



THE HELMSMAN

Publication of the Broward County Council–Navy League of the United States

Glenn Wiltshire, President
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DINNER SOCIALS

There will NOT be a
dinner social in June

Mark Your Calendars

for September 16, 2015

when the Council will join

with Fort Lauderdale Council

to honor the US Naval Sea Cadets

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!!

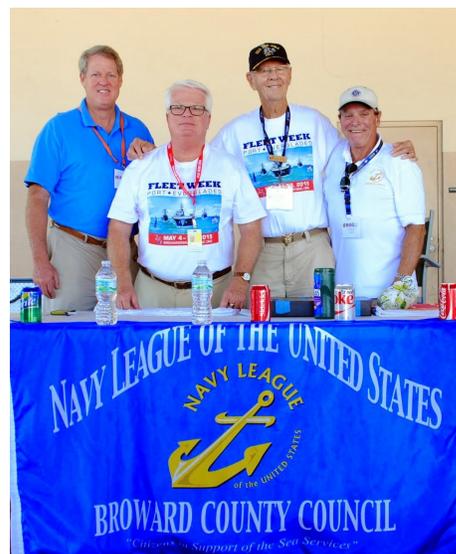


FLEET WEEK

Thanks to all Council members who assisted at and/or participated in Fleet Week events. Without the numerous volunteers, Fleet Week could not have been such a success! The Council manned a table each day and sold water, soda and Council coins. They also shared information with visitors about the Navy League and, in particular, our Council.



Board member and Fleet Week Volunteer Coordinator Shelley Beck (red shirt) with several of the volunteers at the All Aboard Welcome Party.



Shown in the photo are (left to right) Tom Carney, Larry Ott, Bob Joslin and Charlie Schmidt.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another Fleet Week is now behind us, and a great one it was! From the opening welcoming event at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino on May 4th through Galley Wars on May 9th, many of our members were out there as coordinators of events or helping out as volunteers. A special thanks to those that helped out at our table selling soda, water, and coins, including Larry Ott, George Reeves, Wayne McLaren, Bob Joslin, Tom Carney, Dottie Kirk, Tom Stenger, Ralph Utley and guest Karen Wessling, and I (hope I didn't forget anyone). Erwin and Joan Sefton were also there all week coordinating the ship tours, and Shelley Beck coordinated all of the volunteers. This year we also helped Broward Navy Days by selling their t-shirts and Fleet Week coins. The results reflected the hard work of our many Council volunteers at the table and the increased public tour counts. Most importantly, we raised over \$1800 that will help us with providing funds for our adopted units and NJROTC schools. A special thanks to Larry Ott for arranging for his employer to donate the sodas and water and for John Glaviano from Port Everglades for keeping the ice chests stocked. Erwin Sefton also coordinated a great Junior Officers' Party at Briny's on May 5th, and the feedback I received from some of the JOs that attended was very positive (of course the two free drinks helped!). Our compliments to BND Executive Director Mary Anne Gray and BND Board Chair Alan Starr (both Council members) and their team for a job "Well Done!"

An example of where the money goes is our support of the "Teddy Roosevelt" Medals we present to a cadet from each of the Junior ROTC programs we support. Senior Chief Alan Starr coordinates that, and this year I skipped the Friday evening Fleet Week Gala to attend the awards ceremony at NOVA High School to make the award presentation. LT Rodabaugh and Master Chief Cervillos run a great program with well over 200 cadets. Our Council was also presented an award for being one of the sponsors of their Military Ball this year.

Thanks as well to all who were able to make it to the joint dinner with the Fort Lauderdale Council on Wednesday, May 20th. Our guest speaker was RADM Karl Schultz, USCG, SOUTHCOM Director of Operations (J-3), who filled us in on the many missions that SOUTHCOM is carrying out every day throughout Latin America. Unfortunately, due to a number of schedule conflicts, we will not be holding our June dinner meeting. Since we don't meet over the summer, our next dinner meeting will also be a joint meeting with the Fort Lauderdale Council on Wednesday, September 16th, where we will hear the annual reports from the sea cadets from the Spruance Division report on their summer training program experiences. Hope to see a large turnout for this meeting, which is a favorite of our members.

A number of our members also attended the Seventh Coast Guard District Change of Command Ceremony and Retirement Ceremony for RADM Jake Korn on May 1st at Air Station Miami. We had the opportunity to wish RADM Korn and his family well as he transitioned into retirement and welcomed RDML Scott Buschman as the new District Commander. RDML Buschman is no stranger to South Florida, having previously served as the Seventh District Chief of Staff and as Sector Key West Commander. He is a strong supporter of the Navy League, and we will be working on getting him to a future meeting.

I hope everyone has a great summer; be safe and healthy. 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



FLEET WEEK 2015

This year's Fleet Week brought the USS Wasp, USS James E. Williams, USS Cole, USS New Hampshire and the USCGC Richard Etheridge to Port Everglades on Monday, May 4. Also participating in the many events throughout the week were several local military commands including the Coast Guard, US Southern Command, Navy Recruiting District Miami, and Navy Operational Support Centers Miami and West Palm Beach. The All Hands Welcome Aboard Party kicked off the week and was held in the Paradise Shoppes area of the Seminole Hard Rock Resort. Our council hosted a Junior Officers Party at Briny's Irish Pub on Tuesday evening. The Fort Lauderdale Council sponsored the Sea Services Enlisted Person of the Year Awards at Hyatt Regency Pier 66 on Thursday evening. Annual events such as the golf tournament, Damage Control Olympics, Salute to Veterans and Take a Hero Fishing took place as did community relations events such as visits to local schools and hospitals. New this year was a Salute to Women in the Military event. A VIP reception was held onboard the USS Wasp on Friday and the Galley Wars cooking competition was held at Hugh's Catering on Saturday. World War II veterans were honored on Saturday at a Legion of Honor event aboard the USS Wasp.



USS Wasp (above) and USS New Hampshire (below) arriving in Port Everglades



Council members Joan Sefton and Larry Ott at the All Hands Welcome Aboard Party



Sailors from USS Cole visit Health Medical Center



Sailors from USS Cole at Damage Control Olympics



FLEET WEEK 2015

Attendees at Council's Junior Officers Party



Enlisted persons of the year and their command's leadership with Fort Lauderdale Council board members at the reception at the Hyatt Regency.



Attendees at Salute to Women in the Military event



Attendees at the Galley Wars competition



Board member George Reeves visiting the USS Cole



OUTSTANDING JROTC CADETS

The Broward County Council has developed relationships with several of the local Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) units and annually honor their outstanding cadets. The JROTC is a federal program sponsored by the United States Armed Forces in high schools across the United States and United States military bases across the world. The purpose of Junior ROTC is to instill the values of citizenship, service to the United States, and personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment. The Council presents the Navy League's Youth Medal, also known as the Teddy Roosevelt Medal, to outstanding Navy and Marine Corps JROTC cadets and Naval Sea Cadets. The award consists of a medal, ribbon bar, certificate, and pamphlet on President Theodore Roosevelt whose visage is on the medal. The outstanding cadet is chosen by the commander of their JROTC unit.

This year, the Council was proud to award the Teddy Roosevelt medal to these outstanding cadets:

- Cooper City High School - Thuy-Thuong Nguyen
- Flanagan High School - Anisah Husman
- Miami Beach High School—Serena Bezel
- Nova High School - David Quintana
- Stranahan High School - Raphael Brunet
- J. P. Taravella High School - Alyssa Manalac

Stranahan High School

Colonel Davidson, School Principal, LCDR Alan Starr, Cadet Raphael Brunet and Assistant School Principal



Miami Beach High School
George Reeves with Cadet Serena Bezel



Cooper City High School
LCDR Alan Starr with Cadet Thuy-Thuong Nguyen



NOVA High School presented Council
with plaque for sponsoring their
Military Ball



MAY DINNER SOCIAL

The Council's May dinner social was held jointly with Fort Lauderdale Council. The event was held at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club on Wednesday, May 20. The Spruance Division Sea Cadets presented the colors and RADM Karl Schultz, Director of Operations, US Southern Command was the guest speaker. RADM Schultz gave a very in-depth review of issues taking place in the Caribbean as well as Central and South America that have an impact on South Florida.



Rudy Oetting, Shelley Beck and George Reeves



Spruance Division Sea Cadets



Council President Glenn Wiltshire



Ryan McDaniel with RADM Schultz

Ryan was a member of the Spruance Division Sea Cadets and often served as part of the color guard at our dinner socials. He is now serving on the USCGC Richard Etheridge.



Council President Glenn Wiltshire, RADM Schultz and LDCR Alan Starr

SEA SERVICE NEWS



On May 1, a change of command ceremony was held at Coast Guard Air Station Miami at which time Rear Adm. Scott A. Buschman (right) assumed the responsibilities as

the Coast Guard 7th District commander and Director of Homeland Security Task Force Southeast from Rear Adm. Jake Korn (left). Presiding over the ceremony was Vice Admiral William "Dean" Lee, Coast Guard Atlantic Area commander. Coast Guard Commandant, Adm. Paul F. Zukunft, also participated in a retirement ceremony for Rear Adm. Korn immediately following the change of command. Korn retired after 40 years of honorable service to the Coast Guard. Prior to assuming duties as the commander of the Coast Guard 7th District Buschman served as Commander, Coast Guard Force Readiness Command.



On May 24, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus hosted a ship-naming ceremony in Jersey City, New Jersey, to announce that SSN 796, a Virginia-class attack submarine, will

bear the name USS New Jersey. Mabus told the audience the submarine will be named to honor the long-standing history its namesake state has had with the Navy. New Jersey was where USS Holland, the Navy's first submarine, was designed and constructed in October 1900. Each Virginia-class submarine is 7,800-tons and 377 feet in length, has a beam of 34 feet, and can operate at more than 25 knots submerged. It is designed with a reactor plant that will not require refueling during the planned life of the ship, reducing lifecycle costs while increasing underway time.



During a Memorial Day address aboard the aircraft carrier Intrepid in New York City, Marine Gen. John Kelly helped his audi-

ence to understand exactly what it was to lose a loved one in war. Kelly, the head of U.S. Southern Command and one of the Corps' three four-star generals, is also a Gold Star father. His son, Marine 1st Lt. Robert Kelly, was killed Nov. 9, 2010, while conducting combat operations in Sangin, Afghanistan. In a moving and personal speech, Kelly recounted the emotional journey each Gold Star family undergoes, beginning with the dreaded knock at the door from a military casualty assistance officer.



On May 16, the Coast Guard, the City of Miami and the Association for Research and Dissemination of Cuban Na-

val History paid tribute to WWII veterans who served in the American and Cuban armed forces. The event commemorated the 72nd anniversary of the sinking of the Axis Submarine U-176 by the Cuban sub chaser Caza Submarino 13 (CS-13). Coast Guard Rear Adm. Scott Buschman delivered a presentation honoring the veterans, including a veteran who was the commanding officer of a WWII Cuban sub chaser. The U.S. Navy Sub Chaser Training Center was established in Miami to provide training in the waters of Biscayne Bay; the pier next to the American Airlines Arena is the last of four piers that existed during the war to support the Navy's training efforts.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

On May 22, the following article regarding funding for the Coast Guard was posted on the Navy League website.

The House of Representatives' passage of the U.S. Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015 could boost funding for the service, but lawmakers in the Senate may want authorization levels to be raised even higher. The bill, H.R. 1987, passed May 18, would provide the service \$8.7 billion in discretionary funds for fiscal 2016 and 2017 and \$1.5 billion for acquisition, construction and improvements (AC&I) each fiscal year. The Senate received the bill for review on May 19. If approved, this would be a major boost in AC&I dollars for the Department of Homeland Security agency, as President Barack Obama's fiscal 2016 budget only requested \$1.01 billion for the Coast Guard earlier this year.

That funding level irked several lawmakers on both sides of the aisle. "Despite the demands on the Coast Guard, its budget has not kept pace with service's expanding mission requirements," said Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., and 16 of her colleagues in a letter to Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., chairman of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on homeland security. Cantwell, a member of the Senate Science, Commerce & Transportation oceans, atmosphere, fisheries and Coast Guard oversight subcommittee, and others suggested to the chairman that he reject the current Coast Guard bill. A Cantwell staffer told Seapower on May 21 the goal of the letter was to bring attention to the need for additional Coast Guard funding, as the service has rising mission needs not only in the Arctic, but also the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean.

The authorization bill, if passed by the Senate, would not automatically increase the Coast Guard budget, but rather authorize Congress to increase it to those levels.

Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., another member of the oceans, atmosphere, fisheries and Coast Guard subcommittee, said we live in a volatile world with unprecedented challenges, and our priorities should reflect this reality. "Congress should deliver a new reauthorization for the Coast Guard to better equip them with the tools required to tackle these chal-

lenges head on," he told Seapower. He also suggested that reforms may be needed. "The Government Accountability Office [GAO] recently released a report showing gaps between the end-of-service life for many of the Coast Guard's medium endurance cutters, as well as delivery of the Off-shore Patrol Cutter [OPC]. Increased acquisition funding may help to narrow these gaps," Wicker said.

The May 14 GAO report, "Coast Guard Acquisitions: As Major Assets are Fielded, Overall Portfolio Remains Unaffordable," said the service currently has no definitive plan to extend the service life of its legacy assets and, as a result, faces a potentially significant capability gap. A contract for the 25-ship OPC program is expected in 2016, with delivery of the last ship occurring in 2034. With a price tag north of \$11 billion, it will be the most expensive program in the service's history.

Some lawmakers in the Senate have scoffed at its cost and potential effectiveness, mainly in drug interdiction. In 2014, the Coast Guard said it was able to interdict only 20 percent of the drugs flowing into the country. During an April 28 Senate Science, Commerce & Transportation oceans, atmosphere, fisheries and coast guard oversight subcommittee hearing, Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, said he was concerned that the OPC would not be able to make that much of a difference in increasing that percentage. "Are we just treading water?" Schatz asked. He added that the Coast Guard may need to reconsider its acquisition strategy and production of the OPC, if it cannot guarantee an increase in drug interdiction numbers.

Senate hearings on the authorization bill will begin next month, according to congressional sources.

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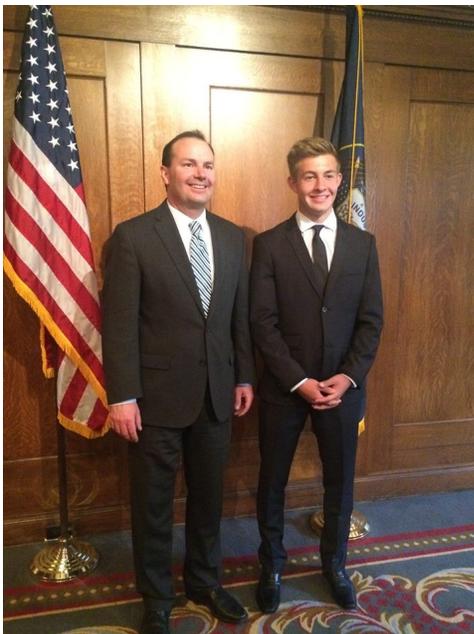
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305-929-7090

Tropical Acres Restaurant
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954-989-3500

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Taylor Porges on his nomination to the US Naval Academy. Taylor is the grandson of Dotty Porges and the late Jay Porges who served on the Council's board of directors for many years. Taylor is shown with Senator Mike Lee of Utah.



NAVY LEAGUE NEWS

Each January Councils are required to submit an annual report outlining their activities for the previous year. A scrapbook containing photos, flyers and other items can be submitted along with the annual report. The information contained in the report and the scrapbook are reviewed by a committee at Navy League Headquarters and a determination is made as to the councils whose activities were "outstanding" or "meritorious" or deserved "honorable mention". Six councils in Florida have been selected to receive awards that will be presented to them at the National Convention in Tampa in June. The councils rated "outstanding" are Mayport and Saint Augustine-Palm Coast. The councils rated "meritorious" are Jacksonville, Key West, Pensacola and Sarasota-Manatee.

There is still time to register for the National Convention will be held at the Grand Hyatt-Tampa Bay from June 16 - 21. There will be a Welcome Reception on Wednesday, June 20, where Navy League members will meet the local mayors and congressmen, World War II veterans along with officials from U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command. One of the highlights of the convention will be the commissioning of the USCGC Richard Dixon (WPC-1113), a Sentinel-class patrol cutter, on Saturday, June 20, at 10 AM, at Port Tampa Bay Cruise Terminal 3. If you wish to attend the Commissioning of the USCGC Richard Dixon, you **MUST** sign up for it during online registration! There will not be onsite registration for the commissioning. Named in honor of Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Richard Dixon, who as coxswain of a 44-foot motor lifeboat was credited with saving lives in Tillamook Bay, Oregon, during two incidents on the July 4 weekend in 1980, will be the first Sentinel-class cutter to be homeported in Puerto Rico. Dixon, who died in 2010, was a rare two-time recipient of the Coast Guard Medal, one of the nation's highest noncombat honors.

For more information on convention events and to register, go to the Navy League website navyleagueconvention.org.

MAY EVENTS



Board member LCDR Alan Starr served as guest speaker at the Memorial Day ceremony held by the City of Sunrise. The ceremony was held at the Sunrise Civic Center Amphitheater and included a wreath placement, several guest speakers, music, and the presentation of colors by the Spruance Division Sea Cadets.



Ralph Utley, Karen Westling and Larry Ott manning the Council's table at Port Everglades during Fleet Week. Thanks to Council volunteers like them, over \$1,800 was raised through the sale of beverages and Council coins.

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