



Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

55-02 | February 2025

BREAKFAST EVENT

February 7, 2025
7:30 am - 9:00 am
Admiral Baker Clubhouse

GUEST SPEAKER;
CAPT ROBERT J. BERRY, USCG
COMMANDING OFFICER,
MARITIME SECURITY RESPONSE TEAM WEST

NAVY HERITAGE

Maritime Security Response Team (MSRT) has existed in different incarnations, but was formally established in 2006. It is one of two units within the Coast Guard that has counter-terrorism capabilities to conduct action against hostile targets. The first is based in Chesapeake, Virginia, the second is based in San Diego, California. The MSRT is trained to be the first response unit to potential terrorist threats, deny preemptive terrorist actions, execute security actions against armed hostiles and/or non-compliant threats, participate in port level counter-terrorism exercises, execute tactical facility entry, and educate other forces on Coast Guard's counter-terrorism procedures. Although the MSRT's focus is primarily on the safety and security of homeland defense, it is capable of rapidly deploying worldwide in response to incidents. Other specialized units and federal agencies that MSRTs routinely train with are the SEAL teams Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewman (SWCC), Helicopter Sea Combat Squadrons, Explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) of the Navy, Maritime Raid Force, Force Recon of the Marine Corps, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) of the Army, Air Force 24th Special Operations Wing, Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), ATF, the Border Patrol Tactical Unit (BORTAC) & (BORSTAR), the Customs and Border Protection Special Response Teams (SRT), and other various SWAT/Special Mission Units. Their motto, as seen on their unit patch, is "Nox Noctis est Nostris", which translates from Latin to English is "The Night is Ours".



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are kicking off 2025 with our first breakfast event scheduled for Friday, February 7th, 2025 at Admiral Baker Golf Clubhouse. We are excited to have the Commanding Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Security Response Team West; CAPT Robert J. Berry as our guest speaker. We will also be recognizing Coast Guard service members for their outstanding service. Our dates for our 2025 breakfast events are listed on page 4 of this newsletter, so make sure you mark your calendars for all those upcoming breakfast events and come join us. We also are having our first Charity Fund Raiser with the San Diego Gulls on Friday, March 14th, so get your tickets today. I want to thank our members for volunteering and support and sponsors for their generous donations that continue to contribute towards our mission in serving and honoring our brave servicemembers. I look forward to seeing everyone at our future events
—Tracy Owens, President



"When storms and floods and tragedy strike, Americans know that they can count on the United States Coast Guard."

—President George W. Bush

COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE

Executive Director; Ernie Belmares visited with Liberty Tobacco Business Owner; Charles Hennegan and his Team and the San Diego Wave Futbol Club Community Relations Coordinator; Tiffany Tomlin to present the Council's Sea Services Certificate of Appreciation for their strong support of our Maritime Forces service members in the community. Job well done!



IN THIS ISSUE

- Navy Heritage Cover
- President Message Cover
- Community Excellence Cover
- Special Thank You Cover
- Breakfast Speaker 2
- Breakfast Sponsor 2
- Community Involvement..... 2
- Recognitions..... 3
- Membership 4

SPECIAL THANK YOU

Special Thank you to VFW Don Diego Post 7420 Barrio Logan Commander; SgtMaj Livy Lasado, USA(Ret), Protector Brewery Business Owner; SOCM Sean Haggerty, USN(Ret), El Cid Brewery Business Owner; FCCS Eric Bridges, USN(Ret) and LC Embroidery Business Owner & FITZ Plank Owner; Rolan & Virginia Patzi where they received Commemorative Custom USS FITZGERALD Appreciation Prints for their support with the 2024 USS FITZGERALD Ship 3 Day Reunion that was held from 18-20 October. Bravo Zulu to ALL





Captain Berry assumed command of Maritime Security Response Team West in July 2022. In that role, he is responsible for the West Coast's short-notice maritime response force, which specializes in counterterrorism and high risk law enforcement throughout the Indo-Pacific. He also oversees all of the Service's operational divers who deploy globally from commands in Hawaii, California, and Virginia. His previous assignment was as Commanding Officer of Tactical Law Enforcement Team Pacific where he oversaw 10 Law Enforcement Detachments that executed 125 drug interdictions, apprehended 426 traffickers and seized 142 tons of narcotics valued at \$4.7 billion, representing one third of all drugs seized in the maritime transit zone. Prior to command, Captain Berry served as Chief of Response Operations at Sector Detroit, Michigan, where he managed eight multi-mission boat stations on the Great Lakes and oversaw maritime law enforcement, port security, search-and rescue, and pollution responses along the international border with Canada. Before his Response Department Head tour, he served as Chief of the Enforcement Division at Sector Detroit. Following his initial tour onboard USCGC VALIANT homeported in Miami Beach, Florida, he served in various operational assignments at specialized deployable units including: Officer in Charge of Law Enforcement Detachment 408 in Miami, Florida; Operations Officer at Tactical Law Enforcement Team South in Miami, Florida; and Executive Officer of Maritime Safety and Security Team 91107 in Honolulu, Hawaii. In those capacities, he managed unit training and readiness and led teams on missions in support of U.S. and coalition task forces around the globe, conducting counterdrug operations in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea, counterpiracy missions off the Horn of Africa, and maritime interdiction and security operations in the Arabian Gulf during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. Captain Berry's staff assignments include serving as an Interagency Facilitator at the Global Maritime Operational Threat Response Coordination Center in Washington, D.C., Aide to the Eleventh District Commander, and Operations Controller at the Pacific Area and Eleventh District Command Center in Alameda, California. He is a 2001 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Management. He also earned a Master of Science degree in Joint Campaign Planning and Strategy from the National Defense University's Joint Advanced Warfighting School. Captain Berry's personal awards and honors include the Tactical Law Enforcement Insignia, Advanced Boat Forces Operations Insignia, Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various other unit, campaign, and service awards. He has also earned designation as an Honorary Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer.

BREAKFAST SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



In 1958, First Command was founded by Air Force Lt. Col. Carroll Payne with a simple goal: to improve the financial well-being of service members and their families. Today, more than 60 years later, First Command offers comprehensive financial plans consisting of what were referred to as the "three cardinal cornerstones" – savings, investments and life insurance. To include; the First Command Educational Foundation to provide scholarships to active duty service members children. First Command Bank, is an online bank based in the company's Home Office in Fort Worth, TX and has become a Registered Investment Advisor, a legal designation that requires firms to act as a fiduciary. A lot of things have changed since 1958, but its focus on its vision has not. First Command is committed to its Mission of "Coaching those who serve in their pursuit of financial security" and our Vision of "Lifelong financial security for our Nation's military families. The San Diego Council is honored to have their support as a Community Partner.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Homecoming Committee joined over hundred families and friends in welcoming USS GREEN BAY (LPD 20) from their overseas deployment on 9 December, 2024. Well Done to Jay Rindler, Charles Clark, and Bob Berman.



Come Join our Homecoming Committee in welcoming our Maritime Forces return home from their overseas deployment. Volunteers will meet with family and friends of the service members returning home and help with welcome signs and provide them info on our nonprofit organization. Volunteers interested or command requesting support can contact Jay Rindler at (858) 663-3638 or karlort@aol.com.



RECOGNITIONS

Navy League San Diego's FITZGERALD Alumni Committee Plank-Owners; Ernie Belmares, Jeff Wylie and Froilan Patzi and FITZ 2nd CMC; Dave Knipple attended FITZ Change of Command on 12 Dec 2024, where CDR Paul F. Richardson III relieved CDR Jayson C. Larsen as Commanding Officer. During this special event, FITZ Alumni's met with FITZGERALD namesake family members and incoming CO. Including, recognizing the 2024; Blue Jacket Sailor of the Year; STGSN Lucas Cannon, Junior Sailor of the Year; HM3(SW) Sirius Steel, Sailor of the Year; GSE2(SW) Anthony Gonzalez and Senior Sailor of the Year; RS1(SW) Carolyn Jones. Special thank you to FITZ CMC; Ronmel Aleman for the warm hospitality and CDR Larsen for the support of the Navy League's FITZ Alumni Committee. Fair Winds & Following Seas CDR Larsen, and welcome aboard CDR Richardson!



Homecoming Chair; Jay Rindler & LC Embroidery Business Owner; Rolan Patzi Jr. attended USS PINCKNEY (DDG 91) Christmas Dinner Reception, where they presented the 2024 Sailor of the Quarter (4th Qtr) & Sailor of the Year Awards to; BSOQ; CSSN Mia Hortiales, SOQ; CTT2(SW) Emilee Greene and SSOQ; IS1(IW) Jaqueline Ferguson and BSOY; RSSN Anthony Eubanks, JSOQ & JSOY; STG3 Gabriel Gecaj, SOY; DC2 Tamara Mills and SSOY; HM1(SW/FMF) Chante Moore. Thank you PINCKNEY CO; CDR Dustin Smith & CMC; Nick Green for the opportunity.



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

ASYMCA San Diego
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
Steinfeld Family
TEAM Chiropractic, Dr. Howard Short
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

Frank Martin
James Doyle
Bryan Gannon
Tommy Rebis
Troy Sears



Gulls vs. Colorado Eagles Friday, March 14th at 7:00pm at Pechanga Arena San Diego. Fundraiser Event seated at; Upper Section Middle Attack 2 side. Includes; appetizers, finger food and beverages. Ticket; \$125 & Sponsorship; \$1,500. <https://navyleague-sd.com/product/gulls-game/>

Sea Service Member of the Year packages due March 31st. All sea service members Sea & Shore - E1 to E6 are eligible. Email; executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**2025 MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES
AT ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE
MARCH 7, 2025**

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

**LT COL TYRONE G. ANUB, JR,
USMCCOMMANDING OFFICER,
MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON 3**



Chief Petty Officer's Birthday Celebration & Fundraiser; Friday April 5th Breakfast Event includes a cake cutting ceremony and chance to win amazing door prizes. ALL service members invited!



2025/2026 Alexander Kreiglwa Scholarship packages due Apr 30, 2025. Up to \$15k/year for tuition, books, and academic fees for a maximum of 4 yrs. Eligibility for students to apply; - Dependent child of active duty, retired, or deceased Naval Service (USN or USMC) resident in the state of California - Graduating High School Senior in the top 10% of class (if school ranks) or 3.6 cumulative GPA or higher (unweighted grades). - Evidence of acceptance by an accredited 4-year college or university in the US. - At least 2 Letters of Recommendation. - Demonstrated Financial Need. Email address: scholarships@navyleague-sd.com.

2025 DATES

Apr 4 - CNAF (N433)
May 2 - COMPHIBRON FIVE
June 6 - Marine Air Control Squadron 1
Jul 11 - USN Independence
Aug 8 - USCG Sector San Diego
Sep 5 - CNSF
Oct 3 - CHSCWPAC
Nov 7 - C3F USMC Component
Dec 5 - USS SOMERSET (LPD 25)

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.

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL



"Citizens in Support of the Sea Services"

- Awards Recognition; Supports the award recognitions of our Sea Service Members for their outstanding performance!
- Homecomings; Contributes to the joy and reconnections of family and friends with the reuniting of their service members during homecoming from overseas deployment.
- Youth Programs; Helps promote the development of America's future leaders and significantly contributes to the Annual Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal Award Recognition.
- Scholarships; Assists college-bound students to buy books, and pay tuition. Including, scholarship recognition to the recipient and family members at our breakfast event.
- Un-restricted Giving; donation allows the Navy League to use your gift where our sea services need it the most.

Donate and help! Whether it's \$25 or \$2500, your contribution matters. You can donate to a specific program, or you can elect to give to the organization as a whole. Either way, your generosity will help the lives of sea service members and their families.

Navy League San Diego is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization that supports America's Sea Services. Your charitable donation will help local San Diego Sea Service Members and their families and may qualify as a charitable tax deduction. Consult your Tax Advisor and provide our EIN# 95-3864195. To donate you use our QR code on page 4 (bottom right corner) or at; <https://navyleague-sd.com/product/donate-to-yoursan-diego-navy-league-council/>

To subscribe to Blue & Gold Newsletter email; executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com