



Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

51-06 | June 2021

ZOOM MEETING

Virtual Zoom Members Meeting TBD...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



June is a month of significant sea service historic events; however, one stands out more prominent than others, certainly for the U.S. Navy. From December 1941 through early June 1942 the campaigns in the Pacific were not going well for the United States. A Marine intelligence officer would become the center point of the biggest maritime successes at the time and turning the Pacific War effort from something near desperate to a major gain in advantage. For those that have not guessed yet, I am referring to the Battle of Midway. It was such a pivotal event that it is believed it changed the complete aspect of the War in the Pacific. The Navy marks the event each year with reverence and celebration. Fittingly, the USS Midway Museum is the site of the largest venue in San Diego to pay respects to those that fought the Battle and mark it with appropriate dignity and fanfare.

June promises to be another exciting month for the council with two exciting events. Our first true event since the impact of COVID-19 is our Golf Tournament on June 4 at The Vineyard in Escondido. The second event is the Challenger Division/Training Ship Columbia Banquet and Senior Send-Off on June 5. The Sea Cadets have done some amazing things this past year and hopefully, they will do more in the future.

Looking back at end of April and all of May, we had the events to include: the NROTC Award Presentation Ceremony on April 23, via zoom and San Diego Navy League presented swords to Midshipman 1/c Xavier Brenza and Midshipman 1/c Emerson Giesbrecht. May 12, Sea Services Committee attended the MCAS Miramar and 3d Marine Aircraft Wing Marine and Sailor of the Quarter Awards Ceremony. The Sea Service Committee attended the Naval Medical Center San Diego Sailor of the Quarter Ceremony on May 18th. If you are interested in sponsoring a recognition event, please contact Jay Lott (jay@navyleague-sd.com) for details.

On May 8, 2021 the commissioning of the USS Miguel Keith (ESB 5) was held at Naval Base Coronado and attendance was limited due to COVID 19 restrictions. I want to thank Captain Bob Kopas, USN (Ret), Chief of Staff of the Commissioning Committee and the Co-Chairs VADM Tim LaFleur and Tom Garcia along with the whole commissioning committee for a job well done!

On May 20 we announced the winners of our first ever San Diego Navy League Junior and Senior Sea Service Member of the Year. The selection committee chose GySgt Carlito Pigao, Jr., USMC from Marine Air Control Squadron 1 as the Senior winner and ETN2(SW/AW) Ethan Brockmeier, USN from USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) as the Junior. Congratulations to all nominees as you are a true credit to your respective commands. BRAVO ZULU to our two winners.

We were also honored to have Chair Nathan Fletcher, San Diego County Board of Supervisors as our guest speaker on May 14th, via zoom. Thank you, Chair Fletcher for taking time out of your busy schedule to talk with the council and answering questions.

Phyllis Barber
President

“Through the skill and devotion to duty of their armed forces of all branches in the Midway area our citizens can now rejoice that a momentous victory is in the making.”

—Fleet Admiral Chester. W. Nimitz

IN THIS ISSUE

President Message	Cover
Recognitions	2
On This Date In June	2
Sea Cadet Corps	3
We Appreciate Your Support	3
Membership	4

RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to Cassidy Davila

who graduated Magna Cum Laude and with the honor of being a President's Award finalist from Southern Nazarene University with a bachelor's of science degree in Mathematics Education.

Cassidy is a 2017 recipient of the Alexander Kreiglowa Navy & Marine Corps Dependents Education Foundation Scholarship.



Sea Service Committee members are on hand to congratulate Marines and Sailors of the Quarter from 3d MAW and MCAS Miramar.



The council conducted its first podcast earlier this month with the CO, CMDCM and Senior Sailor of the Year for USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62). From left to right: Council 1st Vice President, Ed Naranjo; USS FITZGERALD Command Master Chief, CMDCM(SW/AW) Jeffrey Auffenberg, USN; USS FITZGERALD Commanding Officer, CDR Scott Wilbur, USN; USS FITZGERALD 2021 Senior Sailor of the Year, CS1(SW/AW) Dajuan Gross, USN; and Council Sea Service Chairman, Ernie Belmares, CMDCM, USN(Ret).

ON THIS DATE IN...

JUNE

June 1, 1946 - The Coast Guard returned to operation under the Treasury Department after the end of World War II.

June 3, 1949 - Wesley A. Brown becomes the first African-American to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy.

June 4, 1934 - USS *Ranger* is the first ship designed from the keel up as a carrier is commissioned at Norfolk, VA.

June 4, 1942 - Battle of Midway (4-6 June) begins; during the battle, the 4 Japanese carriers which attacked Pearl Harbor are sunk; this decisive U.S. Victory is the turning point in the Pacific war.

June 6, 1944 - In Operation Overlord, Allied invasion fleet (over 2700 ships and craft) land troops on Normandy beaches, the largest amphibious landing in history.

June 8, 1990 - CDR Rosemary Mariner becomes the first Navy woman to command a fleet jet aircraft squadron.

June 8, 1995 - A Marine tactical recovery team from the 24th MEU stationed on board the USS *Kearsarge*, rescued downed U.S. pilot, Captain Scott O'Grady, USAF, from Bosnian-Serb territory in Bosnia.

June 9, 1959 - Launching of USS *George Washington* (SSBN-598), the first nuclear powered fleet ballistic missile submarine, at Groton, CT.

June 10, 1854 - U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, holds its first formal graduation exercises. Previous classes graduated without ceremony.

June 11, 1941 - An amendment to act creating Coast Guard provided that "The Coast Guard shall be a military service and constitute a branch of the land and naval forces of the United States at all times."

June 12, 1948 - The Women's Armed Forces Integration Act provides for enlistment and appointment of women in the Naval Reserves.

June 12, 1961 - President John F. Kennedy signed a Presidential Proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, VA, "at all times during the day and night."

June 14, 1777 - The Continental Congress adopts the design of the present U.S. Flag.

June 17 - HAPPY 123rd BIRTHDAY

NAVAL HOSPITAL CORPS!!!

June 20 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

June 21, 1979 - SN Ina J. Toavs was the first woman awarded the Coast Guard Medal for extraordinary heroism.

June 25, 1950 - Shortly before dawn North Korea invades South Korea beginning the Korean Conflict.

June 26, 1918 - After 20 days of combat the 4th Marine brigade captures Belleau Wood.

June 29, 1950 - USS *Juneau* fires the first naval shore bombardment of the Korean Conflict.

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

Challenger Division cadets and officers enjoyed the lessening restrictions due to the COVID pandemic at our May drill. The cadets participated in an official Physical Readiness Test (PRT). The test consists of a one-mile run, sit-ups and push-ups. Upon completion of the PRT, the cadets played a game of Ultimate Frisbee. The cadets laughed and had a blast running around, throwing the frisbee and trying to catch it.

They were then treated to a pizza lunch provided by Mrs. Tylene Hicks, Principal of Chet F. Harritt Elementary School, which is our drill site. The cadets were recognized for all of their hard work over the past months in creating an outdoor learning environment. The cadets cleared brush, built a science observation dock, created seating for an outdoor classroom as well as erected a split-rail fence. Their hard work allowed the area to be utilized now- which is 1.5 years ahead of the scheduled opening! The coup de gras was when the cadets were "immortalized" with the unit's name on the plaque that is located at the entrance of the outdoor lab.

Bravo Zulu cadets!



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
- IXI Tech
- L-3 Communications
- Navy Federal Credit Union
- Rockwell Collins
- Sprint Nextel
- TASC
- USAA

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

- Hess Systems
- Johnson Controls Federal Systems
- Z Microsystems

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

- Aligned Mortgage
- CNSW Morale, Welfare & Recreation
- Coronado Distributors
- Enlisted Leadership Foundation
- First Command Financial Services
- Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego
- Northrop Grumman Corp.
- Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication, Inc
- PenFed Credit Union
- RCP Block & Brick, Inc.
- USAA

THANK YOU!

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

for being the title sponsor of our

Sea Service Member of the Year Awards

Senior Winner

GySgt Carlito L. Pigao, Jr. | Marine Air Control Squadron 1

Junior winner

ETN2(SW/AW) Ethan Brockmeier, | USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72)



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

Farah Boucicant	Deborah Jenkins
Monserrat Bravo	Destiny Maye
Sergio Bucarey	Fredrick McDonald
Katrina Carter	Alfreeon Powell
Quincy Farley	Bria Richardson
Jamal Frazier	Reinaldo
Vince Gardner	Robledo-Quinones
Ramel Hill	Bobbie Smith
Kenisha Hosch	Aleshia Williams
Kara Isbell	
Nicholas Jaunich	

* Life Members | @ New Community Affiliate

ANNIVERSARIES

We thank the following Small Business
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:

San Diego Navy League
2115 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone: (619) 230-0301
Fax: (619) 230-0302
jay@navyleague-sd.com