



Navy League of the United States

# The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 23 ISSUE 1

Shelley Beck, President  
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

JANUARY 2012

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

## JANUARY EVENT

Installation of the  
Broward County Council's 2012 Officers  
aboard the Crown Princess  
Port Everglades FL

Saturday, January 21, 2012  
Boarding begins at 11:00 AM  
\$50 per person \$90 for two people

The following officers will be installed:  
President – Shelley Beck  
First VP – Marianne Giambrone  
Second VP – Charles Schmidt  
VP, Legislative Affairs – Robert Marks  
Secretary – Teresa Perez  
Treasurer – Tom Jones  
JAG – Frederick "Fritz" Heidgerd

Princess Cruises requires each attendee to submit security information (even if attendee has a port id). Please submit requested information (full name; passport or drivers' license number and state of issue; and date of birth) along with your check no later than January 10, 2012 to:

Marianne Giambrone  
1546 Barcelona Way  
Weston FL 33327

Questions can be sent to the Council at [bcnavyleague@yahoo.com](mailto:bcnavyleague@yahoo.com). You will not receive confirmation of your reservation. Please bring photo ID with you to Port Everglades to gain access.

## DECEMBER EVENT

On December 9, 2011, The Council and Broward Navy Days joined together to honor members of our local Coast Guard units. Crew members from the USCGC Gannet, Aids to Navigation, Station Fort Lauderdale and Air Station Miami attended a holiday party at the Council's community affiliate, Briny's Irish Pub. There was a great turnout of military and civilians - with many in holiday attire.



E-MAIL - [bcnavyleague@yahoo.com](mailto:bcnavyleague@yahoo.com) - Visit our Web Site - [www.bcnavyleague.org](http://www.bcnavyleague.org)

## *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

As we close out 2011, many thanks to George Reeves and his Board of Directors for the many outstanding contributions they made to the BCNL.

Please circle January 21<sup>st</sup> for our Installation of Officers on board the Crown Princess. My sincere thanks and appreciation to all the incoming officers and Board of Directors who I look forward to working with and leading our Council into 2012!

As a lifetime member of the Navy League and having served this Council as President in 1996-97, it will be my honor to serve again. We were honored to be named Outstanding Council both of my years and hope to achieve this award with your support again for 2012!

Ever wonder why we are called a "league"? League is a group of persons united by a common interest or goals. That unity as Broward County Council Navy League of the United States can provide us with an opportunity to achieve new goals and opportunities while supporting our men and women in the armed services.

What should be our new goals as well as continuing with our current goals? As your new president I am interested in helping us achieve them. Please contact me at [shelleybeck@bellsouth.net](mailto:shelleybeck@bellsouth.net) with your thoughts, ideas and goals.

*Shelley Beck*



## *SEAFARERS' HOUSE EVENT*



South Florida Area President  
and Council Member  
Joe Giambrone  
Has been selected as Volunteer  
of the Year  
By Seafarers' House

The "Show Your Love"  
Valentine Luncheon  
will be held on  
Saturday, February 11, 2012

Aboard the Crown Princess  
Berthed at Terminal 2 in Port Everglades  
10:30 AM Check-in/Boarding  
11:30 AM Cocktail Reception  
12:30 PM Full Course Luncheon with Wine

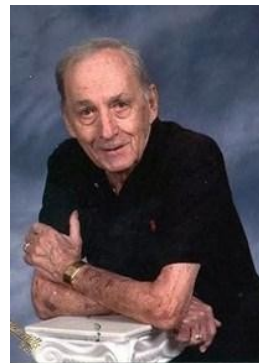
Please RSVP. Early - January 23, 2012 Deadline

To Submit Security Information (full name, date of birth, drivers license or passport number and citizenship), call 954-734-1580, email [events@seafarershouse.org](mailto:events@seafarershouse.org) or go on-line at [www.seafarershouse.org/events.php](http://www.seafarershouse.org/events.php)

Cost is \$50 per person.

We hope you will honor Joe by attending this luncheon.

## *IN MEMORIAM*



It is with deep regret that we announce that Board member Robert "Bob" Haab passed away on December 17, 2011 at the age of 81. Bob is survived by Jean, his wife of 54 years, his three children and seven grandchildren. Bob graduated from Brooklyn Technical High School and then served in Africa and Cuba as an enlisted member of the U S Navy Seabees. Bob and Jean moved to Florida in 1974 where he became involved in many organizations including the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, the Freemasons, All Saints Lutheran Church and, of course, the Navy League. Bob has been an active member of the Council and has served in several positions on the board. Most recently, Bob was the Retention Chairperson.

The Council offers their deepest condolences to the Haab family. Bob will truly be missed by all that knew him.



## PEARL HARBOR EVENTS

On Sunday, December 4, 2011, a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day was held at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. Council member Chaplain Ron Perkins provided the invocation and the Spruance Division Sea Cadets, under the leadership of Council member LCDR Alan Starr presented the colors. Abe Stein, a veteran of the Pearl Harbor attack, was a special guest.



Mary Ann Gray, Chairperson of Broward Navy Days (far left) accompanies Pearl Harbor survivors along with LCDR Alan Starr (second from right)

On Wednesday, December 7, 2011, a Pearl Harbor Memorial Service was held at Ascension Lutheran Church in Boynton Beach. In attendance were Captain F. Curtis Jones, son of Council members Sandra and Tom Jones and first commanding officer of the USS New York; Phil Dunmire, Navy League National President; Robert Ravitz RADM USN (Ret), Co-Chairman and Executive Director of the USS New York Commissioning Committee and Ralph Slane, Director Emeritus, New York Council Navy League.



From left to right: Captain F. Curtis Jones, Tom Jones, Sandra Jones, Phil Dunmire, Robert Ravitz and Ralph Slane

## MARINE CARE PACKAGES

Board members Shelly and Al Stein attended a meeting of the Captain Alexander Quarrier Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Hollywood to explain the functions of the Navy League and the Marine Care Package Program. Based upon information the Steins had provided prior to the meeting regarding the types of items most requested by Marines, they found numerous items waiting for them. The donated items filled 10 large flat rate boxes. DAR also was generous enough to donate \$129.50 to cover the cost of the postage for the boxes. After the initial meeting, DAR donated items which filled two more boxes. The Steins are shown below with Chapter Regent Kathleen Allen.



The Council's Care Package Program is much appreciated by our deployed Marines. The following are just two of the many thank you notes the Council received.

The following was received from SgtMaj Stephen Ahern of the 3d CEB Battalion H&S Company

*We the 3d CEB family are doing great things out here. The Marines are moving forward, and leaving secure positions for the Afghan Army and police to take control of their own destiny. The BN stretches from Pakistan to the Kajaki Dam. Here is my address for your support which is always needed.*

The following was received from 1stSgt Pascal Dacilas of the 3rd Battalion 7th Marines "Lima" Company. The Council has sent each company seven boxes of snacks.

*I wanted to say thank you on behalf of all the Marines in Lima Company. Your care package was received with great delight and did not last very long. We appreciate those that recognize the sacrifices we make. Individuals such as yourself make what we do easier.*

Any questions about the Care Package Program can be directed to Alan Stein at 954-472-0285 or via email at [alan33325alan@yahoo.com](mailto:alan33325alan@yahoo.com). Our military will thank you!



## DECEMBER DINNER

The Council's December dinner social was held at the Coral Springs Country Club on December 8 with guest speakers Navy Captain Peter Husta, Element Commander, 4<sup>th</sup> Fleet at Southern Command and his wife Maddie Husta, Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator at Southern Command. The Taravella High School JROTC, under the leadership of Captain Ted LeFeuvre presented the colors. With the dinner social held just one day after Pearl Harbor Day, the Council's two WWII vets – Mark Stein and Hank Petri – were thanked for their service to our country as were the many military guests in attendance. Tom Carney and Shad Culp of Construction Consulting Inc., the Council's newest community affiliate, were presented with their membership plaque by President George Reeves.



Above: Council members Adele and Graeme Holman  
Below: Capt Ted LeFeuvre, CDR Andy Delgado (CG Air Station Miami) and his wife, Alan Adler



Above: Captain Peter Husta and Maddie Husta with Council President George Reeves  
Below: Shad Culp and Tom Carney receive a membership plaque from President George Reeves



Captain Curt Jones (son of members Sandra and Tom Jones and first commanding officer of USS New York) with Council member Hank Petri



# COAST GUARD HOLIDAY PARTY

Additional photos of the many military crew members and civilians who enjoyed the Coast Guard holiday party held on December 9, 2011 at Briny's Irish Pub.





## SEA SERVICE NEWS



Three professional baseball players from the Miami Marlins visited Sailors aboard the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) in early December.

Two outfielders, a catcher, a triad of team dancers and Billy, the Marlins' mascot, spent time on the ship's aft mess decks signing T-shirts, taking photos and eating Navy chow. After spending time with the crew, the team took a tour of the ship's bridge, flight deck and flight deck control to get a first-hand experience of what it's like to be a Sailor aboard the Navy's only full-time forward deployed nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.



With the Iraq war ending and an Afghanistan exit in sight, the Marine Corps is beginning a historic shift — a return to its roots as a seafaring force that will get smaller, lighter and, it hopes, less bogged down in land wars. Gen. James F. Amos, the Marine Corps commandant, says that the Marines, while willing and able to operate from dug-in positions on land,

are uniquely equipped and trained to do much more — to get to any crisis, on land, at sea or in the air, on a moment's notice. He is eager to see the Iraq and Afghanistan missions completed so the Marines can return to their traditional role as an expeditionary force. Amos says he is determined to shape a postwar force that is smaller and better equipped for the kind of flexible duty he champions. He plans to reduce the number of infantry battalions from 27 to 24, shed some artillery and armored vehicles and reduce the number of flying squadrons from 70 to 61.



2011 marked a year of exceptional security operations for the men and women of the 7<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District homeported in Miami. In addition to stopping the first-ever drug sub found in Caribbean waters, crews operating in the 7th District went on to

interdict an unprecedented three more in rapid succession. The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Seneca made the first interdiction and marked the first time the Coast Guard successfully completed an underwater drug recovery. When Seneca's crew arrived on scene, the smugglers intentionally sank the self-propelled semi-submersible, which smugglers typically do to send evidence to the bottom of the ocean. The Seneca crewmembers commenced searching for the sunken sub with other Coast Guard cutters, the Honduran navy and FBI dive teams. Coast Guard Cutter Oak, the district's only sea-going buoy tender, used side-sonar equipment to locate the drug sub. Utilizing Oak as a platform, the FBI Laboratory's Technical Dive Team from Quantico, Virginia, was able to recover nearly 15,000 pounds of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$180 million.

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Council was awarded a meritorious rating for our efforts in 2010 in supporting the sea services. Council President George Reeves was presented with the award plaque at the Navy League National Convention which was held in Chattanooga, Tennessee in October.

*George is shown below with National President Dan Branch.*



*Shown below is Shelley Beck, incoming President, with RADM Karl L. Schultz, USCG Director of Governmental and Public Affairs and former Miami Sector Commander, and President George Reeves.*



The 2012 National Convention will be held from June 20-June 24 in Honolulu Hawaii.



# THE YEAR IN REVIEW



From left to right:

- Row 1: Jan 22—installation of Council officers  
 Feb 10—dinner social  
 Feb 11—All Hands—USS Truxton and USS Mitscher
- Row 2: Feb 24—new members gathering  
 Mar 10—dinner social  
 Apr 16—Easter egg hunt & BBQ

- Row 3: Apr 25-29—Fleet Week
- Row 4: May 12—dinner social  
 Aug 18—All Hands—USS Cole  
 Sept 8—dinner social



# THE YEAR IN REVIEW CONTINUED



From left to right:

Row 1: Oct 1 — USS Spruance commissioning  
Oct 13—dinner social  
Nov 6—IA recognition luncheon

Row 2: Nov 10— All Hands—USS Leyte Gulf  
All Hands—USS Leyte Gulf  
Nov 12 — yard sale

Row 3: Dec 8—dinner social  
Dec 9—Coast Guard holiday party

Thanks to George Reeves who served as the Council President in 2011 as well as everyone who helped to make these events a success.

We look forward to a great year under the leadership of our new Council President Shelley Beck. It is our hope that all members will come out and support the events in 2012.



## COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

### ***SUPPORT THESE COMPANIES - THEY SUPPORT OUR COUNCIL***

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## NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



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[larry.ott@sci-us.com](mailto:larry.ott@sci-us.com)



## NOTE OF THANKS

In addition to co-sponsoring the Coast Guard holiday party, Broward Navy Days and the Council joined together to wrap gifts which were delivered to Station Fort Lauderdale, the USCGC Gannet, Aids to Navigation and the Air Station. The following note of thanks was received from Meg Naughton, Executive Officer, Station Fort Lauderdale:

*Mary Anne and George,*

*We received the gifts last night and distributed them to the GANNET, Station and ANT this morning. The crew loved them. We will bring the AIRSTA their gifts by Monday.*

*I just wanted to thank you both individually for the truly appreciated effort that you both put into making the holiday special for all of our crews.*



## *INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEES LUNCHEON*



On November 6, 2011, Broward County Council partnered with the Everglades and Fort Lauderdale Councils and Broward Navy Days in honoring individual augmentees.

Shown in the photo are Vice Admiral Joseph Kernan, Military Deputy, Southern Command with Navy Reservist and Council member Fernando Labrada.

## *DECEMBER DINNER SOCIAL*



Taravella High School JROTC Color Guard at the December dinner social. From left to right are J. Garcia, G. Dorville, K. Weeks and S. Olarte

**BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.**  
**NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**  
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