



# BLUE & GOLD

Navy League Of The United States San Diego Council 47-09 | September 2017

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JON BERG-JOHNSEN

September is the month we acknowledge our Youth Programs. Our Sea Cadet program is one of our core activities for the Council. In case you did not know, the Navy League of the United States founded the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) in 1958 at the request of the United States Navy. There are six field areas of the USNSCC, which are further divided up into regions and then sub-regions. The Pacific Field Area is composed of Region 11 covering Southern California and the Las Vegas area. Region 11 is sub-divided into 8 sub-regions. San Diego is part of the Region 11. LCDR Melissa Franklin is a LCDR, NSCC and serves on our Board as lead for our Council's Youth Programs. Her efforts have led the Cadets to exceptional recognition and success.



Our Council has proudly supported the Sea Cadets for many years. The USNSCC provides a senior cadet programs available for male and female cadets age 13-18 and a Navy League Cadet Corps (NLCC) for cadets age 10-13. Although there is no military service obligation as a participant of the program, many cadets enlist in the military and former sea cadets represent a percentage of students at the five federal service academies. We are honored to have CAPT William Ratner, USN (Ret), Naval Sea Cadet Corps National Headquarters Representative, as the Guest Speaker for our 8 September Council Breakfast Meeting.

To update you on some Council news – Several Board of Directors and Members played a major part in the commissioning of the USS Peralta (DDG-115). All their hard work on the Commissioning Committee was completed with a spectacularly successful ceremony on 29 July that paid tribute to Sgt Rafael Peralta, the ship's namesake, honoring his life and heroic actions in combat.

On 4 August, CAPT Joseph Buzzella, USCG, presented a stirring briefing on the challenges of protecting the environment and safe guarding the citizens in the area under his command of Sector San Diego.

Also, we recently completed the disbursement of the Alexander Kreiglowa College Scholarships funds for the 2017-2018 Fall Semester.

For those asking about our Bylaws, there are several processes we have been working on. First, the Bylaws review committee, led by our Secretary Tamara Marks, and three others, spent four months reviewing them and providing recommended changes. We also have Mr. Bruce Bishop, an independent, certified Parliamentarian, reviewing our Bylaws for accuracy, and procedural correctness in accordance with National Navy

*Continued on page 3*

## Breakfast Meeting September 8, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

### GUEST SPEAKER

CAPT Bill Ratner, USN (Ret)  
Naval Sea Cadet Corps  
NHQ Representative, PSW

“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.”  
— Ronald Reagan

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## RECOGNITIONS



Y2 Carl Luis Blas, Coast Guard Sector San Diego's Enlisted Person of the Quarter, is flanked by his Executive Officer, CDR Montero and Jon Berg-Johnsen, Council President.



(l-r) VP Sea Services, Bob Berman; Council President Jon Berg-Johnsen; DC1(SW) Zachery Huckaby, Navy Recruiting Districts Recruiter of the Quarter; ABE1 Aquia Lunsford, Navy Recruiting Districts Support Sailor of the Quarter and Ray Robeson, San Diego Gas & Electric awards representative.



VADM Nora Tyson, Commander, THIRD Fleet with local Sea Cadets.



Commandant of the Marine Corps General Robert Neller with local Sea Cadets.

*Sea Cadets photos courtesy of Melissa Franklin*



Coast Guard Sector San Diego, Commander CAPT Joseph Buzella, USCG adds another hat to the many that he wears as Captain of the Port for San Diego, for being our August guest speaker.

*"Members,  
In the August newsletter in the President's  
Message we referred to the Douglas Mackie  
Award when it should have been the Donald  
M. Mackie Award. We regret this error."*

League requirements, California Corporations Code and Robert's Rules of Order. Lastly, by the time you read this message we expect to have completed approval of the Council Bylaws by our Board of Directors. The Bylaws will be posted on the Council website for Members to review. A Members meeting will be held on 15 September at the ADM Baker Clubhouse to formally approve the Bylaws. A Members Reception will be held immediately after the Bylaws meeting at the same location.

Once approved, our Secretary will certify the Bylaws and formally sign them to complete the process. That will allow us to begin the process to form a nomination Committee and hold an election for our Officers and Directors.

The "business" of the Council continues humming along and September kicks off our busiest time of the year. In the next three months, besides holding our Monthly Breakfast Meetings, we will host a Chalet at the Miramar Airshow on 23 September; celebrate the Navy's 242nd Birthday at the Annual Navy Ball being held on 14 October; formally acknowledge the Marine Corps' 242nd Anniversary of its founding at a Luncheon on 15 November, and recognize the San Diego Sea Services Spouse of the Year during a luncheon on 30 November. We hope you can all join us at all these events as we pay tribute for our Service men and women, their Organizations, and family members. Please go to our website for more information on these and other events at [www.navyleague-sd.com](http://www.navyleague-sd.com)

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

Join us. Get involved. You can make a difference! Please don't forget to attend the Breakfast Meeting on 8 September!

Thank you—*Jon Berg-Johnsen*

### **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

What: Council Members\* Reception

When: September 15, 2017

Where: Admiral Baker Clubhouse

Time: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Dress: Casual

Cost: Member—\$5.00

\*Non-Members—\$15.00

(plus you get one drink ticket)

You MUST be a member in good standing in our Council and you MUST RSVP to attend to [jay@navyleague-sd.com](mailto:jay@navyleague-sd.com)

Paying online satisfies the RSVP

## **ON THIS DATE IN... SEPTEMBER**

**Sept 1, 1942** – Establishment of Air Force, Pacific Fleet.

**Sept 1, 1942** – The 6th Naval Construction Battalion arrives on Guadalcanal, becoming the first Seabee unit to serve in a combat area.

**Sept 1, 1977** – Bobby C. Wilks became the first African American in the Coast Guard to reach the rank of Captain. He was also the first African American Coast Guard aviator and the first to command a Coast Guard air station.

**Sept 2, 1945** – Japanese officials signed articles of surrender aboard USS *Missouri* (BB-63), at anchor in Tokyo Bay, officially ending World War II.

**Sept 4 – LABOR DAY!!!** A yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

**Sept 5, 1990** – USS *Acadia* (AD-42) departs San Diego for first war-time deployment of male-female crew on a combat vessel.

**Sept 7, 1942** – The first air evacuation of casualties to hospital ships off shore occurs at Guadalcanal.

**Sept 9, 1945** – A "computer bug" is first identified and named by LT Grace Murray Hopper while she was on Navy active duty. They "debugged" the computer, thus first introducing the term.

**Sept 9, 1950** – Capt. L.E. Brown flew the first Marine combat jet mission in Korea.

**Sept 11, 2001** – Terrorist hijacked four commercial U.S. aircraft, crashing two into the World Trade Center in New York City, one into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and the fourth in a field around Shanksville, PA.

**Sept 11 – PATRIOT DAY!!!**

Fly your flag proudly at half-staff.

**Sept 14, 1814** – British bombardment of Fort Mchenry inspires Frances Scott Key to write the Star Spangled Banner.

**Sept 15 – POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY!!!** Fly your flag proudly.

**Sept 17 – CITIZENSHIP (CONSTITUTION) DAY!!!** is an American federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution and those who have become U.S. citizens. Observed on September 17, the day in 1787 that delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the document in Philadelphia.

**Sept 18 – HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY U. S. AIR FORCE!!!**

**Sept 20 – Rosh Hashanah begins at Sunset.**

**Sept 20, 1951** – In Operation Summit, the first combat helicopter landing in history as U.S. Marines were landed in Korea.

**Sept 23, 1931** – Lt. Alfred Pride pilots the Navy's first rotary wing aircraft, XOP-1 autogiro, in landings and takeoffs on board USS *Langley* while underway.

**Sept 24, 1960** – The first nuclear powered aircraft carrier, USS *Enterprise* (CVAN-65) is launched at Newport News, VA.

**Sept 26, 1931** – Keel laying at Newport News, VA of USS *Ranger* (CV-4), the first ship designed and constructed as an aircraft carrier.

**Sept 27, 1942** – Signalmen 1/c Douglas A. Munro USCG gave his life evacuating Marines at Matanikau Point, Guadalcanal earning him the Medal of Honor. His parents received his posthumous Medal of Honor from President Franklin D. Roosevelt in a ceremony at the White House. Munro is the only Coast Guardsman to receive the Medal of Honor.

**Sept 27, 1950** – The First and Fifth Marines of the First Marine Division captures Seoul, South Korea.

**Sept 28, 1850** – Congress allows flogging on Navy ships.

**Sept 29 – Yom Kippur begins at Sunset.**

**Sept 30, 1954** – Commissioning of USS *Nautilus* (SSN-571), the world's first nuclear-powered submarine at Groton, CT.



# USS RAFAEL PERALTA (DDG 115) COMMISSIONING



Marines, San Diego Mayor, Mayor Kevin Faulconer, Mrs. Rosa Peralta and Sgt Peralta's sister, Icela Donald Peralta.



Peter Hsu artist of ship pic, CDR Brian Ribota, Commanding Officer USS Rafael Peralta



Phyllis Barber, VP Homefront San Diego, Commandant of the Marine Corps General Robert Neller and Jon Berg-Johnsen, President, San Diego Council of the Navy League.



Crew USS Peralta/C0-chairs Paul Denyer and Tom Garcia



Service members that served with Sgt Peralta



Jack Harkins, Commissioning Committee member and Commandant of the Marine Corps General Robert Neller



USS Rafael Peralta Command Master Chief, CMDCM German Lira, his 2 children, Mrs Rosa Peralta, mother of Sgt Peralta and the ships sponsor and the wife of CMDCM Lira.





CDR Brian Ribota, Commanding Officer USS Rafael Peralta and Jon Berg-Johnsen, President, San Diego Council of the Navy League



Wayne Tyson, Vice Admiral Nora Tyson, Commander, Third FLEET, Mrs. Brook Rich, Mark Rich, RDML USN, Ret.



Rep Scott Peters/ Commissioning Co-Chair Tom Garcia/ Rep Susan Davis/ Commissioning Co-Chair Paul Denyer/ San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer



Marcela Celorio, Mexican Consul General, Council Life Member Alan Gary, LCDR Alysa Armstrong USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115) Commissioning Coordinator



Bob Kopas, Chief of Staff, Commissioning Committee, Jon Berg-Johnsen President, San Diego Council of the Navy League

## **CAPT William Ratner, USN (Ret)** **Pacific Southwest Area Representative**

Captain William Ratner, USN (Ret) became the Pacific Southwest Area National Headquarters Representative in January 2014. He served previously as commanding officer of Bryce Canyon Division and Betsy Ross Division with Region 11-2 after affiliating with the NSCC in July 2010.



Captain Ratner's Navy experience began in June 1966 when he enlisted under the Reserve Officer Candidate Corps where he obtained the rank of Petty Officer Third Class as a Quartermaster prior to receiving his commission as an Ensign in December 1970. After leaving Officer Candidate School, his various active duty assignments included being the Damage Control Officer aboard the USS Gurke and as Executive Officer aboard USS Cree prior to being an instructor at Surface Warfare Officer School.

As a member of the Naval Reserve, he served in various training and operational commands within the Greater Long Beach- and Los Angeles-areas in California from 1979 through 1988. This included being the SELRES Administrator and Coordinator on Board the USS Duncan where he obtained the rank of commander. After completing tours as executive officer and commanding officer of MIUWU-105, that eventually deployed to Saudi Arabia as part of Desert Storm/ Desert Shield in September 1990 through April 1991, he obtained the rank of captain in 1992. Captain Ratner continued to serve in the Naval Reserve within the Individual Ready Reserve until 1998. He retired in 2008.

Captain Ratner earned a bachelor's degree in U.S. History from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1970 and a Master's in Business Administration from Wake Forest University in 1979. Captain Ratner was employed by ITT Industries for 26 years in various operational and management positions rising to Director of Air Defense Systems.

Captain Ratner and his wife Mary, a retired BSN in nursing with 40 years of intensive care experience, reside in Canoga Park, California.

## **2017 Armed Services Family Readiness Volunteer**

**Recognition Ceremony September 28, 2017**

**Town and Country Resort**

For Information Contact:

Phyllis Barber: [phyllis.b@militaryymca.org](mailto:phyllis.b@militaryymca.org)  
or 858 751-5755 ext 102

### NEW LEGISLATION REGARDING NON-CITIZEN SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS

Representative Juan Vargas (CA-51) is sponsoring 3 new bills that cover naturalization, deportation tracking, and healthcare for non-citizen service members and veterans. The 3 bills are summarized below:

#### *H.R. 2759 Naturalization at Training Sites Act of 2017 or the NATS Act*

This bill directs the Department of Defense, and the Department of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard, to establish a naturalization office with trained personnel at each initial military training site of the Armed Forces.

The military department concerned shall: (1) identify members of the Armed Forces who are not U.S. citizens and inform them of the availability of naturalization services at such offices; and (2) pending establishment of a naturalization office at all initial military training sites, assign new non-citizen members of the Armed Forces to an initial military training site that has such an office.- Noncitizens, who have previously been discharged from military service.



The bill was introduced in May 2017 and Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

#### *Healthcare Opportunities for Patriots in Exile (HOPE) Act*

This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to parole into the United States an alien veteran who: (1) is seeking temporary admission to receive health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and (2) resides permanently abroad after having been removed or voluntarily departed from the United States.

Such parole shall not be available for an alien who is inadmissible due to a criminal conviction for: (1) a crime of violence for which the alien has served at least five years in prison, or (2) a crime that endangers U.S. national security for which the alien has served at least five years in prison.

The bill was introduced in May 2017 and Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

The San Diego Chamber's Defense, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee recently voted to endorse the series of legislation. Comments of questions can be directed to Rep. Vargas office by contacting Eddie Meyer at (202) 225-8045 or [eddie.meyer@mail.house.gov](mailto:eddie.meyer@mail.house.gov). To view the details and status of house bills, please visit: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress>.



The bill was introduced in May 2017 and Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

#### *H.R. 2760 Immigrant Veterans Eligibility Tracking System (I-VETS) Act*

This bill directs the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to identify aliens, when they apply for an immigration benefit or are placed in an immigration enforcement proceeding, who are serving, or have served, as a member of a regular or reserve component of the Armed Forces on active duty or as a member of a reserve component in an active status; and annotate all DHS immigration and naturalization records relating to an identified alien to reflect such identification and afford an opportunity to track the outcomes for such aliens.



# Welcome Home

USE DEWEY (DDG 105) | VMGR-352 | VMM-764 | USE Sterett (DDG 104)  
Coastal Riverine Squadron-3 | HSM-49 Det. 3 "Scorpions"



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

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L-3 Communications  
Rockwell Collins  
Sabtech Industries  
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TASC  
USAA

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Z Microsystems  
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Navy Federal Credit Union  
North Island Credit Union  
Northrop Grumman Corp.  
Pacific Marine Credit Union  
Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication  
Pacific Tugboat Service  
Raytheon  
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.  
Reno Contracting, Inc.  
San Diego Copy  
San Diego Padres Baseball Club  
Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina  
Town & Country Hotel  
USAA  
USS Midway Museum  
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 & LUNCH DATES AT  
ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE ARE LISTED BELOW:*

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

**September 8, 2017** Second Friday

**October 6, 2017**

**November 3, 2017**

**December 1, 2017**

**No lunch meetings until further  
notice.**

### NEW MEMBERS

Maria Arce	Jequalia Jackson
Doris Asprilla	Chanea Jones
Lezlie Benjamin	Kimberly Little
Shikira Coley	Daphene Mitchell
Brian Conix	Akiba Morris
Ferdinand D'Alfonso	Ramon Padilla
Fritzgerald Duverseau	Bryan Perez
Felisa Ferrell	Raymond Rigney
Danielle Frazier	Latonya Rudolph
Marlene Grey	Maria Sanchez
Markika Harris	Alexandria Shay
Cloessia Jackson	Aletia Starks

\* 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:

**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](http://www.navyleague-sd.com)!





**JOIN IN CELEBRATING THE 242nd  
BIRTHDAY OF THE  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
*and recognizing superior Marines and a FMF Corpsman  
from San Diego Commands  
Wednesday November 15, 2017*



**BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM M. JURNEY**  
Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot/  
Western Recruiting Region

Guest Speaker

**LOCATION: Town and Country Resort & Convention Center**  
**500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108 TIME: 1100 - 1300**  
**UNIFORM: Military: Service Alpha Civilian: Business Attire**  
***Self-parking is FREE, \$12.00 valet. This reservation with payment***  
***must reach the Navy League Office by November 7th to ensure seating.***

Please Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Individual seats at \$40 each I wish to host \_\_\_\_\_ Marines/Sailors at \$40 each

Please Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Tables of Ten at \$400 each (4 seats for my use)

MC/VISA # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name (For Tables) \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: San Diego Navy League 2115 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92101**  
**Phone: (619) 230-0301 Fax: (619) 230-0302**

2  
4  
2  
YEARS

# Navy Birthday Ball

SEA POWER TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE

**Saturday, 14 October 2017**



## TICKET PRICES

- E4 and below: \$35
- E5 and E6: \$50
- O1-O2 & E7-E9: \$75
- O3-O4 & CWO: \$85
- O5 & O6: \$95
- Flag Officer: \$100
- Civilian/Retiree: \$100

## DRESS CODE

- Civilian Black Tie
- **O-4 through O-10:** Dinner Dress Blue Jacket (*Mess Dress with Blue Jacket and Miniature Medals*)
- **O-1 through O-3:** Dinner Dress Blue Jacket (Optional) OR Dinner Dress Blue (*Service Dress Blue Uniform w/ Miniature Medals*)
- **E-1 through E-9:** Dinner Dress Blue w/ Miniature Medals

**Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina**  
**333 W Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101**  
**6 pm Cocktail hour, 7 pm Dinner**

GET YOUR TICKETS  
**TODAY!**

<https://sandiegonavyball.thundertix.com/events/110551>  
Send Questions to: [SanDiegoNavyBall@gmail.com](mailto:SanDiegoNavyBall@gmail.com)