



Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

56-6 | June 2026



BREAKFAST EVENT

June 5, 2026

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

2400 ADMIRAL BAKER ROAD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120

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

NAVY HERITAGE

USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42) is the second Whidbey Island Class Dock Landing Ship in the U. S. Navy and second named after the Revolutionary War Battle of Germantown. The Amphibious ship's mission is to project power ashore by transporting and launching amphibious craft and vehicles loaded with embarked Marines in support of an amphibious assault. The ship was designed specifically to operate with Landing Craft Air Cushion vessels. She has the largest capacity for these landing craft (four to five) of any US Navy amphibious platform, where she participated in Operations Desert Shield/Storm and Iraqi Freedom. USS Germantown was commissioned on 8 February 1986 and is scheduled to be decommissioned on September 29, 2026, as part of a Navy-wide inactivation of older vessels to reduce maintenance costs. The Whidbey Island-class dock landing ship, is homeported in San Diego, is retiring after over 40 years of service and will be utilized as a logistics support asset. Ship's motto: *Folgen Sie unseren Fusspuren! (Follow in Our Footsteps)*



“A good Navy is not a provocation to war. It is the surest guaranty of peace.”

—President Theodore Roosevelt

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who joined our May's Breakfast Event. We had an outstanding turnout with our record breaking attendance of 160 guests. Special thank you to our guest speaker, Navy Region Southwest Chief of Staff; CAPT Ladislao "Monty" Montero with his inspirational words of wisdom and Naval Base San Diego Chaplain; CDR Aaron Miller for the invocation. It was an honor to recognize our 5th Annual Sea Service Member of the Year Award 57 finalists that were derived from 25 different commands. Well done across the board to our Selection Board Members in volunteering many hours in selecting this year's winners. Additionally, I want to thank our Board of Directors in volunteering to attend and present the Type Commanders Sailor of the Year Awards held simultaneously throughout the San Diego metro area, and our sponsors for their generous donations and strong support of our Breakfast Events, upcoming Golf Tournament, MCAS Miramar Airshow and Navy Birthday Ball scheduled for later this year. I look forward to seeing everyone at our future events —Tracy Owens, President



SAN DIEGO COUNCIL EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to this year's 2026 Sea Service Member of the Year (SSMoY) Award Winners; E4 & Below Category "Junior SSMoY"; USS O'KANE (DDG 77) - GM3(SW) Lorenz Smith, E5 Category "SSMoY"; USCG Tactical Law Enforcement Team Pacific - ME2 Louis Minoglio, E6 Category "Senior SSMoY"; USS AMERICA (LHA 6) - YN1(AW) Juan De Jesus Valladolid Jr. and O1-O3 Category "Junior Officer SSMoY"; USS O'Kane (DDG 77) - LTJG Aiden Longley. The award winners were selected amongst a very competitive group. Bravo Zulu across the board!



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SPECIAL THANK YOU



Special thank you to our Community Partner's generous donation - Parker Aerospace; John Miles of \$14,000.00, Navy Federal Credit Union Branch Managers MCAS Miramar; Marie Barrera and NBSD; Bryan Geluz of \$1,000.00 and Mr. Carl Weischof of \$100 and Anthony Colarusso of \$50 in support of our Council meeting its mission in 2026.

BREAKFAST SPEAKER

CDR Pearlswig is a native of Turner, Oregon. He is a 2005 graduate from Oregon State University where he obtained his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program. He is also a 2011 graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Afloat, has served all over the world working with allies and partners throughout the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 7th Fleet's Area of Operations. His first tour was on the USS Cole (DDG 67) where he qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer and participated in USS Cole's first deployment to U.S. 5th Fleet following the attack in Oct of 2000. He then joined Amphibious Squadron Four and deployed as part of the Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group. As a department head, he served aboard USS John S. McCain (DDG 56), forward deployed to U.S. 7th Fleet in Yokosuka, Japan. In 2015 he was selected for early command aboard USS Warrior (MCM 10), forward deployed to Sasebo, Japan, where he served as the executive officer, and assumed command of USS Warrior in February 2018. His most recent assignment was as the Executive Officer of USS SHILOH (CG 67).

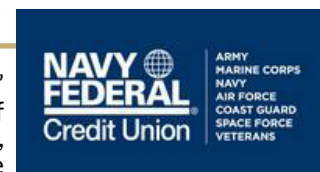
Ashore Cmdr. Pearlswig worked in the Senior Officer Ship Material Readiness Course (N76) at the Surface Warfare Officer's School in Newport, RI. He also worked for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet in the Warfighting Assessment & Readiness Directorate (N9WAR) on various exercises and events to include the inaugural Unmanned Systems Integrated Battle Problem and the Mine Warfare Realignment to Great Power Competition.

His personal achievements include the Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), the Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3 awards), the Battle "E" Efficiency award (2 awards), and various unit and service awards.



BREAKFAST SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Navy Federal was originally incorporated on 17 January 1933 as the Navy Department Employees' Credit Union of the District of Columbia. Only Navy Department employees who were members of the federal employees' labor union and members of their families were eligible to join. The next year, President Roosevelt signed into law the Federal Credit Union Act., which would eventually become the basis of business for the credit union. On July 17, 1947, the credit union was granted a federal charter as a credit union, named Navy Department Employees Federal Credit Union. It also expanded membership to include all Navy personnel in the Washington, D.C., area, both military and civilian. In May 2008, Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) widened its membership to include the entire Department of Defense (DoD), which made eligible all active duty, retired, and reserve Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force personnel, as well as contractor and civilian personnel within the DoD. In March 2013, NFCU further widened its membership to include all Coast Guard members and employees and Space Force members in 2020. Since 1933, NFCU has grown from 7 members to over 13.5 million members and \$171B in assets as of January 2024, holding distinction as the world's largest credit union since April 1962. NFCU is an American global credit union headquartered in Vienna, Virginia, chartered and regulated under the authority of the National Credit Union Administration, where NFCU puts its members financial needs first with low fees, great rates and discounts at any of the 355 branches, many located near military bases. NFCU is proud to be a member-owned, not for profit credit union supporting all branches of the military, DoD, veterans, and their families through every stage of life. The San Diego Council is honored to have NFCU Miramar Branch and Naval Base San Diego Branch as a community partners.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Type Commanders (TYCOM) - Naval Surface Forces, Naval Air Forces, Third Fleet, Submarine Pacific Fleet and Naval Special Warfare recognized Navy League San Diego Board of Directors for their strong support with the FY-25 TYCOM Sailor of the Year Awards Sponsorship on April 14, 2025. Well done across the board!



Well done Board Members; Jay Rindler & Charles Clark in presenting the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar & 3rd Marine Air Wing's (MAW) Marine & Sailor of Quarter Awards on May 6, 2026. 3rd MAW Major General Brodie thanked the Council for their strong support of its sea services.



RECOGNITIONS

Congrats to the 2026 Sea Service Member of the Year 57 Finalists derived from 25 different commands amongst a very competitive group at their respective commands from the San Diego metro area. Special thank you Lockheed Martin as breakfast sponsor and NFCU, USAA and the many other sponsors in supporting of this special event.



WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

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& Community Affiliates

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- Navy Federal Credit Union
- RCP Block & Brick, Inc
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- 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

Emily Rementeria
 John Moody
 Jason Burns
 CDR Cindy Fields, USN
 Europe Kennedy
 Robert Gonzalez
 Allan Walters
 Michael Jones
 Neil Zerbe

Thank You Lockheed Martin, Boeing and First Command in support of the FY-2025 TYCOM SOY Awards Recognition. Congrats to Commander; Naval Air Forces, Surface Forces, Submarine Forces, Special Warfare and THIRD Fleet winners!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2026 MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES AT ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE

JULY 10, 2026 DOORS OPEN FOR SOCIAL NETWORK & REGISTRATION FROM 7:00-7:30AM

**CAPT JESSICA O'BRIEN, USN
 CHIEF OF STAFF
 EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP THREE**

2026 DATES

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.

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