



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 20 ISSUE 6

Bill Weiler, President
Denise Hein, Editor

June 2009

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As summer approaches and another Fleet Week is behind us, I want to thank all of you that contributed your time and energy to help insure its success. In addition to the evening events and parties, the 2 night "cruise" from Mayport aboard the Ashland, and numerous community relations activities, we helped to provide a record number of shipboard tours to schools, JROTC units, and even "civilians" that had not been permitted access during recent years. Although our volunteer list was far too long to mention each of you individually, I do feel it is necessary to acknowledge the special efforts of Don and Phyllis Bannister, Tom and Sandra Jones, and Joe Giambrone. My sincere thanks to you and to the many others that helped to enhance the face of the Navy League in general, and especially Broward County Council during that high profile week!

We had a great turnout for our May Dinner at Tropical Acres. CAPT Mike Howard, Executive Director of the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum, gave an informative presentation that was enjoyed by all. Dottie Kirk was recognized for her long time support of the Council, especially since it was the 10th Anniversary of our receipt of the Broward County School Board's "Outstanding Partnership" Award. Dottie was instrumental in developing our relationship with Silver Ridge Elementary School as part of the Navy's "Partnerships in Education" program, and it continues to flourish today under the leadership of Shelly Stein. The Color Guard was from our JNROTC Unit from Flanagan High School. We want to applaud the Cadets from Flanagan, under the leadership of Col. Scott Slater, for their recent performance at both statewide and national competitions, where they finished 1st at States and 4th at Nationals. Congratulations!

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone that the USS Freedom, LCS 1, will be visiting CG Station Miami over the last weekend in May. Freedom is the first of a new, state of the art "Littoral Combat Ship". We expect that there will be some touring available for our members, so please let Tom Jones know if you are interested.

Hope to see you all at the June Dinner, anticipated for June 11th. If not, have a great summer!

As always, thanks for your support!

Bill Weiler

CAPT G. William Weiler, USN (Ret.)
President, Broward County Florida Council
Navy League of the United States
954 344-4513



JUNE DINNER SOCIAL

When - Thursday, June 11th, 2009
Where - Tropical Acres

Time - 6:30 pm Cocktails
7:15 pm Dinner

Speaker: Details To Be Finalized

Dinner Choices
Prime Rib & Salmon

Cost - \$30.00 per person

Reservations to: Anita Carmell by June 8th
bcnavyleague@yahoo.com or 954-473-1071

RESCUE AT SEA DEMONSTRATION



The 500 attendees at the Dignitary Reception held at Terminal 24 Port Everglades were treated to a Rescue at Sea Demonstration by USCG Air Station Miami during the final farewell festivities to Fleet Week 2009.

**USS ASHLAND (LSD 48)
TIGER CRUISE**



USS ASHLAND (LSD 48) sailors and Tiger Cruise participants man the deck as she enters Port Everglades.

*They will have these moments
to remember!*



Photos by: *David Slonim*



EDITOR'S NOTE

For the past month I've been walking along the beach collecting sea shells and sea glass. Early the morning of Monday, April 27, I looked toward the eastern horizon and saw a Navy Destroyer sailing toward Port Everglades with their crew on deck. Following were four other ships: an Amphibious LSD, a Coast Guard Cutter, a Canadian Replenishment Oiler and a Nuclear Submarine. Guiding these ships into port were Coast Guard Patrol boats and Broward Sheriff's Boats.

Bells were ringing, horns were blowing and people were waving from the shore of Northern Ft. Lauderdale Beach. Another Fleet Week was beginning in Ft. Lauderdale and the City was all out to show their appreciation. Great parties entertained the crew members and they in turn devoted hours of community service to the city.

Where do you find young men and women who are willing to give all to their country?
Americans can continue to walk along the beaches.

Denise Hein, Editor



Description: Members of the Applied Physics Laboratory Ice Station clear ice from the hatch of the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Annapolis (SSN 760) after the sub broke through the ice while participating in Ice Exercise 2009.

JACKSONVILLE, FL. (NNS) -- Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville is the winner of this year's Secretary of the Navy Award for Achievement in Safety Ashore in the large non-industrial category. This award is presented each year to recognize Navy and Marine Corps shore activities and ashore fleet operational support units for their quality occupational safety and health programs.



MAYPORT, FL Lt. Douglas Thompson is greeted by his family during a homecoming celebration for the guided-missile destroyer USS The Sullivans (DDG 68) in Mayport, Fla. The Sullivans returned after a successful seven-month deployment supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (NNS) -- Marines from Charlie Company, 4th platoon, 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion embarked aboard USS Ashland (LSD 48) used some of their liberty time during Fleet Week Port Everglades 2009 to visit veterans at the Alexander Nininger State Veterans Nursing Home April 30. The Marines toured the facility and stopped to talk to veterans along the way before going out to the courtyard to mingle with all that were able. The Marines visited with veterans from as far back as WWII.



GULF OF MEXICO Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) Makin Island (LHD 8) departs the Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding Gulf Coast shipyard for five days of Builder's Trials to test a wide variety of systems and equipment. More than 100 Makin Island Sailors were embarked to observe and monitor the testing conducted by Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding personnel. Makin Island, scheduled for commissioning Oct. 24, 2009 in San Diego, will be the Navy's eighth and final Wasp Class amphibious assault ship. (photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Alec Noe)

FLEET WEEK FACTS

Number of tours: 120 including Sea Cadets

Number of visitors: approximately 5200

Number of volunteers: 85 including all events and the Holland American Cruise Line staff who volunteered.

Number of volunteer hours: approximately 3400 plus, this includes behind the scenes

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George Reeves, Membership Chair
John Kiefer, New Member Chair

Thank you!

NEW MEMBERS

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Correction: Janette Chandler's e-mail is Janettechandler@bellsouth.net

SHIP GREETINGS AND EVENTS

No Ships are scheduled for visits.

USS BATAAN (LHD 5) - Many of the crew have been on leave making preparations for an upcoming deployment. Therefore we missed having their Sailor in the Spotlight this month. We hope however, they enjoy sharing their space with the DAV gentlemen.

GUESTS FROM ALEXANDER "SANDY" NININGER NURSING HOME



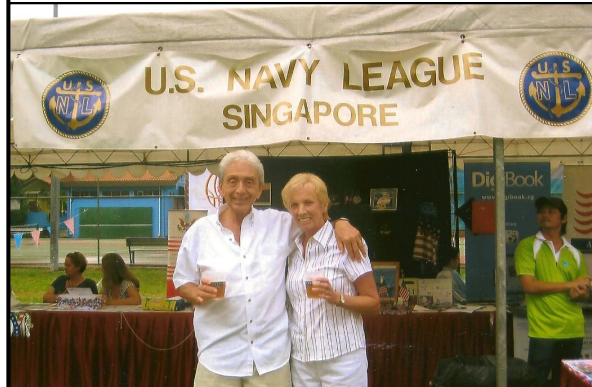
Thank you very much for inviting us to the Admirals Reception. We had a great time in supporting the Navy and Marines. We were especially delighted to arrange for the Veterans and Staff from the Alexander "Sandy" Nininger VA Nursing Home to join us. It's a great tribute to you and your supporters and the reason that The US Navy and Marines have Ft. Lauderdale as a very desirable port of call. Thanks from the DAV.

Robert Kuntz



USCG AIR STATION MIAMI EPOQ FS2 EDUARDO CORRALES

Presented certificate and check 6 May 2009 by Don Bannister and Joe Giambrone. Captain Rick Kenin, CO was also on hand.



Nancy and Bob Viverito

Took the opportunity to visit with the US Navy League Singapore on a recent visit with their son and family.

*Have a safe and happy summer.
See you in September.*

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FLEET WEEK 2009



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Chris Evert Children's Hospital Outreach ComRel Visit

Sailors and Marine Units participated in COMREL visits during Fleet Week to Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, Coral Springs Medical Center and Sandy Nininger VA Nursing Home as well as several schools. Thanks to our escorts Ernie Gorwood, Bob Marks, George Reeves, Morton Berger and Fran Shaw.

Larry M. Ott
Funeral Director



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