



Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

51-11 | November 2021

BREAKFAST MEETING

November 5, 2021

7:00 am - 8:30 am

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

Guest Speaker

Commander James J. Light
Executive Officer,
Fleet Logistics Support
Squadron (VRC) 30

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy Birthday Marines! This month marks the birth of the Marine Corps 246 years ago!

Having taken part in nearly every U.S. conflict, the Marine Corps has defended our country since before the birth of America. The Corps, presently with over 186,000 active-duty members and 38,500 reserves continues its proud tradition as protectors of the United States and its citizens.

I am glad to be back from vacation and was disappointed to hear that the October Breakfast was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. The guest speaker was to have been the Commanding Officer of the USS Fitzgerald and as always, we were going to recognize their Sailors of the Quarter.

We were still able to recognize the Sailors at the USS Fitzgerald Alumni Association Reunion last month:

- Senior Sailor of the Quarter, MM1 (SW/AW) Edward Kirby
 - Sailor of the Quarter, EM2 (SW) Julia Cardenas
 - Junior Sailor of the Quarter, BM3 Jamarius Jamison
 - Bluejacket Sailor of the Quarter, OSSA Daisha Polk
- Congratulations to each one on their achievement.

We are back at the Admiral Baker Clubhouse on November 5th with Commander James Light, Executive Officer, Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VRC) 30 as our guest speaker. We will also be recognizing some of their Sailors of the Quarter as well. Please come and join us.

The San Diego Council is working in partnership with Naval Air Forces in planning events to help celebrate the Centennial of Naval Aircraft Carriers. Past Council President Dave Grundies is the Chair of this committee. He will be the council lead with the planning of events for the celebration of the 100 Year Anniversary of Naval Aircraft Carriers. More information to follow as we progress with planning.

Veterans Day is a time for us to pay our respects to those who have served. For one day, we stand united in respect for you, our veterans. This holiday started as a day to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service and was originally called Armistice Day. It fell on November 11 because that is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. However, in 1954, the holiday was changed to "Veterans Day" to include all veterans of all wars. As Navy Leaguers, it provides us the opportunity to give verbal praise and thanks to the men and women of this great land who willingly put their lives on the line daily for, not only our Freedoms, but for the preservation of democracy.

I look forward in seeing everyone at our November 5th Breakfast. Don't forget the December 3rd Breakfast will be our annual meeting and we will be voting on members to serve on the Board of Directors.

From my family to yours, Happy Birthday U.S. Marine Corps, Happy Veterans Day, (Thank a Veteran) and Happy Thanksgiving.

"There are only two kinds of people that understand Marines: Marines and the enemy. Everyone else has a second-hand opinion."

—Gen. William Thornson,
U.S. Army

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ATTENTION MEMBERS!!!

The December 3rd breakfast meeting will be the **Annual Meeting** of the General Membership. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend and to vote.

The Nomination Committee has submitted the below recommendations for appointment/reappointment to the Board of Director's. Terms will expire on Dec 31, 2024.

Tatjana Omanovic; Tracy Owens; Chris Catania; Sheri Arnold

Returning board members: Judi Adams; Bob Berman; Melanie Lang; Sheldon Margolis; Tamara Marks; Rick Mitrovich; Jay Rindler; Jason Surya

RECOGNITIONS



Navy League San Diego Council Member Marty Magaña, Command Master Chief, USN (Ret.) presented Sailor of the Quarter awards for professional excellence at Navy Medicine R&T Center San Diego on September 24, 2021.



International Frigate Working Group (IFWG)
has been postponed to March 21-25, 2022.

POC: Dave Grundies dgrundies@gmail.com 858.999.1898

ON THIS DATE IN...

NOVEMBER

1 Nov, 1949 - Authority to reestablish the Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard Reserves (SPARS) became effective.

Nov 5, 1775 - Commodore Esek Hopkins is appointed to the Commander in Chief of the Continental Navy.

Nov 5, 1945 - Ensign Jake C. West makes the first jet landing on board a carrier, USS *Wake Island* (CVE-65).

Nov 7 - Daylight Savings Time begin.

Fall back an hour.

Nov 9, 1921 - USS *Olympia* arrives at the Washington Navy Yard from France carrying the body of the Unknown Soldier for internment at Arlington National Cemetery.

Nov 10, 1775 - Congress votes to raise two battalions of Continental Marines, establishing the Marine Corps.

Nov 10 - HAPPY 246th BIRTHDAY

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS!!!

Nov 11, 1918 - Armistice ends World War I.

Nov 11, 1954 - This date is designated as Veterans Day to honor veterans of all U.S. wars. Hug a vet and say thanks.

Nov 12, 1912 - Lt Theodore Ellyson makes the first successful launching of an airplane by catapult at the Washington Navy Yard.

Nov 13, 1982 - The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, containing the names of more than 13,000 Marines who lost their lives in Vietnam, was dedicated at the Memorial site in Washington, DC.

Nov 16, 1942 - The Navy's first Night Fighter squadron (VMF(N)-531) is established at Cherry Point, NC.

Nov 17, 1924 - USS *Langley*, the first aircraft carrier, reports for duty.

Nov 24, 1992 - Marines lowered the flag at Subic Bay, U.S. Naval Facility, Republic of the Philippines, for the last time during ceremonies to turn over the facility to the government of the Philippines. This ended almost a century of U.S. presence in the nation.

Nov 25 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

Nov 25, 1961 - Commissioning of USS *Enterprise* (CVA(N)-65), the first nuclear powered aircraft carrier, at Newport News, VA.

Nov 28 - Hanukkah begins at sundown.

BREAKFAST SPEAKER

NOVEMBER 8TH

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

San Diego Corporate Members
& Community Affiliates

Commander James J. Light
Executive Officer, Fleet Logistics Support Squadron
(VRC) 30



A native of Glenville, New York, Commander Light graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 2004 and Naval Postgraduate School in 2005, earning a Bachelor of Science with Honors in Economics and a Master of Science with Honors in Command and Control. CDR Light reported to NAS Pensacola, FL for flight training in September 2005. He earned his Naval Aviator Wings in January 2008. In February 2008, CDR Light reported to the VAW 120 "Greyhawks" for initial fleet training as a C-2A Pilot.

CDR Light began his operational flying in March 2009 with the "Providers" of VRC 30. While a "Provider", he made deployments aboard USS NIMITZ (CVN 68), and USS JOHN C STENNIS (CVN 74) in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

CDR Light then reported to the "Greyhawks" of VAW 120 as a C-2A Instructor Pilot. He served as the C-2A Training Officer, C-2A Program Manager, and Assistant Safety Officer. During his tour, CDR Light was honored as COMACLOWING C-2A Pilot of the Year-Shore in 2013. Additionally, he completed Joint Professional Military Education Phase I thru the Naval War College and was awarded the Vice Admiral John T Hayward Award for Outstanding Performance for Academic Year 2013-2014. CDR Light next reported to the USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN-69) as a Catapult and Arresting Gear Officer in August 2014.

CDR Light returned to the fleet as a Department Head in VRC-40, the "Rawhides" in October 2015. He served as the Safety Officer, Maintenance Officer, Detachment Officer-in-Charge, and Operations Officer during his tour. He completed one deployment aboard USS GEORGE H W BUSH (CVN-77) with Detachment TWO supporting Operation INHERENT RESOLVE in 2017.

Following his department head tour, CDR Light served as a Team Chief and Branch Chief, US Africa Command, J-3 Directorate. While at AFRICOM, he directly supported planning, execution and reporting on multiple operations and activities in the AFRICOM Area of Operations. He was selected for squadron command in March 2020 and is scheduled to report to VRC-30 as Executive Officer in July 2021.

CDR Light has accumulated more than 2,700 flight hours and 200 carrier arrested landings in the C-2A including arrestments on all ten Nimitz class CVNs. His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3), and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2). CDR Light is married to Mrs. Alexis Light, a native of Lake Forest, California. They have four children: Jude (14), Luca (12), Hart (8) and Hyde (6).

CORPORATE GOLD

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Raytheon Company

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Northrop Grumman Corp.
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RCP Block & Brick, Inc.
USAA

HAPPY



246th Birthday!

United States Marine Corps



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

Sheri Arnold
Benjamin Biggs
Michael Drapeau
Fitzgerald Echols
Christina Moore
Donna Motley
Patrick Pardo
Mercedes Phillips
Megan Stafford

* Life Members | @ New Community Affiliate

ANNIVERSARIES

Welcome Aboard as a New Community
Affiliate:

Manchester Grand Hyatt – 3 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
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!