



THE HELMSMAN

Publication of the Broward County Council-Navy League of the United States

Glenn Wiltshire, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

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www.bcnavyleague.org

browardnavyleague@gmail.com

THE STAR CENTER



Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:30 PM

THE STAR CENTER
2 West Dixie Highway, Dania Beach

The evening will include a presentation about The Star Center, a tour of the engine room & bridge simulators and a bridge simulator demonstration*.

Price: \$30 per person (payable in advance)
Price includes buffet dinner

Guests are invited to bring their own wine or beer

Due to limited space for the simulator tours, reservations will be accepted until we reach capacity

Please RSVP ASAP via email to browardnavyleague@gmail.com
or call Joan at 561-336-3610
and

Mail your check made payable to
Broward Council Navy League (or BCNL)
no later than March 4 to
Marianne Giambrone
1546 Barcelona Way
Weston FL 33327

*please note that guests must negotiate 6 steps to reach the simulator

EASTER EGG HUNT/BBQ



Annual Coast Guard Easter Egg Hunt & BBQ

Saturday, March 28, 2015

10:30 AM to 1:30 PM

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

Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 AM followed by picnic
coloring contest, bounce house, clown, hula hoops

Coast Guard Personnel and families - Free

\$15 per civilian adult / civilian kids under 10 free

Make checks out to Broward County Navy League
(or BCNL) and mail to
Shelley Beck
301 N Pine Island Rd Apt 262
Plantation, FL 33324

If you are unable to attend
donations would be greatly appreciated



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fleet Week planning is now in full swing, with the mid-period planning meeting held on February 25th by the Navy and Broward Navy Days. Many of our members are stepping forward once again this year to coordinate some of the events that will run from May 4-10, 2015, and there will be plenty of opportunities for Council members to volunteer to assist with tours, special events, etc. This year we will have four US Navy ships, including the USS COLE, and one Coast Guard cutter. We will be setting up our table to sell cold drinks and coins and will be looking for Council volunteers to staff the table and donate soda and water. We will also be hosting the Junior Officer Party at Briny's on Tuesday, May 5th. Let me know if you think you will be available to volunteer to staff the table during Fleet Week.

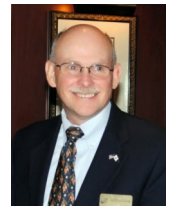
In February, we were back at Tropical Acres for our dinner meeting on Thursday, February 12th. Our speaker, Broward County Medical Examiner Craig Mallak, CAPT USN Retired, gave a very moving presentation on his experiences serving as the Armed Forces Medical Examiner for 10 years and establishing the modern mortuary facilities at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware that receives the remains of all US service members that die overseas. It was also interesting to hear how the results of death investigations led to improvements in battlefield equipment to improve the chances of survival from an IED incident. Looking ahead to March, we will be returning to the STAR Center on Thursday, March 12th for dinner and a tour of the outstanding facilities used to train American's merchant mariners led by BCNL member Graeme Holman. This may be your only chance to "navigate" a big ship in to and out of Port Everglades or one of the many other seaports the STAR Center has loaded into their simulators. I'm looking forward to a great turnout! Also, please ensure that you have Saturday, March 28th on your calendar for our annual Coast Guard Easter Egg Hunt at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. It's a fun event for all!

I also represented the Council at the Florida Region meeting in Tampa on February 7th. Skip Witunski was officially nominated as the National

President, Lynn Drucker from the Fort Lauderdale Council was nominated as the South Florida Area President, and Lynn, Chuck Black, Rudy Oetting, and Simone Ramos were nominated as National Directors. Simone was also recognized as the Florida Region Member of the Year for her many efforts with the Naval Sea Cadets. The nominations will be acted on at the Navy League National Convention in Tampa on June 16th-21st. Current National President Jim Offutt was there to provide an update on the improved financial condition and other National topics of interest.

As always, please feel free to contact me at 718-619-7402 or at wiltbrit@aol.com if you have any ideas on what our Council should be doing to make your membership more valuable to you.

Glenn Wiltshire
CAPT, US Coast Guard Retired
Broward County Council President



THE STAR CENTER

For those who may not be familiar with the STAR Center, the following information was taken from their website (www.star-center.com).

STAR Center is a not-for-profit maritime training school that is the top choice of inland and ocean-going professional mariners throughout the world. Opening in 1983 in Toledo, Ohio, we expanded to our current location in Dania Beach in 1986, consolidating all training there in October 2008. After extensive facility improvements, we opened for business with the world's first 360° field-of-view Full Mission bridge simulator, and a second 247° (subsequently upgraded to 270°) field of view bridge simulator, in 1993. We now offer more U.S. Coast Guard and other approved courses than any other simulation training center. Our courses meet USCG, STCW, and IMO Model requirements, as well as many additional courses designed by our in-house curriculum development team to meet company-specific training requirements.

FEBRUARY DINNER SOCIAL

The Council held its February 12th dinner social at Tropical Acres Restaurant. The Cooper City NJROTC cadets were on hand to present the colors. Their Senior Naval Science Instructor, Jose H. Testa Lindeman CDR USN (Ret) was also present and spoke to the group about the activities of the NJROTC unit. The guest speaker was Dr. Craig Mallak, Chief Medical Examiner in Broward County, and those in attendance were fascinated by the information he shared. Dr. Mallak retired as a Captain from the US Navy and his presentation was entitled "Honor the Fallen, Protect the Living, the Armed Forces Medical System". Dr. Mallak gave detailed information about some of the cases his department handled and the lessons that were learned from many of those cases.



Above: Joe Giambrone with Tropical Acres Restaurant owner Jack Studiale
Below: Jenny Ceasar (Broward Outreach Coordinator from Congresswoman Frankel's Office) Lesley Warrick, Executive Director Seafarers' House and Greg Warrick



Guest speaker Dr. Craig Mallak shown here with his wife



Oscar Romano, Fort Lauderdale Council, gave the invocation



Rick Ciravolo, Mary Anne Gray and George Reeves



FLEET WEEK 2015

The second planning meeting for Fleet Week 2015 was held on February 25 at the Port Everglades Administration Building.

Fleet Week will be held from May 4 - May 10, 2015 with the following ships tentatively scheduled to participate: USS COLE, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS, USS NEW HAMPSHIRE, USS WASP, USCGC RICHARD ETHERIDGE and a submarine which will be identified later. As in the past, there will be numerous events that the Navy League members and the general public can attend. Volunteers are needed to assist with these events. You can register to become a volunteer on the Broward Navy Days website (browardnavydaysinc.org).

The week will kick off with the All Hands on Deck Welcoming Party on Monday, May 4. The Council will host the Junior Officers Party on Tuesday, May 5, at 6 PM at Briny's Irish Pub and Restaurant. Specific information about all the events open to the public will be made available via email, the newsletter and the Council website as soon as it has been finalized.

Registration for ship tours should be available on the Broward Navy Days website in mid-March. We will share that information via email, the newsletter and the Council website. You can also register your email address with Broward Navy Days so that you get information directly from them.

JUNIOR OFFICERS' RECEPTION

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015
6:00 - 8:00 PM

BRINY IRISH PUB RESTAURANT
305 SOUTH ANDREWS AVE. FT LAUDERDALE
(LAS OLAS RIVERFRONT ON THE NEW RIVER)

TWO FREE DRINKS FOR GUESTS IN UNIFORM
CASH BAR FOR CIVILIANS

FREE BUFFET FOR ALL

For more information contact Erwin Sefton at 954
-868-2107

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Red Tail Squadron, America's tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen, is bringing its RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit mobile theater and WWII P-51C Mustang aircraft to the Wings Over Miami Air Museum March 5 through 8. This is a unique opportunity for all ages to learn about the Tuskegee Airmen - America's first black military pilots and their support personnel - in a unique and interactive way. The general public may tour the museum at special rates during the week; however, the P51 Mustang will be there only on the weekend. The Museum is open Saturday March 7 and Sunday March 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for everyone to experience the mobile theater and get an up close look at the CAF Red Tail Squadron's restored P-51C Mustang on static display. The signature aircraft of the Tuskegee Airmen in WWII, the P-51C Mustang is a rare treat for spectators because it is one of only a few like it still flying today.

The U. S. Naval Academy Men's Glee Club will be in concert on Saturday, March 14, 2015. Celebrate America with the 60 stirring voices of the Glee Club. A tribute to America's heroes with all of your favorite red, white, and blue melodies. Patriotic anthems, Broadway hits, choir classics, and more! The performance will be held at 7 PM at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, 5555 N Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale. Admission is free and the doors open at 6:30 PM.

Seafarers' House will be hosting their 2015 International Golden Compass Award dinner on Saturday, May 2, at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale. This year's honoree is Joseph E. Farrell, Jr., President & CEO of Resolve Marine Group (one of our Council's community affiliates). There will be a cocktail reception, silent auction, dinner, award presentations, entertainment and dancing. Visit their website for registration information (www.seafarershouse.org).



Mark Your Calendar

SEAFARERS' HOUSE

Council President Glenn Wiltshire was honored by Seafarers' House at their Valentine's Luncheon aboard the Caribbean Princess on Saturday, February 14th. Each year, Seafarers' House presents the Guiding Light award to an individual who has been a continuous beacon of strength, wisdom and inspiration for Seafarers' House. Glenn serves on Seafarers' House board of directors and Lesley Warrick, Executive Director, noted that Glenn is always available with his support. Unfortunately, Glenn was ill and could not be present to accept the award; his wife Estella accepted the award on his behalf (she is shown here with Lesley Warrick).



Oscar and Alicia Romano of the Fort Lauderdale Council and Board members Joe and Marianne Giambrone attended the event



Seafarers' House was honored as Seafarer Advocate of the Year during Lloyd's List North America Maritime Awards, held in mid-February at Houston's Houstonian Hotel, Club and Spa. Seafarers' House Executive Director Lesley Warrick accepted the award before a crowd of more than 300 marine professionals. The prestigious awards are held each year to recognize the best and bright-

est in North American shipping, according to Lloyd's List Editor Richard Meade. A panel of judges that included chairmen and residents of the maritime industry's leading governing bodies and trade associations selected this year's winners. The Seafarer's Advocate Award recognizes individuals, organizations or groups that have delivered benchmark services or had other occasions to safeguard and promote the welfare of mariners in North American waters.

Seafarers' House at Port Everglades is a non-profit organization supported by the faith-based community as well as by labor, business and civic leaders with a mission "to offer refuge, resources, renewal and respect to the maritime community through multi-faith service." Open throughout the year, Seafarers' House is a safe, friendly place where cruise and cargo ship mariners can connect with their families, relax, or get emergency assistance if needed. With the help of its supporters and volunteers, Seafarers' House offers many services including low cost international phone calls, free transportation, Internet access, counseling services, liaison with authorities as well as recreational facilities.

CONGRESSWOMAN FRANKEL

On January 23, 2015, Representative Lois Frankel was sworn in as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 114th Congress. Congresswoman Frankel is a lawyer who has been the United States Representative for Florida's 22nd congressional district since 2013. She is a member of the Democratic Party. The swearing-in ceremony took place at the Broward County Courthouse and included a performance by the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida and Presentation of Colors by the Fort Lauderdale Police Department Honor Guard. Dr. Fred Lippman of Nova Southeastern University welcomed guests before an invocation was given by Rabbi Adam Watstein of Temple B'Nai Aviv. The Oath of Office was administered by U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom. "It is a privilege to work on behalf of the South Florida community I love alongside my neighboring colleagues who are outstanding allies," said Congresswoman Frankel. "I look forward to our continued work together to keep social security and Medicare secure, stand up for our veterans, and grow bigger paychecks for hardworking families."

Council Vice President, Legislative Affairs, Bob Marks attended the ceremony and is shown here with Congresswoman Frankel.



NAVAL SEA CADETS

The first annual Oren R. Lewis Jr. Sea Cadet Scholarship luncheon was held on February 24 at the Hyatt Regency in Fort Lauderdale. Oren was a member of the Fort Lauderdale Council and was a strong supporter of the Naval Sea Cadets; he passed away last year. His wife, Jo Anne, decided to honor Oren with this event which benefitted the Spruance Division Sea Cadets. The event was very well attended and raised \$10,000; these funds will allow many of the cadets to attend summer training that they might not otherwise be able to afford.

LCDR Alan Starr, Commanding Officer of the Spruance Division Sea Cadets



Below are several cadets on hand for the event



COMMISSIONING

On January 24, 2015, The Coast Guard commissioned William Trump, the 11th fast response cutter and fifth to be based in Key West. Rear Adm. John Korn, commander of the Coast Guard's Seventh District, presided over the commissioning ceremony. Korn, who previously oversaw the Coast Guard's acquisition programs, spoke of the importance of the new FRCs to the execution of Coast Guard missions. The cutter was named after William Trump, who participated in the occupation of Tunisia, the invasion of Sicily and the landings at Salerno before earning the Silver Star during the invasion of Normandy in 1944. Trump risked mines and heavy fire to anchor a safety line on Omaha Beach for the 200 troops on his vessel to follow. He retired as a chief petty officer and died in 2009. Trump's daughter, Colette Eddy, served as the ship's sponsor. Coast Guard Cutter William Trump is 154-feet long, has a beam of 25-feet, and a maximum sustained speed of more than 28 knots. The William Trump is armed with a stabilized 25mm machine-gun mount and four crew-served .50-caliber machine guns. Lt. Jared Harlow is the commanding officer of the William Trump (in photo below being saluted by RADM Korn).



USS LEYTE GULF

The Council's adopted ship, the USS Leyte Gulf, recently advised us of their outstanding crew members who were selected as Sailors of the First Quarter 2015. The Council has honored these sailors with a certificate of accomplishment as well as a monetary award. The sailors are:



Senior Sailor of the
Quarter

IT1(SW,AW, IDW)
Lemie Anderson



Junior Sailor of the
Quarter

FC2(SW) Alexandra
Quinn



Blue Jacket of the
Quarter

EM3(SW) Steven
Bryant

SEA SERVICE NEWS



Successfully putting a damaged AV-8B Harrier down on an amphibious assault ship at sea last year earned the Marine Corps Air Medal for Capt. William Mahoney, a Harrier pilot with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263 (Reinforced) aboard the

USS Bataan (our Council's adopted ship). While in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operation with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit in June, Mahoney realized he had a malfunctioning landing gear shortly after taking off from the ship. The failure left him with the options of either attempting a risky landing or ditching the aircraft into the sea. The ship boasted a crash cradle, a unique piece of equipment built to the height of a Harrier's nose and, for Mahoney, presented a way to bring the roughly 30,000-pound aircraft down aboard the Bataan. Mahoney used the Harrier's ability to take off and land vertically and descended upon the cradle. His position obscured any view of the emergency equipment and he had to land sight unseen. For his actions, Mahoney received the Air Medal from Col. William Dunn, who commanded the MEU, on February 12. Dunn praised Mahoney for saving the aircraft.

Council's adopted ship, USS Bataan, in dry dock. Aerial photo taken by Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 774 (HMM-774) "Wild Goose" in early February.



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert presented the U.S. Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation on February 20 to Capt. Jeff Hamilton, commanding officer of the Royal Canadian Navy frigate HMCS Toronto (FFH 333), in Halifax, Nova

Scotia, Canada. A non-U.S. naval force receiving a U.S. Navy unit decoration is a rarity; this event marking the fifth occurrence of such a decoration in the last 45 years. Returning from their deployment, the crew of the Toronto was selected to receive the prestigious award due to their continued support of Combined Task Force 150. The Halifax-class frigate significantly disrupted the flow of drugs, criminal and terrorist activities in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.



U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Paul Zukunft delivered the 2015 State of the Coast Guard Address at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C.,

on February 24. The commandant outlined how America's Coast Guard will meet today's challenges while preparing for complexities that remain ahead. The commandant stated that the service's increasing demands in the areas of drug interdiction, Arctic operations, cybersecurity in the maritime domain and transportation of energy resources are converging with its daily operations and limiting the Coast Guard's ability to respond to major contingencies. "I am committed to ensuring that our budget priorities are driven by a Coast Guard strategy aligned with national priorities to ensure our people have the platforms they need to serve the nation now and into the future," said Zukunft.

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

A.C.T. Janitorial Services Co.
1570 N Powerline Rd, Pompano Beach
9540-960-1000

Construction Consulting Inc
2020 W McNab Rd Ste 102
Fort Lauderdale
954-972-5787

Resolve Marine Group, Inc.
1510 SE 17 ST., STE 400
Fort Lauderdale
954-764-8700

Ship Supply of Florida
15065 NW 7 Ave, Miami
305-929-7090

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale
954-989-3500

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.

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@sci-us.com



BCNL Member
Discount with
this ad

NAVY LEAGUE NEWS

On February 7, Council President Glenn Wiltshire attended the Florida Regional meeting in Tampa. A photo of those in attendance is below. Glenn noted some of the highlights of the meeting:

- ◆ National President Jim Offutt gave an update on National issues and highlighted four areas: increased communications between National officers and members; finances and efforts to reduce/eliminate the budget deficit through enhanced fundraising; membership and new ways to recruit and retain members; and meetings-changing the format of National meetings to make them of more value to members.
- ◆ Florida Region President Skip Witunski is looking for maximum turnout from Florida Region members at the National Convention at Grand Hyatt in Tampa June 16-20. The commissioning ceremony for USCG's newest Fast Response Cutter USCGC RICHARD DIXON, which will operate out of San Juan, will take place on June 20.
- ◆ Guest speaker at the meeting was RDML Mary Jackson from NAVREGION Southeast. Glenn was able to speak to her briefly about our Council and she's looking forward to Fleet Week.
- ◆ The following individuals were nominated and their appointments will be approved at the National Convention: Skip Witunski, Florida Region President is the National President nominee; John Vargo of the Mayport Council is the Florida Region President nominee; Lynn Drucker of the Fort Lauderdale Council is the South Florida Area President nominee; and Chuck Black, Lynn Drucker, Rudy Oetting and Simone Ramos, all of Fort Lauderdale Council, are National Director nominees.



FEBRUARY DINNER SOCIAL



Cooper City NJROTC cadets with their Senior Naval Science Instructor, Jose H. Testa Lindeman CDR USN (Ret)

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

