



# Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

56-5 | May 2026

## BREAKFAST EVENT

May 1, 2026

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

2400 ADMIRAL BAKER ROAD  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120

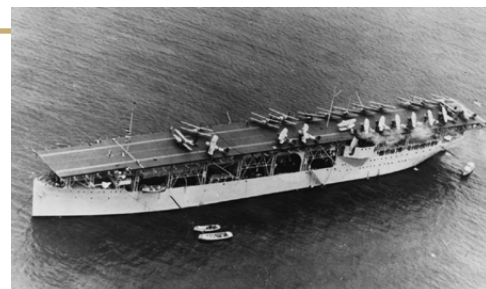
GUEST SPEAKER;  
CAPT LADISLAO "MONTY" MONTERO,  
CHIEF OF STAFF,  
COMMANDER, NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST

*"Our nuclear powered aircraft carriers remain the most survivable and versatile airfields in the world, and provide our national leaders valuable options across the competition continuum"*

—Admiral Michael M. Gilday,  
Chief of Naval Operations

## NAVY HERITAGE

U.S. Naval Aviation was born 8 May 1911, with a purchase request made by Captain Washington Chambers for the Navy's first aircraft. In the years leading up to World War I, pioneer aviators pushed the development of hydroaeroplanes and flying boats, turning them into effective tools for warfare and working to integrate Naval Aviation into the Navy's mission to protect and control the seas. From the United States Navy's first aircraft carrier USS Langley (CV1) to its most modern nuclear super aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78), aircraft carriers have been the Navy's preeminent power projection platform and have served the nation's interest in times of war and peace. With an unequalled ability to provide warfighting capabilities across the full spectrum of conflict, and to adapt in an ever-changing world, aircraft carriers, their air wings, and associated strike groups are the foundation of US maritime strategy. Today, aircraft carriers from two classes of nuclear-powered ships (Nimitz-class and Ford-class carriers) lead the modern-day fleet forces as they provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, deter aggression and assure national security. USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) is currently under construction and scheduled to be commission in March 2027. Congress mandates the U.S. Navy to operate 11 aircraft carriers throughout the world to maintain security, economic freedom and enduring commitments around the world.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO NAVAL AVIATION!**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who joined our April's Breakfast Event in celebrating the Chief's 233rd Birthday. We had a wonderful turnout with 83 guests in attendance. A special thank you to our guest speaker, CAPT Garrett Miller, Commodore, Surface Development Group ONE in providing insight to the cutting edge and innovation with Un-manned Surface Vessels in today's modern era. It was an honor to recognize his Sailors for their professional excellence. Special guests included; U.S. Navy Retired Rear Admirals; Dave Steindl and Fred Pyle. We sincerely appreciate our Sponsors with their generous donations in supporting our 5th Annual CPO Charity Fundraiser, where all proceeds go towards supporting our Awards Recognition and Youth Programs. Thank you to all our volunteers who continue to support our mission in serving our brave servicemembers. I look forward to seeing everyone at our future events —Tracy Owens, President



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## SPECIAL THANK YOU

Special thank you to our Community Partners for their generous donations; Lockheed Martin \$10,000.00 and LC Embroidery \$5,000.00 in support of our Council meeting its mission in 2026.





Captain Ladislao R. Montero is a native of Nogales AZ. He enlisted in the Navy in 1988 and served over 5 years as an avionics technician. Utilizing his GI BILL, he graduated from the University of Arizona earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1998. He was commissioned through Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL and designated a Naval Flight Officer in April 2001.

His sea tours include: VS-22 "Checkmates" deploying with USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) as Avionic Technician, VS-35 "Blue Wolves" deploying with USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70) as Line Division Supervisor, VS-21 "Redtails" deploying with USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63) as Legal, NATOPS and AV/ARM Division Officer, VAQ-140 "Patriots" deploying with USS Eisenhower (CVN-69) as QA and Assistant Operations Officer, VAQ-136 "Gauntlets" deploying with USS George Washington (CVN-73) as Safety, Admin and Maintenance Officer, VAQ-139 "Cougars" deploying with USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer. He deployed as an individual augmentee with the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division in Iraq as Electronic Warfare Rep for Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) Cell.

U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division

Captain Montero's shore tours include Fighter Intercept Control Officer at NATO Combined Air Operations Center "Torrejón de Ardoz" in Madrid Spain and as the Military Deputy to the Electronic Warfare Director, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment in The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Captain Montero was selected to command Naval Base Coronado in October 2021, and reported aboard as the Executive Officer in December 2022.

Captain Montero assumed command of Naval Base Coronado on 26 January 2024 on board Naval Air Station North Island.

Captain Montero is currently assigned as Chief of Staff Commander, Navy Region Southwest.

His accomplishments include recognition as Commander, Electronic Attack Wing, Pacific, Junior Officer "Seadog Fodor" Leadership Award for 2007. Additionally, during this command tour, the "Cougars" of VAQ-139 were the recipients of the 2016, 2017, and 2018 Battle Efficiency Award.

Captain Montero has accumulated over 2,600 total hours flying the S-3B, EA-6B and EA-18G in support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Inherent Resolve and Enduring Sentinel. He has received multiple individual and campaign awards including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Meritorious Service Medal, Strike/Flight Air Medal (4 awards) and Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with Combat "V" Award).

## BREAKFAST SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Lockheed Martin Corporation is an American aerospace, arms, defense, information security, and technology corporation with worldwide interests. It was formed by the merger of Lockheed Corporation with Martin Marietta in March 1995. It is headquartered in North Bethesda, Maryland, in the Washington, D.C. area. Lockheed Martin employs approximately 115,000 employees worldwide, including about 60,000 engineers and scientists as of January 2022. Lockheed Martin is one of the largest companies in the aerospace, military support, security, and technologies industry. It is the world's largest defense contractor by revenue for fiscal year 2014. In 2013, 78% of Lockheed Martin's revenues came from military sales; it topped the list of US federal government contractors and received nearly 10% of the funds paid out by the Pentagon. In 2009, US government contracts accounted for \$38.4 billion (85%), foreign government contracts for \$5.8 billion (13%), and commercial and other contracts for \$900 million (2%). Half of the corporation's annual sales are to the U.S. Department of Defense. Lockheed Martin is also a contractor for the Department of Energy and NASA. Lockheed Martin operates in four business segments: Aeronautics, Missiles and Fire Control, Rotary and Mission Systems, and Space. The company has received the Collier Trophy Award six times, including in 2001 for being part of developing the X-35/F-35B LiftFan Propulsion System and most recently in 2018 for the Automatic Ground Collision Avoidance System. Lockheed Martin leads the development for the F-35 Lightning II and leads the international supply chain and for the implementation of technology solutions for the new USAF Space Fence, and the Orion command module. The company also invests in healthcare systems, renewable energy systems, intelligent energy distribution, and compact nuclear fusion. Lockheed Martin has a long history as a San Diego Council Community Partner in supporting it's Maritime Forces and their families in the community

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Congrats to U.S. Marine Corps Veteran; Chelsey Gray in being honored at the San Diego Wave Military Hero Match Recognition Game, where she was recognized on the field and Jumbotron in front of 25,000 fans for her honorable service to our country and volunteer service in the community as Navy League member on March 25, 2026. A job well done!



Hospital Corpsman Birthday Ball Community Sponsorship Opportunity in supporting the Corpsman Ball celebrating 128 Years of Excellence at the Hilton Hotel Downtown San Diego. ALL are invited and info available on website: <https://navyleague-sd.com/product/corpsman-ball-jun-13-2026/>



Ship Reunion Community Sponsorship Opportunity in supporting HOWARD's celebrating 25 Years of Excellence in downtown San Diego. ALL are invited and info available on website: <https://navyleague-sd.com/product/uss-howard-reunion-jun-4-7-2026/>

# RECOGNITIONS

Council held its 5th Annual CPO Birthday Celebration on April 3, 2026, where Surface Development Group ONE (SDG-1) Sailor of the Quarter (1st Qtr FY26) Award Winners were recognized for their outstanding performance. Congratulations CS3 Marmento Frenahlynh, RS2 Gregory Baker and IT1 Christopher Gist. Festivities included a cake cutting ceremony celebrating 233 Years with SDG-1 CMDCM Mark Christman, NBSD CMDCM Kristopher Freyberg and SDG-1 Commodore; CAPT Garrett Miller leading the honors, and MCAS Miramar Chaplain; CDR Ferguson Harris with the invocation. Vietnam Prisoner of War Survivor; CDR Jim Bedinger presented CAPT Miller a small token of gratitude in serving as guest speaker. Special thank you our Community Partners for their donation with the door prizes; POW Survivor; Jim Bedinger, Navy Federal Credit Union, Mt. Soledad Museum, USS Midway Museum, Lifer Dog Creations, Buffalo Reclaimed Flag Company, Kona Kake, Krank Golf & Elite Fundraising Solutions and the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel.



# WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

## San Diego Corporate Members & Community Affiliates

### CORPORATE GOLD

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Krank Golf & Elite Fundraising Solutions  
LC Embroidery & Cleaners  
Lockheed Martin  
Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego  
Parker Aerospace

### CORPORATE

PENFED  
Steinfeld Family  
USS Midway Museum

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Hyatt Regency La Jolla  
Impressions (DJ/MC) San Diego  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
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Ruehlin Associates  
San Diego Sockers.  
Walter Anderson Nursery

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Imagine Design & Graphic (IDG)  
JW Memorabilia  
Krvacic Capital & Risk Management  
Liberty Military Housing  
Liberty Tobacco  
Lifer Dog Creations  
Maritime Institute  
Minuteman Press Kearny Mesa  
Navy Mustang Association SD Chapter  
North Island Credit Union  
Pastrana Group  
Protector Brewery  
Ryon Lee Media - MCBB Events  
SD Century Club  
San Diego Gulls  
San Diego Padres  
San Diego Wave Futbol Club  
San Diego Zoo  
Spotlight Strategies  
TK Urban Garden  
USAA  
Vietnam Veterans of America Chp 472  
Visual Edge IT  
Your New Gate Company

# MEMBERSHIP

## NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Sean Barry  
 Douglas Fawcett  
 MCCM Misty Flynn, USN  
 Mary Perry  
 Donald Dales  
 Marcis Berzins  
 Stephen Lorentzen  
 Rylie Rizzo  
 Thomas Castle  
 Craig Furuta  
 Jeff Westin  
 Tony Grant  
 Gavan Pike  
 Donecia McClure  
 Bob Berman BoD Mbr  
 CAPT Henry Kim, USN(Ret)  
 Jason Stahl  
 Stephen Andres



Date; Fri, Jul 17, Golf Tournament. Check-in; 0630 & Shot-gun; 0805. Single; \$100, Foursome; \$400 Sponsorships available PoC; gregvia001@gmail.com.  
 To register; <https://navyleague-sd.com/product-category/golf-scramble/>

Happy Birthday Chiefs & Congrats to the door prize winners. Special thanks to ALL Sponsors!



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2026 MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES  
 AT ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

JUNE 5, 2026

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

CDR BENJAMIN PEARLSWIG, USN  
 COMMANDING OFFICER,  
 USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42)

### 2026 DATES

- Jul 10 - Naval Surface & Mine Warfighting Development Center
- Aug 7 - USCG Sector San Diego
- Sep 4 - Naval Base San Diego
- Oct 2 - DCOM, NETC Force Development
- Nov 6 - 3d Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion
- Dec 4 - USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62)



## 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

- \$55 - INCLUDES BREAKFAST, 1 YR MEMBERSHIP AND AN ADDITIONAL COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST.
- BREAKFAST FOR NON-MEMBERS; \$45
- BREAKFAST FOR MEMBERS; \$35

### 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.

-EXCLUSIVE BREAKFAST 11 MOS PROMO; \$374

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)