



# 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](http://www.bcnavyleague.org)

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## HOLIDAY PARTY

Broward County Council  
Fort Lauderdale Council  
and  
Broward Navy Days

Honor

The United States Coast Guard

USCG Station Fort Lauderdale  
USCG Aids to Navigation-Fort Lauderdale  
USCG Air Station Miami  
USCG Taclet South  
USCGC Gannet WPB 87334  
USCGC Robert Yered WPC 1104  
USCGC Richard Etheridge WPC 1102  
USCGC Margaret Norvell WPC 1105

With a Holiday Party at  
Briny's Riverfront Restaurant  
305 South Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale

Friday, December 2, 2016  
6:00—8:00 PM

Two Free Drinks for Coast Guard  
Personnel and their spouse/guest  
Free Buffet for All  
Entertainment



## DECEMBER DINNER SOCIAL



Broward County and  
Fort Lauderdale Councils

Invite you to join us on

Wednesday  
December 21, 2016

Guest Speaker will be  
Brigadier General Kevin Iiams  
Commander, US Marines Corps Forces,  
South

Coral Ridge Yacht Club  
2800 Yacht Club Blvd  
Fort Lauderdale

6:00—7:00 PM Cash Bar  
7:00 PM—Dinner and Meeting

\$40 per person  
Checks should be made payable to  
Fort Lauderdale Council NLU S

Please phone your RSVP to 954-565-6778  
no later than 9AM on Monday, December 19

Admittance by  
reservation only



**Bring a new unwrapped toy  
for Toys for Tots**



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My thanks to all that were able to make it to the annual Oktoberfest celebration at the Lauderdale Yacht Club. Everyone had a great time as always. Due to schedule conflicts, we did not hold a November dinner meeting, and will be joining with the Fort Lauderdale Council at their December meeting on Wednesday, December 21st. Hope to once again see many of our members there. Our next event will be our annual Coast Guard Unit Holiday party at Briny's on Friday, December 2nd at 6 PM. We've adopted a number of Coast Guard units this year that will have representatives attending, and I hope that our members will come out to wish them Happy Holidays! The Fort Lauderdale Council and Broward Navy Days will be joining us again this year to help celebrate.

As I noted previously, the slate of Board officers for 2017 will be the same team from 2016. My thanks to all of them for agreeing to continue to serve the Council another year to maintain and enhance our many unit and youth programs. We are still waiting to hear from Princess about the availability of space aboard one of their ships for our always popular January Installation Luncheon and will let you know when we get more information.

On Sunday, December 4th at 2 PM, Broward Navy Days will once again be sponsoring the annual Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. The Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Tactical Law Enforcement Team South and one of our adopted units, CDR Michael Freddie, will be the guest speaker. While the number of Pearl Harbor veterans continue to decline as they pass away, it remains important to commemorate this fateful day of infamy in our nation's history. I also had the privilege of serving as an escort for Honor Flight South Florida's trip to Washington, DC on October 29, 2016. Honor Flight South Florida's volunteer team did an outstanding job coordinating a memorable visit to a number of memorials in DC for 78 World War II veterans from South Florida ranging in age from 89 to 100. I had the honor of escorting Dr. Michael Lazzopina from Davie, who served as an Army Medic during World War II, then attended medical school and returned to active duty as a Navy doctor for two years during the Korean War to take care of Navy and Marine Corps members in North Carolina. I encourage all of our members to get involved with that organization as they honor those who served our country during World War II.

It's also that time again to start planning for Fleet Week 2017, coming to Port Everglades from May 1 - May 7, 2017. The initial planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, in the Port Everglades Auditorium. The US Navy is planning to send more ships our way this year, along with the US Coast Guard and a Royal Canadian Navy ship. I know that Broward Navy Days will once again be looking to our

members to fill key positions in the Fleet Week organization to make this another successful Fleet Week.

Finally, I hope that all of our members enjoyed their Thanksgiving and will have a safe and restful Holidays as we get closer to celebrating the start of another New Year in 2017.

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



## COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

The Council appreciates the support of these companies.

Construction Consulting Inc.  
2020 McNab Road, Ste 102, Fort Lauderdale

DeAngelo Marine Exhaust Inc.  
3330 SW 2nd Ave, Fort Lauderdale

Ship Supply of Florida  
10800 NW 103 St Ste 1, Miami

## DECEMBER GUEST SPEAKER

Commander, U.S. Marines Corps Forces, South  
Brigadier General Kevin Iams



Brigadier General Kevin Iams assumed command of U.S. Marine Corps Forces, South on January 7, 2016 where, as the Marine service component commander, he is responsible to the Commander U.S. Southern Command for all Marine activities across Central and South America and the Caribbean. He was born in New Orleans, LA and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1986. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and upon completion of flight school was assigned to fly the FA-18 Hornet.

Brigadier General Iams' Command tours include Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 "The Bats" from 2003 to 2005, where he deployed to Iraq for Operation IRAQI FREEDOM II. During this deployment the squadron produced a record setting 3800 combat sorties and 8300 combat hours in just 9 months while in support of the battle of Fallujah and other operations in Iraq. Upon return from combat operations, his squadron was recognized by the MCAA as the Marine Fighter Attack Squadron of the year. From 2009 to 2011 Brigadier General Iams commanded Marine Aircraft Group 41 in Fort Worth, Texas and sustained multiple unit deployments in support of global commitments. From 2014 to 2015 he was the Assistant Wing Commander, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing in Camp Pendleton, CA.

BGen Iams' other operational tours in the FA-18 include VMFA-451, "The Warlords" 1990-1992, VMFA-235 "The Death Angels" 1993-1996, and VMFA-232 "The Red Devils" 2000-2002; where he participated in combat during Operations DESERT SHIELD/ DESERT STORM and NOBLE EAGLE and supported contingency operations during multiple WESTPAC deployments. Brigadier General Iams' staff and joint assignments were as a Forward Air Controller (FAC) Instructor, FA-18 Tactics Instructor and Adversary Pilot at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron-1 from 1996 to 1999 and Operations Officer for Marine Aircraft Group 11 supporting Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and IRAQI FREEDOM from 2002 to 2003. From 2006 to 2009 he served at USCENTCOM as the Battlestaff Exercise Branch Chief, Chief of Operations for the Joint Operations Center, and Director J7 Training and Exercises. From 2011 to 2012, he served as the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing Standards Officer, and deployed to Afghanistan as the Assistant Wing Commander for 2d MAW (FWD) HQ for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM 13. In June 2013 he was assigned as Deputy Director for Operations in the National Military Command Center, J3, Joint Staff.

Brigadier General Iams attended and graduated from Amphibious Warfare School in 1993; the Weapons and Tactics Instructor course in 1995; the Air Force Air Command and Staff College in 2000; the US Army War College in 2006; and the Armed Forces Staff College in 2009. He was designated a Joint Qualified Officer in 2009. He holds a Bachelor's degree in General Engineering (Space Systems) and Master's degrees in Military Arts and Science and Strategic Studies.

Brigadier General Iams has over 3800 hours in tactical aircraft, and has flown over 500 combat hours on over 270 combat missions. His personal decorations include: The Defense Superior Service Medal with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster; The Legion of Merit; The Bronze Star with Gold Star; The Meritorious Service Medal; The Air Medal with Gold Star, Combat "V", and 18 Strike Flight Awards; The Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal with 2 Gold Stars and Combat "V"; and The Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal.





# OKTOBERFEST

On October 19, Council members once again joined with Fort Lauderdale Council members for our annual Oktoberfest celebration. The event was held at the Lauderdale Yacht Club where everyone enjoyed a great evening of German food, beer and music. In addition to Navy League members, several military guest attended including Captain Austin Gould and LT Mark Ketchum of the Coast Guard. Representing Navy Recruiting District Miami was CDR Delmy Robin and Petty Officer Thorne. Also in attendance from Marine Forces South was Col Michael Farrell and LtCol Reyes Rivas. Special guests were Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton!





# WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

In 2007, the Worcester family, along with veterans and others who had helped with their annual Christmas wreath ceremony in Arlington, formed Wreaths Across America. This nonprofit organization continues the Arlington tradition as part of its mission to Remember, Honor and Teach. Wreaths Across America needs your help to reach their goal of placing wreaths on veterans' graves. Every time you help them honor our veterans and active military, you are also honoring their families and preparing a new How can you help? It's simple. Your gift of \$15 equals a wreath that will be placed on the grave of a fallen hero. Visit [wreathscrossamerica.org](http://wreathscrossamerica.org) to get more information and to purchase wreaths on-line. If you prefer, you may mail a check to Wreaths Across America, P O Box 249, Columbia Falls ME 04623.

When making payment, please be sure to indicate either location FLFLMP so the wreaths are delivered to Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in Pompano Beach or location FLSFNL so the wreaths are delivered to South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth.

## RECOGNITION

On November 2, Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Board Member Alan Starr made a presentation to Enlisted Person of the Quarter YN1 Akane Chapman at Coast Guard Station Air Station.



## ADOPTION

The Council is pleased to announce that we have submitted the official paperwork to adopt the US Coast Guard Cutter Margaret Norvell, homeported in Miami. As one of our adopted units, the Council will honor its sailors and provide financial support to its MWR fund. Commanding Officer LT Brittany Panetta has expressed an interest in partnering with the Council on future events.

The fast response cutter Coast Guard Cutter Margaret Norvell was commissioned in New Orleans in June 2013. The cutter is the first in its class to be named after a Coast Guard heroine - Margaret "Madge" Norvell. Norvell, a member of the U.S. Lighthouse Service, first served at the Head of Passes Light as an assistant keeper from 1891 to 1896. She was credited for numerous rescues during her time as keeper, maintaining a vigilant watch at the entrance of the Mississippi River. Her bravery as she pulled in shipwrecked sailors did not go unnoticed and she was soon appointed keeper of both Port Pontchartrain Light and West End Light. In the end, Norvell stood the watch for 41 years with the U.S. Lighthouse Service.

Commanding Officer Lieutenant Brittany Panetta is a 2009 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. LT Panetta has served onboard the USCGC VIGILANT (WMEC 617) and the USCGC NANTUCKET (WPB 1316). She also served as the Assistant Coast Guard Liaison Officer for the United States House of Representatives in Washington DC. She is a native of Miami and is married to Major Joseph Panetta, U.S. Army.



## DECEMBER EVENTS

On Sunday, December 4, Broward Navy Days will host the 75th commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The event takes place at 2:00 PM at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. As the number of survivors continues to dwindle, Broward Navy Days is dedicated to preserving the memory of the infamous attack that catapulted the United States into World War II. On December 7, 1941, the American Army and Navy base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii was attacked by the Imperial Japanese Navy. The attack came as a surprise and led to great losses of life and equipment. More than 2,000 American citizens were killed and more than 1,000 were injured. The Americans also lost a large proportion of their battle ships and nearly 200 aircraft that were stationed in the Pacific region. More than 60 Japanese servicemen were killed, injured or captured. The Japanese Navy also lost five midget submarines and 29 aircraft. The Japanese military had hoped that the attack on Pearl Harbor would prevent the United States from increasing her influence in the Pacific. However, the events in Pearl Harbor actually led to the escalation of World War II. The day after the attack, the United States declared war on Japan and so entered World War II.

On Monday, December 5, Naval Air Station Museum (NAS) Fort Lauderdale will host the 71st anniversary Flight 19 memorial ceremony. The event takes place at 1:00 PM at the Museum Building located at 4000 West Perimeter Road in Fort Lauderdale. Flight 19 is one of the great aviation mysteries and gave birth to the legend of the Bermuda Triangle. The Memorial Ceremony commemorates 14 crewmen from the 5 TBM Avenger airplanes and 13 crewmen from the Mariner rescue seaplane who all vanished on December 5, 1945. The ceremony is a public event held on the grounds of NAS Fort Lauderdale which is on the National Register of Historic Places and a Florida Heritage Site.

## VETERANS

Broward County recently decided to provide door-to-door transportation for veterans visiting the William "Bill" Kling VA Clinic through their program called TOPS! (Transportation Options). Veterans will need to register for the program and will get a personal ID number. Utilizing a toll-free phone number, they will be able to make reservations for their travel. There is a \$1.75 fee each way. Additional information and an application form can be found on Broward County's website ([Broward.org/bct](http://Broward.org/bct)) or by calling BCT Customer Service at 954-354-8400.

## 2017 COUNCIL OFFICERS

The following is the slate of Council Officers for 2017

President: Glenn Wiltshire

First Vice President: Erwin Sefton

Second Vice President: Marianne Giambrone

Vice President, Legislative Affairs: Robert Marks

Secretary: Shelley Beck

Treasurer: Tom Carney

JAG: No candidate

Elections will be held at the December dinner social. Members must be present to vote.

## NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Business card ads are available at a cost of \$125. The ad will appear 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 954-389-0545 or [giambronejm@gmail.com](mailto:giambronejm@gmail.com).

Larry M. Ott  
Funeral Director

**Kraeer-Fairchild  
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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**

# HONOR FLIGHT



On October 29, Council President Glenn Wiltshire participated in a trip to Washington DC as part of Honor Flight South Florida's mission to transport American veterans to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices. Glenn escorted Dr. Michael Lazzopina from Davie, who served as an Army Medic during World War II, then attended medical school and returned to active duty as a Navy doctor for two years during the Korean War to take care of Navy and Marine Corps members in North Carolina.

If you are interested in finding out how you can participate in a future Honor Flight or how you can volunteer, visit their website which is [honorflightsouthflorida.com](http://honorflightsouthflorida.com). You can also call them at 855-359-1838 or email them at [info@honorflightsouthflorida.org](mailto:info@honorflightsouthflorida.org) for additional information.

Honor Flight South Florida has set the dates for 2017: April 8, May 20, September 9 and October 28. To make an Honor Flight a memorable trip for each veteran, it takes hundreds of volunteers, working hundreds of hours to make it happen. From veteran recruiting efforts long before the flight, managing the veteran and guardian flight manifests, to organizing mail call, to fundraising for the flights themselves, it takes a wide spread of volunteer talent, determination and working together as a team for the good of a common goal, and that is to honor these true American hero veterans with a "trip of a lifetime. We need assistance with all the necessary preparations for the 2017 flight schedule.

Whether it's hour a week, or perhaps more to dedicate to a great cause, it will touch your heart and soul. Enlist today in the Honor Flight South Florida Volunteer Corps and start your journey to honor these men and women who sacrificed to preserve our freedoms. It is truly remarkable to be a part of something really special. Make a difference in a Veteran's life. Help us say "thanks for your service to our country" in a very special way, with a trip of a lifetime.

# LOCAL DUES

The local dues notice/request for donations is included in this newsletter. The Council depends on these funds which directly support Council activities including support of our local military units. The Council only receives a small rebate from your national dues but is able to utilize 100% of the local dues you pay. Please help the Council continue with our activities and more by sending payment of local dues.

Examples of Council activities:

Support of our adopted units: USS Bataan, USS Leyte Gulf, USCG Air Station Miami, USCGC Robert Yered, USCGC Margaret Norvell, Naval Operations Support Center (NOSC), Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale, Aids to Navigation (ANT) and TACLET South. This includes recognition of outstanding achievements (i.e. sailor/enlisted person of the quarter) and financial support as requested by the individual unit.

Support of local Coast Guard units: Station Fort Lauderdale, USCGC Gannett, Aids to Navigation, Air Station Miami, USCGC Robert Yered, USCGC Margaret Norvell. This includes our annual Easter egg hunt/BBQ and holiday party

Support of Sea Cadets: Zeus Division of the Naval Sea Cadets are provided financial support. Teddy Roosevelt medals are presented to outstanding cadets.

Support of Fleet Week: Council members volunteer and are able to participate at various events which include welcome reception, ship visits, junior officers' party, and golf outing. Council hosts a junior officers' party.

Support of our adopted JROTC units: Cooper City High School, Flanagan High School, NOVA High School, Stranahan High School, and Taravella High School. The Navy League's Teddy Roosevelt medal is presented to outstanding junior cadets at each school.

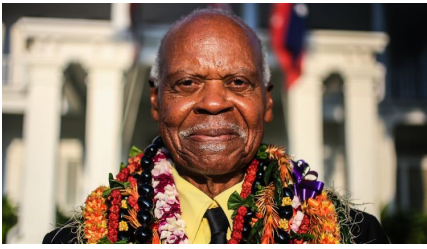
Support of visiting military vessels: Council greets each visiting military vessel and hosts All Hands Parties for the crews. Ship tours and onboard receptions are arranged when possible.

Dinner Socials: Council provides guest speakers who will share information on issues affecting the Sea Services. This is a great opportunity to interact with other Navy Leaguers and military personnel.





# SEA SERVICE NEWS



Known more professionally for his work involving the eradication of fruit flies, Dr. Ernest James Harris, Jr. received the highest civilian award in the United

States for his contributions as a Marine. U.S. Marine Brig. Gen. Brian W. Cavanaugh, deputy commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, presented Dr. Harris with his Congressional Gold Medal at Washington Place in Honolulu on November 12. In 2011, President Barack Obama signed into law the legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Point Marines. This award recognizes Montford Point Marines' contributions to the Marine Corps and the United States of America from 1942 to 1949, during a time of hardship and segregation. The opportunity for African-Americans to enlist in the Marine Corps came in 1941. A year later, they began their training at Camp Montford Point, North Carolina, during a time and place where racism and segregation were a part of everyday life. Despite segregation of the Montford Point Marines, they had excellent performance during Peleliu, Iwo Jima, the Chosen Reservoir, and in Vietnam.



In early November, the Coast Guard offloaded approximately 350 kilograms of seized cocaine from the Coast Guard Cutter Richard Etheridge at Coast Guard Base Miami Beach.

During an Operation patrol on October 27, a Joint Interagency Task Force South marine patrol aircraft detected a go-fast vessel suspected of smuggling contraband in the Caribbean Sea. The Royal Fleet Auxiliary Wave Knight and an embarked Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment diverted to intercept the vessel. The RFA Wave Knight crew launched a helicopter and a smallboat with a Coast Guard LEDET aboard and boarded the go-fast, detained five suspected smugglers and seized 14 bales of contraband, which later tested positive for cocaine. The contraband and suspected smugglers were turned over to federal law enforcement officials in Miami. The drugs have an estimated wholesale value of \$11.6 million. The Coast Guard Cutter Richard Etheridge is a 154-foot fast response cutter homeported in Miami. The RFA Wave Knight is a 645-foot fast fleet tanker of the United Kingdom.



On November 9, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus announced that the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, DDG 121, will be named Frank E. Petersen Jr., in honor of the Marine Corps lieutenant general who was the first African-American Marine Corps aviator and the first African-American Marine Corps general officer. In 1950, two years after President Harry S. Truman desegregated the armed forces, Petersen enlisted in the Navy. In 1952,

Petersen was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He would go on to fly 350 combat missions during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He also went on to become the first African-American in the Marine Corps to command a fighter squadron, an air group and a major base. Petersen retired from the Marine Corps in 1988 after 38 years of service. At the time of his retirement he was, by date of designation, the senior-ranking aviator in the Marine Corps and the United States Navy. Petersen died last year at his home in Stevensville, Maryland, at the age of 83.



On November 22, Rear Admiral Grace Hopper (posthumous) was one of 21 recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the Nation's highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or

other significant public or private endeavors. White House on November 22nd. Rear Admiral Grace Hopper, known as "Amazing Grace" and "the first lady of software," was at the forefront of computers and programming development from the 1940s through the 1980s. Hopper's work helped make coding languages more practical and accessible, and she created the first compiler, which translates source code from one language into another. She taught mathematics as an associate professor at Vassar College before joining the United States Naval Reserve as a lieutenant (junior grade) during World War II, where she became one of the first programmers of the Harvard Mark I computer and began her lifelong leadership role in the field of computer science.





**BROWARD COUNTY FLORIDA COUNCIL  
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**

**2017 LOCAL MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL  
AND  
REQUEST FOR DONATIONS**

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**LOCAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2017:**

<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>\$35</b>	<b>HUSBAND/WIFE</b>	<b>\$65</b>
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If you would like to make a donation, please indicate amount \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to Broward County Council Navy League or "BCNL"**

**Mail to:** Broward County Council Navy League  
P O Box 39252  
Fort Lauderdale FL 33339-9252

# COAST GUARD JUNIOR OFFICERS



On November 17, female Junior Officers from Sector Miami, U.S. Coast Guard Southeast, U.S. Coast Guard Base Miami Beach and U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Miami spent some time with Vice Admiral Sally Brice-O'Hara (ret.) at the Coast Guard Foundation tribute to the 7th District dinner. The Coast Guard Foundation strives to help Coast Guard men and women strengthen their service to our nation by encouraging them to excel, on duty and off.

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

