



# Blue & Gold

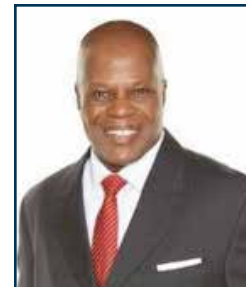
Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

51-01 | January 2021

## BREAKFAST MEETING

Due to health concerns and in keeping with the mandates of local and national officials, our breakfast meetings are cancelled until further notice.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello fellow members. I hope that you are well and had a joyous holiday season considering what we all have gone through last year.

Well, my time as your President has come to an end. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your President for the last two years. I have enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship of the council members I have met, as well as other organization leaders that I have had the opportunity to work with in supporting our Coast Guardsmen, Marines, Sailors, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and Sea Cadet programs. Our nation has gone through a lot in 2020 and I hope that 2021 will bring all of us the opportunity to thrive physically, emotionally and financially putting COVID-19 well behind us.

Last year was difficult for the council in trying to increase our funding as you can well imagine, so that we could support our maritime forces, but I am happy to report that we did stay within our budget. We brought our council into the 21st century by being innovative whenever we could. One main accomplishment we did was upgrading our website and bringing our social media platforms online.

I want to thank the officers of the council (Phyllis Barber, First Vice President; Sheldon Margolis, Treasurer; Tamara Marks, Secretary; Darnisha Hunter, Vice President of Programs and Jay Lott, the Executive Director) for executing the daily functions of the council. Without their efforts, the council could not legally exist. I also want to thank the Chairpersons (Jay Rindler, Homecoming; Judi Adams, Membership; Ernie Belmares, Sea Services; Bob Berman, Communications; Rhonda Johnsen and Suzie Johnson, Scholarships; Gene Pierce, Fundraising; Melanie Lang, Legislative Affairs; and Casey Colton, Youth Programs) for their dedication to the council managing our programs. Well done and thank you all. Last but not least, I want to thank Jon Berg-Johnsen, my predecessor, for his sage advice and guidance throughout my tenure.

Your new leadership nominees are listed in this Blue and Gold, and in February's edition, the results should be announced. They will be ready to take on the challenge of increasing the influence of the council throughout the San Diego County. I foresee some of the events that the council normally supported and coordinated throughout the years will be returning, as well as new initiatives being implemented going forward. I hope you will give them your full support by volunteering and donating.

In closing, I again want to thank you for your faith in me to lead this prestigious organization. All the best to you all in 2021 and beyond! Stay safe and healthy!

Tony Johnson  
President

*The safest place in Korea was right behind a platoon of Marines. Lord, how they could fight!*

—MGen. Frank E. Lowe,  
USA; Korea, 26 January 1952

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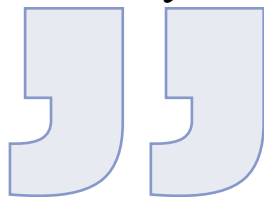
# RECOGNITIONS



The Nominating Committee has forwarded to the Council Board of Directors the below slate for Council Officers and Committee Chairs:

President – Phyllis Barber  
1st VP – Ed Naranjo  
Treasurer – Sheldon Margolis  
Secretary – Tamara Marks  
Welcome Home – Jay Rindler  
Fundraising – Gene Pierce  
Membership – Judi Adams  
Sea Services – Ernest Belmares  
Scholarships – Suzie Johnson  
Legislative Affairs – Melanie Lang  
Communications – Donnie Ryan  
Youth Activities – Open

*Let your New Year's resolution be this:  
We will be there for one another as fellow  
members of humanity, in the finest sense  
of the word.*



— Goran Persson

# WELCOME HOME

HSM-73



# ON THIS DATE IN...

## JANUARY

### Jan 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

May this year bring you all the very best!!

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

### Jan 1, 1962 - HAPPY 59th BIRTHDAY U.S. Navy SEAL's.

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

Jan 5, 1875 – CDR Edward Lull begins expedition to locate the best ship canal route across Panama.

Jan 5, 1968 – Lt. Clarence W. Cote becomes the first male Nurse Corps officer in the regular Navy.

Jan 10, 1956 – Establishment of the first Navy nuclear power school at Submarine Base, New London, CT.

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

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

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, 1951 – Marines of the 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerrillas in the Pohang area, South Korea, following the Division's return from its epic battle with Communist Chinese troops at the Choosing Reservoir.

### Jan 18 - Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY!!!

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

Jan 22, 1969 – Operation Dewey Canyon, perhaps the most successful high-mobility regimental-size action of the Vietnam War, began .

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

Jan 27, 1973 – The Paris Peace Accords is signed, ending U.S. participation in the Viet Nam War.

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.

## WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

San Diego Corporate Members  
& Community Affiliates



### Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is a program that started as one man's desire to place wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery. What began as a small project in 1992, at one cemetery, has grown into a country-wide day involving every state, Puerto Rico and 24 overseas cemeteries to pay tribute to those who gave all. The motto is: REMEMBER our fallen U.S. veterans. HONOR those who serve. TEACH your children the value of freedom.

Cadets and officers from Challenger Division/Training Ship Columbia were among the volunteers at Miramar National Cemetery Friday, 18 DEC 20 to participate in the placing of wreaths on veteran's tombstones and honoring those who gave all. Chief Petty Officer Cody Ward, NSCC participated in the morning ceremonial placement of wreaths for each branch, including the Merchant Marines and POW/MIA.

In the afternoon, cadets and officers placed wreaths on veterans' graves. Each wreath was gently placed, a salute was rendered and the veteran's name is said aloud. Being part of the Wreaths Across American Program is a very humbling and reverent experience. Though there was no big ceremony...no crowd of 4000 people...no media coverage, the ability to participate with other youth groups was a reminder of the positive things still in the world. What an uplifting way to end 2020!



*What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year.*

— Vern McLellan

### CORPORATE GOLD

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

### CORPORATE MEMBERS

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HP Enterprises  
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Rockwell Collins  
Sprint Nextel  
TASC  
USAA

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### COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

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Flagship Cruises & Events  
Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego  
North Island Credit Union  
Northrop Grumman Corp.  
Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication, Inc  
Pacific Tugboat Service  
PenFed Credit Union  
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.  
San Diego Copy  
San Diego Gas & Electric Co  
USAA



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

## MEMBERSHIP

### 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.

## NEW MEMBERS

Olumuyiwa Ayanlami  
Andrius Balsaitis  
Renita Brewer  
Barney Hua  
Glendora Karanikolis  
Jerry Lashley  
Shanteil Magee  
Kerl Maximin-Cummings  
Breanna Reneaux  
William Roque  
Jamel Sanders

\* Life Members | @ New Community Affiliate

## 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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