



# Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

55-07 | July 2025

## BREAKFAST EVENT

July 11, 2025

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

GUEST SPEAKER;

VADM JOHN F.G. WADE, USN

COMMANDER,

UNITED STATES THIRD FLEET

## NAVY HERITAGE

United States Ships named in honor of United States of America and its Independence. On July 4, 1776, the 13 colonies claimed their independence from England, which led to the formation of the United States of America. Its first six frigates were named; United States, Constellation, Constitution, Chesapeake, Congress, and President. Independence would take its namesake place aboard six different classes of ships; Sloop of War, Ship of the Line, Steamer, Light Aircraft Carrier (CVL 22), Aircraft Carrier (CV 62) and Littoral Combat Ship (LCS 2) that was decommissioned in 2021. Today, USS Constitution, (aka Old Ironsides) is one of the six original frigates still serving in the U.S. Navy and the world's oldest ship, homeported in Newport, RI. USS Constellation (FFG 62) will be the lead ship of its Guided Missile Class Frigate and the fifth ship to bear the namesake scheduled to be commissioned in 2027. However, nothing compares to the namesake - AMERICA. There has been five different ships that have bear the name; Ship of the Line, a Racing Yacht during the Civil War, an Ocean Liner, Troop Transport and an Aircraft Carrier (CV 66) from 1965 to 1996, The Aircraft Carrier America was the only supercarrier to be used as a target for training and the largest warship to ever to be sunk. Today AMERICA's name lives on; USS AMERICA (LHA 6), the first of its amphibious assault class ships, commissioned in 2014. Her mission is to act as the flagship of an Expeditionary Strike Group, carrying part of a Marine Expeditionary Unit into battle and putting them ashore with helicopters and V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, supported by F-35B Lightning II aircraft and helicopters. AMERICA's original homeport was San Diego, California, until it changed to Sasebo, Japan in 2019. AMERICA is scheduled to return to San Diego homeport this year in 2025.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who joined our June's Breakfast Event. We had an outstanding turnout with 45 guests in attendance. A special thank you to our guest speaker, MGySgt Matt Tovar in providing insightful, inspirational and motivational presentation. It was an honor to recognize Marines for their outstanding service, in going full spectrum from Recruiters to Drill Instructors to Fleet Marines. Well done across the board to our Scholarship Committee Board Members in volunteering many hours in selecting this year's scholarship award winners, that will be announced at our July's Breakfast Event. I also would like to thank our Golf Committee Chair; Greg Via in leading this year's Sea Services Golf Tournament and our CFO; Sheldon Margolis in re-establishing our foot print at this year's MCAS Miramar Air Show and representing our Council at the Navy Region Southwest Navy Birthday Ball planning meeting. Tickets for our Golf Tournament, Air Show and Navy Birthday Ball are now on sale. Get your tickets today! I look forward to seeing everyone at our future events —Tracy Owens, President



## SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Community Appreciation Partnership Award was presented to RCP Block & Brick; Ryan Ertle for their strong support of the council's sea service programs and Special thank you for their generous donation of \$1,500 for June Breakfast Sponsorship and Golf Tournament. Additional thank you to Maritime Institute's; BMCM Greg Via, USCG(Ret) in their \$850 donation in support of the Golf Tournament.



*"Hit hard, hit fast, hit often, and keep on hitting."*

— Fleet Admiral  
William F. "Bull" Halsey Jr.

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Vice Adm. John F. G. Wade is a native of Port Washington, New York. He is a 1990 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a bachelor's degree in Economics. He also holds a master's degree in Information Systems Technology from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and a master's degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College in Washington, District of Columbia.

A career Surface Warfare Officer, Wade has served at sea on Patrol Craft, Destroyers, Cruisers and Aircraft Carriers, completing multiple deployments and overseas contingency operations to include Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He commanded USS Firebolt (PC 10), USS Preble (DDG 88), Destroyer Squadron 28, and Carrier Strike Group 12 embarked aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).

Ashore, Wade served on the personal staff of the Chief of Naval Operations; executive assistant to the director of the Quadrennial Defense Review Team; deputy executive assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; chief of staff to Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet; director of maritime operations, U.S. Fleet Forces Command; and, director of operations, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. He served with the Army's 10th Mountain and 82nd Airborne Divisions as commanding officer of the Joint/Interagency Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) – Khost, Afghanistan. Additionally, he commanded the Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center. Most recently, he commanded Joint Task Force - Red Hill which was established to safely and expeditiously defuel the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility in Oahu, Hawaii.

Wade assumed duties as commander, THIRD Fleet in June 2024.

Wade's personal decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Combat Action Badge, and various service, campaign and unit awards. He is also the recipient of the Vice Adm. E.C. Waller and Vice Adm. John D. Bulkeley leadership awards.

## BREAKFAST SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Navy League Foundation offers scholarships to high school seniors who are dependent or direct descendants of current or former members of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marine, or who are active members of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Scholarships are also available to spouses of active duty, retired, or deceased service members in the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard. The application process involves submitting an application form, personal statement, official transcript, and recommendation letters. Eligibility Requirements includes; U.S. Citizen, GPA of 3.0 or higher, and Acceptance to College of an accredited institution of higher education. The San Diego Council is Sponsored by; Alexander Kreiglowa Scholarship namesake is from Norwich, CT, where he enlisted in the U.S. Navy at the age of 16 years old. Alex served over 20 years of honorable service, with 17 years at sea aboard 10 different warships. While ashore he trained young recruits at the Naval Training Center San Diego for over 3 years. During his shore tour, he said this assignment required long hours, but was the most satisfying. Chief Kreiglowa retired in 1957, whereas it was the highest enlisted rank in the U.S. Navy at that time. He touched so many lives of young men, and is continuing that legacy through his Scholarship Program. Upon establishing this scholarship; "I always worked hard to get ahead and now I want to give something back to the Navy and my country. The Navy was very good to me and I think this is one way I can give back. I want this scholarship money to go to students who have a strong desire to get ahead and accomplish things." Chief Kreiglowa passed away on March 21, 2018 at the age of 100, but his generosity lives on through the Navy League Foundation and the San Diego Council.



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Well Done to USS PINCKNEY (DDG 91) Sailor of the Quarter Award Winners (2nd Qtr): CSSA Matthew Riojas, ET3 Kyle Haley, STG2(SW) Brianna Shea and MM1(SW) Warren Whyles. Special thank you to awards sponsor; LC Embroidery and Homecoming Coordinator; Jay Rindler in presenting the awards on May 8, 2025.

Congratulations to the 2025 Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal Award Winners; Marine Corps JROTC Cadet First Sergeant Taii Peterson at Oceanside High School on 14 May and Coast Guard JROTC Cadet Petty Officer First Class Angelo Lewis at Mission Bay High School on May 15.





## RECOGNITIONS

Council recognized Marines for their outstanding performance as Marine and NCO of the Quarter Award Winners and for Sustain Superior Performance assigned to Marine Air Control Squadron 1; LCpl Noah Bergeron, Cpl Antonio Moltime and LCpl MJ Banila. Drill Instructors of the Quarter Award Winners assigned to 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, MCRD San Diego; SSgt Brady Letter and Sgt Tyler Chagnon. Recruiters for Sustained Superior Performance assigned to Recruiting Stations Escondido and Oceanside, 12th Marine Corps District; SSgt Angelica Jacuinde and Sgt Mariah Devoursey. Special thank you to MGySgt Matthew Tovar serving as guest speaker, Naval Base San Diego; LCDR Chan Williams as Chaplain and Vietnam POW Survivor Retired CDR Jim Bedinger in attending and meeting with the Marine Corps finest. Awards were sponsored by RCP Block & Brick. Special thank you to Elite Fundraising; Mike French in sponsoring 5 Day/4 Night Vacation Stay to Cancun, Mexico and the San Diego Council's tickets for July's Breakfast Event and Navy Birthday Ball. Congratulations to the opportunity drawing winners; 1stSgt John Fager, LCpl Noah Bergeron and 1stSgt James Mabe.



## WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

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## MEMBERSHIP

### NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

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Derek Piotrowski  
Jason Burns  
Joshua Corrales  
Bobby Moore  
Robert Joyce  
Donielle Warren  
Michael Fabel  
Marcus Baltimore  
Richard Rieder  
Robert Carrillo  
Anthony Thomas  
Vanita Kibbe  
Eduardo Alvarado  
Gurpreet Singh

Friday, Jul 18th; Registration now open! First 32 ADSD Mbrs are FREE!

<https://navyleague-sd.com/product-category/golf-scrabble/>



**Save the Date;** Friday, September 5, 0730-0900.

First 50 OMB receive complimentary breakfast, gift bags and ticket to win door prizes.

Registration is July 11- August 29.

For more info; [executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com](mailto:executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com).



**Get your ticket today!**

Saturday, September 27, 0800-1700.

For more info;

[executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com](mailto:executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com).



**EXCLUSIVE EARLY BIRD SALE** now available at <https://navyleague-sd.com/product-category/Navybirthdayball/>



Donate and help! 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.

- 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.
- Unrestricted Giving; donation allows the Navy League to use your gift where our sea services need it the most.

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-your-san-diego-navy-league-council/>

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**2025 MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES  
AT ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE**

**AUGUST 8, 2025**

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

**CDR PAUL LEON, USCG**

**COMMANDING OFFICER,**

**U.S. COAST GUARD**

**TACTICAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM PACIFIC**

### 2025 DATES

Sep 5 - CNSF

Oct 3 - CHSCWPAC

Nov 7 - VMGR 352

Dec 5 - USS SOMERSET (LPD 25)

### 2026 DATES

Feb 6 - USCG

Mar 6 - USMC

Apr 3 - USN CPO Bday

May 1 - Maritime Forces SSMoY

June 5 - USMC

Jul 10 - Maritime Forces - Spirit of Indy

Aug 7 - USCG Bday

Sep 4 - Maritime Forces - OMB Appreciation

Oct 2 - USN Bday

Nov 6 - USMC Bday

Dec 4 - EoY & 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)