



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 24 ISSUE 3

Shelley Beck, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

MARCH 2013

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

MARCH SOCIAL

EASTER EGG HUNT/BBQ

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2013

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road
Fort Lauderdale

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT
AND BBQ FOR COAST GUARD
MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

PROGRAM:

BILL VASQUEZ
COMMANDER
PELICAN HARBOR BASE
US SUBMARINE VETERANS INC.

US Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale
7000 N Ocean Drive, Dania
(inside John U Lloyd Park)

Cocktail hour 6:30pm Dinner 7:15 pm

10:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Choice of: Prime Rib of Beef or
Sea Bass Oreganato



Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 AM
followed by picnic

coloring contest, bounce house,
clown, hula hoops

Members and Guests - \$35.00
Active Military and Spouses: \$25.00

\$15.00 per civilian adult / civilian kids under 10 Free
Coast Guard Personnel and families - Free

Please RSVP your dinner choice on or before
March 7 by e-mailing bcnavyleague@yahoo.com or
calling Joan at 561-336-3610

Make checks payable to
Broward County Navy League
and mail to:



Dottie Kirk
8215 NW 15 Street
Plantation FL 33322

This event is fun for everyone—young or old!
If you are unable to attend, donations would be
greatly appreciated.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you Cmdr. Dennis Farrell, Executive Officer, USS Cole for a fantastic overview of your recent 9 month, 3 days deployment at our February 14th social. We also enjoyed meeting your family as well. We are pleased to make a donation on your behalf to the MWR fund of the USS Cole.

Please save the date, March 23, as the council hosts their annual Easter Egg hunt for the men and women of the Coast Guard and their families. This is always a fun event, with great food thanks to the donation from Ship's Supply, a bounce house, Eye Candy Art by Candy the Clown, and watching the children run and gather up Easter eggs. If you are not able to join us, please considering making a donation to underwrite our gifts to the children.

As your President, I don't expect to try to do it all, it will take every member to step up and join with us as members to bring "new blood" into our council. Every member in the council should expect to work with your officers to accomplish goals set forth by your board. I ask that each of you make a personal commitment to attend as many socials and functions as possible. When we have a ship visit our community, they always enjoy seeing our members and socializing at our community affiliate, Briny's Pub. We recently hosted with Fort Lauderdale Council and Broward Navy Days the USCG cutter Tampa and those of us that attended enjoyed ourselves and filled our stomachs with the great food always provided by Briny's.

Please keep in your prayers, council member, Mark Stein, long standing member and past board member and officer of this council. He has been moved into an assisted living facility.

Shelley



GUEST SPEAKER



Bill Vasquez is the Commander of the Pelican Harbor Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

The Pelican Harbor Base meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at the VFW Post 1966, 350 SW 25th Street, Fort Lauderdale. The base is named after Pelican Harbor, located in North Bay Village, Florida. It contains an artwork dedicated to Cold War Submariners consisting of twenty-two sail planes mounted vertically and resembling a school of steel sharks.

The membership ranges from WWII submarine veterans to younger members who were discharged from the service as recently as 2011. There are also members who served during the Korean Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the Cold War. Bill served from 1962 to 1970 and was involved in the Cuban Crisis and the Dominican Republic Crisis in addition to completing six deterrent Cold War patrols during that time.

Bill earned a BS in Management from Nova Southeastern University as well as an MBA in International Business and a Doctorate in Business Administration.

In 2001, Bill retired from his position as a Vice President with Citibank International after more than 25 years of working in international operations. Since retiring from Citibank, he works part-time as an adjunct professor for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Bill lives in Coral Springs. When not working, he enjoys serving his church, creating model train layouts, studying submarine history and technology, and chairing an advisory committee for the Broward County School District.

COMMISSIONING

The USCGC ROBERT YERED was commissioned on February 15 at Coast Guard Base Miami Beach. This vessel is named after Coast Guard Hero, Engineman First Class Robert J. Yered whose fearless actions set him apart as he stood duty in the explosive loading detail at the United States Army Terminal, Cat Lai, Vietnam, on February 18, 1968. Below the crewmembers of the Cutter Yered man the rail of the cutter for the first time and salute during the commissioning ceremony, symbolizing they have officially manned their stations.



Above: George J. Yered Sr, father of Robert Yered, handed the long glass to Chief Petty Officer Stephen A. Kelly. The passing of the glass traditionally symbolizes the officer on deck's authority in passing the first watch. Below: RADM William D. Baumgartner, commander of the Seventh Coast Guard District, made remarks at the commissioning.



FLEET WEEK

Registration is now open on the Broward Navy Days website (www.browardnavydaysinc.org) for anyone who would like to volunteer during Fleet Week. Please consider donating your time this year; you will have a great time and our military men and women will appreciate your support.

The following information was posted on the Broward Navy Days website regarding ship's tours.

Online Registration for ship tours will begin as soon as final notification is received from the U.S. Navy concerning the ships that will be in port during Fleet Week. As soon as that information is available, online registration will open on the site. To make sure you are notified immediately, you are encouraged to sign up for Broward Navy Day's email list. You can find their website at www.browardnavydaysinc.org.

Each year, more than 8,000 people tour the visiting military ships. Due to security restrictions at Port Everglades, tours must be reserved well in advance and each visitor must undergo security clearance. Here is additional useful information about ship tours during Fleet Week Port Everglades:

ENTRANCE: Enter Port Everglades from I-595 through the Eller Drive Entrance. Your photo ID (driver's license or passport) will be checked at this entrance. Please be prepared to show security personnel the confirmation letter. It will expedite the process if the driver collects and presents photo IDs for everyone 18 and over in the same vehicle.

PARKING: There is paid parking in the Mid-Port Parking Garage. ALL cars/vans MUST park in the Mid-Port parking Garage (\$6 < 5 hrs) Buses will park at Terminal 19 after dropping off passengers.

IDENTIFICATION: All adults (18 and over) will be required to show a government-issued picture ID.

ATTIRE AND MISCELLANEOUS:

****Please note that the ships are not handicapped accessible - YOU MUST BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION to navigate the stairs and ladders.**

****Wear comfortable clothing. Pants are suggested for females. Remember to bring sunscreen and sunglasses. A ship is an industrial environment with steep stairways/ladders, so avoid high-heels, open-toed shoes, and sandals and wear shoes with low, rubberized soles. Also avoid necklaces that can get caught and bags that will impact your ability to climb steep stairs/ladders with both hands.**

****Cameras are permitted.**

****Smoking is not allowed onboard any ship or anywhere on the pier.**

****Souvenirs from the ships will be available for sale (cash only)- either on the ship or at a table near the exit.**

****Restroom facilities are very limited and available in Terminal 22 after check-in.**

****After the tour is complete, guests will be escorted off the ship and to the nearest gate.**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Naval Operational Support Center (NOSC), the Council's adopted unit, celebrated Black History month during their drill weekend on February 9. The Council contributed the cost of a presentation of black culinary specialties. Past President George Reeves was on hand to talk about the Navy League and Broward County Council. He is shown here with Command Senior Chief Jerry Kingsbury.



USS LEYTE GULF

The Leyte Gulf was scheduled for a visit to Port Everglades in early February which, unfortunately, was cancelled. There had been plans to make a presentation to the ship's sailors of the quarter and sailors of the year. While the presentation did not place, the Council did forward certifications of accomplishment and financial awards to the following outstanding sailors.

Sailor of the Year – MR1 Timothy Iacoli
Junior Sailor of the Year – SH2 Ronald Wilson
Bluejacket of the Year – BM3 Alexander Morrow

Sailor of the Quarter – IT1 Tiffany Winn
Junior Sailor of the Quarter – EN2 Millard Sparks
Bluejacket of the Quarter – OS3 Socorro Trujillo



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest member:

William Vasquez of Coral Springs

The Council is also pleased to welcome our newest community affiliate, Morgan Stanley, located in Plantation. Its members are:

Nancy Abrams
Wayne McLaren
Dr. Charles H. Kates

Community affiliate memberships demonstrate a company's commitment to our council and a desire to support and advance the objectives of the Navy League. The membership also demonstrates their desire to support young people through the Navy League's youth programs. Community affiliate membership is \$400 per year and allows the business to have 4 members. The Council is very fortunate to now have 9 community affiliates.

We also have one corporate member – DHL located in Plantation. The Navy League's corporate membership program is structured to help industry maintain a strategic position in front of key military, civilian defense and homeland security decision makers.

Contact George Reeves, Membership Chairperson, for additional information on Navy League membership. You may email George using the Council's email address (bcnavyleague@yahoo.com).

RESOLVE MARINE

Resolve Marine Group, one of the Council's community affiliates, played an integral part in bringing the Carnival Triumph cruise ship back to port and their chief operations officer says the mission was anything but ordinary. The Fort Lauderdale company deployed their Resolve Pioneer tug boat from Mobile, Alabama, after an engine room fire disabled the ship. It was the principal tug boat that brought the ship back to shore. "The Resolve Pioneer is one of the very few emergency response vessels in America, there are not many, we just respond to emergencies," Captain Farhat Imam said.



US COAST GUARD CUTTER TAMPA

The Council co-sponsored an All Hands party for the crew of the US Coast Guard Cutter Tampa at Briny's Pub on February 7th. Broward Council, Fort Lauderdale Council, Everglades Council, Boca Raton Council and Broward Navy Days members all joined together to welcome the crew of the Tampa. It was another great evening at Briny's with great conversation, food and drink. It was a casual evening for the crew and they were in civilian attire.



Above: Larry Ott, CDR Susan Polizzoto USCG, Bob Marks, and Shelley Beck
Below: Crew members enjoying Briny's



Above: Glenn Wiltshire with crew member
Below: Joe Giambrone with Executive Officer



Simone Ramos and Oscar Romano
Fort Lauderdale Council

Rita Tierney and Morrie Weinman
Boca Council



FEBRUARY DINNER SOCIAL

The Council's February 14th dinner social was held at Tropical Acres. Presenting the colors was the color guard from the Taravella High School NJROTC unit. Their commander, CDR John Bowen, shared comments with the audience.

Cmdr. Dennis Farrell, Executive Officer of the USS Cole was the guest speaker for the Council's February 14th dinner social. Cmdr Farrell gave an interesting overview of the Cole's recent deployment. In addition to being a special evening because it was Valentine's Day, it was made extra special since Cmdr Farrell's family was in attendance. The Council made a donation to the MWR fund of the USS Cole on his behalf.



Color Guard from Taravella High School NJROTC



Cmdr John Bowen (Taravella High School) and Cmdr Dennis Farrell



Shelley Beck with Cmdr Farrell's mom on left and Shelley's mom on the right



Connie Christensen with her guest (left) and Bob Marks



Cmdr Farrell with Susie and Ray Williams



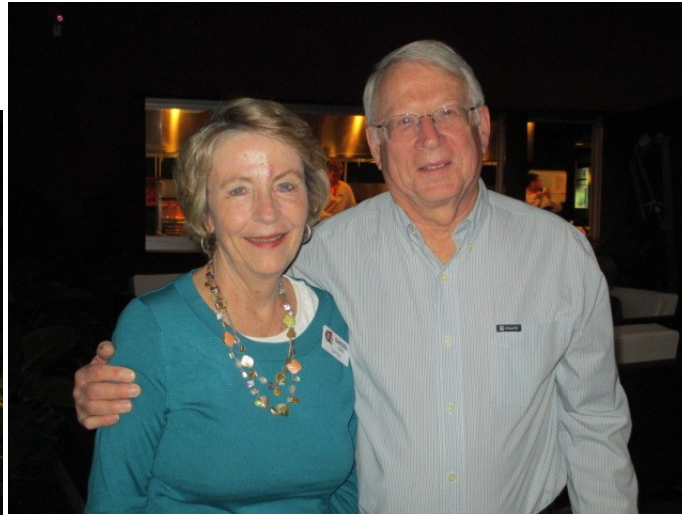
Mary Anne Gray (Broward Navy Days) with Rudy Oetting (Fort Lauderdale Council Navy League)

FAREWELL TO SANDRA AND TOM JONES

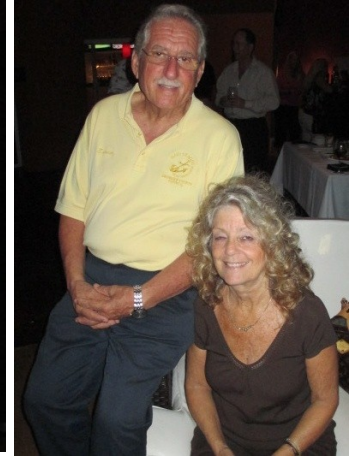
Sandra and Tom Jones have been members of the Navy League since 2006 and have served on the Council's Board of Directors for the past several years. Sandra served as Second Vice President before taking over the Communications responsibilities. Tom became Council Treasurer in 2010. Tom also became very involved with Fleet Week activities and took over the responsibility for registering the public (including groups such as Boy Scouts) for ship tours. For this reason, Broward Navy Days wanted to give Sandra and Tom a proper farewell before they move to Georgia in the very near future. On Tuesday, February 26, members of Broward Navy Days as well as the Everglades, Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton and Broward Council Navy Leagues gathered at Chima's Restaurant on Las Olas in Fort Lauderdale to say goodbye. The outdoor area at Chima's was a wonderful backdrop for a casual affair which gave everyone an opportunity to talk to Sandra and Tom. Broward Navy Days presented them with a "lifetime membership" certificate and the Council presented them with a gift certificate for a restaurant in their new home town. Sandra and Tom will truly be missed by many in South Florida!



Shelley Beck and Glenn Wiltshire



Sandra and Tom Jones



Erwin and Joan Sefton



Mary Anne Gray and Fran Shaw

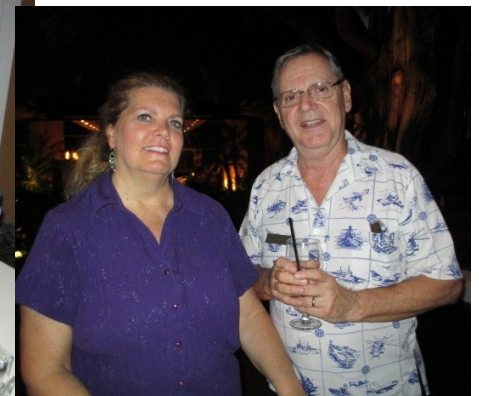
Left: Diane Schmidt,
Teresa Perez and Joe
Giambrone

Right: Paul Raben,
Peggy Raben and
Don Bannister

Alicia and Oscar Romano



Shelley Beck and Tom Melville



SEA SERVICE NEWS



The Navy delivered two more 35-meter patrol boats (PB-310 and PB-311) to the Iraqi navy at the Umm Qasr naval facility in Iraq on February 17 after each craft suc-

cessfully completed reactivation in Bahrain. These are the 10th and 11th vessels in the 12-boat procurement which will assist in reconstituting Iraq's ability to enforce maritime sovereignty and security in the northern Arabian Gulf. The Navy and Swiftships Shipbuilders, LLC, Morgan City, Louisiana, are supporting the Iraqi navy in the procurement and construction of the patrol boats. The boat is armed with a 30 millimeter gun weapon system, provides for a crew of 25 and is capable of reaching 30 knots. The Support Ships, Boats and Craft Program Office in the Navy's PEO Ships, is managing the acquisition of the patrol boats as a foreign military sales case, with the final patrol boat planned for delivery later this year. In addition, the program office delivered two 60-meter offshore support vessels to the Iraqi Navy in December 2012.



Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Panama City delivered modular rifle rack kits to the U.S. Marine Corps for its Buffalo mine resistant ambush protected (MRAP) vehicles, Naval Sea Systems Command an-

nounced. The modular rifle kit is comprised of three rifle racks, each capable of holding two weapons to accommodate the vehicles' capacity of six passengers per MRAP. "These new rifle racks will definitely keep our Marines safer because they were designed with a combat-loaded Marine in mind," said Albert Shaw, assistant program manager for the Marine Corps Systems Command's Cat III Buffalo MRAP. The new rack's design keeps its footprint small, allowing more space for personnel to enter and exit the vehicle. The design also incorporates a strap and buckle concept, allowing warfighters to access their weapons with one hand. The MRAPs are manufactured with a rifle rack system where the racks are mounted to the hull walls which tended to encroach on the Marines' seating space once the weapons were stowed. The Buffalo is the largest of the MRAP vehicles and is used by explosive ordnance disposal and combat engineers as a key capability for route clearance patrols



RADM William D. Baumgartner, Coast Guard Seventh District Commander, delivered remarks to the cadets at the MAST Academy in Miami on February 27. The MAST Academy is a public magnet school

that focuses on maritime studies. It is the first school in the country to offer Coast Guard JROTC. The program teaches the cadets military customs.



The Navy's first littoral combat ship USS Freedom (LCS 1) will depart her homeport of San Diego on March 1 and deploy to the Asia-Pacific region. Freedom will deploy to Southeast Asia and Singapore for ap-

proximately eight months. After making initial port visits in Hawaii and Guam, Freedom is expected to participate in the International Maritime Defence Exhibition and Conference in Singapore and in select phases of the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training exercise series in Southeast Asia. During the first ever LCS deployment, Freedom will demonstrate her operational capabilities and allow the Navy to evaluate crew rotation and maintenance plans. Fast, agile, and mission-focused, LCS platforms are designed to employ modular mission packages that can be configured for three separate purposes: surface warfare, mine countermeasures, or anti-submarine warfare. Freedom will remain homeported in San Diego throughout this rotational deployment to Southeast Asia.



Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, the no-nonsense Desert Storm commander famously nicknamed "Stormin' Norman," will be buried at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. A memorial service for Schwarzkopf was held at the acad-

emy's chapel on February 28 and his remains will be buried afterward at the cemetery on the grounds of the storied military institution. Schwarzkopf commanded the U.S.-led international coalition that drove Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in 1991. He was 78 when he died in Tampa on December 27 of complications from pneumonia. Schwarzkopf graduated from West Point in 1956 and later served two tours in Vietnam, first as an adviser to South Vietnamese paratroops and later as a battalion commander in the U.S. Army's Americal Division. Schwarzkopf will be buried near his father, Col. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the founder and commander of the New Jersey State Police.

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

SUPPORT THESE COMPANIES - THEY SUPPORT OUR COUNCIL

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RIVERFRONT RESTAURANT
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PLANTATION
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RESOLVE MARINE GROUP, INC.
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FORT LAUDERDALE
954-764-8700

SHIP SUPPLY OF FLORIDA
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305-624-8585

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Fort Lauderdale

Shula's Hotel
Miami Lakes

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Are you looking for a way to advertise your business at a reasonable cost?

Business card ads are available at a cost of \$125. The ad will appear in The Helmsman for one year (ten editions). If you would like to advertise your business or organization and provide financial support to the Council at the same time, contact Joe Giambrone at giambronejm@gmail.com or 954-389-0545.

SEAPOWERS MAGAZINES

REMINDER

If you discard your *SeaPower* magazines after reading them each month, please consider saving them and "recycling" them to interested veterans. Bring them to the dinner social where Board member Dottie Kirk will be glad to take them from you. Dottie shares them with the many veterans that live in her complex.

RECENT EVENTS



CDR Farrell and his family at the February dinner social



Larry Ott, Erwin Sefton and Eric Lodewijk at farewell party for Sandra and Tom Jones

BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
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