



# Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

51-07 | July 2021



## BREAKFAST MEETING

August 6, 2021

7:00 am - 8:30 am

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

Guest Speaker

Captain Timothy J. Barelli  
USCG Sector Commander  
& Captain of the Port of  
San Diego, CA

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



Happy Birthday to all as you celebrate this 4th of July. We owe so much to those who made it possible for us to be able to have this freedom. The sacrifices they made then are hard for us to fully comprehend today, yet the significance of their courage and sacrifices are Extraordinary! We truly are a blessed nation!

I would like to thank First Command, Jason Suyra, Gene Pierce, and Sheldon Margolis who were integral in putting on our Golf Tournament on June 4th. It was a huge success, and we look forward to next year’s event. The golf course, The Vineyard in Escondido, was a gracious host, and everyone had a great time.

It is with sadness that we have to say goodbye to Lt Shannon Ward, a longtime leader of our Sea Cadets of Challenger/T.S. Columbia for the past eight years and their Commanding Officer for the past three years. Shannon had a huge impact on the development of our youth and will be sorely missed. Thank you, Shannon for a job well done. The council wishes you the best in your new endeavors.

The council held a zoom meeting to recognize the Junior and Senior Sea Service Enlisted Member of the year and the winners were: Senior – Gunnery Sergeant Carlito Pigao, Jr from Marine Air Control Squadron 1 and Junior – ETN2(SW/AW) Ethan Brockmeier of the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). Congratulations to both winners. A special thank you to our chair CMC Ernest Belmares, USN (Ret) and his committee with the responsibility of reading through all of the packages and had the difficult decision to choose one from each category.

San Diego Navy League had the pleasure to attend the Commander Naval Air Force Sailor of the year event on June 15th where they selected their 2020 Sailor of the Year and congratulations to all of the Finalist; and the Sea Sailor of the Year was AW1(AW) Joshua J. Brazil from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron FOUR (HSC-4) and the Shore Sailor of the Year was AO1(AW/SW) Brandon Q. Hudson from Strike Fighter Weapons School Pacific (SFWSAPAC). BRAVO ZULU to you both!!

Congratulations to Tamara Marks (Navy League San Diego Council Secretary) for receiving your Clinical Doctorate of Psychology (PsyD) Job Well Done!

It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Charlie Conatser on June 7, 2021. Charlie was a long time Navy League council member and was the councils VP Finance/ CFO for many years. Charlie was interned at the Miramar National Cemetery and survived by his wife Shirley, a daughter Julie and one granddaughter Elise.

Our first in person breakfast meeting will be at 7:00 am at Admiral Baker on August 6th. Our guest speaker will be Captain Timothy J. Barelli, Sector Commander and Captain of the Port of San Diego, California. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Phyllis Barber  
President

*“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”*

—John F. Kennedy

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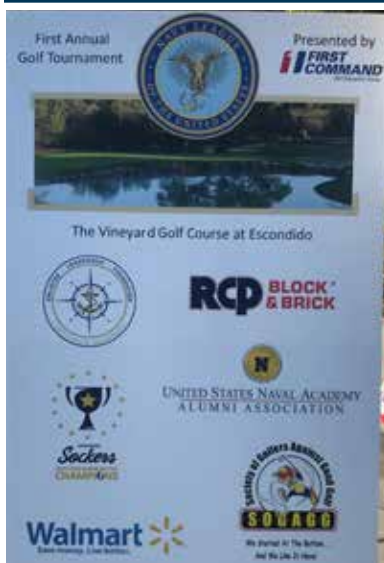
# RECOGNITIONS



Council member Sharon Fortson was on hand at Naval Medical Center San Diego to recognize the achievements of the quarterly award honorees. (I-)HN Arshad Khan, Blue Jacket of the Quarter; HM3(FMF/SW/AW) Primes Palconit II, Junior Sailor of the Quarter, Council member Sharon Fortson, HM2(FMF) John Stilwell, Sailor of the Quarter; HM1(FMF/SW) Georgia Clarke, Senior Sailor of the Quarter



Council President Phyllis Barber presents a photograph of the USS Bonhomme Richard autographed by RDML Phil Sobeck, Commander, Expeditionary Strip Group Three, to Kearny Mesa Walmart Store Manager Art Gladue in appreciation of their \$11,000.00 donation to the E-6 and below sailors after the horrible fire onboard the ship. Looking on is Javier Fuentes Walmart Asset Protection Manager. Thank you Walmart for your continued support of our service members.



The Council wishes to thank the sponsors of our golf tournament.

It was a huge success.

## REGISTER & CONNECT Breakfast Meeting

August 6, 2021 | 7:00 am - 8:30 am

## Admiral Baker Clubhouse

Please go to our website,  
[www.navyleague-sd.com](http://www.navyleague-sd.com),  
to register and you will be sent the meeting  
login information.

**We are looking forward  
to meeting again!**

# ON THIS DATE IN...

## JULY

**July 1, 1850** – Naval School at Annapolis renamed Naval Academy.

**July 1, 1914** – Prohibition of alcohol begins in the Navy.

**July 3, 2002** – The first of the Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSST's) was commissioned in Seattle, WA.

**July 4** – American colonies declare their independence from Great Britain.

**HAPPY 245th BIRTHDAY AMERICA!!!**

**July 6, 1911** – The first naval aviation base is established at Annapolis, MD.

**July 6, 1976** – The 1st women enter the Naval Academy.

**July 7, 1948** – The first six enlisted women are sworn into the Regular Navy.

**July 11, 1941** – Congress reconfirmed the military status of the Coast Guard, stating: "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 and shall operate under the Treasury Department in time of peace and operate as part of the Navy, in time of war or when the President shall so direct."

**July 12, 1862** – The Medal of Honor is created.

**July 12, 1916** – USS *North Carolina* is the first Navy ship to carry and operate aircraft.

**July 12, 1990** – Commander Rosemary B. Mariner becomes the first woman to command an operational aviation squadron (VAQ-34).

**July 14, 1813** – Lt. John M. Gamble, is the first marine to command a ship in battle.

**July 14, 1952** – Laying of keel of USS *Forrestal*, the first 59,900-ton aircraft carrier.

**July 20, 1964** – Four Navy divers enter Project SEALAB I capsule moored 192 feet on the ocean floor off Bermuda for an 11-day experiment.

**July 26, 1947** – The National Security Act of 1947 became effective, reaffirming the status of the Marine Corps as a separate military service within the Department of the Navy.

**July 28, 1918** – BGen John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d Division, U.S. Army in France, and remained in that capacity until August 1919 when the unit was demobilized.

**July 29, 1969** – Former Navy pilot Neil Armstrong is the first man to set foot on the moon. While taking the first step, he said, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

**July 23, 1993** – Sarah Deal becomes the first woman Marine selected for naval aviation training.

**July 26, 1948** – President Harry S. Truman orders desegregation of the Armed Services.

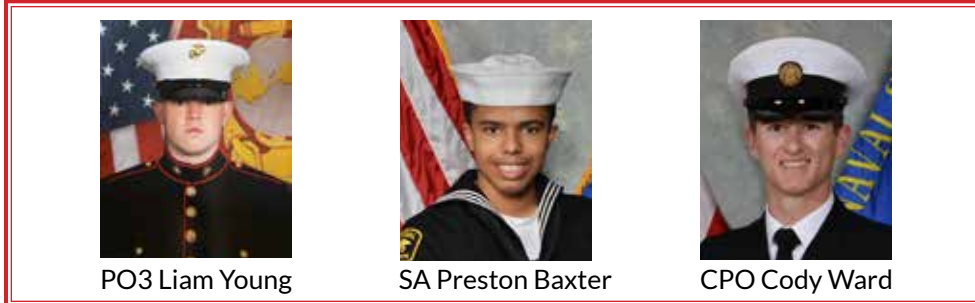
# WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

## San Diego Corporate Members & Community Affiliates

June is my favorite month. The school year ends and summer begins. The beach calls my name- the water and sand beckon me. Yet, while school is out and many enjoy the summer sun, the hard work ramps up for the cadets and officers in the Sea Cadet Corps. Summer is the busiest time for the USNCCS. With almost 250 trainings being offered across the country, in a variety of topics from Aviation to Medical to NSWOC, there is something for everyone.

But as the sun rises for the upcoming opportunities for current participants, it also sets on our time with our graduates. It is bittersweet- we will miss them in our ranks but, are excited as they move forward to the next chapter in their lives!

Challenger Division said good-bye to 3 seniors this year.



PO3 Liam Young

SA Preston Baxter

CPO Cody Ward

PO3 Liam Young - December 2020 Graduate, Steele Canyon HS. Enlisted in the USMC and graduated boot camp 10 Jun 21. Private 1st Class Young is currently participating in Marine Combat Training and will then head to Pensacola, FL for Aviation Mechanic School.

SA Preston Baxter - June 2021 Graduate, West Hills HS. Plans to attend a trade school to become an Electrician. He has always enjoyed working "hands-on" and is looking forward to becoming an Electrician.

CPO Cody Ward - June 2021 Graduate, West Hills HS. Accepted an appointment to the US Air Force Academy. I-Day is 24 Jun 21. He is excited about serving his country.

We are extremely proud of each of our graduates. They excelled in the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps and have moved on to bigger things.

Bravo Zulu cadets.

Fair Winds and Following Seas.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the San Diego Council of the Navy League for their continued support of Challenger Division/Training Ship Columbia. I, too, will be leaving. I have stepped down as the Commanding Officer of the unit. Without the support of the SDNL, our unit would not have been able to offer the amazing activities during my years in the program. From sleepovers aboard the USS Midway, sailing with the Maritime Museum and challenging ourselves with the obstacle/ropes course at UCSD, the SDNL's financial contributions allowed our cadets to experience things they might not normally encounter.

The USNSCC is a fabulous program for ages 10-18. It is also a very rewarding endeavor for adult volunteers. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the program. Mentoring today's youth to become tomorrow's leader is priceless!

From the Executive Director - Shannon the council wishes you the very best as you move forward into your next life's challenge. Your leadership and dedication will be sorely missed! Thank you for your service and devotion to the council and Sea Cadet Corps.

### CORPORATE GOLD

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Raytheon Company

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Z Microsystems

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Northrop Grumman Corp.  
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PenFed Credit Union  
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.  
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

Sean Callahan	Michael McGrath
Patrick Doyle	Juan Miranda
Fabienne Etienne	Angelica Montoro
Jessica Frazier	Emeka Onyeagoro
Rosario Fricano	Ronald Pena
Anthony Henderson	Dominique Plewes
Hector Hernandez	Jessica Pringle
Allison Hocking	LeRae Tatum
Suzanne Humphrey	Wendi Taylor
Darnel Hunter	

\* 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