



# Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

54-10 | October 2024

## BREAKFAST EVENT

**October 4, 2024**  
**7:30 am - 9:00 am**  
**Admiral Baker Clubhouse**

**GUEST SPEAKER;**  
**COMMANDER JAYSON LARSEN, USN**  
**COMMANDING OFFICER,**  
**USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62)**

## NAVY HERITAGE

The Navy Birthday is one of the two Navy-wide dates celebrated annually – Navy Birthday and Navy Day. The United States Navy was originally established as the Continental Navy on 13 October 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized the procurement, fitting out, manning, and dispatch of two armed vessels to cruise in search of munitions ships supplying the British Army in America. The legislation also established a Naval Committee to supervise the work. All together, the Continental Navy numbered some fifty ships over the course of the war, with approximately twenty warships active at its maximum strength. Navy Day was originally sponsored by the Navy League 1922. Navy Day is designed to give recognition to the naval service. The Navy League of New York proposed that the official observance be on 27 October in honor of President Theodore Roosevelt, who had been born on that day. In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of 13 October as the Navy's birthday. In contrast to Navy Day, the Navy Birthday is intended as an internal activity for members of the active forces and reserves, as well as retirees, and dependents. Since 1972 each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion "to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service." – CNO Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt



*"I can imagine a no more rewarding career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: "I served in the United States Navy".*

—President John F. Kennedy  
U.S. Naval Academy August 1st, 1963

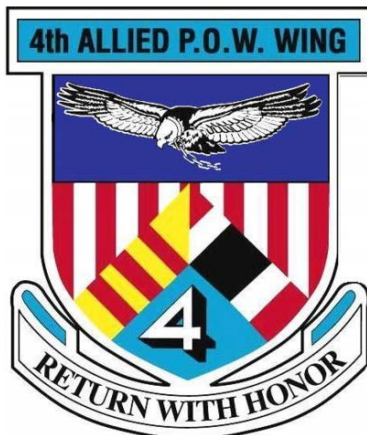
## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who joined our September Breakfast Event. We had a wonderful turnout with 132 guests in attendance. It was a true honor to recognize our Maritime Forces service members for their outstanding work and the military spouses who volunteer and serve as OMBUDSMAN in the Navy and Coast Guard and Family Readiness Assistants in the Marine Corps. A special thank you to our guest speaker, CAPT Robert Heely, Commanding Officer, Naval Base San Diego for your insight and enlightening presentation, and appreciate the time you took to share with our guests. A special shout-out goes to our many sponsors, we could not have held our largest breakfast event of the year, without them. Well done to Sheldon Margolis, Greg Via and Scott Mason in being recognized by the San Diego Wave for your volunteer service at Snap Dragon Stadium. Great job to Nick Wallace in leading our first Padres Sponsored Game Fundraiser Event, and extend heartfelt thank you to General Atomics (Electromagnetics) as our Platinum Sponsor and Pastrana Group as our Silver Sponsor, where we had 100 guests in attendance at the Callaway Homerun Deck at Petco Park. I would like to remind everyone, we still have tickets on sale for the Navy Birthday Ball on Sat, Oct 12, 2024 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel. I want to thank our members for volunteering support and sponsors for their generous donations that continue to contribute towards our mission in serving and honoring our brave servicemen and women. I look forward to seeing everyone at our future events –Tracy Owens, President



## NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Is observed on the third Friday of September, most recently on September 20th where it honors those who were prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action. It is most associated with those who were POWs during the Vietnam War. The National Vietnam War Veterans Day is March 29, the date in 1973 when the last US combat troops departed the Republic of Vietnam. In 1979 President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation, commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Their sacrifice for our country does not go unnoticed. Come join us at our October's breakfast event, and meet Prisoners of War Survivors; CAPT Jack Ensch, USN(Ret) and CDR Henry "Jim" Bedinger, USN(Ret) and celebrate with us the Navy's 249th Birthday and recognize Sailor of the Quarter Award Winners for their outstanding performance. May we continue honoring their sacrifices. Get your tickets today by registering and prepaying on line at; <https://navyleaguesd.com/product/breakfast-event/>



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# BREAKFAST SPEAKER

OCTOBER 4TH



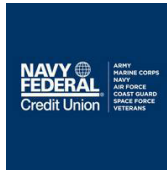
CDR Jayson Larsen is a native of Las Vegas, and enlisted in the Navy in February of 1996. He attended Basic Training and Fire Controlman (FC) "A" school in Great Lakes, IL followed by Tomahawk and Harpoon "C" school. After achieving the rank of 1st Class Petty Officer, he was selected to the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) program in 2000. He received his B.S. in Business Administration from Oregon State University and was commissioned in June 2005.

CDR Larsen's afloat assignments include USS STETHEM (DDG 63) where he deployed three times to 5th and 7th Fleet. First Lieutenant and Communications Officer aboard USS CHOSIN (CG 65) making two deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Combined Task Force (CTF) 150/151 operations in the 5th Fleet Area of Responsibility. His department head tours were on USS STERETT (DDG 104) as Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer, completing a 10-month deployment with Vinson Strike Group. He served as Executive Officer aboard the Battle Efficiency award winning USS JOHN P MURTHA (LPD 26).

Ashore, CDR Larsen's earned a Master's in Business Administration from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS). Following NPS, he reported to the U.S. Naval Academy as Instructor of Seamanship and Navigation where he was recognized with the USNA Colleen S. Smiley-Owendoff Teaching Excellence award. Following his department head tours, he reported to Tactical Training Group Pacific (TTGP) as the Integrated Air and Missile Defense Lead. He then attended the Anti-Submarine Warfare/Surface Warfare (ASW/SUW) Warfare Tactics Instructor (WTI) course and reported to Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center Sea Combat Division (SCD).

CDR Larsen assumed command of USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62) in April 2023 after serving as the WTI Program Manager at Surface Advanced Warfighting School. His designations and awards include: ASW/SUW WTI, Craftmaster, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (6 awards), Navy Achievement Medal (4 awards), Good Conduct Medal (3 awards), and various unit and service awards.

# BREAKFAST SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



In the spirit of celebrating our Navy's 249th Birthday at our October's Breakfast Event. We will have multiple sponsors supporting this special event in recognizing Sailors for their outstanding service. Our San Diego Council values our relationships with our community affiliates that are derived from various organizations amongst the private, public and nonprofit organizations, with many being family veteran owned or veteran operated businesses. Including, veterans who have served aboard USS FITZGERALD. A special thank you goes out to our community partners in sponsoring this special event.

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Congratulations to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Chaplain; CDR Scott Mason, USN, CAPT Sheldon Margolis, USN(Ret) and CMDCM Greg Via, USCG(Ret) in being honored at the San Diego Wave's Military Hero Match Recognition Game, where they were celebrated and recognized on the field and on the Jumbotron in front of 25,000 fans for their honorable service to our country and volunteer service and active role in the community as Navy League members on Sept 1, 2024. A job well done!



# SPECIAL THANK YOU

Special Thank You to PENFED and Walter Anderson Nursery for their generous donations of \$750.00 each in support of our sea services. Checks were accepted on behalf of the Council's President; Tracy Owens, VP; Marty Magana, Sea Services & Youth Programs Chair; Shane Steinfeld and Scholarships Chair; Jeff Wylie.



## RECOGNITIONS

Council held its largest Breakfast Event of the Year in September where it had 132 guests in attendance. During this special event, Naval Base San Diego Commanding Officer; CAPT Robert Heely served as guest speaker where he provided insight on his command's role in support of the Fleet, Fighter and Family. The Navy League's Sea Services Certificate of Appreciation where presented to military spouses who volunteer and serve as OMBUDSMAN in the Navy and Coast Guard and Family Readiness Assistants in the Marine Corps in the San Diego Metro area. The Office of Congress Representative Juan Vargas 52nd District of California Military & Field Representatives; James De Loera and Edgar Gonzalez presented Certificate of Appreciations to Coast Guard Maritime Security Response Team West; MK1 Kenneth Freeman, Naval Base San Diego; LSSN Kivona Raingefloyd, MA2 Cecilia Valentina, CS1 Stephanie Reid, and 12th Marine Corps District and Recruit Training Regiment Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego; Sergeant Luke Johnson, Sgt Ulises Gomez-Carrillo, SSgt Klayton Inmon and GySgt Joshua Hall for outstanding service. Awards sponsored by LC Embroidery.



## WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

### San Diego Corporate Members & Community Affiliates

#### CORPORATE GOLD

General Atomics (Electromagnetics)  
LC Embroidery & Cleaners  
Lockheed Martin  
Raytheon Technologies

#### CORPORATE

Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
North Island Credit Union  
Parker Aerospace  
San Diego Sockers  
USAA

#### BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

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Bank of America  
Boeing  
DoD Training Center San Diego  
Fairway Independent Mortgage  
First Command  
Hyatt Regency La Jolla  
RCP Block & Brick, Inc.  
Strategic Data Systems  
U.S. Navy Mustang Association

#### COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

Admiral Baker Golf Course  
Any Budget Printing & Mailing  
Battle of Branches  
Brigantine Seafood & Oyster Bar  
Buffalo Reclaimed Flag Co.  
CVN71 Reactor Department  
Diana Photography  
El Cid Brewery  
Elite Fund Raiser & Krank Driver  
Enlisted Leadership Foundation  
Fast Signs  
Flower Island Chula Vista  
Fotex  
Golf Galaxy  
Haichris Inc  
Imagine Design & Graphic (IDG)  
Impressions (DJ/MC) San Diego  
In & Out Burger  
JW Memorabilia  
Liberty Military Housing  
Liberty Tobacco  
Lifer Dog Creations  
Minuteman Press Kearny Mesa  
Moog Aircraft Group  
Pastrana Group  
PENFED  
Protector Brewery  
San Diego Gulls  
San Diego Legion  
San Diego Padres  
San Diego Wave Futbol Club  
San Diego Zoo  
Skateboard K9  
Steinfeld Family  
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TRIADA Tactical Inc.  
VFW Don Diego Post 7420  
Vietnam Veterans of America Chp 472  
Walter Anderson Nursery  
Your New Gate Company

# MEMBERSHIP

## NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

CAPT TJ Zerr, USN  
 LCDR Jose Galvez, USN  
 Erich Lauer  
 AMC Cameron Pecoraro, USN  
 Shawonda McCray  
 CAPT George Parsons, USN(Ret)  
 Elie Bernhardt  
 ITCS Jeff Wylie, USN(Ret)  
 Mara Sidlo  
 David Dua  
 Srinivasa Talla  
 Sandra Souverain  
 Donald Stone  
 David Rannels  
 Enzo Pilcher  
 Cherise Magtoto  
 Jessica Griffin

## 249<sup>th</sup> U.S. NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL

Last Call - 1830-2359, Sat, Oct 12, 2024 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel  
<https://navyleague-sd.com/product-category/Navybirthdayball/>

Download Photos from the SEPTEMBER Breakfast Event: <https://navyleague-sd.com/recognition-support/>



## THANK YOU TO OUR OMBUDSMAN SPONSORS!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**2024 MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES AT ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 2024**

**DOORS OPEN FOR SOCIAL NETWORK & REGISTRATION FROM 7:00-7:30AM**

**RECRUIT TRAINING REGIMENT  
 2ND BATTALION  
 MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO**

Dec 6 - USS MICHAEL MONSOOR (DDG 1001)

### 2025 DATES

- Feb 7 - USCG D11 Commander
- Mar 7 - Marine Air Support Squadron 3
- Apr 4 - CNAF (N433)
- May 2 - COMPHIBRON FIVE
- June 6 - Marine Air Control Squadron 1
- Jul 11 - USN Independence
- Aug 8 - USCG MSRT
- Sep 5 - CNSF
- Oct 3 - CHSCWPAC
- Nov 7 - USMC Bday
- Dec 5 - USN Toys for Tots Drive

## SUPPORT THE NAVY LEAGUE

You Can Make A Difference!

### BECOME A MEMBER

<https://members.navyleague.org/become-a-member/individual-membership/join>

### BREAKFAST MEMBERSHIP PROMO

- \$40 - Includes Breakfast, 1 YR Membership and an additional complimentary breakfast.
- Breakfast for Non-Members; \$30
- Breakfast for Members; \$25

### ASK ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY AFFILIATE, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, AND CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP.

Community Partnership includes; Business Advertisement, Awards Sponsorship, Social Media Marketing, numerous Complimentary Breakfast, Youth Programs Contribution Complimentary or Discounted tickets to Miramar Air Show, Navy Birthday Ball, Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon, and End of the Year Appreciation.

### SUPPORT & DONATE TODAY!



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

On Sponsorship, Membership or Volunteering call us at; (619) 230-0301.

To subscribe to Blue & Gold Newsletter email; [executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com](mailto:executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com)