



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 21 ISSUE 4

George Reeves, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

APRIL 2010

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

FLEET WEEK

There will not be a dinner social in April due to the numerous events associated with Fleet Week.

You are encouraged to come out and show your support for our visiting men and women of the Sea Services.

Monday, April 26 - 6:00-10:00 PM

ROLL CALL/ ENLISTED PERSON RECOGNITION/
ALL HANDS ON DECK WELCOMING PARTY
including a concert by the Navy Band
Paradise Shoppes Courtyard, Seminole Hard Rock
Hotel & Casino, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood

Tuesday, April 27 - 6:00-8:00 PM

JUNIOR OFFICERS' PARTY
presented by the Broward County Council
Briny Irish Restaurant & Pub
305 South Andrews Avenue
(Las Olas Riverfront on the New River)

Tours

Anyone who desires a tour must pre-register. You can do so by going to www.browardnavydaysinc.org. After registering, you will receive a reservation that you will need to print. The reservation identifies the date, time and ship that you will tour. Read it carefully and **bring it with you along with your photo ID** in order to gain entrance to the port. Please note: The reservation is issued, contingent upon a background check by Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO). If you have any problems in registering, you may contact Erwin Sefton, at 954-753-2322 or at erwinsefton@bellsouth.net.

MARINES RETURN HOME



On February 20, 28 Scout Marines from the Marine Corps Reserve Center in Hialeah, attached to 3rd Battalion, 24th Marines in Camp Pendleton, California returned home to South Florida. These warriors supported Operation IRAQI FREEDOM with 3/24 serving in the Al Ambar Province, Iraq for 5 months. Council members Al and Shelly Stein were at the airport to greet the Marines. Council President George Reeves and other Council members joined the welcome home celebration at the Reserve Center.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Members get members, and the members that members get, get more members.

Over the years, your Council's membership growth has been steady. We're now the second largest Council in Florida.

But we can do better.

Membership is a grass roots endeavor. Candidates don't just walk in. And National can only provide a membership process, a great website where anyone can obtain all they want to know about our sea services, and publish our SEA POWER magazine. For members, we have to fend for ourselves.

It's satisfied Council members who enthuse others to join. Our experience bears this out.

I remind all that we're a civilian organization. One need not have a military background to join. Simply a desire to support the Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine is all that's needed. There's no entrance exam.

So all of us need to solicit members. Most of the time, all we need to do is ask. Many of our contacts will be enthused by our Council dinners, our gatherings at Briny's Pub for visiting sea service personnel, our Octoberfest gatherings at Old Heidelberg, our volunteer efforts for those deployed and their families, and certainly our support of Fleet Week including shipboard visits and the related outreach programs. These are worthwhile and enjoyable events.

The \$100 annual dues which include National and local, and mind you it comes with a subscription to SEA POWER which by itself is a \$58 value, is among the least expensive association costs around these parts.

The new membership process - don't be deterred by the several application forms we have. This is easy. All we need is a name, address, phone number, email address, and month and day of birth. And, of course, a check in favor of Broward Council, Navy League. If you have this information, call or email me or Sandra Jones and we'll do the internal processing. If you really want a hard copy application, go to our website, www.bcnavyleague.org and hit "Member Application" It's a one pager. Just print it out and ask the applicant to complete it. Or better yet do it for them. Mail it to our P.O. Box.

So fellow Council members, the efforts of us all are vital to continued membership growth. No one's going to do it for us.

I thank you for your efforts.

George Reeves
Council President



COAST GUARD ASSOCIATION



The **South Florida Coast Guard Association (SFCGA)** cordially invites you to attend an **Evening Under the Stars at the Lighthouse** – an evening of music and friends at a spectacular location. The event is being held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 from 6:00– 8:30 PM at the Hillsboro Lighthouse, 901 Hillsboro Mile, Hillsboro Inlet, Pompano Beach. Attire is business casual. Parking is limited so car pooling is suggested. Light refreshments, desserts and beverages will be served. Music will be provided by SLE (Shane LeMar Entertainment and Productions). The cost is \$10 for SFCGA members and \$20 for non-members (which will include one year's membership to SFCGA). If you are interested in attending, RSVP to Gwen Leys gsleysRN@bellsouth.net or 954-942-8108 by April 16th. Note: Registration is mandatory since your name must appear on the guest list at the gate. The SFCGA is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to providing professional development and networking opportunities for all South Florida Coast Guard personnel – active, reserve, retired, auxiliary, civilian – and friends. To learn more, you can visit their website at www.thesfcga.com

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES



Teresa Perez accepted the community affiliate plaque for Charles O. Morgan Jr., PA from President George Reeves at the March dinner social. Teresa is a member of the Council's board of directors and serves as the Council's JAG.



Joe Giambrone presented the community affiliate plaque for Tire Hut to owner Jerry Rosenthal. Jerry is a long time member and great supporter of our Council

MARITIME AND SEA SERVICE NEWS



Navy Secretary Ray Mabus recently told the Senate Armed Services Committee that female Sailors will begin serving on submarines by the end of next year, with Naval Academy graduates leading the way. Adm. Gary Roughead, chief of naval operations, endorsed the change, saying "We're ready to go for the first women to come aboard in late 2011," Roughead told the Senate committee. He said the change would enable the submarine force "to leverage the tremendous talent and potential of our female officers and enlisted personnel." Besides the incoming officers from the academy, the first women submariners will include female supply corps officers at the department head level, Roughead said. The change will be phased in over time to include enlisted female Sailors on the SSBN and SSGNs, he said. Women will be added to the Navy's SSN fast-attack submarines after necessary modifications can be determined, he said.

The commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, Adm. Thad Allen, announced the selection of new three star admirals who will serve under Vice Adm. Robert J. Papp, when he becomes the U.S. Coast Guard's 24th commandant May 25, upon Senate confirmation. Secretary of Homeland Security Napolitano and President Obama approved the nominations of Rear Adm. Sally Brice-O'Hara for promotion to vice admiral and assignment as Vice Commandant. Brice-O'Hara will serve as the service's second in command and will be in charge of executing the Commandant's strategic intent, managing internal organizational governance and also serving as the Coast Guard's acquisition executive. Rear Adm. Manson K. Brown for promotion to vice admiral and assignment as commander of the Coast Guard's Pacific Area. Brown will be the Coast Guard's first African American three star admiral. At Pacific Area, Brown will command all Coast Guard missions in a 74 million square mile area ranging from South America, north to the Arctic Circle and west to the Far East. Rear Adm. Robert C. Parker for promotion to vice admiral and assignment as commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area. Vice Adm. John P. Currier will continue to serve as the chief of staff. Parker currently serves as the U.S. Southern Command's first director of security and intelligence in Miami. He is the first Coast Guard officer to serve as a director in a Department of Defense command. In his new position at Atlantic Area, Parker will command an area of responsibility that ranges from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf and includes five Coast Guard Districts, 42 states and over 14 million square miles.



It was announced that Naval Station Mayport will be the future home and primary site of East Coast littoral combat ships. The first LCS vessels are to be home ported at Mayport beginning in 2016, Adm. Gary Roughead, chief of naval operations, said during a military construction hearing on Capitol Hill. The ships, of which two are now in service, are initially being based at San Diego. The Florida base is normally home to an aircraft carrier, a handful of cruisers and destroyers and about a dozen frigates. But the base has been without a carrier for three years, and all the frigates are scheduled to be decommissioned over the next few years. The Navy, supported by the recent Quadrennial Defense Review, is upgrading the base to take a nuclear aircraft carrier. Roughead said the LCS vessels are seen as a replacement at Mayport for the

frigates. He also said the LCS is optimized for operations in Southern Command, which oversees Central and Latin America. Those missions include counterdrug operations and maritime cooperation work, similar to the deployment now being carried out by the Freedom, the first LCS.



General Dynamics NASSCO, a wholly owned subsidiary of General Dynamics launched the U.S. Navy's newest supply ship, USNS Charles Drew (T-AKE 10) The ship is named in honor of Dr. Charles R. Drew, the African American surgeon and hematologist who pioneered the procedures for the safe storage and transfusion of blood. Vice Adm. Regina Benjamin, the Surgeon General of the United States, was the ceremony's principal speaker. Mrs. Bebe Drew Price, the eldest daughter of Dr. Drew and the ship's sponsor, christened the 689-foot-long ship. USNS Charles Drew is the tenth ship of the Lewis and Clark (T-AKE) class of dry cargo-ammunition ships for the Navy, and the first U.S. Navy ship to be named after Dr. Drew.

T-AKEs allow Navy ships to stay at sea, on station and combat ready, for extended periods of time. The ships are crewed by approximately 124 civil service mariners and 11 U.S. Navy Sailors, who provide supply coordination. NASSCO began constructing the ship in October 2008 and is scheduled to deliver it to the Navy's Military Sealift Command in the third quarter of 2010. When the Charles Drew joins the fleet, its primary mission will be to deliver nearly 10,000 tons of food, ammunition, fuel and other provisions to combat ships on the move at sea.

COUNCIL MEMBERS



Photos: (left) Joe Millsaps presents the Freedom Award to Tom Jones (below) Joe Farrell of Resolve Marine receives his award

On March 21, Broward Navy Days and The Wheelchair Foundation hosted the 2010 Freedom Award luncheon on-board the Emerald Princess. The honorees were RADM



Robert C. Parker, USCG SOUTHCOM; Jack Drury, President, Wheelchair Foundation; Joe Farrell Jr., President, Resolve Marine Group and Tom Jones, Council Treasurer. Tom was honored for being a tireless supporter, not only of our Council, but of Broward Navy Days' activities particularly during Fleet Week. Joe Farrell was honored for his recent rescue efforts in Haiti. The special guest was Captain Tom Negus, USN, Commander, Bataan Amphibious Relief Mission Haiti who shared stories of the military's efforts in Haiti. The event was a fund raiser for the Wheelchair Foundation, a group well known as a prime provider of high quality wheelchairs to the needy.

SEA-AIR-SPACE

The Navy League's premier business networking event is the annual Sea-Air-Space Exposition, the largest maritime exposition in the world. The event attracts more than 10,000 attendees and features industry exhibits, professional seminars and top civilian and military leaders from the U.S. Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, Maritime Administration and the defense industry. The event will be held May 3-5, 2010 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. Navy League members, including Community Affiliate members, attend at no cost; however, they are required to pay for special events, such as the luncheons and dinners. Navy League members are encouraged to register now to secure a Sea-Air-Space pass and to lock in the special Navy League member room rates at the Gaylord National Resort. Online registration is now available at <https://reg.jspargo.com/sas10/reg/default.asp>

COUNCIL MEMBERS



Council Past President Bill Weiler has accepted the position of Region Vice President for Marketing and Membership. Bill Dudley, Florida Region President, noted that "this is a very key position for our Region as we go about rebuilding our membership within the Councils. This will take the support of everyone at every level to help meet the challenge of rebuilding our Council membership and come up with the right strategy for retaining our members." According to a recent message from Dan Branch, National President, the Navy League lost nearly 7,000 members in 2009. Bill Weiler and our other Navy League leaders face the challenge of developing methods to attract new members.



LCDR Alan Starr, NSCC, a two term Past President of the Council, and current Youth Committee Chairman was honored recently by National Navy League President Dan Branch at the Fort Lauderdale Council's Seven Seas Gala. LCDR Starr is the Regional Director for South East Florida of the US Naval Sea Cadets and has been the Commanding Officer of the Fort Lauderdale Spruance Division, US Naval Sea Cadets for 15 Years. LCDR Starr was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the Dean of Admissions of the US Naval Academy and was recognized for having 8 former Spruance Division Cadets attend the US Naval Academy. He was recently notified that another former Spruance Division Sea Cadet has received notification of acceptance to the Naval Academy making number 9! LCDR Starr has always said that he is training the leaders of tomorrow. Council President George Reeves acknowledged LCDR Starr's achievement at the February dinner social.



Council member Connie Christensen will be one of 12 women honored by the 1000+ Club to Benefit Cancer at a luncheon on April 7 at the Marriott Harbor Beach Hotel in Fort Lauderdale. The money raised will go to the American Cancer Society. Connie served as an Army operating room nurse in Vietnam and served alongside her father for 4 months - the only father and daughter to serve together during the Vietnam War. She received numerous awards including the Legion of Merit, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with one silver and one bronze oak leaf cluster and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm (unit award). Connie currently serves as President of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 23 in Fort Lauderdale and is very active in various other military groups.

MARCH DINNER SOCIAL



Capt James Neville and George Reeves

Capt. James A. Neville, USMC, Inspector-Instructor, 4th Tank Battalion and senior officer at the Marine Corps Reserve Center, Hialeah was the guest speaker at our March dinner social. He was deployed to Iraq in 2005 and served in armored tank battalions in Albar Province and later in Fallujah. He shared his experiences and those of his Marine armored units on the ground in these combat zones. He also presented Al and Shelly Stein with t-shirts to thank them for their support of the Marines from the Reserve Center.



Al Stein is thanked by Capt Neville



Charles and Diane Schmidt



John Kiefer, Bob Hein, Capt Richard Kenin USCG



Joyce Gardner and Barbara Cooper

PCU JASON DUNHAM - WELCOME DINNER



Bill Weiler, CDR Scott Sciretta, USN, Joe Giambrone

On March 19, Navy League members from several local councils welcomed CDR M. Scott Sciretta and his wife with a dinner at the Tower Club in Fort Lauderdale. CDR Sciretta is the commanding officer of the PCU Jason Dunham (DDG 109) which is scheduled to be commissioned in Port Everglades later this year. USS Jason Dunham (DDG-109) is an *Arleigh Burke*-class guided missile destroyer and is the 59th destroyer in her class. She was built by the Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine. To find out more about the ship, visit www.jason-dunham.navy.mil.

The ship is named for Corporal Jason L. Dunham, USMC. On April 14, 2004, Corporal Dunham was manning a checkpoint in Karabilah, Iraq, when he got into a scuffle with an insurgent. As two Marines approached to help, the insurgent dropped a grenade. Corporal Dunham took off his Kevlar helmet, dropped to the ground, and covered the explosive as best he could. The blast seriously wounded all 3 Marines. Eight days later, Corporal Jason L. Dunham died at Bethesda Naval Hospital from wounds he received in the incident. He was 22. Corporal Dunham made the ultimate sacrifice and was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. To find out more about Corporal Dunham, visit www.jasonsmemorial.org.



USS JASON DUNHAM (DDG 109)

Semper Fidelis Semper Fortis

SEAFARERS' HOUSE AND COUNCIL JOIN FORCES



Chaplain Gregory Worch, Joe Giambrone and Lesley Warrick

Broward County Council is working with Seafarers' House, another non-profit organization to provide care packages to our military serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Seafarers' House, a Fort Lauderdale based service organization for international merchant seamen, donated numerous boxes of personal care items such as shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste for sailors, soldiers, airmen and Marines of the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command in Kabul, Afghanistan under the command of Rear Admiral Paul B. Becker. South Florida Area President and board member Joe Giambrone is a volunteer at Seafarers' House and was involved in the Seafarers' House Christmas shoe box program. He saw first hand how much these personal care items meant to the seafarers. He worked with Chaplain Gregory Worch and Executive Director Lesley Warrick to obtain the donation to assist with the Broward County Council's care package program. It was a natural fit for the two organizations to work together since both are focused on improving the lives of seafarers.



Recipients of items donated by Seafarers' House and mailed by Council

Rear Admiral Paul B. Becker sent the following email to Al & Shelly Stein. They were responsible for preparing and mailing the care packages.

Alan,

Thank you and the Navy League of Broward County very much for the deodorant, shampoo and toothpaste ... all needed here! Here's a photo of one of our Marines and soldiers (I'm the sailor who took the picture) displaying two of the many boxes received. Hope this makes it into "The Helmsman."

Regards,

*RDML Paul Becker, USN
CJ2, ISAF Joint Command (IJC)*

THANKS TO WAL-MART



Al Stein presents plaque to Scott Plunkett to thank Wal-Mart for their support .
Scott is the manager of the store located on University Drive in Sunrise

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Penny Ployer, 325 Coconut Isle Drive,
Fort Lauderdale FL 33301-2423, 954-684-1071
pennysplace@bellsouth.net Sponsor: Bill Weiler

Jose Testa, 13817 NW 23 Street,
Pembroke Pines FL 33028-2623, 954-540-7878,
jhtesta@comcast.net
Jose is the senior Naval science instructor at Cooper City High School

REMINDER:

This newsletter and notices of Council events are sent to our members and friends electronically. It is important that you let us know if you change your email address by sending an email to bcnavyleague@yahoo.com with your name and new email address.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



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For information on placing your ad in the newsletter please contact Joe Giambrone at 954-389-0545 or giambronejm@gmail.com

GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

A.C.T. Janitorial Services Company, established in 1977 and located in Pompano Beach, is a full service commercial cleaning company serving Broward, Miami Dade and Palm Beach counties. A.C.T., comprised of a family of companies, provides customized janitorial programs to common areas of condominium and homeowner associations and to commercial facilities such as office buildings and individual offices, banks, medical facilities, shopping centers, and warehouse properties. With over 150 trained employees and experienced supervisors, A.C.T.'s mission is to provide its customers with cost effective quality cleaning programs. Beyond basic cleaning functions of vacuuming, sweeping, mopping, bright work polishing, removal of trash, A.C.T.'s services include floor stripping and finishing, carpet cleaning, furniture polishing, pressure cleaning and light changing programs. Additionally, cleaning supplies and equipment are retailed to properties that utilize in-house cleaning staffs.

A.C.T. Janitorial Services Company is co-owned by Erwin Sefton and Bob Marks who both serve on the board of directors of the Broward County Council. Bob and Erwin highly believe in the importance of community service and are ardent supporters of the mission of the Navy League. Erwin and Bob invite you to experience the professional and caring service provided by A.C.T. Janitorial Services Company.

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

DO BUSINESS WITH THESE COMPANIES THAT SUPPORT OUR COUNCIL

A.C.T. Janitorial Services Co.
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Charles O. Morgan, Jr., PA
305-624-0011

Resolve Marine, Inc.
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Don Revis, Jr., MD
954-630-2009

Ship Supply of Florida
305-929-7090

Tire Hut
954-462-7780

Tropical Acres Restaurant
954-989-2500

OUR FEATURED COMMUNITY AFFILIATE

Pompano (954) 960-1000 Delray (561) 272-4588 W.P.B. (561) 832-0088
fax: 960-1373 e-mail: actjan@aol.com web: actjan.com

A.C.T.

Janitorial Services Company, Inc. (Estab. 1977)

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Robert A. Marks
President

1570 N. Powerline Rd.
Pompano Beach, FL 33069

NOSC SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



PS3 Cameron Zbikowski

Hometown: Grandville, Michigan

Duty Title: Command Personnel Clerk

Time in the Navy: 4 Years, 7 Months

Why I joined the Navy: To serve my country and to accelerate my life in a meaningful direction.

Greatest achievement since joining the Navy: Being selected by my peers and superiors as the Regional Blue Jacket of the Year for Navy Region Northwest, Calendar Year 2006.

Goal hoping to achieve before leaving the Navy: I am currently actively pursuing my degree in Elementary Education and once that is complete I fully intend on committing myself to pursuing a career as a Naval Officer.

Plans after Navy life: Going into Elementary Education or running for Mayor of my hometown.

The thing I like most about my job is: Working with the Navy Reservists that are my customers. I am able to assist them in making sure that all of their personnel issues are corrected in an expeditious manner which makes them happy and in turn gives me the fulfillment of knowing that I have satisfied customers.

BOOKS FOR THE NAVY



CDR Curt Jones, CO of the USS New York, recently sent the email below to Al and Shelly Stein. The Steins had supplied books for the ship's library. CDR Jones is the son of board members Sandra and Tom Jones

On behalf of NYK I'd like to thank you for the books you sent along. Looked like some good selections and even a few in there that I'm interested in. We do very much appreciate it. We've attached a couple pictures of those books being set up in our library. We're looking forward to conducting some amphibious operations over the next couple of months. We'll work with the 26 MEU and the 3/9 for a couple of different things. Good news is that we'll be busy. Better news is that we'll be doing mission kinds of things. Right now we're conducting some combat systems testing which means we get to shoot guns, test radars and fire off missiles – how can that not be fun?!? Again, we are most appreciative of the books and hope all is well with you. Thank you and v/r, Curt

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