



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 21 ISSUE 3

George Reeves, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

MARCH 2010

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

MARCH DINNER SOCIAL

EASTER EGG HUNT/BBQ



**JOIN US AS OUR GUEST
SPEAKER DESCRIBES
HIS EXPERIENCES AS
A MARINE IN FALLUJAH**

**10th ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT
at
Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale**

Sponsored by:
BROWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
AND
SHIP SUPPLY, OUR COMMUNITY AFFILIATE

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale

Cocktails at 6:30 PM Dinner at 7:15 PM

Guest Speaker:

Captain James Neville USMC
Inspector Instructor, USMC Reserve Unit

Dinner Choices: Prime Rib or Baked Scrod

Cost: \$35 for non-local dues paying members
\$30 for local dues paying members

Make your reservation by March 7, 2010

Send an email to bcnavyleague@yahoo.com or

Call Sandra Jones at 954-587-4618

Saturday - March 27, 2010

Arrive 10:30 AM
Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 AM
Picnic Lunch 12:00 Noon

\$15.00 per person (civilians)
Coast Guard and all children under 12 Free

RSVP with your check made payable to BCNL to
Don & Phyllis Bannister
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Please include gender and age of children
Come out for a great family day full of activities
Bring your friends and your grandkids
Games and prizes for the kids



Maritime and Sea Service News



Navy Bids Farewell to USNS San Jose – After 39 years of service to the Navy fleet, the USNS San Jose was deactivated from the Navy in January. The ship was the last of eight combat stores ships to deactivate from Military Sealift Command's Naval Fleet Auxiliary Force. These ships delivered food, spare parts, mail, fuel and other supplies to U.S. Navy ships at sea. During its service with Military Sealift Comman, San Jose conducted countless underway replenishments with Navy combatant ships operating in support of missions, most recently in providing logistics support to Navy ships in the Arabian Gulf supporting both Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The nearly 600 foot-long San Jose completed its final mission in December when it returned to port in Pearl Harbor with a crew of 120 civil service mariners and a 40-member military detachment.



USCGC Waesche (WMSL 751) will be commissioned in Alameda CA in May 2010. It is the second ship in a new class of National Security Cutters. She is a state-of-the-art 418-foot vessel designed to meet the challenges that the Coast Guard will face for years to come. Waesche is named for Coast Guard Admiral Russell R. Waesche (1886-1946) who served as Commandant of the Coast Guard from 1936 to 1945 during a tumultuous and eventful period in the life of the service, He was the first member of the Coast Guard to achieve the rank of 4-star Admiral. The Alameda Council is coordinating the commissioning ceremony of this new ship.



MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, Calif. (NNS) -- Commander, Navy Medicine West (NMW) Rear Adm. Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler participated in the February 1. grand opening of the newest Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Therapy (SMART) Clinic at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar. The MCAS Miramar SMART Clinic will be able to treat approximately 25,000 Marines and Sailors year-round and is the first to have a casting facility for simple fractures. The SMART clinic concept brings a multi-disciplinary team to the Marine, instead of making the Marine travel from clinic to clinic. This concept will focus on getting Marines back to their units and ready for upcoming

deployments. The SMART clinic's main goal is to focus on managing injuries and educating patients on ways to prevent future injuries, according to SMART Certified Athletic Trainer Andrew Depratti. The Miramar SMART clinic is the 19th to open in the Navy and Marine Corps.

DISTINGUISHED SAILORS HONORED BY POSTAL SERVICE

With the issuance of the Distinguished Sailors stamps in February 2010, the Postal Service honors four sailors who served with bravery and distinction during the 20th century.

WILLIAM S. SIMS (1858-1936) was a commander of U.S. naval forces in European waters during World War I and an outspoken reformer and innovator who helped shape the Navy into a modern fighting force. The William S. Sims stamp includes a depiction of the crest of the destroyer escort USS *W. S. Sims* (DE-1059), which was commissioned in 1970.



ARLEIGH A. BURKE (1901-1996) served an unprecedented three terms as Chief of Naval Operations, the Navy's highest ranking officer. He played a major role in modernizing the Navy and guiding its response to the Cold War. The Arleigh A. Burke stamp includes a depiction of the crest of the guided missile destroyer USS *Arleigh Burke* (DDG-51), which was commissioned in 1991.

JOHN McCLOY (1876-1945) has the distinction of being one of the few men in the nation's history to earn two Medals of Honor for separate acts of heroism. He retired from active duty after a thirty-year career in the Navy. The John McCloy stamp includes a depiction of the crest of the destroyer escort, USS *McCloy* (DE-1038), which was commissioned in 1963.

DORIS MILLER (1919-1943) was the first African American hero of World War II. During the attack on Pearl Harbor, Miller helped rescue scores of shipmates. The Doris Miller stamp includes a depiction of the crest of the destroyer escort USS *Miller* (DE-1091), which was commissioned in 1973.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER

At our March 11th social, our speaker will be Capt. James A. Neville, USMC, Inspector-Instructor, 4th Tank Battalion and senior officer at the Marine Corps Reserve Training Unit, Hialeah. This is our Council's adopted unit.

Capt. Neville is an 18 year Marine veteran, joined as enlisted, has principally served in Armored units, was selected for the Marine Officer Candidate School, and after graduating from the University of Maine, Magna Cum Laude, was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. After several armored unit commands, he was deployed to Iraq in 2005 and served in armored tank battalions in Albar Province and later in Fallujah before returning to Camp Lejeune in 2007. His personal awards include the Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy Marine Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon.

Capt Neville will convey to us his experiences and those of his Marine Armored units on the ground in combat zones in Iraq.

Capt. Neville, his wife and three children live in Pembroke Pines.

It promises to be an adventurous evening. We hope you will join us.

THANKS FROM THE MARINES

I received the packages you sent today. Thank you and everyone who worked with you so much. It is still cold now, but I'm not sure that the weather will still be cold enough for scarves by the time any further packages reach us. Thank you again for your support and all the work that goes into organizing this program.

Semper Fi,
Phillip Sprincin
Capt, USMC Weapons Co 3rd Bn 4th Marines

NOTE: You can still help our Council's efforts. The cost to mail each "care package" using an APO/FPO flat rate box is \$12.50 per box. If you would like to make a POSTAGE DONATION of \$12.50 (or any 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 alan33325alan@yahoo.com or 954-472-0285. Our military will thank you!

FLEET WEEK

Fleet Week 2010 sponsored by Humana Health Services will take place beginning April 26 and will last seven days. This is longer than the usual five days and will give the public more time to visit the ships. Ships tours will begin Tuesday and continue through the weekend. The weekend of April 24-25 is the Fort Lauderdale Air show which will precede the arrival of the ships participating in Fleet Week. Opening ceremonies will take place at the Paradise Shoppes at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel. The Council will host the Junior Officers Party on April 27 at Briny's Riverfront Restaurant. Volunteers are needed for various venues. If you would be interested in learning more about the positions available, please email Don Bannister at donsbannister@comcast.net or call him at 954-980-1639 (cell).

We will provide you with more information as it becomes available.

JROTC NEWS

Two of our adopted JROTC units have new commanding officers. CDR Craig Rouhier USN (Ret) is the new NJROTC Senior Naval Science Instructor at Flanagan High School, which is located in Pembroke Pines. At Taravella High School in Coral Springs, the new Senior Instructor is Capt Theodore Lefeuve USCG (retired). We look forward to building relationship with these two new commanding officers and their cadets.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW COMMUNITY AFFILIATE

Todd Kazdan D.O. PA
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www.doctorkazdan.com Sponsor: Joe Giambrone

NEW MEMBERS

Wayne and Nancy McLaren, 12748 NW 15th Street, Coral Spring FL 33071-5473, 954-340-0097
wan@tropcomp.com Sponsor: Bill Weiler

Alan Kyle, 2727 SW 24th Avenue, Miami FL 33133, 305-878-7847, alan_kyle@ml.com Sponsor: George Reeves

Glenn Wiltshire, 9161 Southern Orchard Rd N, Davie FL 33328, 954-423-9245 wiltbrit@aol.com Sponsor: Bill Weiler

David and Cynthia Thomas, 10955 NW 21st Street, Coral Springs FL 33071 954-592-3762 ns33179@yahoo.com Sponsor: Bill Weiler

RECENT EVENTS

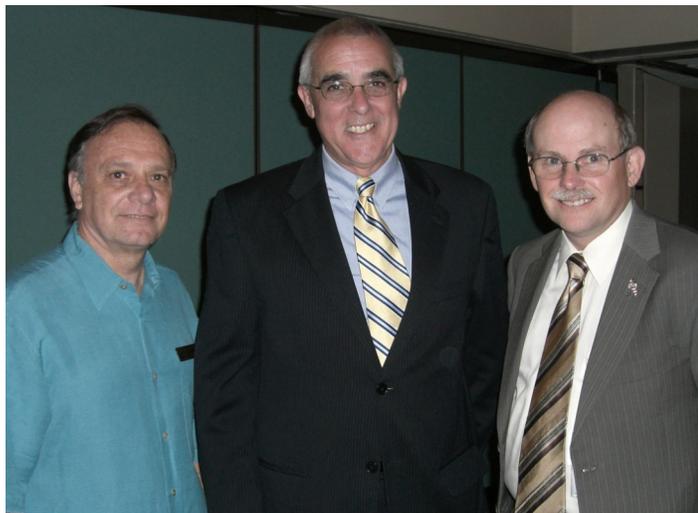


On January 30, Navy League National President Dan Branch paid a visit to Fort Lauderdale. About 25 Navy Leaguers attended a town hall meeting at the Sea Cadets building. President Branch spent almost three hours discussing Navy League issues including membership, retention and finances. He emphasized that the Navy League is in need of new revenue. The town hall meeting gave local Council members a great opportunity to ask questions, offer suggestions and share information. President Branch expressed the need to wear our "marketing" hats wherever we go; talk to people about the Navy League and explain its mission and get them to join! He also encouraged all members to attend the Air-Sea-Space Exposition taking place from May 3-5 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor MD (see the Navy League website for additional information.)

Also on January 30, the Fort Lauderdale Council held their Seven Seas Gala at the Weston Cypress Creek. Navy League National President Dan Branch stepped in as guest speaker when CNO Gary Roughead was grounded by bad weather in Virginia and was unable to attend. The black tie event was attended by approximately 200 Navy Leaguers and military personnel. Pictured (left): LT Doug Watson and his wife Lisa (right) Phyllis Bannister, LTJG Megan Naughton and June Yurina



On February 11, the Council held its first dinner social of 2010. We were honored to have Major General Douglas Burnett, Florida's Adjutant General and Commander of the Florida National Guard as our guest speaker (pictured here with George Reeves and Bill Weiler). Taravella High School JROTC presented the colors (Commanding Officer Theodore Lefeuvre pictured with Joe Giambrone and new member Glenn Wiltshire). Robert Marks and Erwin Sefton (pictured here with George Reeves) accepted the community affiliate plaque for their company, A.C.T. Janitorial Services



RECENT EVENTS



On January 11, a get acquainted dinner party was held for Rear Admiral David Thomas, Jr., USN, Commander, Carrier Strike Group Two and Commander, USS George. H. W. Bush (CVN 77). Pictured with RAdm Thomas is board member Alan Starr.



Shelly and Al Stein happily accepted a community grant check from Scott Plunkett, manager of the Wal-Mart located at 3306 N. University Drive in Sunrise. The Steins were invited to attend a staff meeting of store associates to explain the objectives of our Council. Many of those in attendance expressed an interest in Fleet Week tours.



On January 14, the Navy League held a reception at the Tower Club with guest speaker Rear Admiral Karl L. Schultz, USCG (center). Also in photo are Rudy Oetting, 2010 Fort Lauderdale Council President, Pat Dumont, VP, Legislative Affairs, Chuck Black, Past President, Fort Lauderdale Council and George Reeves, Council President



On February 5, a reception was held in Miami Beach for 44 combat wounded Marines who arrived for the Super Bowl. Photo features the Steins, Reeves, and Jones with Jason, Kevin, and Matt.



On February 8, Al and Shelly Stein met with members of the Fort Lauderdale Knitting Meet-up group to pick up completed scarves for our deployed military personnel. The ladies delivered more than 2 dozen beautiful scarves, helmet liners, and neck warmers along with heartwarming notes of appreciation for our troops. They have promised to continue knitting so a supply will be available when the cold season returns in Afghanistan. We are confident that their efforts will be greatly appreciated. The items are already on their way to Afghanistan.

USS BATAAN IN HAITI

Our adopted ship, the USS Bataan, has been off the coast of Haiti since the earthquake struck on January 12. This recent article in Navy News demonstrates the caliber of the men and women serving aboard the Bataan.

USS BATAAN, At Sea (NNS) -- Sailors aboard multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5) along with Marines from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit raised more than \$5,000 from crew donations Jan. 31-Feb. 6 for the relief effort in Haiti. The fundraising effort began when several Haitians who were recovering from earthquake-related injuries in the ship's medical facility, attended Saturday Night Alive (SNA), a weekly entertainment event for the crew while out to sea. "The First Class [Petty Officers] Association was talking about different ways Bataan could help the people of Haiti and came up with the idea to do a telethon during SNA," said Yeoman 2nd Class (SW) David Honadle. Honadle who hosts SNA also volunteers as a stretcher bearer, and directly sees the contributions Bataan is making during Operation Unified Response in Haiti. Members of the wardroom, chiefs mess, and first and second class petty officers associations donated their off time to collect crew contributions for "Big 5 Saving Lives."

The fundraiser, while a collaborative effort, sprang from one Sailor's visit ashore to witness firsthand the devastation in the island nation following the 7.0 magnitude earthquake. "I went ashore to Grand Goave, and saw the destruction caused by the earthquake. There were children asking me for help while I was translating for military personnel, and after returning to Bataan, I discussed the possibility of doing a fundraiser to touch the lives of the people of Haiti," said Personnel Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Ardoine Docteur. "Following approval from the chain of command, we began the fundraiser planning that night."

The goal wasn't monetary. Docteur said they just wanted to do as much as possible to give the people of Haiti hope for a better future. The money raised will be distributed to organizations vetted by Bataan's Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Center, set up to help identify and prioritize disaster relief efforts in Bataan's area of operation.

Bataan along with the amphibious dock landing ships USS Carter Hall (LSD 50), USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43) and USS Guston Hall (LSD 44) are on station off the coast of Haiti, supporting Operation Unified Response, an international commitment to provide relief for the victims of Haiti's devastating earthquake.



Aviation Maintenance Administrationman Airman Barron Lovett, stationed aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5), helps distribute relief supplies to Haitian citizens.

COAST GUARD NEWS

Two former South Florida Coast Guard captains were recently promoted to Rear Admirals. Rear Admiral Lower Half Stephen Mehling previously served as the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Air Station Miami. Rear Admiral Lower Half Schultz previously served as Sector Commander in Miami. Both were very active with our Council during the time they were stationed here. Congratulations to both!

Rear Admiral Lower Half Steve Mehling assumed his duties as Chief of Staff, Coast Guard District Fourteen in August, 2008. Headquartered in Honolulu, HI, the Area of Operations for this command encompasses over 12.2 million square miles in the Central and Western Pacific Ocean. The position includes responsibility for staff leadership, budget management, and mission execution, and it requires significant international engagement in the Pacific theater. Rear Admiral Lower Half Mehling is a 1980 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from the Coast Guard Academy and a Master's Degree from the University of Maryland.

Rear Admiral Lower Half Karl L. Schultz is Acting Director of Coast Guard Governmental and Public Affairs, and Chief of the Coast Guard's Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs. In this dual capacity, he is responsible for all external engagement for the Coast Guard and is the Service's lead representative to the United States Congress. Rear Admiral Lower Half Schultz is a 1983 Coast Guard Academy graduate, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. In 1992, he was awarded a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Connecticut, and in 2006 completed a one year National Security Fellowship at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.



Mehling



Schultz

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Millions of people use *Facebook* everyday to keep up with friends, upload an unlimited number of photos and share links and videos. Become a fan of the Council by logging on today to join – it's free! Go to www.facebook.com. You can contact Joe Giambrone at 954389-0545 or at giambronejm@gmail.com with any questions.

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CONTACT YOUR OFFICERS

President - George Reeves - 305-285-4845

First VP - Sandra Jones - 954-587-4618

Second VP - Peggy Raben - 954-462-2178

VP - Legislative Affairs
Robert Marks - 954 - 755 - 7464

Secretary - Janette Chandler - 954-438-4428

Treasurer - Tom Jones - 954-587-4618

JAG - Teresa Perez - 425-372-8001

USS BATAAN SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Hometown: Lemoore, CA
Duty Title: Aviation Maintenance Administrationman
Time in the Navy: 8 years
Why I joined the Navy: I got tired of college and wanted to travel while still being able to attend school.
Most exciting/rewarding Navy experience: Having my twin brother flown to my ship to spend time with me while we were unreping during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was on the USS Shreveport. I was on the USNS Saturn.
Greatest achievement since joining the Navy: Finishing my Associates degree in Liberal Arts
Goal hoping to achieve before leaving the Navy: Make 1st class, maybe even Master Chief.
Plans after Navy life: Teaching history or geography
The thing I like most about my Job: All I have to deal with is paperwork

SW/AW 2nd Class Donnell Lattimore

NATIONAL NAVY LEAGUE PRESIDENT VISITS FORT LAUDERDALE

National Navy League President Dan Branch paid a visit to Fort Lauderdale and met with members of the Boca Raton, Everglades, Fort Lauderdale and Broward County Councils. At right, Council President George Reeves poses with Dan Branch. Read more about the meeting inside.



BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
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