



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 21 ISSUE 1

Bill Weiler, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

JANUARY 2010

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

As we close out 2009, we can look back on another busy and outstanding year for BCNL, culminating with our Holiday Party at Cinema Paradiso and the annual Coast Guard Party at Briny's. For the Holiday Party, in spite of a downpour approaching biblical proportions, we had a good turnout and a great time. The historic "Cinema", (availability donated by Jim and Deana Smiley), provided a unique venue, while the efforts of event chair Peggy Raben and her committee that included Anita Carmell, Denise Hein, Sandra Jones, and Erwin Sefton, created all the elements for a festive occasion. Thanks to you all! The Coast Guard Party at Briny's, co-hosted with Broward Navy Days, was well attended and greatly appreciated by the honorees, the "Coasties" and their families from our local Coast Guard Commands....thanks to all attending for showing your support.

Looking ahead to January, please circle Jan 16th for our Installation of Officers. George Reeves will be relieving me as President, while Sandra Jones will be installed as First VP, Peggy Raben Second VP, Bob Marks VP Legislative Affairs, Janette Chandler Secretary, Tom Jones Treasurer, and Teresa Perez as our new Judge Advocate. My thanks to all of them for stepping up to assume these important roles with the increased responsibility in our Council's leadership. Also, on January 30th, Ft. Lauderdale Council will be hosting a "Seven Seas Gala" to "Celebrate the Sea Services". The Navy's CNO, ADM Gary Roughead, will be the guest of honor, so I urge you to show your support and our strong Navy League presence in South Florida by attending this event. Please contact Lynn Drucker or myself if you have any questions.

Since this is my final article as your President, I'd like to thank all of our members that have contributed to our success as the premier Navy League Council in South Florida. Not only have we shown the increased retention and growth in membership to become the area's largest, but we have been honored for the second consecutive year by our national organization with our selection as "Outstanding Council", one of only eleven worldwide. I also thank all of our Board members for their service and support, and especially Don Bannister, who is "retiring" after his many years of devoted service as a Director, including several terms as Council President. Thanks also to Phyllis Bannister for the outstanding job she has done publishing this newsletter for the last 2 years, a responsibility that Marianne Giambrone has assumed with this edition. I urge all of you to support the new Officers and Board, and all of the efforts of our Council, and again, thank you for supporting me and BCNL these last 2 years! Have a great 2010!

Bill

CAPT G. William Weiler, USN (Ret.) President

Installation of Officers for 2010
Will be aboard the Carnival Freedom
Port Everglades, Florida
on Saturday, January 16, 2010
at 11:30 AM
(Boarding begins at 10:30 AM)
followed by Installation and Luncheon
\$40 per person

The following security information must be provided for each person attending:
Full name, date of birth, drivers license or passport number and state of issue

Forward security information along with your check
no later than January 3, 2010 to
Marianne Giambrone, 1546 Barcelona Way,
Weston FL 33327

2010 OFFICERS

President: George Reeves
First Vice President: Sandra Jones
Second Vice President: Peggy Raben
VP Legislative Affairs: Robert Marks
Secretary: Janette Chandler
Treasurer: Tom Jones
JAG: Teresa Perez, Esq

E-MAIL - bcnavyleague@yahoo.com - Visit our Web Site - www.bcnavyleague.org

PLEASE DON'T LET A SOLDIER WALK AWAY FROM MAIL CALL WITH NOTHING

Many men and women serving on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan have no families or do not receive mail and care packages from home. The Broward County Council and Operation Homefront are working together in an effort to get as many "care packages" as possible mailed to our troops deployed to the Middle East. We have received many donations of hygiene items, comfort items, OTC medications and snack foods from outside sources and this has allowed us to fill up many "care packages".

YOU CAN HELP! While we have donations of the items in the care packages, the cost of mailing them is beyond the Council's budget. The cost to mail each "care package" using an APO/FPO flat rate box is \$11.95 per box. We could possibly mail hundreds of boxes if our members help us with the mailing costs. If you would like to make a POSTAGE DONATION of \$11.95 (or some other amount), please send your check payable to Broward County Navy League (BCNL) to PO Box 39252, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339. Please indicate on your check that you are making a POSTAGE DONATION. Any questions can be directed to Alan Stein at 954-472-0285 or at alanstein07@comcast.net. Our military will thank you!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Lawrence C. Roberts, 2801 NE 14 St Apt 3B, Fort Lauderdale 33304
954-533-0447 chrisroberts7@msn.com Sponsor: Bob Hein

Roger and Diane Stanton, 2500 E Las Olas Blvd #1008, Fort
Lauderdale 33301 954-524-3655 Sponsor: Bob Hein

A.C.T. Janitorial Services Company Inc. 1570 N. Powerline Road,
Pompano Beach FL 33069-1621 954-960-1000
Members: Bob & Carolyn Marks, 7121 E Cypresshead Dr., Parkland
33067-1611 954-755-7464 ramarks1@aol.com
Erwin & Joan Sefton, 8479 NW 2nd St., Coral Springs 33071-7401
954-753-2322 erwinsefton@bellsouth.net

LOCAL DUES

Local dues should be paid by January 31, 2010. \$50 for regular members or \$85 for husband/wife members. Local dues are used to cover administrative costs such as postage and printing. Send your check payable to BCNL to P O Box 39252, Fort Lauderdale FL 33339

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE

Council member Alan Starr was a speaker at the recent Pearl Harbor remembrance held at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. In attendance were two survivors of Pearl Harbor as well as many of our Council members. The Spruance Division Sea Cadets presented the colors.

Community Affiliates

DO BUSINESS WITH THESE COMPANIES THAT SUPPORT OUR COUNCIL

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Bird Lakes Development Corp.
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Charles O. Morgan, Jr., PA
305-624-0011

Don Revis, Jr., MD
954-630-2009

Gunn Allen Financial
954-315-3810

Resolve Marine, Inc.
954-764-8700

Ship Supply of Florida
305-929-7090

Tire Hut
954-462-7780

Tropical Acres Restaurant
954-989-2500



Maritime and Sea Service News

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — The Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital is now making it possible for deployed Marines and sailors to stay in touch with spouses, parents, children and siblings from the hospital's maternity infant nursing department through video teleconferencing (VTC). Sessions on the hospital VTC are available through appointments and are not limited to patients of the maternity ward. Since its opening, the VTC has connected Marines and sailors with wives, parents and newborns in sessions lasting up to 45 minutes. More than 10,000 VTC sites exist across the country and can connect to locations like Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, Japan, Kuwait and Iraq. Although there are already four sites in Iraq and one in Kuwait, the foundation is still working to get VTC sites established in Afghanistan.

NEW ORLEANS—Two cranes sat idle in Somerset County PA after being used on 9/11/2001 when United flight 93 plunged into the earth at Shanksville. Now, over 22 tons of steel that once formed one of the crane buckets has been molded into a bow stem which will then be welded onto the hull of the new Navy ship, The Somerset. The 25,000 ton Somerset honors the 40 passengers of Flight 93 who died in the crash. The ship is expected to be completed in 2012 and will have a 363 person crew. It will be able to accommodate up to 800 troops, plus tanks, trucks, hovercraft and as many as four helicopters. The Somerset is one of a trio of September 11 ships. Work began on the Arlington, named in honor of the Pentagon attack, last year. The New York was commissioned in November near the World Trade site.

WASHINGTON — Acting Maritime Administrator David T. Matsuda approved the construction of a deepwater port for liquefied natural gas (LNG) off the coast of Florida. As part of the approval agreement, officials for Port Dolphin Energy, LLC, agreed to provide employment and training opportunities to American mariners on ships using the port. The Maritime Administration is an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Port Dolphin facility will be located in the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 28 miles southwest of Tampa Bay. Deepwater ports are offshore facilities used to transfer imported oil and natural gas from carrier vessels to shore via sub-sea pipelines. The apparatus is submerged most of the time, and is marked by a buoy. A tanker pulls the apparatus up, connects and offloads, and then, when the deepwater port is not being used, it submerges, which minimizes its environmental impact. When the Port Dolphin facility is operational, it is expected to deliver about 400 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to Florida facilities, with the ability to deliver up to 1,200 million cubic feet a day at peak capacity. Construction is expected to begin in early 2013, and operations are expected to begin late that same year.

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Department of Navy announced that the Navy's newest Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer will be USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109), honoring the late Cpl. Jason L. Dunham, the first Marine awarded the Medal of Honor for Operation Iraqi Freedom. In the spirit of this Marine, USS Jason Dunham will continue protecting America's liberty by providing a dynamic multimission platform to lead the Navy into the future. Utilizing a gas-turbine propulsion system, the ship can operate independently or as part of carrier strike groups, surface action groups, amphibious ready groups, and underway replenishment groups. The ship's combat systems center on the Aegis combat system and the SPY-Ld (V) multifunction phased array radar. With the combination of Aegis, the vertical launching system, an advanced anti-submarine warfare system, advanced anti-aircraft missiles and Tomahawk cruise missiles, the Arleigh Burke-class continues the revolution at sea.

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Al and Shelly Stein recently visited their son Captain Lawrence Stein USN who is stationed in England. Although they were away from home, they still found time to celebrate the Marine Corps 234th birthday at the JAC Marine Corps Ball in Cambridge, UK.



AIR STATION MIAMI SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**STOREKEEPER SECOND CLASS
CARLOS RODRIGUEZ**



Hometown: Catano, Puerto Rico

Duty Title: AVDET GTMO Storekeeper

Time in CG: Five and half years

Why I joined the CG: To improve my life and to honor my grandfather by joining the service.

Greatest CG accomplishment: Graduating Basic Training. My English skills were minimal and as a result, I had an extra difficult time throughout Basic. By graduation my English skills progressed enormously and I was ready for the many exciting challenges awaiting me as a Coast Guard Guardian.

Goal to achieve before leaving the CG: I am working toward becoming a CGIS Agent where I will eventually retire a CWO4.

Post CG plans: I plan on retiring in Puerto Rico & joining a Latin Jazz band.

The thing I like best about my CG job: What I like most about my job is the uniqueness of this billet; it is the only SK2 billet that I am able to provide support to such a large group of customers, which includes nearly every air station and cutter in LANTAREA

BOYNTON BEACH KNITTING CLUB PROVIDES SCARVES FOR DEPLOYED MARINES



The ladies of the Boynton Beach Knitting Club have been busy knitting scarves for deployed Marines. Al and Shelly Stein have been including these beautiful scarves in their care packages. Here is an excerpt from a recent email the Steins received from the Marines.

Thank you Ma'am for the wonderful box of scarves. It is definitely getting colder here and we truly appreciate your time and energy. We love getting mail and every little bit of support makes our day. It is wonderful to see and feel the support from our fellow Americans. Captain Geoff Hollopeter Commanding Officer Task Force Kilo, 3/4

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