



# THE HELMSMAN

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

Glenn Wiltshire, President  
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

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Volume 27 Issue 2

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

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## FEBRUARY EVENT

Dinner Meeting  
Thursday, February 11, 2016

Cocktail hour 6:30pm Dinner 7:15 pm

Tropical Acres Restaurant  
2500 Griffin Road  
Fort Lauderdale

Guest Speaker

Commander Michael S. Freddie  
Commanding Officer, TACLET South  
United States Coast Guard

Dinner Selections  
Prime Rib  
Baked Boston Scrod

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

Please RSVP your dinner choice  
on or before February 5  
by e-mailing [browardnavyleague@gmail.com](mailto:browardnavyleague@gmail.com)  
or  
calling Joan at 561-336-3610



## ADOPTION

During the installation of Council officers aboard the Regal Princess on January 10, the Council officially adopted Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. The Council and the Station have had a great relationship for many years but this formal agreement will serve to enhance that relationship. The Council will also be adopting the ANT (Aids to Navigation Team) which is located at Station Fort Lauderdale in the near future.

Below are photos showing Lt Mark Ketchum, Commanding Officer and LTJG Jessica Shafer, Executive Officer of the Station with Council President Glenn Wiltshire during the adoption ceremony.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the officers and Board of Directors, our thanks to those who joined us for our Installation of Officers Luncheon aboard the REGAL PRINCESS on Sunday, January 10th. CAPT Mike Long, Deputy Commander of Coast Guard Sector Miami, served as our guest speaker and administered the oath to our officers, who are continuing on from last year. Since both LT Mark Ketchum and LTJG Jessica Shafer also attended, we also took the opportunity to sign the official adoption document for Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. Our thanks to Princess Cruises for once again donating the lunch, which allows us to use the proceeds from the luncheon to support our adopted unit and youth programs.

Larry Ott and I also represented the Council at the Change of Command Ceremony at the US Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) on January 14th to welcome Admiral Kurt Tidd as the new SOUTHCOM Commander and to wish General John Kelly the best in his retirement after serving our country since the early 1970's. It's not often that both Secretary of Defense Ash Carter and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Marine Corps General Joseph Dunford, attend such events, and very fitting to bid farewell to General Kelly and welcome Admiral Tidd.

January also brought the start of planning meetings for Fleet Week 2016, with four US Navy ship and one or two Coast Guard cutters expected to participate from May 2-May 9, 2016. The "fleet" will be led by our own adopted unit the USS BATAAN, which we haven't seen in Port Everglades in many years. Erwin Sefton and I separately met with the BATAAN's Liaison Office, LCDR Bradly Slaughter, while he was here, and will be working on a separate event on the BATAAN exclusively for Council members during Fleet Week. Come on out to the two remaining planning meetings scheduled for February 24th and March 23rd at 9 AM in the Port Everglades Administration Building Auditorium if you want to be involved as well. Our Council will also be selling soda and water during Fleet Week and we'll need to identify volunteers to help with that as the date gets closer.

Our February dinner meeting will be on Thursday, February 11th at Tropical Acres. Our guest speaker will be CDR Michael Freddie, Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Tactical Law Enforcement Team (TACLET) South, located as a tenant command at Air Station Miami at Opa Locka. The TACLET provides law enforcement detachment teams that deploy on US Navy and other foreign naval vessels throughout the world to provide a unique capability to extend the US maritime law enforcement authority throughout the world to fight the shipment of illegal drugs. I hope that you will join us to hear about what the men and women assigned to TACLET South are doing every day to keep us safe and secure.

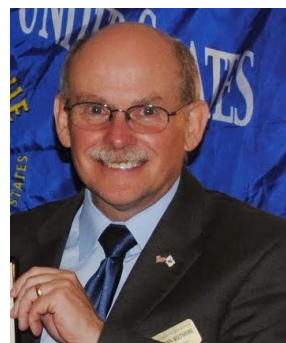
Looking forward to March, please ensure that you have Saturday, March 19th on your calendar. That's the date for our annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. I know that Shelley Beck will need some assistance as she organizes another great event for our Coast Guard families.

Although previously announced to not go into effect until Spring 2016, the new dues structure is now in effect. The cost of an annual membership has been reduced to \$55 (from \$65), and a new eMembership category is available for \$25 annually that will not include receiving a paper copy of the Sea Power magazine. There has been some confusion since previous categories of membership such as husband and wife have been eliminated. The new fees will not apply until your current membership expires, but for those that currently have husband and wife memberships that are expiring, I recommend signing up one spouse as a regular member and the other as an eMember so both stay as members.

We're also still working on scheduling adoption ceremonies for Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale, Aids to Navigation Team Fort Lauderdale, and Coast Guard Tactical Law Enforcement Team South in Opa Locka at those units, and will send out separate notices and let you know when those are confirmed.

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



## GUEST SPEAKER



**Commander Michael S. Fredie  
Commanding Officer, TACLET South  
United States Coast Guard**

CDR Michael Fredie was born and raised in Hingham, MA and graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1996. Upon graduation, CDR Fredie was assigned to CGC MELLON (WHEC- 717) based in Seattle, WA and served as the Combat Information Center Officer, Underway Deck Watch Officer, In-port Officer of the Day and Boarding Officer.

Following assignment aboard CGC MELLON, CDR Fredie served at USCG Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team (PACTACLET) based in San Diego, CA as Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) 104.

In addition to five counter narcotics deployments aboard USN warships patrolling the Eastern Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea, CDR Fredie led operations for LEDET 104 in the Arabian Gulf and served as the Assistant Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet. Following his LEDET assignment, CDR Fredie served as Officer-in-Charge of the Pacific Area Deployable Pursuit Boat (DPB) Program's Team Gold, managing 17 personnel and two high speed intercept craft attached to USNS VINDICATOR for operations to combat the go-fast threat on the high seas. CDR Fredie was then assigned to the USCG International Training Division (ITD) based in Yorktown, VA and served as a Deployable Team Leader, Law Enforcement Instructor and Technical Advisor for Long-Term Training Team deployments to Bolivia and Peru, and for Short-Term Training missions to Tunisia, Gabon and Denmark.

Following ITD, CDR Fredie served as Operations Officer and Navigator aboard CGC RELIANCE (WMEC-615 "First in the Fleet") based in Portsmouth, NH splitting patrols between the waters of CG District 1, CG District 5, CG District 7 and the JIATF-South AOR. Following assignment aboard RELIANCE, CDR Fredie served as the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Government of the Bahamas and the Islands of the Turks & Caicos, working directly for CG District 7 and the U.S. Embassy in the Bahamas.

CDR Fredie was then assigned as Executive Officer, USCG Tactical Law Enforcement Team South (TACLET SOUTH) based in Opa Locka. Following TACLET SOUTH, CDR Fredie was assigned to Officer Personnel Management Assignments Branch (OPM-2), based in Arlington, VA at USCG Personnel Service Center (PSC) to serve as the Special and Support Assignments Officer. CDR Fredie most recently served as Chief, Career Management Branch (OPM-4) also at PSC.

CDR Fredie's military awards include 5 Coast Guard Commendation Medals, 3 Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbons, the CG Overseas Ribbon, 3 Meritorious Team Commendation Ribbons, the Coast Guard Cutterman Insignia and the Tactical Law Enforcement Insignia.

## FLEET WEEK

The first planning meeting for Fleet Week 2016 was held on January 13 at the Port Everglades Administration Building.

Fleet Week will be held from May 2 - May 9, 2016 and the USS Bataan, one of the Council's adopted ship, will be participating. As in the past, there will be numerous events that the Navy League members and the general public can attend. The week will kick off with the All Hands on Deck Welcoming Party and the Council will once again host the Junior Officers Party. Specific information about all the events open to the public as well as volunteer opportunities will be made available as soon as it has been finalized.

Registration for ship tours should be available on the Broward Navy Days website in early March. We will let you know via email, the newsletter and the Council website when it is available. You can also register your email address with Broward Navy Days so that you get information directly from them. Their website is [browardnavydaysinc.org](http://browardnavydaysinc.org).

NOTE: The 48-page Fleet Week Port Everglades 2015 program is available for download. Read about the visiting ships, flag officers and many activities during Fleet Week 2015. To download the program, visit the Broward Navy Days website.

# INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS

Once again, Princess Cruises provided the Council with a beautiful venue to hold our installation of officers. On January 10, Council members and guests boarded the Regal Princess for a great day of socializing and enjoying cocktails and lunch. The day began in the Vista Lounge where the guests enjoyed cocktails and socialized. The Spruance Division Sea Cadets presented the colors and Father Ron Perkins, Chaplain of Seafarers House, gave the invocation. Jenny Caesar of Congresswoman Lois Frankel's office read a message from the Congresswoman and presented a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition to Council President Glenn Wiltshire. Glenn introduced guest speaker Captain Michael Long USCG who addressed the group and also swore in the 2016 officers. Guests then went down one deck to the beautiful Allegro dining room where they were served a delicious 3-course meal along with wine. Many guests made time to walk around the ship and view the various areas before disembarking.



Spruance Division Sea Cadets presented colors



Father Ron Perkins



Jenny Caesar with President Glenn Wiltshire



Captain Michael Long USCG, guest speaker, is presented with Certificate of Appreciation by President Glenn Wiltshire



# INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS



## CG AIR STATION MIAMI

Our Council was proud to recognize the achievements of the Enlisted Person of the Quarter at Coast Guard Air Station Miami. On January 4, Council President Glenn Wiltshire presented AMT2 Jonathon Ruelle with a certificate of accomplishment and monetary award.

Shown in the photo are Captain Todd W. Lutes, MCPO Thomas M. Beaudry and AMT2 Jonathon Ruelle along with Council President Glenn Wiltshire.



## CHANGE OF COMMAND

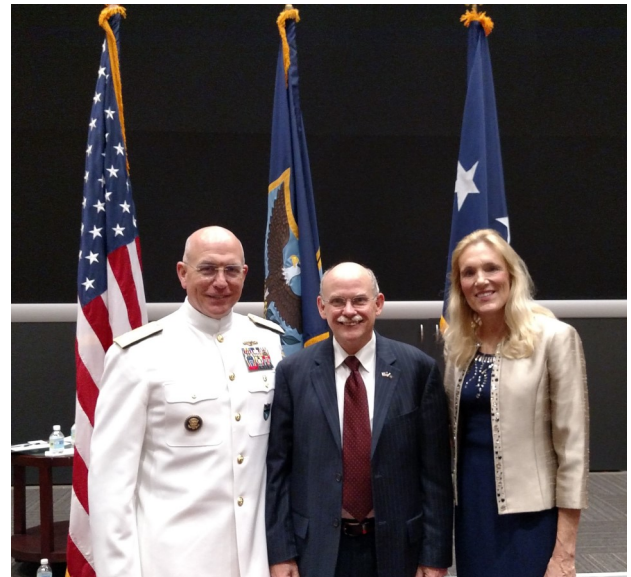
On January 14, the U S Southern Command held a change of command ceremony at which time ADM Kurt Tidd relieved GEN John Kelly as SOUTHCOM Commander. Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Board Member Larry Ott represented the Council at the event.

The following is an excerpt from an article that appeared on the Southcom website.

Navy Adm. Kurt W. Tidd took command of U.S. Southern Command during a ceremony at Southcom's headquarters on January 14, succeeding Marine Corps Gen. John F. Kelly, who is retiring after four decades of service. Defense Secretary Ash Carter and Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presided over the ceremony. Southcom, which is responsible for U.S. military operations in Central and South America and the Caribbean, has an area of responsibility of more than 16 million square miles.

Carter and Dunford each praised Kelly's decades of service and welcomed Tidd in his new role, noting that both men are exceptional military leaders who have made extraordinary contributions to the nation. Tidd said he looks forward to working with the personnel at the command, the command's interagency partners and regional allies. Tidd previously served as the assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and commanded U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet. Afloat, he commanded Carrier Strike Group 8 aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower during a combat deployment in support of coalition forces in Operation Enduring Freedom. Kelly, who became Southcom's commander in November 2012, said it was a great honor to serve with a command that has such a wide and deep mission. He lauded the dedication and hard work of the civilians and military personnel who build those important relationships and partnerships in region, working as diplomats, social developers, human rights advocates, and economic developers.

Shown in photo below is Council President Glenn Wiltshire with ADM and Mrs. Kurt Tidd



Shown in photo below are RADM Scott Buschman, Larry Ott and RDML Melissa Bert



# AMAZON SMILE

In 2015, the Council was able to benefit from members who used AmazonSmile for their on-line shopping. Those members registered the Council's name in AmazonSmile and shopped as they usually did - the only difference is that the Council received a rebate based on the amount of their purchases. We are hoping in 2016 that more members will begin doing their on-line shopping on AmazonSmile. Please see the information below regarding the program..

Amazon has created AmazonSmile which is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Council every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the Council.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible. You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

The Council is officially registered to receive rebate donations; the link is: [smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0179407](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0179407). You can also find the link on the Council's website ([bcnavyleague.org](http://bcnavyleague.org)) or you can select Navy League of the US - Broward County Florida Council on smile.amazon.com. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations.



# NAVY LEAGUE NEWS

The Navy League's Sea-Air-Space Exposition brings the U.S. defense industrial base, private-sector U.S. companies and key military decision makers together for an annual innovative, educational, professional and maritime based event. Sea-Air-Space is now the largest maritime exposition in the U.S. and continues as an invaluable extension of the Navy League's mission of maritime policy education and sea service support. The Sea-Air-Space Exposition will continue to support the mission of the Navy League and lead the way as "THE" Exposition to attend each year to display the most current information and technology relevant to maritime policy.

The Sea-Air-Space Exposition will be held from May 16-18, 2016 at the Gaylord Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland. There is no charge to attend the exposition for Active Duty and Active Reserve U.S. Military, Retired U.S. Military and Navy League Members. For more information, visit [seair-space.org](http://seair-space.org).

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The Navy League Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2016-2017 academic year. The Navy League Foundation awards scholarships to high school seniors who will attend college in the fall. Navy League Foundation Scholarships are available only to children and grandchildren of former members of the Sea Services and those currently serving as well as members of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

The Navy League Foundation also manages the Alaska Sea Service Scholarship for the Naval Education & Training Command. Six \$1,000 scholarships are available. To apply, be sure to select Alaska as your state of legal residence. You will then be eligible to apply for the scholarship as well as be considered for the other Navy League Foundation scholarships.

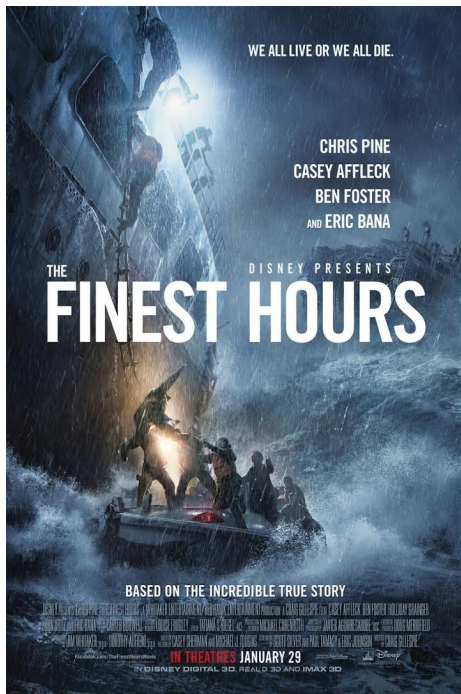
The application deadline is March 1, 2016. For more information, visit [www.navyleague.org/](http://www.navyleague.org/) scholarship. Interested students and families may contact Stacy McFarland at (703) 232-5595/(800) 356-5760; email: [smcfarland@navyleague.org](mailto:smcfarland@navyleague.org)

# THE FINEST HOURS

On January 20, Council members and friends were treated to a free 3D advance screening of Disney's Coast Guard rescue film THE FINEST HOURS, at the Regal Broward Westfield. The movie is based on the 2009 book by Casey Sherman and Michael J. Tougias. The movie tells the true story of the Pendleton rescue mission attempt in 1952 off the Cape Cod coast after two oil tankers, SS Fort Mercer and SS Pendleton, were destroyed by treacherous winter winds and waves. The crew of motor life boat CG 36500 - including Boatswain's Mate First Class Bernard C. Webber - and the crew of a surfboat from the USCGC Yakutat heroically rescued nearly all the tankers' crewmen. In addition to the movie, there was a special honoring ceremony for local heroes in attendance (coast guard, first-responders, military veterans, and more). The movie was released in theaters on January 29 and we encourage you to go see it.

Thanks to Arthur at Florida Screenings for issuing the invitation.

The USCGC Bernard C. Webber, one of the new Coast Guard Fast Response Cutters, was commissioned on April 14, 2012 in Miami, where it is currently stationed.



# 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	
<b>Kraeer-Fairchild Funeral Home and Cremation Center</b> 4061 North Federal Highway Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308 954-565-5591 Fax 954-565-7899 <a href="mailto:larry.ott@sci-us.com">larry.ott@sci-us.com</a>	<b>BCNL Member Discount with this ad</b>

# NEW NATIONAL DUES

Listed below are all the membership categories currently being offered by the Navy League and the new dues amount. Membership in the Navy League of the United States is a requirement for membership in the Broward County Council.

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1-year Regular (single) membership  | \$ 55   |
| 1-year Regular (single) e-membership  | \$ 25   |
| (does not include a subscription to the Navy League's SEAPOWERS magazine/almanac) |         |
| 2-year Regular (single) membership  | \$100   |
| 3-year Regular (single) membership  | \$130   |
| 4-year Regular (single) membership  | \$180   |
| 5-year Regular (single) membership  | \$225   |
| Life membership (person up to age 55)   | \$1,000 |
| Life membership (persons between ages 56-75)                                      | \$750   |
| Life membership (persons age 76 and above)  | \$500   |

As noted in the Council President's message on page 2, there is no longer a husband/wife membership category. The new fees will not apply until your current membership expires.



# SEA SERVICE NEWS



The Navy and Marine Corps RQ-21A Blackjack unmanned aircraft system has been declared operational. Initial operational capability means the first Marine Blackjack squadron is ready for deployment. Squadron VMU-2 will be assigned to support the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit based in Cherry Point, North Carolina. The first shipboard deployment is slated for this summer, according to a Naval Air Systems Command announcement. The 8-foot-long Blackjack, which has an endurance of 10 to 12 hours, has been tested in Afghanistan. Each Blackjack system comprises five air vehicles, two ground control systems, and launch and recovery support equipment.

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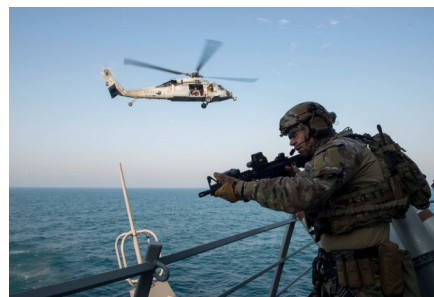
Lt. Alyson Brinker, assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25, recently won the Richard E. Luehrs Memorial Award as the 2015 top junior operational flight surgeon of the year for the Navy and Marine Corps. The award recognizes first- or second-tour Navy flight surgeons at the rank of lieutenant or lieutenant commander who

demonstrate outstanding operational aviation medicine practices, leadership qualities, dedication, initiative and resourcefulness within their operational forces. Brinker is the primary care manager for the largest helicopter squadron in the Pacific, vetting more than 30 medical evacuation cases, conducting more than 50 rescues, and providing aid to a dozen critically wounded patients during search-and-rescue (SAR) operations in 2015. She is also HSC-25's acting preventative health and occupational health director, conducting all required occupational physicals and completing more than 300 flight physicals across all branches of service. Aside from her work with the squadron, she currently serves as the acting regional flight surgeon for the South Pacific region and provides flight duty medical examinations and physicals for the Guam Army National Guard's Det. 2 Delta Co. 1-224th Aviation Medevac Unit, which recently earned her an Army Commendation Medal



The U.S. National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. announced commitments of over \$4 million in pledges from private and corporate sponsors during a special event at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. The pledges for construction of America's first National Coast Guard Museum were announced as President George H. W. Bush and other noted supporters from across the country hosted an advanced screening of Walt Disney Pictures' production of "The Finest Hours." The museum, which is now in the pre-construction design phase, will be a celebration of the Coast Guard's 225 years of service to the country, a salute to the courage and skill of its dedicated men and women, and a glimpse into its exciting and vital future. The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. is continuing its work to raise funds from private and corporate donations for construction of the \$100 million National Coast Guard Museum on the historic waterfront in downtown New London, Connecticut.

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Coast Guardsmen assigned to Commander, Task Force (CTF) 55 conducts a visit, board, search and seizure demonstration aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59)

during a bilateral exercise with the Iraqi Navy. CTF 55 controls surface forces such as U.S. Navy patrol craft and U.S. Coast Guard patrol boats throughout the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.



Culinary Specialists from the Hampton Roads Virginia area prepared food for the annual "Best of the Mess" competition. The competition was held to supplement the Chief Petty Officers Association scholarship fund. USS Bataan's team finished third overall in the competition.

Shown on the left is Captain John Carter, Commanding Officer. The USS Bataan is one of the Council's adopted ships and is scheduled to visit Port Everglades during Fleet Week 2016.

# COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



LEFT TO RIGHT: Alan Starr, George Reeves, Wayne McLaren, Joe Giambrone, Bob Marks, Charlie Schmidt, Tom Carney, Larry Ott, Shelley Beck, Glenn Wiltshire, Marianne Giambrone and guest speaker Captain Mike Long.. Nancy Lindberg is in front row. Board member Erwin Sefton is not included.

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