



BLUE & GOLD

Navy League Of The United States San Diego Council 48-08 | August 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JON BERG-JOHNSEN

As we move into August and establish a solid footing in the second half of 2018, we now start a series of celebrations of birth for our Sea Services throughout the remainder of the calendar year. The Coast Guard kicks this off on 4 August marking its 228th year since its traditional birth year of 1790 as the United States Revenue Cutter Service. It was merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service and established as the United States Coast Guard on January 28, 1915. Some may not know the Coast Guard was deemed to be a military service and a branch of the armed forces of the U.S. at all times. Although it is now part of the Department of Homeland Security, the Coast Guard will operate as a service in the Department of the Navy during a declaration of war. when directed by Congress or the President. While not universally celebrated like other Sea Services, the start of the U.S Merchant Marine is often considered to be 12 June 1775, which predates the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard!



I have some very sad news to report to our Members and anyone who cares about the local military. Our Homefront San Diego organization lost one of its co-founders. Jimmy Valentine passed away on 22 June 2018. Jimmy was truly an inspirational leader among an incredibly dedicated group of volunteers that literally do this only for the love and desire to support the local junior enlisted military families in the San Diego area. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jimmy's family and those that knew him and support his cause.

Looking back to last month, on 10 July we supported the recognition of the U.S. Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Quarter. We also had another great speaker talk to us at the 13 July Breakfast. VADM Richard Brown, Commander of Naval Surface Forces, and Commander Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet provided a stirring update on where the Navy Surface Force is today and where it will be in the future, for local and global operations.

As mentioned in last month's B&G and within this month's edition, CAPT Joseph Buzzella, Sector San Diego Commander and Captain of the Port of San Diego will be our guest speaker on 3 August. Please sign up now at our website navyleague-sd.com or join us that morning and pay at the door as we celebrate the Coast Guard's Birthday and recognize San Diego as a Coast Guard City!! Let's give the Coast Guard a great turn out!

Our Council has earned another special recognition. In case you did not see it, the President of the Navy League of the U.S. sent notification to all Members that San Diego Council's very own Blue & Gold was awarded 1st place in the Large Council category for the Donald M. Mackie Award for Best Newsletter and was honored with

Continued on page 3

Breakfast Meeting

August 3, 2018

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

GUEST SPEAKER

CAPT Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr.
Sector Commander and
Captain of the Port of San Diego
United States Coast Guard

“Freedom
is never
given, it is
won.”

— A. Philip Randolph

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RECOGNITIONS



Vice Admiral Richard A. Brown Commander, Naval Surface Forces/Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet accepts a copy of the History of Navy League of the United States from council President Jon Berg-Johnsen for being our Aug guest speaker.



Joan Mitchell presents council President Jon Berg-Johnsen with the Councils awards received at the National Convention. The council received the Meritorious Council and the Donald M. Mackie Award 1st Place Large Council for our Blue & Gold Newsletter.



(l-r) USAA awards representative Carl Chin; Sgt Mason Hernandez, Drill Instructor of the Quarter; Vice Admiral Richard A. Brown Commander, Naval Surface Forces/Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Chief Drill Instructor GySgt Jones and council President Jon Berg-Johnsen. Missing from the photo is SSGT Nathan Davenport, Senior Drill Instructor of the Quarter.



Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Coast Guard Sector San Diego's Enlisted Person of the Quarter, OS3 Victoria Briceno for her accomplishment.

SAVE THE DATE!!!



243rd NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL

SHERATON SAN DIEGO HOTEL & MARINA

Early Bird Tix go to: https://sandiegonavyball.thunder-tix.com/events/128837/saleable_seats?performance_ID=2044879

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

a Meritorious Council Award. My personal thanks go out to all those in the Council that contributed to make these awards possible!

For those interested in attending a ship commissioning the Coronado Council is Commissioning the USS MICHAEL MONSOOR (DDG-1001) on 26 January 2019. If you want more information, please go to the MonsoorCommissioning.org website.

We still have opportunities for members to join in on events such as attending the 2018 MCAS Miramar Air Show in our Council Chalet on Saturday 29 September. As a reminder, other events coming up are the Navy's 243rd Birthday Ball on 13 October, and the Marine Corps' 243rd Birthday Luncheon on 15 November. All these are great ways to support our Sea Services and your Council. We are also looking for members to join us in supporting Navy League, so invite you friends to become part of the San Diego Council.

Thank you

Jon Berg-Johnsen

REMEMBERING JIMMY VALENTINE

The Council has lost a true warrior and Champion for those that serve. Jimmy Valentine, President of Homefront San Diego passed away on June 22. Jimmy had been sick for a while but didn't want to put his burden on others and chose to be quite about it.



Homefront San Diego was formed shortly after 9-11 by Jimmy and, Roger Hedgecock. With the realization that an overwhelming number of military families would be transferred to San Diego, and would soon be deployed, there would be a growing need to support those that were serving our country. Homefront's mission was simple: take care of family members so that those deployed could concentrate on their mission. Aiding these families is our way of saying thank you to the men and women & their families who are fighting for the freedoms we cherish so dearly.

Jimmy, the driving force behind Homefront, realized the need to protect the organization and its donors, so he talked with its leadership and a partnership was formed with the San Diego Council of the Navy League.

Jimmy personally screened thousands and thousands of calls from service members or their dependents asking for assistance. He worked tirelessly with the volunteers to make sure requests were fulfilled in record time and it was not unusual to learn that Jimmy personally delivered a needed item to a family at their home.

Jimmy was one of a kind. His love for and support of the military continue to be a driving force behind Homefront San Diego. Under his leadership, Homefront completed its mission. He will be missed by those that knew him and he will be remembered as a man that gave so much to so many and never asked for anything in return. He was a class act!

Bravo Zulu Jimmy for a job well done!

ON THIS DATE IN...

AUGUST

Aug 3, 1942 – Mildred McAfee becomes the first woman officer commissioned into the Naval reserves.

Aug 3, 1950 – First Marine Corps aviation mission against North Korea by VMF-214 launched from USS *Sicily*.

Aug 3, 1950 – First helicopter evacuation in Korea by VMO-6.

Aug 4 – HAPPY 228th BIRTHDAY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD!!!

Aug 4 – HAPPY 71st BIRTHDAY MEDIAL SERVICE CORPS!!!

Aug 4, 1949 – Congress approved Public Law 207 confirming that the Coast Guard was a branch of the armed forces of the United States.

Aug 6, 1847 – LtCol S. E. Watson's Marines commenced their march on the "Hall of Montezuma" in Mexico.

Aug 6, 1990 – President George Bush orders Operation Desert Shield, largest overseas deployment since Vietnam, to protect Saudi Arabia after Iraqi's invasion of Kuwait.

Aug 7, 1782 – Badge of Military Merit (Purple Heart) is established.

Aug 8, 1972 – Women are authorized for sea duty as regular ship's company.

Aug 9, 1949 – First use of pilot-ejection seat for emergence escape in U.S. made by Lt Jack I. Fruin of VF-171 near Walterboro, SC.

Aug 9, 1950 – Congress enacted Public Law 679, which charged the Coast Guard with the function of port security.

Aug 11, 1921 – Carrier arresting gear first tested at Hampton Roads.

Aug 11, 1923 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Mare Island transferred to its present location in San Diego.

Aug 12, 1958 – USS *Nautilus* (SSN-571) arrives Portland, England completing the first submerged under ice cruise from Pacific to Atlantic Oceans.

Aug 17, 1942 – Just prior to dawn, submarines USS *Nautilus* and USS *Argonaut* land 222 Marines on Makin Island, the first amphibious attach made from submarines.

Aug 18, 1911 – Esther Voorhees Hasson is appointed as the first Navy Nurse Corps superintendent.

Aug 21, 1800 – U.S. Marine Corps Band gave its first concert in Washington, D.C.

Aug 21, 1968 – PFC James Anderson, Jr. was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor (the first Medal of Honor presented to an African-American Marine) for heroism in Vietnam while serving as a rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines.

Aug 22 – HAPPY 106th BIRTHDAY DENTAL CORPS!!!

2018 INTERNATIONAL FRIGATE WORKING GROUP (IFWG)

BY: DAVE GRUNDIES, IFWG CHAIR



The thirteen countries (Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey and Vietnam) that operate the Oliver Hazard Perry Frigate, the former American FFG Warship, met in San Diego April 25- May 2 to discuss operating, supporting and maintaining this venerable weapons platform.

The NAVSEA 21 sponsored event was hosted by The San Diego Council of Navy League (SDNL) at The Admiral Kidd Catering Center. Capt. Dave Grundies, USN (Ret.) was the OinC and was assisted by Phyllis Barber who produced the attendees' Name Tags, Greeters Joan Mitchell, Jim Bonner, Jay Rindler and Jim Bedinger, and VP Tony Johnson who introduced all the Industry presentations. Jay R also was a Docent for a large and long USS Midway Tour on the weekend. Bob Berman photographed the event, Irene Wells kept the Kidd Club "in tow" and Will Hays also attended. SDNL Executive Director Jay Lott provided numerous logistics and support, and President Jon Berg-Johnsen said "all the right things" at the Social Function.

This event is held every year, normally alternating between East and West US Coasts and The European Continent. Next year it will be held in Poland. We were lucky enough to have it for two years in a row, and there is a rumor that they'll return to San Diego in 2020! SDNL is the 501c3 Nonprofit Organization that enabled contractor funds to be utilized to pay for the venue and meals. We received a nice profit for our efforts.

The following Companies supported IFWG '18: AGI; CSRA; Harris - Reconnaissance & Maritime EW; ABS Nautical Systems; AECOM; BAE Systems; CACI; CDI Marine Company LLC; GDIT; GET Engineering Corp; HAVELSAN; IXI Technology; Lockheed Martin; MTU Aero Maintenance North America; Northrop Grumman; Quality Performance Inc.; Quantum 3D; SAAB North America, Inc; THALES; VSE Corp.

SDNL would like to thank Andrea Nelson, Kurt Boenisch and Elsa Perez of T-Solutions for keeping our Administrative tasks to a minimum.



The Council's Blue & Gold Newsletter is the 2017

Donald M. Mackie Newsletter Award

1st Place Winner for a Large Council.

Our grateful appreciation for this award goes to Jeff McKinley and his crew at San Diego Copy. Without all their hard work and assistance, obtaining this award would not have been possible.



CAPT Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr. | United States Coast Guard

Captain Buzzella is the Sector Commander and Captain of the Port of San Diego, California. In this role, he is responsible for leading operations to ensure maritime safety, security, and environmental protection.

Captain Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr. hails from Miami, Florida. After completing Coast Guard Enlisted Basic Training at Cape May, New Jersey in 1986, he was assigned to Coast Guard Base Miami Beach, Florida. He is a 1988 graduate of the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) and a 1992 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Management and an officer commission. Following graduation from the Coast Guard Academy, Captain Buzzella served as a Deck Watch Officer aboard the USCGC Spencer and USCGC Vindicator. Upon completion of U.S. Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Florida,

he was designated a Coast Guard Aviator in 1996. He then reported to Coast Guard Air Station Miami, Florida where he flew the HH-65A Dauphin Helicopter and later the HU-25A Falcon Jet where he maintained a dual airframe qualification conducting search and rescue, alien migrant interdictions, and counter drug missions. In 2000, he was assigned to Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod, Massachusetts where he flew HU-25A Falcon Jets conducting search and rescue and New England fisheries enforcement missions. In 2005, he was assigned under the Department of Homeland Security Chief Financial Officer in Washington D.C., where he served as an Assistant Director & Budget Program Reviewer providing oversight of more than \$26 billion in annual appropriations. In 2007, he reported to Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco,

California where he held the positions of Operations Officer and Executive Officer. In 2011, he served as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City, Michigan. His last assignment, Captain Buzzella served at the Pentagon as Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Deputy Director of the Chairman's Action Group (CAG) under General Martin Dempsey, USA and General Joseph Dunford, USMC.



Captain Buzzella has accumulated over 3400 flight hours. He has held Instructor Pilot ratings in both the HU-25A and MH-65C aircraft and an Airborne Use of Force Aircraft Commander designation in the MH-65C helicopter. He also holds FAA fixed and rotary wing airline transport pilot credentials.

Captain Buzzella holds a Master in National Security Strategy from the National War College, a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University and a Master of Science in Quality Systems Management with a specialization in Homeland Security from the National Graduate School. He is a former Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Public Service Fellow.

Captain Buzzella is married to the former Patrice Spanier from Pittsfield, Massachusetts. They are the proud parents of 3 children.



GOALS OF THE

San Diego Council,

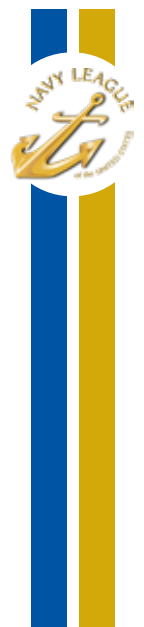
Navy League Of The United States

Educate national leaders and the nation.

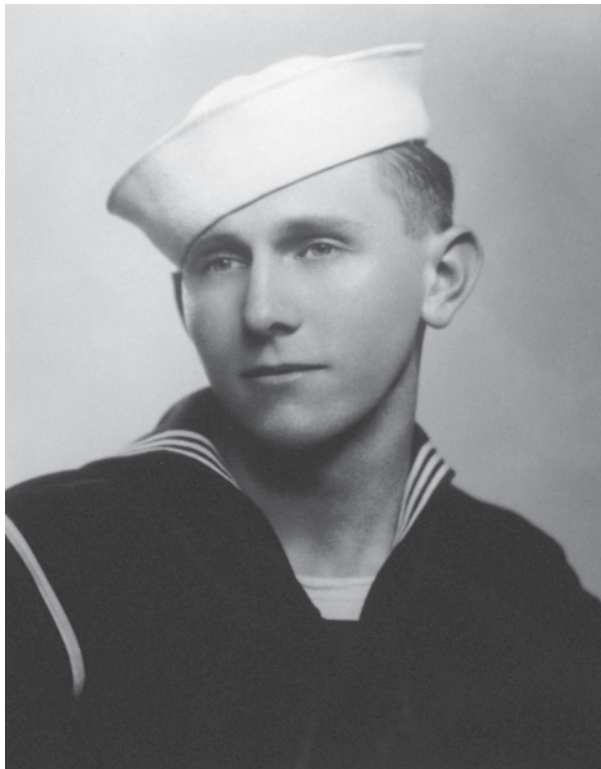
Support the men and women of the sea services.

Provide assistance to sea service families.

Support youth programs.



COAST GUARD HERO MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT SM1C DOUGLAS A. MUNRO



September 27, 2017 marked 75 years of the actions of the only Coast Guardsman to be awarded the Medal of Honor, SM1c Douglas A. Munro, USCG SM1c Douglas A. Munro, USCG 1919-1942.

Douglas A. Munro, Signalmán 1/c, USCG, gave his life evacuating Marines of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, at Matanikau Point, Guadalcanal. President Roosevelt posthumously awarded Munro the Medal of Honor, the only Coast Guardsmen to be awarded this decoration. The medal was given to Douglas Munro's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Munro of South Cle Elum, Washington, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in a ceremony at the White House on Thursday, 27 May 1943. The citation read:

"Awarded posthumously to DOUGLAS ALBERT MUNRO, SIGNALMAN FIRST CLASS, U.S. COAST GUARD 'For extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry in action above and beyond the call of duty as Office-in-Charge of a group of Higgins boats, engaged in the evacuation of a Battalion of Marines trapped by enemy Japanese forces at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal, on September 27, 1942. After making preliminary plans for the evacuation of nearly 500 beleaguered Marines, Munro, under constant risk of his life, daringly led five of his small craft toward the shore. As he closed the beach, he [signaled] the others to land, and then in order to draw the enemy's fire and protect the heavily loaded boats, he valiantly placed his craft with its two small guns as a shield between the beachhead and the Japanese. When the perilous task of evacuation was nearly completed, Munro was killed by enemy fire, but his crew, two of whom were wounded, carried on until the last boat had loaded and cleared the beach. By his outstanding leadership, expert planning, and dauntless devotion to duty, he and his courageous comrades undoubtedly saved the lives of many who otherwise would have perished. He gallantly gave up his life in defense of his country.'"(U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office)

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

BY: MELANIE LANG, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Call to Action: Help Repeal the Budget Control Act

Although progress has been made with the 2-year budget act that was passed, our Navy League work to support the Sea Services is not over. When the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 expires in FY2020, sequestration will return unless the Budget Control Act (BCA) is repealed.



Please visit <https://www.votervoice.net/NavyLeague/home> and click on “Repeal the Budget Control Act”, where you can enter your name and contact information and send a prepared letter. The letter has the following information, which you can customize before sending:

I am very concerned about the return of sequestration in FY2020. When the two-year budget compromise expires in FY2020, we return to a budget-driven military strategy. As a Navy League member, I am concerned about sequestration at a time of increased global threats.

If the caps stay in place, the FY2020 defense budget will be \$576 billion, an 11% drop from 2019 levels. Global threats are increasing: this is not a time to reduce defense spending.

The Navy Force Structure Assessment states we need at least 355 ships to respond to the current threat environment. The Marine Corps remains at a high operational tempo, keeping Marines and their equipment working at unsustainable levels. The Coast Guard is undergoing a much-needed recapitalization, and MARAD must be able to grow the pool of American mariners and replace aging training ships. We need strong sea services that are able to respond quickly and definitively to any crisis. The sea services provide the security necessary for the rules-based international order that benefits every single American.

The impacts of the last round of sequestration and other budget impacts are undeniable. There was a surge in aircraft accidents, ship collisions, and increased aggression from other nations. At a time that we need to grow the military, we cannot afford to slash spending. I ask you to repeal the Budget Control Act.

Please continue to support the Navy League’s mission by ensuring our troops are well-funded and have an established budget by letting your Congressman and Senators know that you oppose sequestration.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

*San Diego Corporate Members
& Community Affiliates*

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USO San Diego
Veterans United Home Loans San Diego

San Diego Council,
Navy League Of The United States
2115 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101

Return Service Requested

Membership

Mark Your Calendar...

*THE MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES AT ADMIRAL
BAKER CLUBHOUSE ARE LISTED BELOW:*

**BREAKFAST DATES
7:00 a.m - 8:30 a.m.**

July 13, 2018

August 3, 2018

September 14, 2018*

October 12, 2018*

November 2, 2018

December 7, 2018

** Denotes 2nd Friday of the month*

NEW MEMBERS

Mactaino Alexandre	Byron Reid
Thomas Carter III	Alexis Shorter
Joseph Cooper, Sr.	Devin Smith
William DeBow	Sarita Vaughn
Brent Dotson	Karla Ward
Autumn Dumbrique	Jennifer Waterfield
Malcolm Edwards	Eugene Watkins
Joseph Gatheright	Robert Whiteman, Jr.
Kaiesha	Eric Woods
Mardenborough	
Karen McNeil	
Tullisa Miller	
Matilde Montalvo	
Walter Peralta	
Sonja Phillips	

* Life Members | @ New Community Affiliate

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*We thank the following Corporate Members &
Community Affiliates for their continued support:*

Be a Navy League Volunteer

Volunteers are needed on committees all year long. If you would like to volunteer to help make an event successful, contact Jay Lott at 619-230-0301

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE

Have you moved? Changed your phone number, or Email Address?

WE VALUE YOUR OPINION

The San Diego Navy League takes pride in its publications and seeks to continually improve upon them. We welcome your comments.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please send your letters on all subject matters concerning the Navy League or our brave service men and women directly to:

San Diego Navy League
2115 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone: (619) 230-0301
Fax: (619) 230-0302
jay@navyleague-sd.com

You can make a difference and enroll on-line @ www.navyleague-sd.com