



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

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Bill Weiler, President
Denise Hein, Editor

May 2009

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has brought with it a flurry of activity and some good times for BCNL. March's reception for the Naval Academy Women's Glee Club was a great success. Taking a shot with something very different from our typical dinner meeting, the Riverwalk setting was ideal for a great performance from the girls. We had over a hundred folks in attendance at this "jointly hosted" event (...with the USNA Parent's Club and the Alumni Association), and since the latter group footed the bill, it was a no-cost event for our Council. From the feed-back I received, it was a high point for the girls in their visit to Florida.

The Easter Egg Hunt for our local "Coasties" and their families at CG Station Ft. Lauderdale was also a great success. Judging from the number of children in attendance (close to 100), and their smiling faces, it was a great time for all. My thanks to those of you who attended, and especially to those of you that helped out (...Ernie, Erwin, Joe, Marianne, Dottie, Denise, Shelly, the egg hidiers, the egg counters, etc, etc ...I know that's not everyone, so my apologies to those I missed). A very special thanks to Don & Phyllis Bannister, who put it all together! Fleet Week is rapidly approaching, affording us not only an opportunity to visit the ships, but also a chance to say thanks to our Sea Service personnel. I hope to see many of you at the various events (especially our J. O Party at Briny's), and my sincere thanks to those of you that have stepped forward to volunteer.

Please remember our regular monthly dinner at Tropical Acres on May 14th. Our guest speaker will be CAPT. Mike Howard, USN (Ret.). CAPT. Howard is a former Navy SEAL and the Executive Director of the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum, located at the birthplace of the Navy Frogman program, Ft. Pierce Florida. It should be a great evening, so please try to attend.

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

May Dinner Social

When - Thursday, May 14th, 2009
Where - Tropical Acres

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

Speaker: Captain Mike Howard, USN (Ret.)
Executive Director National Navy UDT- SEAL Museum

Dinner Choices
Prime Rib & Mahi Mahi

Cost - \$30.00 per person

Reservations to: Anita Carmell by May 11
bcnavyleague@yahoo.com or 954-473-1071

AN E-MAIL FROM AFGHANISTAN

Mr. Stein,

Greetings from southern Afghanistan! Thank you so much for your boxes - we recently received them, and the Marines were eager to enjoy the items that you sent. I appreciate your care and support - and your continued prayers for us as we continue in this difficult and dangerous deployment. We have had several recent casualties, but the continued encouragement from friends and family in the States has really helped lift morale and keep the Marines encouraged.

Grace & Peace-
Jason DiPinto, LTJG, CHC, USN
Battalion Chaplain
3/8 (Reinforced)
SPMAGTF-Afghanistan

Al and Shelly Stein continue to support our Marines in Afghanistan and as you see from the above e-mail their efforts are appreciated. Give them a call to see how you can be of assistance if you'd like to participate or contribute items.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The following articles were written by two members of the Shirk family whom I met at the 9th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 4 held at USCG Station Fort Lauderdale.

My name is Callie. I am 12 years old and in the 6th grade. I go to Glades Middle School, which has over 2,800 students. This is my sixth school in six grades. Why so many schools? My father is a Commander in the Coast Guard. Throughout my life I have had numerous moves, bouncing around from state to state. In July '09 I will add a new state on top of my list when I move to Washington, D.C. along with my four brothers and sisters who are all younger than me.

Military life has had a big impact on me. Not only have I had to leave all my old friends with every move, but make new friends which can be a challenge. It can be really hard in a new place and is one of the things I dislike about moving around. But there are a lot of things I have learned from being in different places. Every place is special, not one place alike. I have seen different people and experienced new cultures and learned much more than if I had spent my whole life in one place. I respect all my dad's hard work and sacrifice. I know the long hours away from us are hard, but I know what he does is very important to our Nation.

I recently went to an Easter-Egg-Hunt and met a lady named Denise Hein. She told me about the Broward Navy League, an organization that donates their time to show those in the military that they are appreciated. One of these special events was the Easter-Egg-Hunt at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. It was a great time with lots of kids, hamburgers and hotdogs, a bounce house, and a few laughs. I got really lucky and won two of the contests, a coloring contest and most eggs for the egg hunt. I did not realize until talking with Mrs. Hein how important the Broward Navy League was in supporting the military.

Thank you for everything you do!

By: Callie Shirk

We are strategically located at the gateway to the Caribbean. As such we operate as the logistics Support hub for nearly all Coast Guard aircraft deployed in the Windward Pass, Florida Straits, and Caribbean Basin. We continue to deploy an HU-25 in support of Coast Guard District Seven and Atlantic Area's counter migrant and drug missions.

Miami is a unit in transition. This May we will replace our five HH-65s with a 'militarized' MH-65. Several other aircraft will be replaced through 2015 for a total of 7 aircraft. They are part of the Coast Guard's Deepwater modernization program. Air Station Miami has approximately 45 pilots, 190 aircrew/maintenance personnel and about 100 support personnel. The unit's trademark is 'busiest air-sea rescue unit in the world'. We prosecute about 350 search and rescue cases each year and support operations all over the place.

Commander Shirk, his wife Susie and five children will move to Washington, DC. He will be working in a detached duty position in the Department of Homeland Security's investment, planning and budgeting office.

By: CDR Michael Shirk
Asst Engineering Officer
USCG Air Station Miami

Callie will be moving again.

Denise Hein, Editor

FLEET WEEK 2009 PUBLIC EVENTS



FLEET WEEK 2009-PORT EVERGLADES PRESENTED BY HUMANA MILITARY HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Monday, 27 April 6:00-10:00 PM

Roll Call & ENLISTED PERSON RECOGNITION
ALL HANDS ON DECK WELCOMING PARTY
Paradise Shoppes Courtyard
Seminole Hardrock Hotel & Casino
1 Seminole Way, Hollywood 33314
Free Admission-Navy Band Concert
Information: Joe Millsaps 954-733-7631

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 28, 29 & 30 April

10:00 AM-7:00 PM

NAVY DISPLAYS & SIMULATORS
East side of the GALLERIA Mall on Sunrise Blvd. & NE 26 Avenue,
Fort Lauderdale

Tuesday, 28 April 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM

FLEET WEEK 2009 GOLF CLASSIC
Fort Lauderdale Country Club
415 Country Club Circle
Plantation 33317
Information: John Forsyth 954-938-2050

Tuesday, 28 April 6:00-8:00 PM

JUNIOR OFFICER'S PARTY
Presented by the Broward County Council
Navy League of the United States
Briny Irish Restaurant & Pub
305 South Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale 33301
Las Olas Riverfront, on the New River
Information: Tom Jones 954-587-4618

Thursday, 30 April 5:00-7:00 PM

NAVY BAND CONCERT
Free Admission
NAVY Displays & Simulators
East side of the GALLERIA Mall on Sunrise Blvd. & NE 26 Avenue
Fort Lauderdale

Thursday, 30 April 6:00-9:00 PM

ENLISTED PERSON of the YEAR BANQUET
Presented by the Boca-Delray Council Navy League of the United States
Hugh's Culinary
4351 NE 12 Terrace
Oakland Park, FL 33334
Tickets \$60.00 per person
Information: Morrie Weinman 561-498-4948

Thursday, 30 April, 5:30-9:30 PM

ANCHORS AWEIGH PARTY
Presented By Clair C's Leukemia & Lymphoma
Society Woman of the Year Campaign
The Downtowner Saloon
10 South New River Drive East, Fort Lauderdale 33301
Information: Clair C. 954-562-2292



USS BATAAN, At Sea (NNS) -- Sailors and Marines aboard the multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5) will have their chance to make history later this spring as the first ship to deploy with the MV-22B Osprey in an amphibious environment. Bataan will embark Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 263 with a complement of 10 Ospreys, providing increased flexibility over the CH-46E Sea Knight and CH-46D Sea Stallion in their ability to transfer equipment and troops from ship to shore.

NORFOLK (NNS) -- The amphibious transport dock ship USS San Antonio (LPD 17), part of the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group, returned to Naval Station Norfolk March 27, concluding the ship's maiden seven-month deployment.



USS RAMAGE, At Sea (NNS) -- The guided-missile destroyer USS Ramage (DDG 61) is wrapping up its seven-month deployment to the Navy's 5th and 6th Fleet Areas of Operation as part of the Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) and is making preparations to return to homeport at Naval Station Norfolk, Va.

The USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) navigation department began making coordinated preparations for the turning of the ship with Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding March 25 in Newport News, Va. Turning the ship is an important milestone for Carl Vinson, which is nearing the end of its refueling complex overhaul, an extensive maintenance period in which the ship's services and infrastructure will be upgraded to prepare for another 25 years, or more, of service. During the turn, Carl Vinson's propellers and propulsion plants will be tested for the first time since it entered the shipyard in 2005.



USS CARTER HALL, At Sea (NNS) -- The amphibious dock landing ship USS Carter Hall (LSD 50) has reached the final stages of its seven-month deployment to the Navy's 5th and 6th Fleet areas of operation and is making preparations to return to her homeport at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Va.

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John U. Lloyd Park Cleanup

On Friday, March 20, Air Station Miami sponsored a beach cleanup and morale day at John U. Lloyd State Park. The 200 members in attendance collected nearly two TONS of trash and waste from the 4 mile stretch of beach and dunes. Following the cleanup, the crew enjoyed a family picnic and sports on the beach.

Said Captain Rick Kenin: "Over the years, John Lloyd Park and the entire south Florida community have been very good to Air Station Miami. This is the least we can do to show our appreciation and make this beach a better place for everyone to enjoy."



NEW MEMBERS

Thomas J. and Sarah Flood 17 Nurmi Drive - Fort Lauderdale, 33301- 954-524-3575 (H) 954-232-5038 (C) tjflood@bellsouth.net
Edward L. McCloskey 1700 NW 104 Avenue Plantation, 33322 954-475-8868 (H) cruising-goal@juno.com
Janette R. Chandler 19264 NW 14 Street Pembroke Pines, 33029 954-438-4428 (H) 954-292-1940(C) nettechandler@bellsouth.net
Martin Torpey 4090 N. Ocean Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, 33308 954-325-4325 (H) martintorpey@aol.com

Sponsors: R. Hein, A. Carmell, W. Weiler and J. Kiefer respectfully.

SHIP GREETINGS AND EVENTS

USS Ashland (LSD 48), USS Forrest Sherman (DDG 98), USS Toledo (SSN 769) USCGC Tahoma (WMEC 908 and HMCS Pre-server (AOR 510) are expected for FLEET WEEK 2009 - Port Everglades Presented by Humana Military Healthcare Services

SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

USS LEYTE GULF (CG 55)



CTR1 (SW) DAIGLE

Hometown: Franklin, LA

Duty Title: OT Division LPO

Time in the Navy: 9 years

Why I joined the Navy: College, Life experience

Most exciting/rewarding Navy Experience: Instructor Duty

Greatest achievement since joining the Navy: ESWS, MTS

Goal hoping to achieve before leaving the Navy: Enjoy my time as much as possible.

Plans after Navy life: Spend time at home and fish



USS LEYTE GULF (CG 55)

Sailor of the Quarter: CTR1 (SW) Daigle

Jr. Sailor of the Quarter: HM2 (SW) Vivio

Blue Jacket of the Quarter: OS3 (SW) Deason



USCG AIR STATION MIAMI
EPOQ FS2 EDUARDO CORRALES

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9th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

188 attendees enjoyed the day, though hot, spirits weren't dampened.

Thanks to Ship Supply of Florida for providing food and supplies, and Publix (Cordova Road) for soft drinks, water and candy.



Finder of the Golden Egg, one year old Riley Cervini whose dad, John, help handled the prize.



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Don Bannister with LT Doug Watson, CO, USCG Station Fort Lauderdale, whose young son summed the day up best, "This is the best day of my whole life." Other families enjoy each other while having their picnic lunch.



For information on placing your ad in the newsletter please contact
Joe Giambrone at 954-389-0545
or
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