



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 22 ISSUE 8

George Reeves, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

NOVEMBER 2011

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

IA LUNCHEON

IA Recognition Luncheon
Honoring our
Navy Operational Support Center
Individual Augmentees

**Sunday, November 6, 2011
11:15 – 1:30**

Shula's Hotel
6842 Main Street
Miami Lakes

Speaker: *VADM Joseph Kernan*
Deputy Commander, Southern Command

Dress: Business Casual

Menu: Pommery-Honey Glazed Roasted
Chicken, Salad, Apple Tort

\$35.00 (at door)
Receive \$25 gift certificate at door to use at
Shula's Steak House Miami Lakes

Directions: Exit Palmetto Expressway (SR 826)
at Ludlam Rd (NW 67th Ave). Proceed South on
NW 67th Ave to Bull Run Road (west). Follow Bull
Run past Main St and hotel. Enter Parking Lot on
left, short walk to Main Ball Room entrance

Event is co-sponsored by Broward, Fort Lauderdale and Everglades Navy League Councils and

YARD SALE



**COUNCIL NEEDS YOUR
UNWANTED
TREASURES**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2011
FROM 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM**

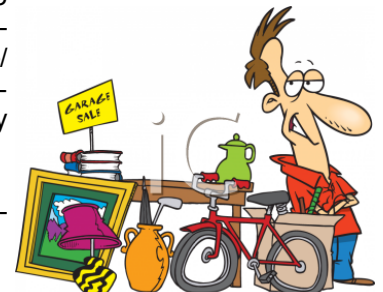
LOCATION: SIGNATURE MEMORIES
299 N FEDERAL HIGHWAY
FORT LAUDERDALE

NEEDED: -DONATIONS OF NEW OR GENTLY
USED ITEMS
-VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST WITH SALE

Now is the time to clean out your closets and garage and make a donation to assist the Council with this fundraiser. We will accept donations of new or gently used items for this sale (no clothing or large furniture). Contact Larry Ott at 954-253-2786 to make arrangements to drop off items. You may also arrange pick-ups/drop-offs by sending an email to the Council (bcnavyleague@yahoo.com) prior to November 3.

This will be our major fund raiser for the year and proceeds will be dedicated to our general funding for outreach projects, Marine/Navy gift packages, scholarships, and military family outreach.

We need significant Council member support.



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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Global War on Terrorism has Navy boots in the combat areas. Yes, boots. It's not just an Army and Marine war.

Many sailors are assigned on an individual basis to serve with combat units in Afghanistan, Iraq, Guantanamo and Djibouti. They buttress our troops on the front lines by providing special and needed skills, particularly medical support. These Navy battle field collaborators are called Individual Augmentees (IAs) and they're assigned individually to serve for extended periods. Upon completion of their assignments they return to stateside units and families virtually unannounced.

Nearly 100,000 IAs have been sent beyond our shores over the past few years, many from local Navy Reserve Centers.

Navy League Florida Region President Bill Dudley has been at the forefront in formally expressing public appreciation for the sacrifice of these Navy men and women. Over the past two years, he's hosted formal appreciation luncheons for some 1,500 Navy IAs and spouses in the Jacksonville/Mayport area. Commemorative medallions, plaques, and certificates are provided to these Navy returnees and their spouses; active duty senior commanders are represented and the media is invited. Navy League members have been front and forward in extending our Country's appreciation.

Area Navy Operational Support Centers are major providers of IA's and are prominent in these ceremonial luncheons. Most recently, Palm Beach Council, in conjunction with their area NOSC, hosted an IA event.

Now it's our turn. Our area NOSC in Miami Gardens, commanded by LCDR Brett Bormann, is large and serves over 600 Navy Reservists, many of which have been IAs over the past couple of years. Our Council, together with Fort Lauderdale and Everglades Councils, with the participation of Broward Navy Days, have arranged an appreciation luncheon for 35 IAs and spouses on Sunday, November 6th, at Shula's Hotel in Miami Lakes. Our guest speaker will be VADM Joe Kernan, Deputy SOUTHCOM. Arrival time is 11:15AM. Council members have already seen the announcement and it is repeat on the front page of this newsletter.

We do hope you'll attend to show our gratitude for the sacrifice of our Navy Reservist IAs.

George Reeves
President



USS SPRUANCE



USS Spruance, the Navy's newest destroyer, was commissioned at a sunset ceremony on October 1st in Key West whose naval history dates back to the 1820s. The com-

mand to man the ship, sending members of the 285-person crew hurrying up two gangways, was spoken at sunset by Ellen Spruance Holscher, granddaughter of the late Adm. Raymond Spruance, the ship's namesake. Adm. Spruance commanded U.S. naval forces during two of the most significant naval battles of World War II, the Battle of Midway and the Battle of the Philippine Sea. The ceremony featured a flyover by a Naval Air Station Key West fighter jet squadron, the raising of the ship's colors, and addresses by Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mark E. Ferguson and the Spruance's new commanding officer, Cmdr. Tate Westbrook. About 3,400 spectators, including numerous Council members, witnessed the first navy vessel commissioning ceremony ever to take place in Key West, despite the island being a base for naval operations for almost two centuries.



Above: Platform party including Rep. Ros-Lehtinen
Below: (l to r) Dotty Kirk, Shelly Beck and Sandra Jones



OCTOBER DINNER SOCIAL WITH THE SEA CADETS

Sea Cadet Month is celebrated in September each year but due to the visit of National President Dan Branch, the Council celebrated it at the October 13th dinner social held at Plantation Preserve.

LCDR Alan Starr selected five sea cadets to share stories of their training and summer activities. The speakers were PO2 Devin Davis, PO2 Lorenzo Gari (color guard commander), PO3 Zachary Vlahovski, SN Jacob Wallace and PO3 Isaac Stratton. Each cadet impressed the audience when describing their summer activities, including various training programs such as submarine, master-at-arms, gunners mate, and scuba. Many of these cadets were away from home for the first time and many of them completed more than one training session. All the young men did a superb job of public speaking; if they were nervous, it did not show. LCDR Starr shared a wealth of information regarding the Sea Cadet organization and the Spruance Division. Members left with a sense of pride in these future leaders of our country.



Above: Lt Meg Naughton, Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale with her guest Yvonne Yang

Below: LCDR Alan Starr addresses the audience



Below from left to right: CDR Andy Delgado Coast Guard Air Station Miami, Joe Giambrone South Florida Area President and CMC Jeff Pomeroy, also from the Air Station



Top row: Devon Davis and Jacob Wallace

Center row: Isaac Stratton and Lorenzo Gari

Bottom: Zachary Vlahovski

SEAFARERS' HOUSE

Last year, Seafarers' House was able to hand deliver over 1,800 decorated shoeboxes filled with basic personal care items to hard-working men and women who make their living at sea – an all but invisible population to most. Several of our members helped with the effort to show thousands of mariners the kindness of strangers. Help is needed again this holiday season. Thousands of miles from home and separated from loved ones for as long as a year, mariners typically come from countries where working at sea is their only option to provide for their family. The work is difficult and often dangerous. This year Seafarers' House hopes to give mariners who come into Port Everglades during November, December and January a decorated shoebox filled with basic personal items and a calling card for that important holiday phone call! Last year the mariners were so surprised and incredibly touched when volunteers arrived at their ships with these gifts. This simple gesture of kindness, caring and friendship is often their only glimpse of America and its great heart! And these shoeboxes may be the only gift they receive!

Would you like to help? Volunteers are needed to:

Organize drives: The twelve basic items on their shopping list are needed in order to fill several thousand shoe boxes—can you help by organizing a drive?

Fill and decorate shoeboxes: Fill shoeboxes with the 12 items on the list, decorate and drop off gifts that are all ready to be delivered to the seafarers.

Deliver to the ships: From the end of November through mid-January, volunteers (18 years and older) interested and physically able to climb aboard cargo ships and tankers to hand deliver the shoeboxes to mariners from all over the world will be needed! This is a unique and unforgettable experience offered first to those organizations collecting and donating items or filled boxes.

Your support can make the difference. If you are interested in volunteering, send an email to Joe Giambrone at giambronejm@gmail.com. Include your name, phone number and what you are interested in doing. If you are interested in delivering to the ships, include the dates you are available.



Photos from Shoebox Christmas 2010

STUDENT PROJECT

A message from James Lee appeared in the September 2011 issue of *The Helmsman*. As noted in his message, he is a 10th grader at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Fort Lauderdale and is the grandson of Dorothy Porges and the late Jay Porges, both long time members of the Broward County Council. James had decided to collect DVD's and CD's for the sailors on the USS Leyte Gulf as a way of doing something for the Navy in his grandfather's memory. Alan Stein has been serving as James' liaison with the Council.

In addition to our Council, James has contacted friends, family members, church groups and other organizations in an effort to collect as many DVDs and CDs as possible. He has sent several boxes to the Leyte Gulf and recently received this email from the ship:

James,

First off, thank you so much for the candy and DVD's that you sent. That was an amazing gesture on your part and was well received by the crew.

Let me introduce myself, my name is LTJG Joe Hontz. I am the ship's Public Affairs Officer. I handle all tours, photography, all social media. Anything that has to do with the public, I deal with it. I have been onboard Leyte Gulf for a little over a month and I love it. I didn't know if you knew this but Leyte Gulf will be coming to Ft. Lauderdale in November. Because of your unselfish act, I would like to invite you and your family onboard for a tour of the ship. You will get a chance to meet some of the crew and see what life is like on a daily basis. I don't know if you have been on here before, but I thought it would be great for you to visit the ship that your grandfather helped adopt. I will keep you posted on dates as it gets closer. Once again thank you so much for your gesture.

Very Respectfully,

LTJG Joe Hontz

USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55)

ASRAC/Public Affairs Officer

If you would like to help James with his project, you can bring DVD's and CDs to the monthly dinner meetings. If you prefer, you can donate a \$5 gift card from Target and James will purchase new DVDs.

James may be contacted at Lee36570@bellsouth.net.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our new members!

Jerry Horwitz, 16135 Emerald Hills Drive, Apt. 166,
Weston FL 33331; phone 224-456-3500; email
gah@horwitzco.com; sponsor George Reeves

Fred A. & Susan D. Majava, 5811 NE 21st Drive, Fort
Lauderdale FL 33308, phone 954-941-1288, email
suedm@att.net, sponsor Larry Ott

Pamela A. Ratti, 11327 NW 58th Terrace, Doral FL
33178, phone 305-456-2291, email pratti78@gmail.com,
sponsor Glenn Wiltshire

Ordination of our member Ron Perkins



Council member and Deacon Ronald G. Perkins will be ordained to the sacred order of the priesthood on November 12, 2011 at 11 AM. The ordination will take place at the Christ Lutheran Church, 1955 East Oakland Park Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale.

Ron graduated from Marcy State Hospital School of Nursing in 1972. He started his professional nursing career specializing in Emergency Medical Services. Shortly after graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps and served at Camp Pendleton, California and the Naval Regional Medical Center on Guam in the Pacific. During his naval service, Ron served as an operating room nurse on surgical teams. Ron was the Medical Regulating Officer for the evacuation of Saigon in April 1975. Following his naval service, Ron began a sixteen year career as a nursing and hospital administrator. After discernment and religious studies, Ron was ordained to the Diaconate in the Orthodox Catholic church in 2006. Since his ordination, Ron has served as a chaplain for two police departments (Fort Lauderdale and Lauderhill), as well as at Seafarers House. In 2010, Ron was appointed the head chaplain at Seafarers House.

Every Member get a Member Contest Launched

Sponsor or give a Navy League membership to a friend or family member this holiday season and be entered into a drawing for **\$500!** Each membership you submit before December 31, 2011 will count as one contest entry. Be sure to write priority code 4Q2011 on the membership application or include it on the on-line application.

The winner will be announced February 1, 2012.

SLATE OF 2012 OFFICERS

Elections have been rescheduled for the December dinner social. Members must be present to vote.

President – Shelly Beck
First VP – Marianne Giambrone
Second VP – Charles Schmidt
VP, Legislative Affairs – Robert Marks
Secretary – Teresa Perez
Treasurer – Tom Jones
JAG – Frederick “Fritz” Heidgerd

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SEA SERVICE NEWS



Marines and their coalition partners who suffer concussions, brain injuries, or joint and tissue damage, are now able to be evaluated and diagnosed locally in Helmand province since the arrival of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging machine at Camp Leatherneck in October. Concussions are one of the most common injuries suffered by coalition forces in Helmand, said Capt. Jeffrey W. Timby, surgeon for Regional Command Southwest. "The machine will help to diagnose and understand the head injuries troops are experiencing, said Timby, a native of Wallingford, Pa. "The majority of Marines who suffer mild concussions recover without further therapy, but this machine will help us find out why a category of Marines don't seem to recover as quickly." About a year ago, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Michael Mullen, made it a priority to ensure that American troops had all the tools they needed medically to be successful. The machine will be kept at the Camp Bastion Role III hospital. Medical personnel say that locating it at the camp will be advantageous to coalition forces since Bastion is where radiologists work and that it will be safer for patients to have the machine located inside the medical facility.

The Coast Guard Cutter Resolute returned home in mid-October after a seven-week deployment in the Caribbean in support of routine law enforcement operations. Working in conjunction with the Coast Guard's 7th District in Miami and Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Resolute crew stopped a non-compliant vessel resulting in the seizure of 165 kilograms of cocaine valued at more than \$4.5 million. In a separate incident, the Resolute crew interdicted a vessel with 47 Haitian migrants and safely repatriated them to Cap Haitien, Haiti. The crew completed more than 140 training drills and 200 helicopter evolutions. Resolute is a 210-foot Reliance class cutter and has a crew complement of 12 officers and 62 enlisted personnel.



Fort Lauderdale is hoping to persuade the U.S. Navy to name a ship after the city. Mayor Jack Seiler and a group of city business leaders met with the Obama administration's navy secretary push the idea. The Navy has had three ships named the USS Miami, the current being an attack submarine. A ballistic missile sub is the most recent of six ships called the USS Florida. Seiler said business executives began discussing the idea about two years ago and said the naming would recognize Fort Lauderdale's longtime role as one of the Navy's favorite ports of call for shore leave. He said local members of Congress are supportive.

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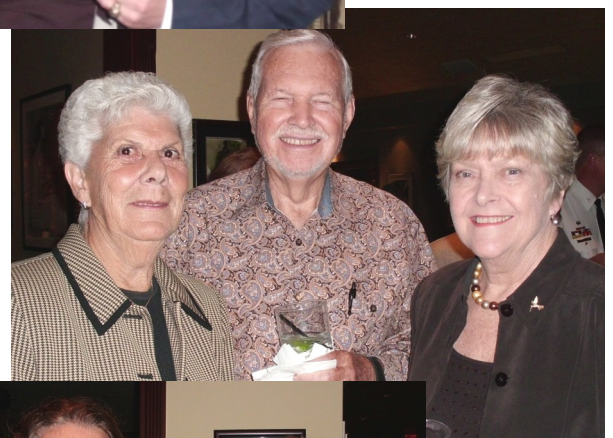
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BROWARD NAVY DAYS

On Thursday, October 20, Council members attended the Joe Millsaps Memorial Celebration hosted by Broward Navy Days. The event was held at Hugh's Culinary and sponsored by Cliff Berry Incorporated. The guest speaker was Commander Kirk S. Lippold, USN (Ret) who was the commanding officer of the USS Cole when it was attacked in Aden Yemen. He gave a riveting account of the events before, during and after the attack. Commander Lippold has written a book titled *Front Burner: Al Qaeda's Attack on the USS Cole*, which will be published soon and he promised to return to Fort Lauderdale for a book signing.



Above: Photo of Joe Millsaps and USS Cole
Left: Mary Anne Gray, Chairperson of Broward Navy Days with Commander Lippold
Below: (left to right) Phyllis Bannister, Don Bannister and Dotti Porges



Shelly Beck (left) and Sandra Jones

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

SUPPORT THESE COMPANIES

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SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT—NOSC



PS3(AW) Joshua R. Bright

Hometown: Germantown, Maryland

Duty Title: Personnel Clerk

Time in the Navy: 4 Years

Why I joined the Navy: To serve my country.

Greatest achievement since joining the Navy: 2008 Sailor of the Year for VR-52. Receiving "Bravo Zulu" for superior performance of my duties on my first Wing Inspection while attached to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 52.

Goal hoping to achieve before leaving the Navy: I would love the opportunity to serve my country overseas.

Plans after Navy life: Attend Law School.

The thing I like most about my job is: Helping people solve their problems and giving them the tools they need to succeed on their own.

SEA CADETS AT OCTOBER DINNER SOCIAL



The Spruance Division Sea Cadets did a superb job as guest speakers at the October dinner social.

In the photo (from left to right) are PO2 Devin Davis, PO2 Lorenzo Gari, PO3 Isaac Stratton, PO3 Zachary Vlahovski and SN Jacob Wallace

BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
Post Office Box 39252
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33339-9252

