



BLUE & GOLD

Navy League Of The United States San Diego Council 49-01 | January 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JON BERG-JOHNSEN

Happy New Year! 2019 is here and moving out fast! We will start off the year with another great Breakfast Meeting on 11 January. We are very fortunate to have another exceptional leader among our local Navy Commands that will speak about his organization and bring us closer to the challenges and missions they are tasked to execute. Rear Admiral Daniel W. Dwyer, Commander, Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group will be our Speaker. Please make every effort to attend. I guarantee you will enjoy it!



This month's Breakfast will also include the announcement of our Corporate Affiliate of the Year! Make sure you don't miss this. We absolutely cannot do what we do without the exceptionally generous sponsorships and contributions of our Affiliates.

During our Breakfast Meeting last month on December 7th we took time to pay homage to those that were serving in Pearl Harbor during the attack on that day with our respects to those that fought and perished and to those that survived as well as the families. Our capstone event for the breakfast was the announcement of Irene Wells as our Navy Leaguer of the Year! She has done so much for Council this year including volunteering as the Navy Ball Committee Chair, and raising awareness and funds for our Council's activities! Congratulations Irene! Thank you very much and we wish you all the best in retirement. You will be missed!

We begin a new year with the addition of new officers and committee chairs in our Council. Our Board of Directors will vote them in on 11 January. We have a great mix of returning and new people that are ready to step in and take the Council to new levels of greatness.

Before I sign off for the last time as President, I want to thank those in the Council for hanging in there through some very challenging times over the last few years and helping to make sure we were able to continue the mission of the Navy League through informing the public, supporting our Youth Programs, and recognizing our service members and families. 2019 will be another great year for our Council and those involved will continue to make it better.

Jon Berg-Johnsen

Breakfast Meeting

January 11, 2019

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

GUEST SPEAKER

Rear Admiral Daniel W. Dwyer
COMMANDER,
CARRIER STRIKE GROUP NINE

“ This will remain the land of the free so long as it is the home of the brave. ”

— Elmer Davis

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ON THIS DATE IN...

JANUARY

Jan 1 – HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Jan 1, 1950 – Mary T. Sproul is commissioned as the first female doctor in the Navy.

Jan 1 – HAPPY 57th BIRTHDAY NAVY SEAL'S.

Jan 3, 1944 – CDR Frank Erickson flew plasma in a Coast Guard helicopter from Brooklyn to a hospital in Sandy Hook, NJ in the first recorded lifesaving flight conducted by a rotary-winged aircraft.

Jan 4, 1989 – VF-32 aircraft from USS John F. Kennedy shoot down 2 hostile Libyan MIG's.

Jan 6, 1916 – First enlisted flight training class at Pensacola, FL.

Jan 7, 1969 – The Medal of Honor posthumously awarded to LT V. R. Capodanno, Chaplain Corps, USN killed in action, Vietnam on 4 Sept 1967.

Jan 10, 1995 – The Pentagon announced that 2,600 U.S. Marines would be deployed to Somalia for Operation United Shield to assist in the final withdrawal of UN peacekeeping troops.

Jan 12, 1923 – The title "Commandant" was authorized for the service head of the Coast Guard.

Jan 12, 1953 – Landings tested on board USS Antietam, the first angled deck carrier.

Jan 15, 1974 – The first group of women ever enlisted as "regulars" in the U.S. Coast Guard began their 10-weeks of basic training at the Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May, NJ.

Jan 16, 1944 – LT Stewart R. Graham became the first person to make a helicopter take-off and landing aboard a ship underway at sea.

Jan 16, 1991 – Operation Desert Storm, liberation of Kuwait from Iraq, begins.

Jan 18, 1911 – The first aircraft landing on board a ship, USS Pennsylvania by Eugene Ely.

Jan 18, 1951 – Marines of the 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerrillas in the Pohang area.

Jan 18, 1961 – SgtMaj Bertha Peters became the first woman promoted to Sergeant Major in the Marine Corps.

Jan 20, 1914 – School for naval air training opens in Pensacola, FL.

Jan 21, 1918 – The first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in WWI, arrived at Ponta Degada, Azores.

Jan 21, 1954 – Launching of USS Nautilus, first nuclear submarine, at Groton, CT.

Jan 21 – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY!!!

Jan 27, 1945 – Commissioning of USS Higbee (DDG-806), first U.S. Navy ship named after a woman member of the U.S. Navy.

Jan 27, 1973 – Paris Peace Accords signed, ending U.S. participation in the Vietnam War.

Jan 29, 1991 – Marines participated in the first major ground action of Operation Desert Storm.

Jan 31, 1961 – LCDR Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr. becomes the first African-American to command a combat ship, USS Falgout.

Jan 31, 1981 – Era of Enlisted Naval Aviators ends when the last pilot retired.

RECOGNITIONS



Irene Wells pictured with 1st Vice President Tony Johnson is presented her award for being selected as the council's 2018 Navy Leaguer of the Year. Irene has been a stalwart supporter and volunteer over the past ten years for the council. She has been on the Navy Ball Committee for the past 7 years. Irene retired from Navy Region Southwest MWR recently and she and her husband will be retiring in Nevada. Fair Winds and Following Seas Irene!!



Life Member and council photographer Bob Berman gets photo of him and Gabrielle Giffords Former United States Representative from Arizona at the 12-star Holiday Reception.

Welcome Home

USS Michael Monsoor (DDG-1001)



**Rear Admiral Daniel W. Dwyer
COMMANDER,
CARRIER STRIKE GROUP NINE**

Rear Adm. Dwyer is a native of Alameda, California, and a 1988 graduate of the California Maritime Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation and a third mate's license in the Merchant Marine. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College, Newport Rhode Island, and holds a Master's in Foreign Affairs and Strategic Studies, and a Master's in Computer Information Science.

Dwyer received his Wings of Gold in March 1992 with orders to fly the F/A-18C in Lemoore, California.

He has previously commanded Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 27, a forward deployed naval forces (FDNF) Super Hornet Squadron assigned to Carrier Air Wing Five (CVW-5) aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63); Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) Asadabad, Kunar Province, Afghanistan; VFA-106 the East Coast F/A-18A-F Fleet Replacement Squadron; CVW-8 aboard USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77); and CVW 17 aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70).

Other at sea and ashore assignments include two tours with VFA-151, Topgun Class 97-1; F-18 Tactics instructor at Strike Fighter Weapons School Pacific Lemoore, California; Hornet air combat placement officer (Pers-433a) Naval Personnel Command Millington, Tennessee; director Regional Outreach (CJ9) Headquarters, Commander, International Security Assistance Force Kabul, Afghanistan; and director of Aviation Officer Distribution (Pers-43) Naval Personnel Command Millington, Tennessee.

As a flag officer Dwyer was the chief of staff and assistant chief of staff for Strategy, Resources and Plans for Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Naval Forces Africa and for Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet in Naples, Italy.

Dwyer assumed his current duties in June 2018 and is privileged to command the Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group which consists of over 7,000 dedicated and talented Sailors across nine ships, including USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), USS Bunker Hill (CG 52), USS Zumwalt (DDG 1000), six guided missile destroyers of Destroyer Squadron 23, and 80 aircraft of Carrier Air Wing ELEVEN (CVW 11).

Dwyer was the 1997 Commander Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Adm. Wesley McDonald Junior Officer of the Year and his personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Air Medal Strike/Flight, Combat Action Ribbon, Battle E (three awards) and has accumulated over 3,500 F-18 flight hours, and over 1,100 carrier arrested landings on 11 different aircraft carriers.

CORPORATE GOLD

BAE Systems
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Lockheed Martin
Northrop Grumman Corp.
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COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

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



San Diego Council



*2019 Enlisted Women of the Year March 28, 2019
Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego 11 a.m.—1:30 p.m.*

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

VISA/MC: _____ Exp _____

Company (for table sponsorship) _____

Address: _____

I would like to be a sponsor. (Please check appropriate sponsorship)

_____ Table Sponsor: \$500 (Four seats for my use)

_____ Flower Sponsor: \$300

_____ Individual tickets: \$50

_____ I'd like to sponsor a service member at \$40 each

MAIL TO: San Diego Council of the Navy League, 2115 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101, Fax to (619) 230-0302 or go to our website, www.navyleague-sd.com for credit card purchases. For an invoice, please contact Jay Lott at (619) 230- 0301 email: jay@navyleague-sd.com.

Call to Action: Pay for Coast Guard and Maritime Administration Employees Amid Shutdown

Please use your voice to encourage our representatives to restore pay for Coast Guard and Maritime Administration Employees, as well as end the shutdown. Go to the Voice to Congress page to write to your representatives with a simple form letter: <https://www.votervoices.net/NavyLeague/Campaigns/62169/Respond>

Navy Readiness Hearing, As Reported by the Navy League Legislative Affairs Weekly Round-Up

On December 12, 2018, the Senate Armed Services Committee held a joint hearing of its Readiness and Seapower Subcommittees to examine the state of the Navy and Marine Corps. The hearing generated numerous headlines including a **\$3.6 billion recovery price tag for Camp Lejeune**, and continuing ship maintenance delays. As military leaders have done for years now Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer pleaded with members of the committee for stable, consistent funding, noting that a return of sequestration would result in a \$26 billion cut to the Department of the Navy. He likened the readiness recovery to relearning to ride a bicycle, which the services have done over the last several years saying, “We’ll be knocked off just as we’re getting going.” He promised the Navy was making progress with the investment from Congress over the past several years, and said in eight weeks they have increased maintenance throughput by 40-percent. Secretary Spencer did admit however that **three attack submarines are not qualified to dive** and have been idling while waiting for dry-dock availability that is a third short of requirements.

The Government Affairs Office GAO reported that since 2012 the **Navy lost more than 27000 days of ship and sub availability** due to maintenance delays, and wasn’t meeting it’s own training requirements with **some sailors still working 100 hour weeks**. They have issued 45 recommendations to the Navy and Pentagon to improve force readiness since 2012, said GAO Director of Defense Capabilities and Management John Pendleton. Committee Chair Roger Wicker (R-MS) noted that the last time sequestration kicked in it resulted in five cancelled ship deployments; \$2b in deferred procurements, 30-percent cut to facility sustainment, maintenance backlogs, and half of the home-stationed Marine Corps units had unacceptable readiness. Responding to a question from Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK) regarding the plunge in readiness over the past decade, Pendleton said, “Demand didn’t slow down with shrinking fleet and budgets cutting resulting in a ripple effect.” He also warned that depot capabilities are more than six years behind and there are problems sustaining older aircraft while incorporating new ones into the fleet, calling into question Defense Secretary Mattis’ goal of 80% readiness for aircraft.



ARABIAN SEA (Dec. 12, 2018) Naval Aircrewman (Helicopter) Erick Smith, assigned to the “Blackjacks” of helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 21, rides in an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter while conducting flight operations with the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD 2). The John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group and the Essex Amphibious Ready Group are conducting integrated operations in the Arabian Sea to ensure stability and security in the Central Region, connecting the Mediterranean and the Pacific through the western Indian Ocean and three strategic choke points. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Adam Brock/Released)

MEMBERS
Navy League Of The United States | San Diego Council

2019 Council Board of Director’s

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Judi Adams | Darnisha Hunter | Tim Ney |
| Jason R. Surya | Rick Mitrovich | Sheldon Margolis |
| Anthony Johnson | Bob Berman | Dave Grundies |
| Hugh Butt | Irene Wells | Jay Rindler |
| John MacIntyre | Jon Berg-Johnsen | Melanie Lang |
| Phyllis Barber | Rhonda Berg-Johnsen | Tamara Marks |
| Victor Krulak | George Jones | |

Board of Director’s meeting January 11, 2019

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.

January 11, 2019**

February 1, 2019

March 1, 2019

April 5, 2019

May 3, 2019

June 7, 2019

July 12, 2019**

August 2, 2019

September 13, 2019**

October 4, 2019

November 1, 2019

December 6, 2019

**** Denotes 2nd Friday of the month**

NEW MEMBERS

Marvin Asato
Luis Caban
Tirrel Carkhum
Preston Davis
Peter Forkuo
James Guy
Olusesan Ilori
Paul Van Kleef
Jonathan Mathurin
April McGuire
Myra Saunders-Perez
Michael Shapiro
Wyllie Tabb
Contenna Williams
Edward Wirt

* 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:

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