

# THE HELMSMAN

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

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*It's almost  
here!*



**FLEET WEEK**  
FORT LAUDERDALE



**PORT  
EVERGLADES**  
BROWARD COUNTY • FLORIDA



April 22, 2025 - April 30, 2025

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are now well into 2025, and my, how time flies. Seems like only yesterday that we started talking about Fleet Week coming back to Port Everglades in 2025, and it is almost here. Due to last minute changes in deployment schedules, we will have three US Navy ships and one Coast Guard cutter arriving on April 22nd and remaining until April 30th. Broward Navy Days is going all out this year with many new events, so there will be a lot of opportunities to participate. The Council will once again be selling soda, water, snacks, and Council coins, and we will need volunteers to staff our table from April 23rd through the 29th. Through the efforts of Council Treasurer Tom Carney we will be able to accept Zelle for payments. As Volunteer Coordinator for ship tours, Shelley will also need help checking in ship tour visitors. Please go on line to [browardnavydaysinc.org](http://browardnavydaysinc.org) and register as a volunteer if you can assist us that week. We will also be hosting the Junior Officer Party at the Quarterdeck on 17th Street on Wednesday, April 23rd, starting at 6 PM. This is always a fun time, so please come out and support the Council and visiting ship JOs. I hope to see you all there.

Before then, on April 12th we will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt for US Coast Guard families at the Coast Guard Station at Dania Beach. A special thanks to Council member Bob Giacin for his generous contribution to defray the cost of that event, and to Shelley Beck for making all of the logistics arrangements. We can also use volunteers that day to assist with the barbecue and events of the day; so just let Shelley know if you are able to help out. There is also a separate volunteer opportunity in April and May to assist the South Florida Coast Guard Spouses Association with their Warehouse at the Air Station where they distribute free items to Coast Guard families. Let me know if interested.

The Florida Region Navy League meeting was held on February 21st and 22nd in Fort Lauderdale. While I was unable to attend, we were ably represented by Council Secretary and South Florida Area President Shelley Beck and our First Vice President Tom Melville. There was a lot of discussion about membership and succession planning, events, fundraising, and youth program support. Our Easter Egg Hunt and Holiday Party were highlighted as two successful initiatives. Thanks to Shelley and Tom for representing us.

The Navy League National Convention will be in Jacksonville this year from June 4th to June 7th. Let me know if you are interested in attending.

My thanks to all who were able to attend our last dinner meeting on March 13th at Tropical Acres. CAPT Eric Smith from Air Station Miami was our guest speaker, administered the installation oath to the elected Board officers for 2025, and provided us an update on what's going on at our largest adopted Coast Guard unit. CAPT Smith will be retiring from the Coast Guard this summer, and during their recent All Hands I attended to present the unit's Enlisted Person of the Year recognition, he surprised me with recognition for the Council's support of the unit. Sector Miami Commander CAPT Cederholm will also be transferring to Washington, DC later this month and will be relieved by the current Deputy Sector Commander, CAPT Florio. There will be many others transferring this summer, and we wish all safe travels as they move on to their next assignments or career changes.

This is your Council, so please do let me know if you have any thoughts on areas we should focus on for the rest of the year. As I indicated in our last newsletter, we are looking for members that are willing to step forward to join the Board as well as new officer candidates for 2026. Please do let me know if interested.

Regards,

Glenn A. Wiltshire  
CAPT. USCG Retired  
President, Broward County Council



*Welcome Aboard!*

The Council is pleased to welcome new members

CAPT Willie Barrere  
Edward Goldfarb  
William Hooker

We look forward to greeting and meeting you in person at a Council social event soon.

# Fleet Week

## A request from President Glenn

As many of our members know, our Council sets up a table during Fleet Week to sell soda, water, and Council coins during the public ship visit hours. This is our major fundraiser for the year, and all funds raised at this event go directly to support our adopted units and youth programs.



This year, Broward Navy Days expects three Navy ships and a Coast Guard cutter to participate. The ships arrive on Tuesday, April 23rd, and will be open for public tours on Wednesday April 23rd through Tuesday, April 29th, and volunteers are needed to help staff the table during those days.

While Broward Navy Days is holding afternoon and evening tours this year for the general public, we will only be staffing the table during the afternoon hours during the weekdays, so we will need volunteers to staff the table each day from 12:00 PM to 4:30 PM starting on Tuesday (4/22) through Tuesday (4/29). There are also morning tours from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Saturday and Sunday that we may try to cover if we have enough volunteers. Weekdays are the most difficult to staff, so volunteers are especially needed then.

If you think you can assist, please contact Glenn Wiltshire at 718-619-7402 or wiltbrit@aol.com. In addition, please go to the Fleet Week 2025 web site at <https://browardnavydaysinc.org/volunteer> and register as a volunteer so you can be added to the cleared volunteers list for port entry and receive a parking pass. Add in the comment section that you are volunteering for the Broward County Navy League table.

# HELP WANTED

In addition to volunteers, we can also use donations of soda, water, and ice, or cash donations to defray the cost of purchasing these items for sale. Please contact me directly if you would like to make a donation or have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to support our Council and its programs!

## PUBLIC SHIP TOURS

### FREE TICKETED DAILY TOURS (UP TO SIX GUESTS)

Public tours of the visiting Navy and Coast Guard ships will be offered during Ed Morse Automotive Group FLEET WEEK FORT LAUDERDALE on the following days:

- Wednesday, April 23 - Friday, April 25, 1 - 4 p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m.
- Saturday, April 26, 8 - 11 a.m., 1 - 4 p.m., and 6 - 8 p.m.
- Sunday, April 27, 8 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 4 p.m.
- Monday, April 28 and Tuesday, April 29, 1 - 4 p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m.



# March Dinner Social and Officer Installation

On March 13th we held our March Dinner Meeting at Tropical Acres Restaurant on Griffin Rd. We were privileged to have CAPT Eric Smith CO of Coast Guard Air Station Miami as our speaker.

He provided us with an update on what his unit has been doing and some of their recent accomplishments.

- \* The 7th District handles 20% of the Coast Guards SAR (Search And Rescue) cases
- \* Last year Air Station Miami handled 317 SAR cases
- \* They saved 185 lives during 2024



In addition to our regular meeting we installed our 2025 officers. CAPT Smith administered the oath of office.



CAPT Smith administering oath of office to (L-R) Glenn Wiltshire President, Tom Melville 1st VP, Robert Marks VP Legislative Affairs, Shelley Beck Secretary, Tom Carney Treasurer, Chaplain Rick Braswell



# *March Dinner Social con't*



*Chaplain Rick Braswell with Captain Eric Smith*



*Glenn with LCDR Steph Wood XO, CEU Miami and CDR Travis Gagnon, XO Air Station Miami*



*Lawrence Denmark, CMC Mike McClelland, Air Station Miami and Shannon McClelland*



*Joanne and Tom Melville, Ren Lueder and Rich Fournier*



*Tom Carney and guest, CMC Mike McClelland, Air Station Miami and Shannon McClelland, CDR Jim Cepa, Air Station Miami*



# News from our Adopted Units

## USCG Air Station Miami

Recently Glenn and member Lawrence Denmark traveled to USCG Air Station Miami to present the station's Enlisted Person of the Year Award to AMT2 Kevin Lai

While there, in a bit of a turn about, Station CO CAPT Eric Smith presented Glenn with an award recognizing our Council for its ongoing support of the unit .



*Air Station Miami Enlisted Person of the Year award to AMT2 Kevin Lai. Also pictured is Air Station MCPO McClelland, and Council member Lawrence Denmark along with Glenn and station CO CAPT. Smith*



## News from National



The Navy League National Convention 2025 will be held June 4-7th, Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront.

Registration is now open! Go to our National website and follow the links to National Convention.

If you are interested in attending contact Glenn.

# News from our Adopted Units

## Air Station Miami

*Contact Glenn for more info about volunteer opportunities to assist the Spouses Association when the Warehouse is open*

EST. 2024

# COAST GUARD WAREHOUSE



AIR STATION MIAMI  
ENTER BASE USING MILITARY ID  
LOOK FOR 2ND BLDG ON LEFT WITH  
BLUE AWNING (1ST DOOR ON LEFT)  
LOOK FOR TOYS IN THE WINDOW\*

## FREE SHOP HOURS

\*MUST HAVE MILITARY ID TO FREE SHOP\*

TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH 11 AM-1 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH 4-5 PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH 2-3 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 9TH 2-3 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 31ST 10 AM-12 PM

We provide access to gently used items for no cost.

We operate 100% based off donations to help supply  
items for the warehouse and help purchase items,  
such as diapers, for lower enlisted families.

Facebook Group QR code for more  
info & last minute openings!



Please contact Aurora Tallent at  
cgwarehousemiami@gmail.com  
if you are interested in volunteering!  
\*donations can also be dropped off at  
any time in front of our door\*  
Please see our facebook group for  
detailed list of what we can accept.



and in closing...

