



# Blue & Gold

Navy League of the United States | San Diego Council

56-7 | July 2026

## BREAKFAST EVENT

July 10, 2026

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Admiral Baker Clubhouse

2400 ADMIRAL BAKER ROAD  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120

GUEST SPEAKER;  
CAPT JESSICA O'BRIEN, USN  
CHIEF OF STAFF,  
EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP THREE

## 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. On 25 September 2025, AMERICA returned to its homeport of San Diego, CA.



*“America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.”*

—President Harry S. Truman

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who joined our June's Breakfast Event. We had an outstanding turnout with 48 guests in attendance. A special thank you to our guest speaker, Commanding Officer, USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42); CDR Benjamin Pearlswig in providing insightful, inspirational and motivational presentation. It was an honor to recognize USS GERMANTOWN and Tactical Training Group Pacific Sailors for their outstanding service. Well done across the board to our Scholarship Committee Board Members in volunteering many hours in selecting this year's scholarship award winners, where they 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 6th Annual Sea Services Golf Tournament and CFO; Sheldon Margolis with the successful sellout of Air Show tickets this year. I look forward to seeing everyone at our future events —Tracy Owens, President



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## SPECIAL THANK YOU

BZ to Community Partners; TK Urban Garden, Tyger & Kanna Burch of \$1,250.00 for Navy Birthday Ball, Walter Andersen Nursery, Ken Andersen of \$1,600.00 for MCAS Miramar Air Show and the generous donation of Retired Master Chief Eric Faulkner and Council of \$600 presented to HM1 Phil Dorsainvil and HMC Dalasay for Junior Sailors to attend this year's Corpsman Ball and Mr. Mike French of Elite Fundraising Solutions for the Miami, Florida Hotel Vacation Stay donation. Congrats ET3 Gypsy Grinder as the Opportunity Drawing Miami Trip Grand Prize Winner!



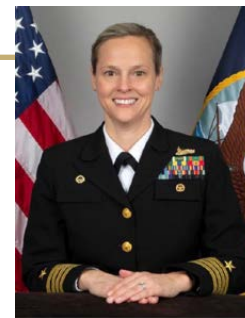
## BREAKFAST SPEAKER

Originally from Ocean Springs, Mississippi, CAPT O'Brien graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1997 with a degree in Oceanography. She is a graduate of the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College and holds a masters degree in Military Studies.

Following a tour at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Diego Garcia, B.I.O.T. where she served as Satellite Communications and Technical Control Division Officer, she reported to USS ANCHORAGE (LSD 36) in San Diego, CA where she served as the Assistant Operations Officer, Electronic Warfare Officer, and Training Officer. Subsequent sea tours included Operations Officer in USS MCCLUSKY (FFG 41) where she was the recipient of the 2005 CNSF Junior Officer Award for Excellence in Tactics for Destroyer Squadron ONE, N3/Operations Officer in Amphibious Squadron THREE (CPR 3), and Executive Officer, fleet-up to Commanding Officer of Beachmaster Unit ONE, Coronado, CA.

Following her command tour, she returned to Amphibious Squadron THREE as Chief Staff Officer and deployed with USS AMERICA (LHA 6) amphibious ready group during USS AMERICA's first operational deployment to the SEVENTH and FIFTH Fleet Areas of Responsibility Ashore, CAPT O'Brien served as Flag Aide to Commander, Navy Region Southwest; Flag Secretary and Speech Writer to Commander, Naval Surface Forces/Naval Surface Force, Pacific Fleet; N5 and Maritime Prepositioning Force Officer at Naval Beach Group ONE, Coronado, CA; and as the Deputy Branch Head, Security Cooperation and Posture, OPNAV N5 and International Seapower Symposium Coordinator for the Chief of Naval Operations. Most recently, she was dual-hatted as the Commanding Officer of Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach and Commander, Navy Munitions Command Pacific, CONUS West Division. CAPT O'Brien assumed duties as Expeditionary Strike Group THREE Chief of Staff in August 2025.

CAPT O'Brien's awards include the Legion of Merit (second award), Meritorious Service Medal (third award), Navy Commendation Medal (fourth award), Navy Achievement Medal (second award), and various campaign and unit 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 the 2026 NROTC San Diego Consortium Midshipmen Graduation Class, who will be commissioned as Navy & Marine Corps officers in the fleet this year. Congrats 2026 Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal JROTC Award Winners; Navy Cadet Chief Anna Wang of Point Loma High School on 11 May and Marine Corps Cadet Captain Riley Barrett of Oceanside High School on 14 May. Well done Youth Programs Chairman; Shane Steinfeld and his team; Charles Clark and Jay Rindler.



BZ Jay Rindler & Charles Clark as Council Sponsors for the 15th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony Miramar National Cemetery on May 24, 2026, where they met with Medal of Honor recipient; CAPT Royce Williams and thanked him for his strong support.



# RECOGNITIONS

Congrats to USS GERMANTOWN Sailor of the Quarter Award Winners, Bluejacket; BMSN Allison Adkins, Junior; ET3 Gypsy Grinder, Sailor; BM2(SW) Travis McIver and Senior Sailor; EN1(SW) Damian Concordia and Tactical Training Group Pacific 2026 Junior Officer Sea Service Member of the Year Award Winner; LT John Hylkema. Thank you CDR Benjamin Pearlswig serving as guest speaker, LCDR Marc Kitsko as Chaplain and Navy Federal Credit Union; Bryan Geluz & Latoya Hill as awards sponsors.



# WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

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- Ruehlin Associates
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- Krvaric Capital & Risk Management
- Liberty Military Housing
- Liberty Tobacco
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- Ryon Lee Media - MCBB Events
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- 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

Gidget Fuentes  
Mark Nevin  
Evan Shinwari  
Allison Homler  
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Yainer C. Ramos  
John Grygiel



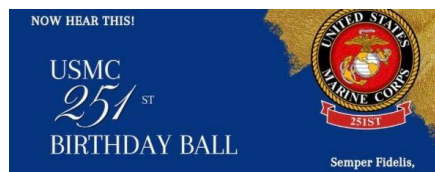
Friday, Jul 17th; Registration is still open and E4 & Below are free. Sign up today! <https://navyleague-sd.com/product-category/golf-scramble/>



Save the Date; Friday, September 4, 0730-0900. First 50 OMB receive complimentary breakfast, gift bags and ticket to win door prizes. Registration starts July 10 via email; [executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com](mailto:executivedirector@navyleague-sd.com), [ccemail; embelmares@aol.com](mailto:ccemail; embelmares@aol.com).



Tickets are on sale now and available at <https://navyleague-sd.com/product-category/Navybirthdayball/>



Sponsorship Support NEEDED for USMC Birthday Ball and can donate at; by checking box; Appreciation & Celebrations (USMC Birthdays) <https://navyleague-sd.com/product/donate-to-your-san-diego-navy-league-council/>



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

2026 MONTHLY BREAKFAST DATES  
AT ADMIRAL BAKER CLUBHOUSE  
AUGUST 7, 2026

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

CAPT ROBERT C. TUCKER, USCG  
COMMANDING OFFICER,  
SECTOR SAN DIEGO

### 2026 DATES

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)

### 2027 DATES

Feb 5 - USCG  
Mar 5 - USMC  
Apr 2 - USN CPO Bday  
May 7 - Maritime Forces SSMoY  
June 4 - USN  
Jul 9 - Maritime Forces - Spirit of Indy  
Aug 6 - Sector San Diego - USCG Bday  
Sep 3 - Naval Base San Diego  
Oct 1 - USN - Navy Bday  
Nov 5 - USMC Bday  
Dec 3 - USN - 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

\$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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