



# BLUE & GOLD

Navy League Of The United States San Diego Council 48-03 | March 2018

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JON BERG-JOHNSEN

March offers the opportunity to recognize the significant achievements of Women during Women's History Month. The Department of Defense encourages their organizations and commands to set aside time to remember the contributions of women in the past and celebrate their successes today. Annually Navy League San Diego takes time to recognize these accomplishments during the local active duty Enlisted Women of the Year Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. As one of our most popular events this is a great chance to come out and support our Sea Services. Mark you calendar for 28 March 2018 and please make plans to attend. If you cannot participate, please consider making a donation of \$40 to help pay for a Service Member or \$400 to sponsor a table of 10. To attend, simply going to our website - [navyleague-sd.com](http://navyleague-sd.com) - and make a donation, or even better, sign up to attend!



As a reminder, we have CDR Emily Cathey, Commanding Officer, USS Independence (LCS-2) as our Breakfast Speaker on 2 March. Her ship is the first of her class and variant of Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), and one of four designated test ships home ported in San Diego. We are grateful she can take time out of very busy schedule and join us for this event so please plan on attending!

February was a great month for our Council and the Navy. The Council, through the efforts of Jay Rindler our Welcome Home Committee Chair, and other volunteers, supported the return of 4500 Sailors and Marines, embarked with USS America (LHA-6), USS San Diego (LPD-22), USS Pearl Harbor (LSD-52), and the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, on 2 February after a 7-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Middle East; the Navy Commissioned its newest ship, USS OMAHA (LCS-12) on 3 February, and the following week, Council Board Members, Jay Rindler, John Schiltz, Jason Minter, Melanie Lang, Tony Johnson and Bob Berman supported a Council information table graciously provided by the U.S. Naval Institute during WEST 2018, 6-8 February at the San Diego Convention Center. WEST is the premier annual show and one of the largest for the Department of Defense and industry held in San Diego. Lastly, we presented Gift Card and Certificates of Appreciation to the Marines and Sailors of the Year and the Quarter for the THIRD Marine Aircraft Wing and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar on 9 February and on 16 February to the Sailors of the Quarter at the Naval Medical Center.

We are here to ensure the Council will carry on the Mission of the Navy League, and you can be proud of the efforts of the small number of incredible people who are volunteering their time to make sure that happens. If you want to help and support these events, or join in helping with our other events and recognition of local

*Continued on page 3*

## Breakfast Meeting March 2, 2018

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

### GUEST SPEAKER

CDR Emily Cathey  
Commanding Officer  
USS Independence (LCS-2)

*“The battle of Iwo Jima has been won. Among the Americans who served on Iwo, uncommon valor was a common virtue.”*

— Admiral Chester W. Nimitz  
March 17, 1945

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# RECOGNITIONS



Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen stands among the many Marine Corps Air Station and 3d Marine Aircraft Wing quarterly and yearly honorees.



(l-r) Council 1st VP Tony Johnson, Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen, Navy Recruiting Districts Sailor of the Quarter AWO1(NAC/AW) Victor J. Roman-Charriez and Gregory Seepersad, awards sponsor Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, representative.



Booth – Council members Jay Rindler (l) and Bob Berman man the information booth at the AFCEA convention.



The Beach Boys performed at aboard the USS Midway at the Chairman's Reception for the USS Omaha. A wonderful event!!



Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen (r) presents Navy League Nebraska Council President Walter "Butch" Kirkpatrick, a council ballcap for being the February guest speaker. Butch briefed the council on the USS Omaha's commissioning that was held on 3 February.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard personnel, please contact our Council Executive Director, Jay Lott at [jay@navyleague-sd.com](mailto:jay@navyleague-sd.com).

We rely on donations and sponsorships to help keep us supporting and hosting such great events. I ask that you consider making a donation of whatever you can to our Council through a cash or credit card payment directly to our Council. We are a not for profit organization and your donation can be tax deductible. Most importantly your donations will provide direct support for the recognition programs we provide for our Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, their families, and our Youth Programs. You can do this online, or by mailing us a check.

Please keep in touch and check our website more updates and enjoy the rest of the great articles and information in this Newsletter!

Thank you for your support.

Jon Berg-Johnsen

President

## GOALS OF THE San Diego Council, Navy League Of The United States

1. Educate national leaders and the nation.
2. Support the men and women of the sea services.
3. Provide assistance to sea service families.
4. Support youth programs.

“*They (Women Marines) don't have a nickname, and they don't need one. They get their basic training in a Marine atmosphere, at a Marine Post.*”

— LtGen Thomas Holcomb, USMC  
Commandant of the Marine Corps, 1943

## ON THIS DATE IN...

MARCH

**Mar 1, 2003** – Administrative control of the U.S. Coast Guard transferred to the newly created Department of Homeland Security from the Department of Transportation.

**Mar 2 – HAPPY 167th BIRTHDAY  
CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS!!!**

**Mar 2, 1973** – Women begin pilot training in the U.S. Navy.

**Mar 3 – HAPPY 147th BIRTHDAY  
NAVY MEDICAL CORPS!!!**

**Mar 4, 1977** – ENS Janna Lambine, USCG, graduated from naval aviation training at NAS Whiting Field, Milton, FL becoming the Coast Guard's first female pilot.

**Mar 5, 1942** – The name “Seabees” and insignia are officially authorized.

**Mar 7, 1958** – Commissioning of USS *Grayback*, the first submarine built from the keel up with guided missile capability, to fire Regulus II missile.

**Mar 7, 1994** – Navy issues the first orders to women assigned aboard a combat ship, USS *Eisenhower*.

**Mar 8, 1945** – Phyllis Daley, becomes the first African-American Ensign, Navy Nurse Corps.

**Mar 8, 1965** – The 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade landed at DaNang, Republic of Vietnam as the first U.S. ground combat troops to be committed to that conflict.

**Mar 13, 1943** – The first group of 71 Women Marine officer candidates arrived at the U.S. Midshipman School (Women's Reserve) at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA.

**Mar 15, 1943** – The numbered fleet system is established.

**Mar 16, 1945** – Iwo Jima is declared secured.

**Mar 17, 1898** – USS *Holland*, first practical submarine is launched.

**Mar 17, 1967** – Master Sergeant Barbara J. Dulinsky became the first woman Marine to report to Vietnam for duty.

**Mar 17 – HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!!!**

**Mar 19, 1917** – Navy Department authorizes enrollment of women in the Naval Reserve.

**Mar 16, 1917** – On the date Third Lieutenant Elmer Sone, USCG became the first Coast Guard officer ordered to flight training.

**Mar 21, 1917** – Loretta Walsh becomes the first woman Navy petty officer.

**Mar 22, 1917** – Third Lieutenant Elmer Stone, USCG, became Naval Aviator #38, Coast Guard Aviator #1.

**Mar 25, 1945** – After 35 days of bitter fighting, the amphibious assault on the fortress of Iwo Jima finally appeared over.

**Mar 29, 1975** – The evacuation of DaNang by sea began.

**CDR Emily Cathey, Commanding Officer USS Independence (LCS-2)**

A native of Statesville, North Carolina, Commander Emily Cathey is a 1999 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and has served in a variety of sea and shore commands.

Cathey's sea duty assignments include duty on cruisers, carriers, destroyers, patrol boats and littoral combat ships. She served as the gunnery officer aboard USS Cowpens (CG 63), the auxiliaries division officer aboard USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67), chief engineer aboard USS Mitscher (DDG 57), commanding officer aboard of Patrol Coastal Crew Lima, on USS Squall (PC 7), USS Monsoon (PC 4), and USS Typhoon (PC 5), flag secretary and assistant chief of staff for Commander, Carrier Strike Group Eight and executive officer aboard USS Independence (LCS 2).

Ashore, Commander Cathey earned a Masters in Strategic Studies (Northeast Asia region) from the Naval Postgraduate School. She served as the central Asia action officer and Asia trans-regional branch action officer in the Joint Staff, Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J-5) and as the director of staff and command evaluator at Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center in San Diego.

Her current assignment is Commanding Officer, USS Independence (LCS 2).

Cathey's decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and other personal, unit and campaign awards.



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**DEDICATING THE 5TH MAR DIV CEMETERY ON IWO JIMA, MARCH 21, 1945**

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This sermon was delivered by Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, a Navy chaplain for the Fifth Marine Division, at one of the religious services dedicating the 5thMarDiv cemetery on Iwo Jima, March 21, 1945.

This is perhaps the grimmest and surely the holiest task we have faced since D-day. Here before us lie the bodies of comrades and friends. Men who until yesterday or last week laughed with us, joked with us, trained with us. Men who were on the same ships with us and went over the sides with us, as we prepared to hit the beaches of this island. Men who fought with us and feared with us. Somewhere in this plot of ground there may lie the man who could have discovered the cure for cancer. Under one of these Christian crosses, or beneath a Jewish Star of David, there may rest now a man who was destined to be a great prophet—to find the way, perhaps, for all to live in plenty, with poverty and hardship for none. Now they lie here silently in this sacred soil, and we gather to consecrate this earth in their memory.

It is not easy to do so. Some of us have buried our closest friends here. We saw these men killed before our very eyes. Any one of us might have died in their places. Indeed, some of us are alive and breathing at this very moment only because men who lie here beneath us had the courage and strength to give their lives for ours. To speak in memory of such men as these is not easy. Of them, too, can it be said with utter truth: "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here. It can never forget what they did here."

No, our poor power of speech can add nothing to what these men and the other dead of our division who are not here have already done. All that we can even hope to do is follow their example. To show the same selfless courage in peace that they did in war. To swear that, by the grace of God and the stubborn strength and power of human will, their sons and ours shall never suffer these pains again. These men have done their job well. They have paid the ghastly price of freedom. If that freedom be once again lost, as it was after the last war, the unforgivable blame will be ours, not theirs. So it is the living who are here to be dedicated and consecrated.

We dedicate ourselves, first, to live together in peace the way they fought and are buried in war. Here lie men who loved America because their ancestors, generations ago, helped in her founding, and other men who loved her with equal passion because they themselves or their own fathers escaped from oppression to her blessed shores. Here lie officers and men, Negroes and whites, rich men and poor—together. Here are Protestants, Catholics, and Jews—together. Here no man prefers another because of his faith or despises him because of his color. Here there are no quotas of how many from each group are admitted or allowed. Among these men there is no discrimination. No prejudice. No hatred. Theirs is the highest and purest democracy.



Any man among us the living who fails to understand that will thereby betray those who lie here dead. Whoever of us lifts his hand in hate against a brother, or thinks himself superior to those who happen to be in the minority, makes of this ceremony and of the bloody sacrifice it commemorates, an empty, hollow mockery. To this, then, as our solemn, sacred duty, do we the living now dedicate ourselves: to the right of Protestants, Catholics and Jews, of white men and Negroes alike, to enjoy the democracy for which all of them have here paid the price.

To one thing more do we consecrate ourselves in memory of those who sleep beneath these crosses and stars. We shall not foolishly suppose, as did the last generation of America's fighting men, that victory on the battlefield will automatically guarantee the triumph of democracy at home. This war,

with all its frightful heartache and suffering, is but the beginning of our generation's struggle for democracy. When the last battle has been won, there will be those at home, as there were last time, who will want us to turn our backs in selfish isolation on the rest of organized humanity, and thus to sabotage the very peace for which we fight. We promise you who lie here; we will not do that! We will join hands with Britain, China, Russia—in peace, even as we have in war, to build the kind of world for which you died.

When the last shot has been fired, there will still be those whose eyes are turned backward not forward, who will be satisfied with those wide extremes of poverty and wealth in which the seeds of another war can breed. We promise you, our departed comrades: this, too, we will not permit. This war has been fought by the common man; its fruits of peace must be enjoyed by the common man! We promise, by all that is sacred and holy, that your sons, the sons of miners and millers, the sons of farmers and workers, will inherit from your death the right to a living that is decent and secure.

When the final cross has been placed in the last cemetery, once again there will be those to whom profit is more important than peace, who will insist with the voice of sweet reasonableness and appeasement that it is better to trade with the enemies of mankind than, by crushing them, to lose their profit. To you who sleep here silently, we give our promise: we will not listen! We will not forget that some of you were burnt with oil that came from American wells, that many of you were killed by shells fashioned from American steel. We promise that when once again men seek profit at your expense, we shall remember how you looked when we placed you reverently, lovingly, in the ground.

This do we memorialize those who, having ceased living with us, now live within us. Thus do we consecrate ourselves, the living, to carry on the struggle they began. Too much blood has gone into this soil for us to let it lie barren. Too much pain and heartache have fertilized the earth on which we stand. We here solemnly swear: this shall not be in vain! Out of this, and from the suffering and sorrow of those who mourn this, will come—we promise—the birth of a new freedom for the sons of men everywhere.

Amen. LT Roland B. Gittelsohn, CHC, USN

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## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

BY: MELANIE LANG, VP LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

### Your Voices Were Heard – Thank You!

You may recall the article last month in the Blue & Gold entitled “The U.S. Coast Guard Needs You”, which outlined the needs to rebuild after last year’s grueling storm season requiring significant Coast Guard efforts. We asked our members to reach out to representatives and you did. According to the Navy League, Navy Leaguers from around the country sent letters to Congress urging them to increase the Coast Guard’s portion of the supplemental funding for hurricane response and to increase the Budget Control Act budget caps. In conjunction with the power of our members, the National Navy League staff also met with Senate offices about these issues. Due to our unified efforts, both of these items were included in the recently passed budget bill. The USCG hurricane funding relief was increased by \$411.1M over the Administration’s original proposal, nearly doubling it. Thanks again for taking action when called upon! The Navy League provides a quick and easy tool to contact your representatives with a form letter to support legislative efforts, which you can find here: <http://cqrcengage.com/navyleague/>





*The International Frigate Working Group (IFWG) is an international forum for communicating and sharing information among partner countries. IFWG has a deliberately informal structure to provide an open forum for unclassified exchange of ideas and information.*

*IFWG collaborates on:*

- ❖ Increasing FFG platform operational effectiveness and readiness*
- ❖ Innovative solutions with the objective of preserving the FFG-7 class for partner nations*
- ❖ Lifecycle management of ship's warfighting capabilities*
- ❖ Maintenance and modernization*
- ❖ Obsolescence issues*
- ❖ Both hull, mechanical and electrical and combat systems*
- ❖ Collaborative logistics*

*San Diego, California  
25 Apr - 02 May 2018  
at the Admiral Kidd Club*

***Countries Invited:***

<i>Australia</i>	<i>Poland</i>
<i>Bahrain</i>	<i>Saudi Arabia</i>
<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>Spain</i>
<i>Egypt</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>
<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Turkey</i>
<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>United States</i>
<i>Philippines</i>	<i>Vietnam</i>

*Supported by the  
San Diego Navy League*



For more information/opportunities contact Capt. Dave Grundies,  
USN (Ret.) [dgrundies@gmail.com](mailto:dgrundies@gmail.com) Cell 858.999.1898

# Welcome Home

VMM (re-enforced) 161-“Warhorse” | 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit  
1st Battalion 5th Marines | 15 Combat Logistics Battalion  
TACRON 11 | Beach master Unit One | Assault Craft Unit One  
USS Pearl Harbor (LSD-52) | USS AMERICA (LHA-6)  
USS SAN DIEGO (LPD-22)



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

### **CORPORATE GOLD**

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Town & Country Hotel  
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.**

**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

Amir Basra	Tim Ney
Christopher Bevly	Kierran Parks
Stephanie Clark	ShaRhonda Porter
Dana Glasgow	Ramona Roman
Walter Hardy	Kenneth Vick
Hasny Hushamdeen	Karen Waller
Jaqueline Jacobo	Marcus Ward
James Kegley	Barry Washington
Sara King	Latitrilla Washington
Brad Lyle	Wanda Washington
Christine Lynders	Kenneth Wilkins
Varsha Makharia	Lashundra Willis
April McGuire	Antranik Zartarian

\* Life Members  
@ New Community Affiliate

# Husband & Wife Members  
^ Student  
+ Active Duty Spouse

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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

**Navy Federal Credit Union 18 years**  
**Falkner Winery 14 years**

## 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**  
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jay@navyleague-sd.com

You can make a difference and enroll on-line @ [www.navyleague-sd.com](http://www.navyleague-sd.com)!