



BLUE & GOLD

Navy League Of The United States San Diego Council 47-12 | December 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JON BERG-JOHNSEN

Where has 2017 gone?! It has been one heck of a year and I know we have so much more to do. December is upon us and we are closing in on the end of a very busy time for the Council.

We will still be holding our December Breakfast Meeting on 1 December. We will be recognizing the Council's Community Affiliate of the Year, and Navy Leaguer of the Year. Please make sure you attend these very important awards and help us thank those who do so much for our Council.



The big news is our Annual Meeting will not be on 1 December. It is being postponed and now will be held at the first Monthly Breakfast Meeting of the New Year, specifically on Friday, 12 January 2018. This will be busy meeting. We plan to have our normal Breakfast meeting with a Guest Speaker, followed immediately by the Annual Meeting for the vote and election of the Board of Directors, and then Immediate following that will be the vote and Election of the Council Officers and Chairs by our Board of Directors. It is critical for our Council Members attend to vote for our Board of Director nominees. The slate of Directors to be voted on by the Members was provided in last month's B&G. We will send it out again for you to review. It may seem to be just another meeting, but this is where we count on your participation.

Regrettably our Breakfast meeting attendance is still down for the year, so I urge you show your support for the Council. More reminders will be sent out, and make sure you go on our web site for the latest information on the elections and details.

From start to finish, November was a great month. Just a few days out of the gate, we hosted Colonel Jason Woodworth, Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, for breakfast where we learned all about the history of the base and the exciting changes coming in the near future. Right in the middle of the month we celebrated the 242nd Birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps at our annual Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon. This year's Guest of Honor was Brigadier General William Journey, Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Depot and Western Recruiting Region. As the month comes to a close, we will recognize the Sea Service Spouses of the Year on 30 November. This will be held at Qtrs A, NAS North Island.

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**To All Of Our Members and Their Families
Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas
and a Happy Holiday Season.**

Breakfast Meeting December 1, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

January 12, 2018

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE
Speaker TBD

“No arsenal,
or no weapon in the
arsenals of the world,
is so formidable as
the will and moral
courage of free men
and women.”
— President Ronald Reagan

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RECOGNITIONS



Lockheed Martin, awards sponsor representative Dave Steindl; SSgt Christopher Norman, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing Aviation Marine of the Year; BGen William Jurney, Commanding General Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego/Western Recruiting Region and Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen.



Lockheed Martin, awards sponsor representative Dave Steindl; SSgt Cory P. Callahan, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Drill Instructor of the Year; BGen William Jurney, Commanding General Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego/Western Recruiting Region and Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen.



Lockheed Martin, awards sponsor representative Dave Steindl; BGen William Jurney, Commanding General Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego/Western Recruiting Region; SSgt Martin P. Lopez, Recruiting Station San Diego Recruiter of the Year and Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen.



Lockheed Martin, awards sponsor representative Dave Steindl; HM1 (FMF/SW/AW) Phillip A. Marquez, Naval Medical Center San Diego FMF Corpsman of the Year; BGen William Jurney, Commanding General Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego/Western Recruiting Region and Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen

The Council also recognized Marines and Sailors from MCAS Miramar and 3d MAW for achievements:

MCAS Miramar:

- NCO of the Quarter: **Corporal Wade R. Young**
- Marine of the Quarter: **Lance Corporal Robert A. Schaller**
- Junior Sailor of the Quarter: **Logistics Specialist Petty Officer Second Class Michael L. Smith**
- Bluejacket of the Quarter: **Logistics Specialist Seaman Saradiah Morpeau**

3d Marine Aircraft Wing:

- NCO of the Quarter: **Sergeant Rafael Almodovarsanabria**
- Marine of the Quarter: **Lance Corporal Jesus E. Silverio**
- Senior Sailor of the Quarter: **RP1 Laneisha Tilton**
- Junior Sailor of the Quarter: **HM2 Matthew Zelkoski**
- Bluejacket of the Quarter: **HN Roy Lester**

VMFAT 101:

- Senior Sailor of the Quarter: **AO1 Antwan Wharwood**
- Junior Sailor of the Quarter: **AD3 Jonathan Hamilton**

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Wednesday March 28, 2018
Enlisted Women of the Year Luncheon
 More information to follow in January

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the start of 2018 looms large on the close horizon, here is an early reminder for a new resolution, or simply a renewal, to support your San Diego Navy League Council and participate and attend the monthly meetings. We are looking to bring on members of the board that will focus on increasing our attendance at our events. Our Bylaws now mandate active participation by Board Members on Committees. This will help everybody feel like they are contributing and involved. This should translate to more attendance at Breakfast meetings. For the 2018 Breakfast meetings, we are working on continuing to bring in informative and enlightening speakers. If you have any suggestions, please pass them to Jay Lott or me.

One other reminder, check your membership. Please renew your membership, preferably before it expires, but within 30 days of expiration so we don't lose you. Our Membership Committee Chair is currently vacant and as we fill that seat in 2018 that person will play an important role in collaborating with Navy League National to ensure we keep the Members we have and help bring on new Members as well.

Please go to our website for more information on our events at www.navyleague-sd.com

There still is much work to do and we need you to pitch in to support our Council.

See you at the Sea Service Spouses Recognition Event on 30 November, and at the Breakfast on 1 December!

Thank you—*Jon Berg-Johnsen*

The Council wishes to thank the following for being Event and Table Sponsors for our 242nd Marine Birthday Lunch

EVENT SPONSOR

Lockheed Martin

TABLE SPONSOR

An Anonymous Donor

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems

Kearny Mesa Walmart

Lincoln Military Housing

Lockheed Martin

Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego

Merrill Lynch

Northrop Grumman

Raytheon

San Diego Gas & Electric

Veterans United Home Loans

ON THIS DATE IN...

DECEMBER

Dec 2, 1965 – USS *Enterprise* (CVAN-65) and USS *Banbridge* (DLGN-25) become the first nuclear-powered task unit in combat operations with launch of air strikes near Bien Hoa, Vietnam.

Dec 4, 1943 – Aircraft from USS *Lexington* (CV-16) and USS *Independence* (CVL-22) attack Kwajalein Atoll, sinking four Japanese ships and damaging five others, while only three U.S. ships suffered damage.

Dec 7, 1941 – The Imperial Japanese Navy launched a surprise aerial attack on the U.S. Pacific Fleet based in Pearl Harbor and surrounding Army Air Force airfields in Hawaii.

Dec 8, 1933 – Secretary of the Navy establishes Fleet Marine Force, integrating a ready-to-deploy Marine force with its own aircraft into the Fleet organization.

Dec 8, 1941 – U.S. declares war on Japan.

Dec 9, 1941 – USS *Swordfish* (SS-193) makes initial U.S. submarine attack on Japanese ship.

Dec 9, 1992 – Marines of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) landed in Somalia kicking off Operation Restore Hope, the largest humanitarian relief operation of its kind.

Dec 11, 1954 – First supercarrier of 59,630 tons, USS *Forrestal* (CVA-59), launched at Newport News, VA.

Dec 12 – Hanukkah begins at evening.

Dec 12, 1951 – First flight of helicopter with gas-turbine engine at Windsor Locks, CT, demonstrates adaptability of this engine to helicopters.

Dec 15, 1948 – The Secretary of the Navy signed a "Memorandum of Agreement" with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

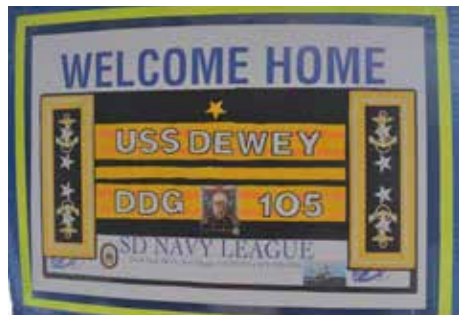
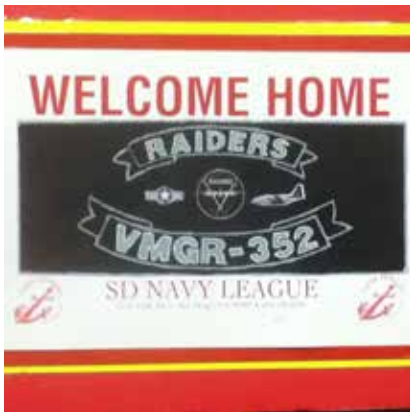
Dec 20 – Hanukkah ends at evening.

Dec 20, 1989 – Operation Just Cause was launched in Panama to protect American lives, restore the democratic process, preserve the integrity of the Panama Canal Treaty, and apprehend dictator General Manuel Noriega.

Dec 21, 1861 – Congress authorizes the Medal of Honor, for Naval personnel.

Dec 25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW





2017 SAN DIEGO MILITARY ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY RELEASED

San Diego is critical to national security with the largest concentration of military in the world, and the positive economic impacts the military has on San Diego county are remarkable. Annually, the San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC) commissions an economic impact study analyzing the benefits from the presence of the military in San Diego. According to the recently-released 2017 report, San Diego benefited from more than \$25B in direct defense spending which equates to \$50B in Gross Regional Product (GRP) and 340,000 jobs, which equates to over 22% of the region GRP and over 22% of the jobs in the region. The report was indicative of increased federal spending on military and veterans in San Diego, with a 3.2 percent hike in defense spending here during the fiscal year, even amongst the budget turmoil. One out of every six sailors and one out of every four Marines worldwide is stationed in San Diego County, with the numbers expected to increase significantly over the next decade. The study also forecasts about a 3.8 percent increase over 2017 in defense spending in the County next year. The report was overseen by Lynn Reaser, the chief economist at the Fermanian Business and Economic Institute at Point Loma Nazarene University.



SMDAC was founded in 2004 with the mission to facilitate and advance the partnership between the military, elected officials, civic leaders, and the business community in order to enhance the understanding of the military's many contributions to the San Diego region. SDMAC is not just for people in the military and defense industries—anyone who lives or works in San Diego is a stakeholder, and can become a member. Benefits of membership include exclusive networking opportunities and events, as well as staying ahead of the latest military and defense issues impacting our region. For interest in SDMAC membership, visit: www.sdmac.org.

The full 2017 study can be viewed and downloaded here: <https://www.sdmac.org/MEIS2017/>

FOREVER G.I. BILL - VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

The Forever GI Bill, also called the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, is named for The American Legion's past national commander



who created the draft of the original GI Bill of Rights in 1944. The Forever GI legislation was introduced in the House of Representatives in July and quickly moved through both chambers of Congress and signed into law. The legislation expands education benefits for Veterans, Servicemembers, Families and Survivors.

Per the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), new provisions that go into effect immediately include:

- The 15-year time limitation to use Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits is eliminated for Veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013, children who became eligible for the Fry Scholarship on or after January 1, 2013, and all Fry scholarship eligible spouses.
- VA is now authorized to restore benefits and provide relief to Veterans affected by school closures or disapprovals, via application.
- Reservists who had eligibility under the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) and lost it due to the program sunset provision will have that service credited toward the Post-9/11 GI Bill program. VA is in the process of identifying the approximately 2,800 Reservists affected by this and will send them letters with instructions.
- Certain work-study is permanently authorized; previously it had to be re-approved by Congress every few years.
- Anyone eligible for GI Bill can use their benefits at an accredited independent study program at an area career and technical school, or a postsecondary vocational school providing postsecondary level education. There is no action required, as these programs will go through the normal course of approval by the appropriate State Approving Agency.
- The VetSuccess on Campus program will be available to students across the country
- VA will help Veterans to more clearly identify schools that offer them priority enrollment

For details on all 34 new provisions, and for contact information, please visit <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/forevergibill.asp>

Welcome Home

HMH-462 Heavy Haulers



WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT *San Diego Corporate Members & Community Affiliates*

CORPORATE GOLD

BAE Systems
Booz Allen Hamilton
DRS Technologies, Inc.
General Atomics
Lockheed Martin
Northrop Grumman Corp.
Raytheon Company

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Barry Controls
General Atomics
Harris Corporation
HP Enterprises
L-3 Communications
Rockwell Collins
Sabtech Industries
Sprint Nextel
TASC
USAA

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

Johnson Controls Federal Systems
Z Microsystems
Zeiders Enterprises

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

CNRSW Morale, Welfare & Recreation
Falkner Winery
First Command Financial Planning
Flagship Cruises & Events
Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego
Navy Federal Credit Union
North Island Credit Union
Northrop Grumman Corp.
Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication
Pacific Tugboat Service
Raytheon
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.
San Diego Copy
San Diego Padres Baseball Club
Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina
Town & Country Hotel
Veterans United Home Loans San Diego

Welcome Aboard:

COMMUNITY AFFILIATE

First Command Financial Services

ATTENTION MEMBERS!!!

The Annual Members Meeting for the vote for San Diego Council Board of Directors previously scheduled for 1 Dec is being postponed to 12 January. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend and vote.

The Nomination Committee has submitted the below recommendations for appointments as officers and Board of Directors for the council:

President – Jon Berg-Johnsen
1st VP – Anthony Johnson

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Secretary – Tamara Marks
Treasurer – William Marks
Homefront SD – Phyllis Barber
Women's Activities – Irene Wells
Programs – Lorraine Santirosa

CHAIRS:

Sea Services – Marty Barnholtz
Scholarships – Rhonda Berg-Johnsen
Welcome Home – Jay Rindler
Youth Programs- Melissa Franklin
Legislative Affairs – Melanie Lang
Membership – Jay Lott
Fundraising – Vacant
Communications – Vacant

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

Hugh Butt | George Jones | Dave Grundies
Sara Jackson | Lorraine Santirosa | Elias Santos

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 & LUNCH DATES AT
ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE ARE LISTED BELOW:*

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

January 12, 2018*

February 2, 2018

March 2, 2018

April 6, 2018

May 4, 2018

June 1, 2018

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

Jazzmin Baker	Christian Hutchinson
Charmaine Barnett	Alejandro Neris
Kevin Bolling	Paula Olesen
Gabriel Bryan	Alissa Owens
Jesse Decrescenzo	Tricia Owens-Hollis
Derek Dumas	Jasmyne Price
Bernard Erlich	Tori Reddick
Jesstina Ferrell	Walter Simmons
Lashay Ferrer	Rhonda Smith
Robin Fields	Lamanzer Williams
Shawn Hamilton	Oscar Wilson
Robert Harris	Reina Wood-Jimenez

* Life Members
@ New Community Affiliate

Husband & Wife Members
^ Student
+ Active Duty Spouse

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:

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