GALA

The South Florida Coast Guard Officers Association hosted its annual Coast Guard Gala on April 5 at the Miami Marriot Biscayne Bay. The event was attended by several Council members. Shown in the photo are board member LCDR Alan Starr and his wife Roz.



SILVER KNIGHT AWARD



James Lee, grandson of Dorothy Porges and the late Jay Porges, has been featured in the Council's newsletter several times for his care package project. James has been sending DVDs and CDs to the USS Leyte Gulf as well as to deployed Marines. James attends Cardinal Gibbons High School and he was nominated for the Silver Knight Award as a result of his efforts.

The Miami Herald Silver Knight Awards is one of the nation's most highly regarded student awards programs. The purpose of this Awards program is to recognize outstanding students who have not only maintained good grades but have also unselfishly applied their special knowledge and talents to contribute significant service to their schools and communities. The Silver Knight Awards program is open to 12th-grade students in public, private and parochial schools in Miami-Dade and Broward counties with a minimum 3.2 unweighted GPA. The Silver Knight Awards program was instituted at The Miami Herald in 1959 by John S. Knight, past publisher of The Miami Herald, founder and editor emeritus of Knight-Ridder Newspapers and 1968 Pulitzer Prize winner.

The Council will also recognize James with a certificate and Council challenge coin.

BOCA RATON COUNCIL

Members of the Council attended the Boca Delray Council's dinner dance on April 13th. The event was held in conjunction with the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society and was held at the Deer Creek Country Club in Deerfield Beach. Music was provided by Michael Masci.



Above: Joe and Marianne Giambrone

Below: Shelley Beck with Julie and George Herring of Boca Council. Shelley was the lucky raffle winner of the beautiful orchid on the table



MILITARY MUSEUM

The following is an excerpt from a story titled "Restoring South Florida's Fading Military Memory" which appeared in the Miami Herald on March 26, 2014.

It's hard to remember that there was a time during World War II when South Florida was a major training ground for the U.S. military. Air wing troops bivouacked at Miami Beach hotels and trained on the golf courses. The Army drilled up and down Biscayne Boulevard, while the Navy had a submarine chaser school at what we now call Bayside Marketplace. Out on the edge of the Everglades, a blimp base near today's Zoo Miami sent sailors out over the ocean to hunt down German U-boats. The base was called Naval Air Station Richmond, and it housed three gargantuan blimp hangars and a federalist-style white shiplap headquarters — a peculiarly un-Floridian-style

MILITARY MUSEUM cont'd

building where in the '60s CIA agents covertly hatched ham-handed plots to oust Fidel Castro from power in Cuba. Now, a nonprofit group bankrolled by county funds is working to make South Florida's mostly forgotten military history more than a fading memory. It's seeking a \$3 million commitment from the state Legislature to transform the old blimp headquarters into the Military Museum of South Florida. And the ambitious \$7 million project is in a race against time to pay homage to America's Greatest Generation, the World War II veterans, before the memory disappears entirely.

"World War II veterans are dying fast," says Miami historian Arva Moore Parks, who as a child saw them as soldiers marching on Biscayne Boulevard. "There were other installations around Miami," she adds, "but the blimp base itself was extremely important." Enter Anthony Atwood, a retired U.S. Navy yeoman, a historian in his own right and the driving force behind the nonprofit project whose current fate lies in the hands of the state. Part pitchman, 100 percent patriot, Atwood is so passionate about South Florida's military history — and the blimp base in particular — that the obscure is suddenly interesting and the distant past has immediate relevance.

The future military museum was moved as a shell to its current site alongside the Gold Coast Railroad Museum in 2010. Rail cars came and then went with the blimps. But the building, smack in the middle of 2,000 acres of mostly empty land, found its Cold War purpose as "the largest CIA base south of Langley," the agency's Virginia headquarters. It was codenamed JM-Wave and, according to Atwood, when carpenters stripped the building, they found wire mesh planted in the walls to deflect electronic surveillance — and a secret door fashioned like a window on one side. South Florida's role as a major military outpost ended overnight at the blimp base, where today workers are pounding together the future Military Museum of South Florida as a place, says Atwood, whose message will be "not blood and thunder" but "service and sacrifice."

Miami-Dade County has contributed \$3 million to move the dilapidated former 12,000-square-foot building to its current location, on a former blimp landing strip, where workers are now restoring it to modern safety standards. The state has so far kicked in \$500,000, and the Legislature is considering a proposal to contribute \$3 million to complete the work. If the state agrees, Atwood anticipates at least a partial opening by Christmas to whet the public's historical appetite.



SEA SERVICE NEWS



Juanita Collins was presented with the 2014 Coast Guard Military Child of the Year award at the sixth annual Operation Homefront gala in Arlington, Virginia on April 10. Juanita is

class president, varsity volleyball captain, athlete-scholar, a capella singer, hospice volunteer and Sunday school teacher and the daughter of Coast Guard chief petty officer Tafaoga Collins of Air Station Clearwater. From a pool of nearly 1,000 nominees, each award recipient was chosen by a committee including active duty and retired military personnel, spouses of senior military leaders, veteran service organization leadership, teachers and community members. In addition to the trip to our nation's capital, recipients are awarded a laptop and a \$5,000 cash prize.



USS Leyte Gulf CG 55, left, steams alongside USNS Kanawha T-AO 196 during an underway replenishment last month. Leyte Gulf was headed to Scotland to participate in Joint Warrior 14-1, a semi-annual, United Kingdom-led training exercise designed to provide NATO and allied forces a unique multi-warfare environment in which to prepare for global operations. The Joint Warrior Exercise is intended to improve interoperability between allied navies in an operationally

challenging environment. Additional photos can be found on the Leyte Gulf's Facebook page.



A CH-53E Super Stallion approaches to land on the flight deck of USS Bataan (LHD 5) during a training exercise. Bataan is the flagship for the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group and, with the embarked 22nd Marine

Expeditionary Unit, is deployed in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility. Additional photos can be found on the Bataan's Facebook page.



Former Army Sgt. Kyle Jerome White will receive the Medal of Honor during a May 13 ceremony at the White House. The 27-year-old Seattle native will become the seventh living recipient of the nation's highest military decoration for conspicuous gallantry and valor during actions in Iraq or Afghanistan. White will receive the Medal of Honor for his disre-

gard of his own life while trying to save the lives of a Marine and two fellow Soldiers after his team of 14 U.S. Soldiers and squad of Afghan National Army soldiers were set up and ambushed by a much larger and more heavily armed Taliban force, who engaged in a three-prong attack from elevated ground.



The Marine Corps' top shooters from around the world gathered at the Weapons Training Battalion range at Stone Bay to compete in the 2014 Marine Corps Match Championships from April 14-16. Six division teams

comprised of 84 Marines from California, Hawaii, Virginia, Okinawa and the Carolinas competed in three different categories. The individual rifle match, the individual pistol match, and the team rifle and pistol match. Shooting for competition doesn't come easy, especially in North Carolina. There are long hours six days out of the week, and the shooting continues no matter what the weather. After several weeks of practice, and three days of competing, the competition concluded with an awards ceremony.



U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam staff congratulated two families on the birth of their children during the new facility's second day of business. USNH Guam Commanding Officer Capt. Jeff Plummer and his team presented gifts to Gabriel Fairman Jr., the last baby born

at the old facility April 19, and Bethany Howard, the first baby born at the new hospital April 20. Plummer praised the hospital's staff, contractors and those who helped keep health care services uninterrupted during the five-day transition from the former USNH Guam site. He emphasized that the new hospital brings great value to military families and veterans on Guam. The new hospital officially opened for business April 21 and boasts 281,000 gross square feet with 42 beds, two cesarean section rooms and improved diagnostic and ancillary capabilities to include MRI and CT scanning suites.

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

THESE COMPANIES SUPPORT OUR COUNCIL

PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!

A.C.T. Janitorial Services Co.
1570 N Powerline Rd, Pompano Beach
954-960-1000

Construction Consulting Inc
2020 W McNab Rd Ste 102
Fort Lauderdale
954-972-5787

Todd Kazdan D.O, PA
2300 N Commerce Pkwy Ste 108
Weston
954-217-2745

Resolve Marine Group, Inc.
1510 SE 17 ST., STE 400
Fort Lauderdale
954-764-8700

Ship Supply of Florida
15065 NW 7 Ave, Miami
305-929-7090

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale
954-9893500

MEMBERSHIP

The Council welcomes

Francine Messina

Wayne McLaren and Nancy Abrams

The Council would also like to welcome back

Community Affiliate
Tropical Acres Restaurant

Member
Connie Christensen

COUNCIL SUPPORTERS

Robert A. Giacin EA & Company
2131 Hollywood Blvd Ste 101, Hollywood

AutoNation
Fort Lauderdale

Signature Memories
Fort Lauderdale

Shula's Hotel
Miami Lakes

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Are you looking for a way to advertise your business at a reasonable cost?

Business card ads are available at a cost of \$125. The ad will appear in The Helmsman for one year (ten editions). If you would like to advertise your business or organization and provide financial support to the Council at the same time, contact Joe Giambrone at giambronejm@gmail.com or 954-389-0545.

Larry M. Ott
Funeral Director

**Kraeer-Fairchild
Funeral Home
and Cremation Center**

4061 North Federal Highway
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308
954-565-5591
Fax 954-565-7899
larry.ott@sci-us.com



**BCNL Member
Discount with
this ad**

COAST GUARD RETIREMENT



MCPO Jeffrey S Pomeroy, US Coast Guard Air Station Miami Command Master Chief, retired on April 25. Several Council members attended the ceremony which was held at the Air Station. MCPO Pomeroy was a good friend of the Council and will truly be missed. In the photo on the left, he is shown with CAPT Joe Kimball, Air Station Commanding Officer; in the photo on the right, he is shown with LCDR Alan Starr.

BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
Post Office Box 39252
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33339-9252

