

# THE HELMSMAN

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

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Wayne McLaren, Editor

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## Happy 250th



Two of our sea services are celebrating their 250th birthday this year.

### Establishment of the Continental Navy

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which is established at the beginning of the American Revolution. On October 13, 1775, the Continental Congress decides to purchase two armed ships to attack British supply ships and keep their supplies from reaching British soldiers in the colonies. A second resolution passes the same day creating a naval committee to oversee the purchase of the ships and write a set of regulations for their management. Thus was born the Continental Navy, and October 13 remains the official birth date of the U.S. Navy.

### Born in a bar

Marines often boast that their beloved Corps was “born in a bar,” specifically, that it was born at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, back when the very first would-be Marines decided to enlist on Nov. 10, 1775.

The Marine Corps was founded to serve as an infantry unit aboard naval vessels. Marines were responsible for the security of the ship and its crew by conducting offensive and defensive combat during boarding actions and defending the ship's officers from mutiny; to the latter end, their quarters on the ship were often strategically positioned between the officers' quarters and the rest of the vessel. Continental Marines manned raiding parties, both at sea and ashore.

# President's Message

It has been a very busy time since our last newsletter as we took our traditional Summer Break and resumed events in September. Many of our members attended the joint meeting with the Fort Lauderdale Council where the Sea Cadets from the USS Fort Lauderdale Division reported on the summer training programs they participated in. I am always amazed by the dedication of these young men and women, who give up one or more weeks of their summer vacations to gain skills and participate in multiple training courses. We also had a great turnout at our annual Oktoberfest gathering at Old Heidelberg. While it is not a formal meeting, it provided a great opportunity to eat some German food and beverages while getting to know each other better.



## 2026 Officers

*Thanks for serving!*

Glenn Wiltshire - President  
Tom Melville - First Vice President  
Natalie Koller - Second Vice President  
Tom Carney - Treasurer  
Shelley Beck - Secretary  
Robert Marks - Legislative Affairs  
Julie Carlson - JAG

## New Members

*Welcome Aboard!*

The Council is pleased to welcome new members

Lynn Wallace  
Gary Rozema  
Linda Rozema  
Richard Brosseau  
Natalie Koller  
Lisa Sandell

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

Our next Council event was held on November 11th, Veterans Day, at Mission Barbeque on Commercial Blvd. in Fort Lauderdale. We set up a table to provide information on our Council and participated in Mission Barbeque's traditional Veteran's Day ceremony at noon. Our November dinner meeting was held at the STAR Center in Dania Beach on November 13th. Council member Graeme Holman led the tours of the STAR Center simulators and we learned how our US merchant mariners are trained to serve at sea on commercial or military ships. We also held our election of officers for 2026.

Please mark your calendar for our annual Coast Guard Holiday Party, which will once again be held at the Quarterdeck on 17th Street in Fort Lauderdale on Friday, December 12th from 6PM to 9PM. This is always a fun time, so come on out and support our local Coast Guard members. We will end the year with our December meeting, which will also be a joint meeting with the Fort Lauderdale Council, on December 16th at the Lauderdale Yacht Club. This is the annual Toys For Tots dinner, so please plan on bringing one or more toys that will be delivered to needy families by the local Marine Corps units.

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

Very Respectfully,

Glenn A. Wiltshire  
President

718-619-7402

## Coming Events

### Friday December 12th 2025

Our annual Coast Guard Holiday Party held at the Quarterdeck on 17th St, Ft Lauderdale

### Tuesday, December 16th 2025

Joint meeting with Ft Lauderdale Council at the Lauderdale Yacht Club

# Sea Cadet Night



## BCNL Members in attendance



Back row: Jack Doyle, **Natalie Koller**, **Greg Grasso**, Glenn Wiltshire, Rich Fournier, Shelley Beck, Lawrence Denmark, Larry Ott

Front row: Judi Doyle, **Linda Rozema**, **Gary Rozema**, Fran Shaw

Note: new members names appear in **bold face type**

# Sea Cadet Night—con't

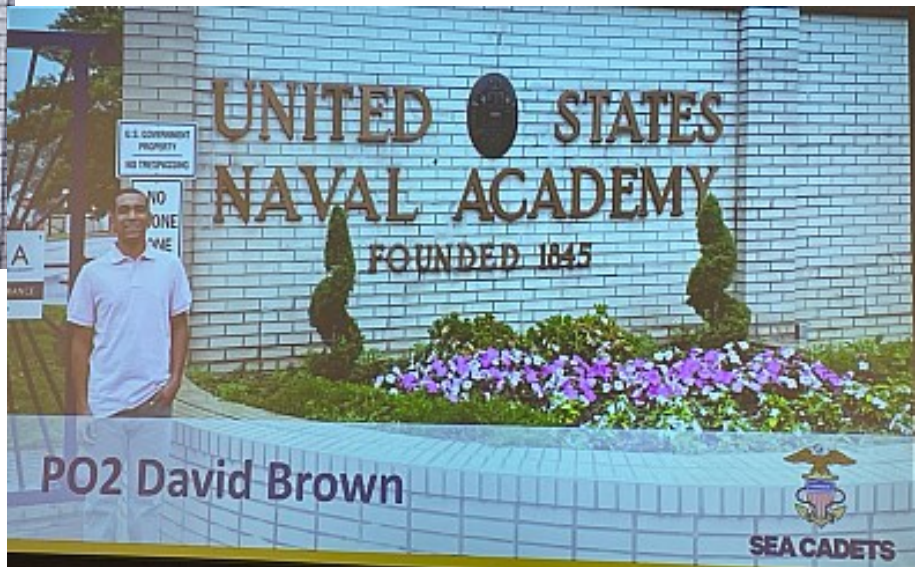
## Some of our Coast Guard friends



*Council President Glenn Wiltshire with some of our local Coast Guard friends, TACLET South Command Master Chief Ramirez and Commanding Officer CDR Guy and Air Station Miami Executive Officer CDR Cepa and Command Master Chief McClelland*

Aside for the enjoyable evening in the company of fellow Navy Leaguers and Coast Guard personnel, the evenings high points are the presentations by the Sea Cadets in attendance as they recount what training they participated in over the course of the summer.

## PO2 David Brown

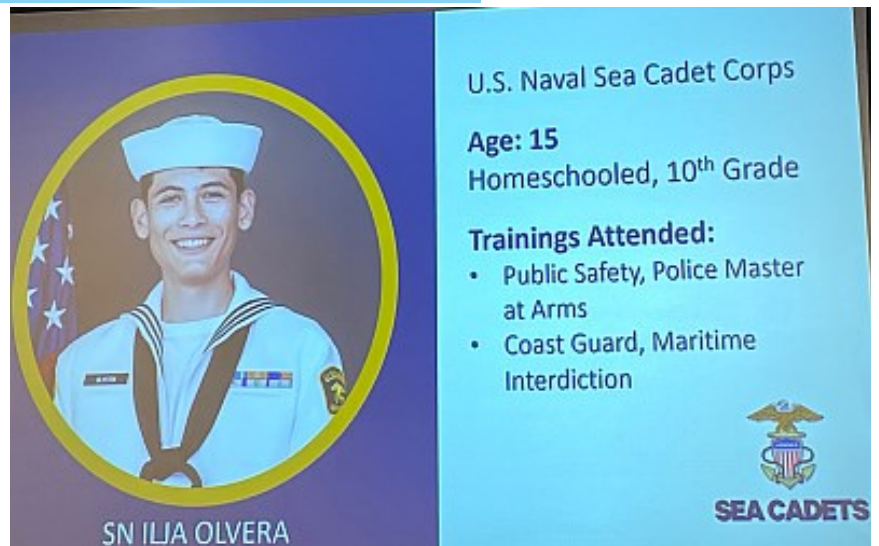


# Sea Cadet Night—con't

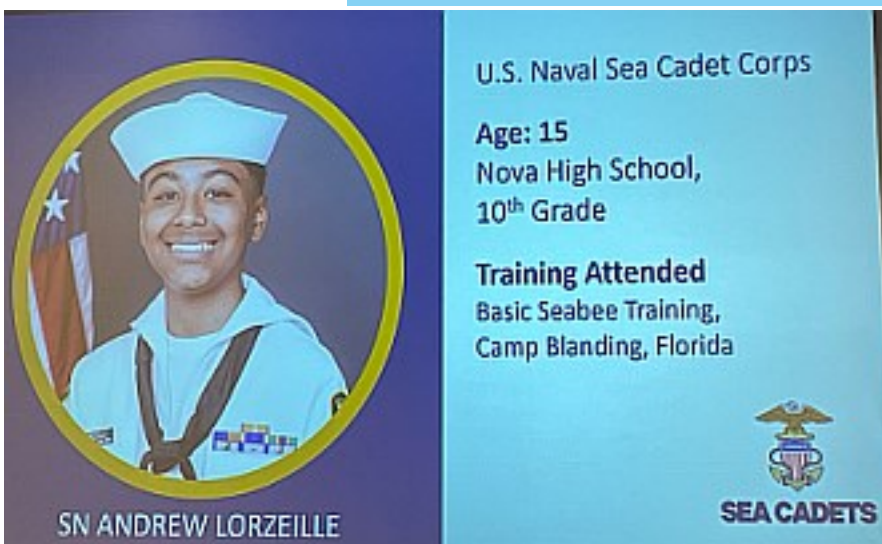
## PO3/LC4 Raelynn Stacey



## SN Ilja Olivera



## SN Andrew Lorzeille



# Sea Cadet Night—con't

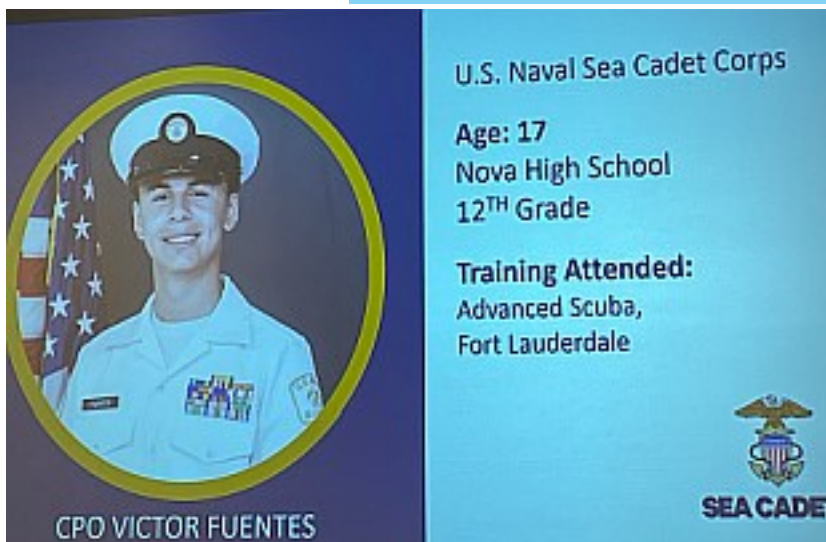
## PO1 David Hernandez



## SN Shannon Foster

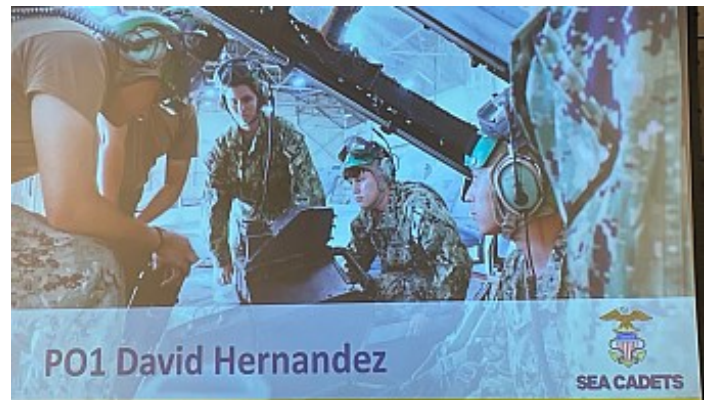
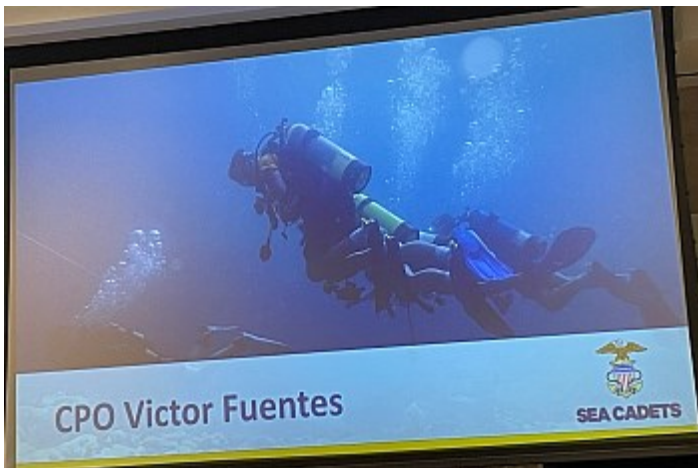


## CPO Victor Fuentes



# *Sea Cadet Night—con't*

## Photos from our summer activities



***Thanks!***

A special shout out to Diane Schmidt and Shelley Beck for providing many of the great pictures in this edition of the Helmsman.

# Oktoberfest

## Old Heidelberg



On October 16th we held our annual Oktoberfest observance at Old Heidelberg Restaurant on State Rd 84.

As the accompanying photos show, we had a good turnout and a very enjoyable evening.



*Lawrence Denmark, Jack Doyle, Judi Doyle*



*George Reeves and Shelley Beck*

# US Navy News

## Navy Installs 34th Chief of Naval Operations



*Admiral Daryl Caudle taking oath of office from Navy Secretary Phelan*

The CNO is a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and serves as an advisor to the president, the National Security Council, the Homeland Security Council and the defense secretary and is responsible for the command, utilization of resources and operating efficiency of worldwide naval forces and shore activities.

"As I step into the role as your 34th chief of naval operations, I do so with great pride, immense gratitude and an absolute focus on the mission ahead," Caudle said in a video to the fleet, released shortly before the ceremony.

During the ceremony, he further discussed his priorities, including sailors, operational readiness and fleet modernization.

"The sailor will be front and center in my vision throughout my tenure as CNO — hands down, no exception," Caudle said. "To ensure that they are ready to fight and win decisively — today, tomorrow and well into the future — we will view everything we do through an operational lens focused on three priorities: the foundry, the fleet and the way we fight."

*From SeaPower Magazine*

## Navy Welcomes 17th MCPON John Perryman



*Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Daryl Caudle congratulates the 17th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) John Perryman during the MCPON change of office ceremony at the United States Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., Sept. 8, 2025. US Navy photo*

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy John Perryman took the helm as the Navy's top enlisted sailor Monday during a change of command ceremony held in Washington, D.C.

Perryman assumed the role less than one month after the Navy announced his selection to be the 17th master chief petty officer of the Navy. As the top enlisted sailor, Perryman is responsible for advising Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Daryl Caudle and advocating for the needs of the sea service's enlisted force.

"Our Navy must be manned by world-class sailors led by the best warfighters at every level," Perryman said. "You have my word — I will always fight for you and for the families who stand beside you."

Perryman enlisted in the service in 1994 and began his career as an electronics technician submariner with tours on USS Bremerton (SSN-698), USS Dolphin (AGSS-555) and USS Cheyenne (SSN-773). He also served as the command master chief on USS Hawaii (SSN-776).

*From USNI news*

# US Coast Guard News

## Coast Guard Renames Geographic Operational Districts



WASHINGTON — The U.S. Coast Guard announced Thursday the renaming of its operational districts from numerical to geographic designations, a key initiative under Force Design 2028 (FD2028).

This strategic change, directed by Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem on May 21, 2025, aims to indicate more accurately the regions they serve and represent. Renaming operational districts revises a numbered system established during World War II, when the Coast Guard operated as part of the Navy to ensure alignment between the services. In the 80 years since the Coast Guard separated from the Navy, the Service has maintained the numbered districts. However, the Navy stopped using numbered districts over 25 years ago.

Updating operational districts to regional names will more clearly align districts with their areas of responsibility, facilitate collaboration with interagency partners, and ensure the American public and maritime stakeholders can easily find and understand the districts in which they live, recreate and operate. This change is a

direct action within FD2028's organization campaign, which is focused on adapting the Coast Guard's structure to remain effective and responsive.

"This renaming is more than just a change in labels; it's a critical step in our journey to become a more agile, capable, and responsive fighting force," said Acting Commandant Kevin E. Lunday. "Under Force Design 2028, we are driving fundamental changes to speed decision-making, improve strategic alignment, and ultimately best serve the American people for decades to come. This initiative underscores our commitment to ensuring that change is lasting and has an enduring impact on the Service and the Nation."

This change will not impact operations or change existing geographical district boundaries. To memorialize the updated names for operational districts, the Coast Guard is undertaking the process of formally changing district names in the Code of Federal Regulations. Through this process, the Coast Guard will continue to communicate with stakeholders and provide updated resources and information as appropriate.

# US Coast Guard News

## Coast Guard Southeast District Change of Command

The Coast Guard Southeast District staff held a change of command ceremony, this past summer at Florida International University – Biscayne Bay.

Rear Adm. Adam Chamie relieved the duties and responsibilities of the Southeast District Commander and Director of Department of Homeland Security Operation Vigilant Sentry from Rear Adm. Douglas M. Schofield.

Vice Adm. Nathan Moore, commander of Coast Guard Atlantic Area, presided over the ceremony.

The Southeast district is responsible for all Coast Guard operations in the southeastern United States and the Caribbean Basin, including Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Coast Guard Southeast District encompasses an area of 1.8 million square miles and shares operational borders with 34 foreign nations and territories.



*Vice Adm. Nathan Moore, commander of Coast Guard Atlantic Area and member Lawrence Denmark*



*Rear Adm. Adam Chamie, Vice Adm. Nathan Moore, Rear Adm. Douglas M. Schofield*



*Member Lawrence Denmark and Rear Adm. Douglas M. Schofield*



*Glenn, new District 7 commander Rear Adm. Adam Chamie, and Lawrence Denmark*

*Thanks - to Lawrence Denmark for providing the pictures from this event*

# Adopted Unit News

## USCG Air Station Miami

Back in September Council President Wiltshire traveled to USCG Air Station Miami to present our Enlisted Person of the Quarter to AET2 Connor Rudolph. AET2 Rudolph was recognized for stepping up to take a leadership role in his shop when there were vacancies in more senior billets.



AET2 Connor Rudolph, AIRSTA CO CAPT Ortenzio, and AIRSTA Command Master Chief McClelland

## USCG Station Fort Lauderdale

Recently Glenn traveled to Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale to present some council awards.

The Enlisted Person of the Quarter award was presented to MK3 Johnathan Higg-Archer for his outstanding performance addressing a number of engine issues with unit small boats, and the Enlisted Person of the Year award was presented to ME3 Katlyn Drake for her sustained outstanding results performing the law enforcement mission at the Station.



ME3 Katlyn Drake with Glenn

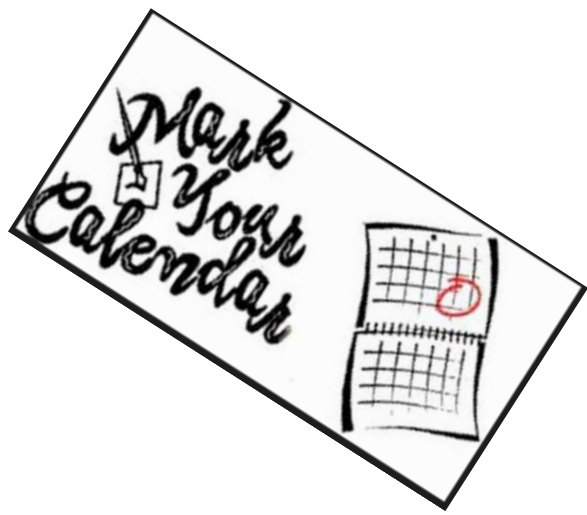
## USS Paul Ignatius – DDG 117



FCC (Sel) Kaiman, ETC (Sel) Rattenbury, STGC (Sel) Wellington, GSEC (Sel) Schwinkendorf, FCAC (Sel) Reinhart, OSC (Sel) Maxwell (not pictured)



MK3 Johnathan Higg-Archer showing off his award



# COAST GUARD HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 12, 2025

Sponsored by:

**Broward County Navy League Council**

**Broward Navy Days**

**Fort Lauderdale Navy League Council**

**HONORS AND WELCOMES  
ALL LOCAL COAST GUARD UNITS and  
GUEST**

**THE QUARTERDECK RESTAURANT**

**1035 SE 17TH STREET**

**FORT LAUDERDALE**

**LOCATED JUST NORTH OF 17TH STREET**

**(East of SE 10th Ave.)**

**Festivities begin 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM or ???**

Please RSVP your Attendance on or before  
December 9th by e-mailing [browardnavyleague@gmail.com](mailto:browardnavyleague@gmail.com) or  
calling Shelley at 954-224-3687

*and in closing...*

# THANK YOU *Veterans*



Honoring all who served

