



Navy League of the United States

# The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 24 ISSUE 5

Shelley Beck, President  
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

MAY 2013

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

## MAY DINNER SOCIAL

## APRIL DINNER SOCIAL

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2013

Tropical Acres Restaurant  
2500 Griffin Road  
Fort Lauderdale

### PROGRAM:

Denise Johnston  
Director, Resolve Maritime Academy  
training division of our  
Community Affiliate  
Resolve Marine Group

Cocktail hour 6:30pm Dinner 7:15 pm

Choice of: Prime Rib of Beef  
Baked Boston Scrod

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

Please RSVP your dinner choice on or before  
May 3 by e-mailing [bcnavyleague@yahoo.com](mailto:bcnavyleague@yahoo.com)  
or calling Joan at 561-336-3610



Council members enjoyed a presentation by Captain Christopher Scraba, USCG, at the April 11<sup>th</sup> dinner social. Cooper City High School NJROTC unit presented the colors and their Senior Naval Science Instructor, Jose H. Testa Lindeman, CDR USN (Ret), addressed the group.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I begin this column, I reflect back over these past few weeks of the attacks at the Boston Marathon and the explosion in Texas and ask that we keep those injured or whose families have lost a loved in our thoughts and prayers. We must also remember the men and women serving this great country.

Memorial Day is a day to memorialize all those who served in war and sacrificed their life for our freedom and to the many lost on 9-11 as well as other conflicts.

On May 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM, the City of North Lauderdale will be having a dedication ceremony for 2 fallen local men who lost their lives in this recent war of terror. The ceremonies will take place at North Lauderdale Veterans Memorial (S.E. corner of Kimberly Blvd. & Rock Island Rd). The Navy Chaplain and color guard from SouthCom will be at the ceremonies, thanks to Chuck Black, our South Florida Area President. We hope that you will be able to join us and honor these men.

Did you know that Florida is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Region in NLUS out of 17 Regions world -wide? There are 19 councils in Florida with an average of 192 members per council. Broward County Council was chartered on January 1, 1968. The average years of a Council in the Florida Region is 43.39 years. Florida has had 2 National Presidents and numerous National Vice Presidents. Always remember The Mission of the Navy League and what it stands for and what we as members represent when you are talking to someone about who we are. The Mission: The Navy League has three missions: to enhance the morale of active duty personnel and their families; to inform Congress and the American public on the importance of strong sea services; and to support youth through programs such as the Naval Sea Cadets Corps, Junior ROTC and Young Marines that expose young people to the values of our sea services.

I truly thank those members who came out to support Fleet Week and to thank all the men and women serving at SouthCom and surrounding commands. A great big thank you to Mary Anne Gray, President of Broward Navy Days and member of our council and to the committee of Fleet Week, we all had a fantastic week.

Happy Mother's Day,

Shelley



## GUEST SPEAKER



Denise Johnston has over 30 years of experience in the maritime industry with a B.S. in Business Management.

Denise is currently the Director of Resolve Maritime Academy, the training arm of the Council's community affiliate, Resolve Marine Group. As Director, she has overall responsibility for the Fire & Safety Group which specializes in shipboard fire, safety and hazardous materials response training for the global maritime industry. In 2011, she assumed additional responsibility for oversight of the Academy's new 7,000 square foot Simulation Training Center where state-of-the-art, simulator based navigational safety training is provided to cruise line and commercial shipping companies.

Since joining Resolve in 2003, Denise has been responsible for pursuit of U.S. government contracts including oversight for bidding and management of contracts for dismantling and/or reefing government vessels including the 900' ex-USS *Oriskany* aircraft carrier, still the world's largest artificial reef. She also serves as Resolve's Director of Administration, with company management responsibilities and oversight of administrative policies and procedures.

Prior to joining Resolve Marine Group, Denise was employed by Cliff Berry, Inc. as Manager of Government Contracts. Prior to joining CBI, Denise served as the Sr. Vice President of the Marine Division of MAR, Inc., a large government contractor. In that capacity, she managed more than one hundred project managers, engineers, technicians, seamen and administrative staffers, in support of multiple ship and facility operation and maintenance contracts for the U.S. Navy, other federal agencies and prime contractors. She served 23 years with MAR, Inc. including 5 years on the Board of Directors.

Denise is a member of several organizations including the Port Everglades Association, WISTA, Broward Navy Days and Commissioning Committees for the USS *Jason Dunham* and USCGC *Richard Etheridge*. She volunteers her time at Seafarers' House and Habitat for Humanity.



## CARE PACKAGE PROGRAM



The Council's Care Package Program continues to provide much appreciated items to our deployed military. Below are a few of the thank you emails recently received.

Please consider making a donation of personal care items or cash towards this very important program. You can bring your donation to any Council event.

From ISC Tim Dickey, NOSC Miami

*I received the boxes today! I brewed a pot of coffee for the guys and I about an hour ago. I love my coffee, but I love Dunkin Donuts coffee even more!*

*Thank you again for the care packages. We've been sharing the joy with everyone around us. I keep telling folks to thank the good people of SoFlorida!*

From First Sergeant Ronnie E. Ellis, SOTF West, Fire Base Thomas

*Packages received and Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers are enjoying them right now. I had them placed over at the billeting area where they are sleeping. The support you have provided is greatly appreciated.*

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Navy League National Convention will be held from June 19-23 in Long Beach California. Hotel reservations are available at the Hilton Long Beach by calling 1-800-HILTONS and using group code 2013 National Convention. Part of the program this year will be 3 'learning track sessions' that will focus on "The Future of the Navy League", "Council Activities—New Ideas for Long Term Success" and "Legislative and Public Affairs". These learning track sessions will be presented over 3 days of the convention. Attendees will also be able to enjoy the local area with tours of the Queen Mary or Catalina Island. You can visit the Navy League website for additional information.



## NAVY LEAGUE NEWS

The following is an excerpt from a message received from the Navy League Florida Region President Skip Witunski.

*We received word this week that 9 of our councils out of 18 (2012) were recognized by the National Awards committee for our efforts, I am so pleased of all of your hard work, let's keep it going and moving we can do more. I know our strengths come from our love of the mission of the Navy League and when we are all doing, moving, and sharing there is not a cap that can stand on our outpouring of continued support of the mission of the Navy League. For us to continue to raise the bar for others to follow is a good thing; it is consensus building and making us stronger and more productive Our Councils' hard work was recognized; we know we all try to be as complete as we can and we are not always recognized for our efforts, sometimes when we don't it hurts a little but as Florida Region Navy Leaguers, we just try harder and this year **we were recognized more than any other region worldwide**. Quite a feat and thanks to you all for your determination and continued non tiring effort, WELL DONE and WELL DESERVED. Congrats to the following councils for all their efforts and hard work.*

### Outstanding Councils

Mayport  
Sarasota  
Tampa

### Meritorious Councils

Broward County  
Daytona Beach  
Key West  
Space Coast  
Treasure Coast

### Honorable Mention Council

Suncoast

\*\*\*\*\*

The Region Nominating Committee meet in Tampa on April 20, 2013 and the following individuals from South Florida were nominated as National Directors. Their nominations will be confirmed at the National Convention.

Simone Ramos\*  
Rudy Oetting\*  
Patricia Dumont\*  
Shelly Beck

Alternates: Dolph Dumont\* and Joseph Giambrone

The duties and responsibilities of National Directors are outlined in the Navy League Operations Manual. They include attending national, region, area and council meetings; participating in Directors' National Committee assignments; obtaining at least 10 new members each calendar year; assisting councils in their retention efforts and contributing financial support to the Navy League at the national and council level.

\*members of Fort Lauderdale Council

# FLEET WEEK

Fleet Week looks different this year. There are no military ships in Port Everglades with hundreds of sailors and Coast Guardsmen waiting to enjoy South Florida. However, that did not stop Broward Navy Days from making a decision to move forward with several of the planned events and honoring our local military.

The Opening Night Kick Off Reception, held on Monday, April 29, at Chima's Brazilian Steakhouse in Fort Lauderdale was an invitation only event sponsored by Seacor Holdings. It was hosted by Broward Navy Days to officially recognize and thank the participating military units of US Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), Coast Guard District 7, Navy Operational Support Centers West Palm Beach and Miami as well as local recruiting offices.



(L to R) Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jack Seiler, RADM Baumgartner, Broward Navy Days Executive Director Mary Anne Gray and Humana Military President Ori Mullen



Above (L to R) South Florida Area President Chuck Black with RADM William D. Baumgartner USCG Seventh District Commander

Below (L to R) Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca with Board member Glenn Wiltshire



The following were some of the other guests that attended the event:



## FALLEN SOLDIER CEREMONY



The City of North Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department will pay tribute to two fallen sons of North Lauderdale by dedicating a Fallen Soldier Statue in memory of Petty Officer Second Class Michael Brodsky (top left) and Private First Class Oscar Martinez (top right). These 2 young men were the first North Lauderdale residents to make the ultimate sacrifice while serving their Country.

Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Michael J. Brodsky died in July 2012 from injuries caused by a blast from a dismantled improvised explosive device in Kandahar Province. He had been on patrol in an undisclosed area when his unit came under fire and he rushed to a nearby truck to shelter his K9 partner. As he returned to the firefight, he stepped on a mine. He died from his injuries several days later. Pfc Oscar A. Martinez died on October 12, 2004 when a mortar fired by insurgents exploded at a U S Base where he was eating with his unit in the Iraqi province of Anbar. Martinez had only been in Iraq for 3 weeks when he was killed.

The ceremony will be held on Friday, May 31, at 7 PM at the North Lauderdale Veterans Memorial located at the southeast corner of Kimberly Boulevard and Rock Island Road. Immediately following the Dedication Ceremony, the Florida National Guard's Governors Own 13th Army Band will be performing a Patriotic Concert. Public parking and bus shuttle for the event will be available from North Lauderdale City Hall, North Lauderdale/Broward County Library and Riverside Christian Shopping Center. Roads around these 3 locations will be closing at approximately 6:15pm for the event so please plan accordingly. Additional information can be obtained by calling the Parks & Recreation Department at 954-724-7061.

LET US REMEMBER OUR FALLEN HEROES...



## APRIL DINNER SOCIAL

The April dinner social was held at Tropical Acres; below are some of those in attendance.



Captain Joseph Kimball USCG and his wife Shelly



New member Bill Vasquez and President Shelley Beck



President Shelley Beck with long time members Barbara Makris (left) and Nancy Lindberg

## SEA SERVICE NEWS



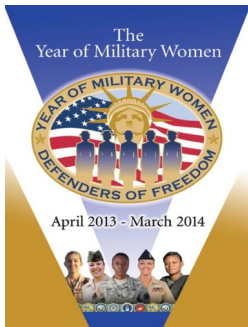
The aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE) received the Battenberg Cup in recognition of outstanding achievements over the course of 2012. The Battenberg Cup is awarded annually to the best all-around ship or submarine in the Atlantic Fleet on the accu-

mulation of the crew's success. For IKE, the award adds to a list of honors that have been given to IKE within the past year. This marks the second time the Eisenhower has won the prestigious honor. In 2012, the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower was underway for 233 days, steaming 58,228 nautical miles to include a 6-month operational deployment in support of maritime security objectives and Operation Enduring Freedom. IKE launched and recovered 9,859 sorties for 21,631 flight hours, including 3,313 combat sorties totaling 7,883 flight hours supporting operations in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.



The Coast Guard said one of its cutters seized cocaine worth an estimated \$27 million after stopping a fishing boat in the western Caribbean Sea. Coast Guard officials brought ashore the 2,200 pounds of cocaine

at the Miami Beach base and transferred it to the Drug Enforcement Administration. The three suspected drug smugglers caught aboard the boat were handed over to the FBI. Their identities and nationalities weren't immediately released. The cocaine was seized April 18 by the crew of the Cutter Gallatin. The patrol was part of Operation Martillo, which brings together assets of several U.S. agencies as well as European and Latin American countries to stop drug smugglers. The operation also seeks to stop movement of drug-related cash and weapons.



The United States Navy Memorial hosted the official kick-off of the Year of Military Women during a ribbon-cutting ceremony April 11. This is the first time the Navy Memorial will be honoring not only Navy women, but also the women who have, and still serve in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Chief of Naval Personnel, Adm. Scott Van Buskirk was the guest speaker at the

event, and said he was honored to attend the ceremony, because he knows how essential women's leadership and contributions have been to the Navy and the nation. Senior leaders from each of the services, and members of congress attended the event and were able to get the first look at the collection of original uniforms worn by pioneering World War I Yeoman (F) and female Marines. Among the most significant is a uniform worn by Capt. Mildred McAfee, the first director of the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, or WAVES, who commanded 82,000 women during World War II. The Executive Vice President of the Navy Memorial, Cindy McCalip said the memorial wanted to include women of all branches of service to highlight the common bond between all military women.



The President of the United States presented the Navy Cross to Corporal Clifford M. Wooldridge, United States Marine Corps, for extraordinary heroism while serving as Vehicle Commander, Combined Anti-Armor Platoon White, Weapons Company, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, Regimental Combat

Team 2, FIRST Marine Division (Forward), I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) Afghanistan, on 18 June 2010 in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.



When Marines need essential gear, vehicles or equipment in the field, they need it quickly. The helicopter support team, a group of landing support specialists, is called to support this vital mission. During the 15th

Marine Expeditionary Unit's deployment, Marines assigned to Transportation Support Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 15, 15th MEU, practiced the planning and execution of a HST aerial lift aboard USS Rushmore on April 27. The team of four conducted a training that consisted of seven lifts of a cargo net filled with oversized tires to help them keep their skills sharp. The pilots and crew of a CH-46E Sea Knight assigned to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 (Rein.), 15th MEU, participated in the exercise to bolster both the Marines on the flight deck and their own training. The 15th MEU is comprised of approximately 2,400 Marines and sailors and is deployed as part of the Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group.



U.S. Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia held a ceremony at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Bahrain on April 24 in remembrance of the 9th anniversary of the attack on patrol coastal ship USS Firebolt (PC 10). Firebolt was at-

tacked near Iraq's oil terminals while conducting maritime security operations in the Northern Arabian Gulf. The attack claimed the lives of 3 US service members: Boat-swain's Mate 1st Class Michael Pernaselli, U.S. Navy; Signalman 2nd Class Christopher Watts, U.S. Navy; and Damage Controlman 3rd Class Nathan Bruckenthal, U.S. Coast Guard. These 3 fallen service members are now immortalized at a memorial on NSA Bahrain in the courtyard outside the U.S. Coast Guard office.

## **COMMUNITY AFFILIATES**

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

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PLANTATION  
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FORT LAUDERDALE  
954-764-8700

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305-929-7090

TROPICAL ACRES RESTAURANT  
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WEBB COMMERCIAL REALTY  
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MIAMI GARDENS  
305-624-8585

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## **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](mailto:giambronejm@gmail.com) or 954-389-0545.

Larry M. Ott  
Funeral Director

Kraeer-Fairchild  
Funeral Home  
and Cremation Center  
4061 North Federal Highway  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308  
954-565-5591  
Fax 954-565-7899  
[larry.ott@sei-us.com](mailto:larry.ott@sei-us.com)



**BCNL Member  
Discount with  
this ad**

## **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



Council President Shelley Beck represented the Council at the recent Region Meeting in Tampa. She is shown here with VADM Robert S. Harward, Deputy Commander, U S Central Command, who served as guest speaker.



Cooper City NJROTC presenting the colors at the April dinner social

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