



THE HELMSMAN

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

Glenn Wiltshire, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

JANUARY 2017
Volume 28 Issue 1

www.bcnavyleague.org

browardnavyleague@gmail.com

JANUARY DINNER SOCIAL



Thursday, January 12, 2017

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
33312

PROGRAM:

LT Brittany Panetta
Commanding Officer
USCGC Margaret Norvell
(Council's recently adopted ship)

Cocktail hour 6:30pm Dinner 7:15 pm

Choice of:
Prime Rib of Beef
Salmon

Members and Guests - \$35
Active Military and Spouses: \$25

Please RSVP your dinner choice on
or before January 6 by
e-mailing browardnavyleague@gmail.com or
calling Joan at 561-336-3610

COAST GUARD HOLIDAY EVENT

On Friday, December 2, Broward Navy Days and Fort Lauderdale Council joined Broward County Council in hosting the annual Coast Guard Holiday Party. The event was held at Briny's Riverfront Restaurant where all guests were able to enjoy a delicious buffet. There was a great turnout of Coast Guard personnel; all local units were invited including Station Fort Lauderdale, Aids to Navigation-Fort Lauderdale, Air Station Miami, TACLET South, USCGC Gannet, Robert Yered WPC 1104, Richard Etheridge WPC 1102 and Margaret Norvell WPC 1105.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My thanks to all that were able to make it to the joint dinner held with the Fort Lauderdale Council on December 21st, where we heard MARFORSOUTH Commander Brigadier General Kevin Iiams speak about the many different missions that the Marines are performing in the SOUTHCOM Area of Responsibility. We also held our annual elections at that meeting, so congratulations to all of the elected officers who have agreed to stay on for another year in 2017. The Fort Lauderdale Council also held their elections and installation of officers, and congratulations are in order for their new Council President, Abiud Montes, and all of their newly elected officers. I also wish to extend a special thanks to Oscar Romano for all of his accomplishments while serving as President of the Fort Lauderdale Council for the past 18 months. We have worked very closely together to ensure that we collectively provide support from the Navy League to all of the sea services in the region.

Thanks as well to those who were able to attend our annual Coast Guard Unit Holiday party at Briny's on December 2nd. We had a good turnout of unit representatives, and I received many positive comments and thanks from those that were able to make it. A number of Council members were also in attendance at the annual Pearl Harbor Day ceremony hosted by Broward Navy Days on December 4th at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. A special thanks to Council Board member Senior Chief Alan Starr for all of his efforts to make the ceremony such a success. Our next Council event will be our January dinner meeting at Tropical Acres on Thursday, January 12th at 6:30 PM. Our guest speaker will be Lieutenant Brittany Panetta, the Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Fast Response Cutter USCGC MARGARET NORVELL. LT Panetta will be filling us in on all of the great things that our newest adopted unit is doing to keep South Florida safe and secure, so I hope to see a large turnout of our members. I also hope to have the newest Enlisted Person of the Quarter from Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale attend, as well as Station XO Jessica Shafer, who will be promoted to Lieutenant on January 6, 2017.

As most of you know, January is when we normally hold our annual Installation Luncheon aboard a Princess cruise ship, however due to changes in personnel and policies by Princess it is more difficult to obtain approval for a luncheon aboard a ship. We are still working on getting something set up for February, and will let you know when we get more information.

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 at 9 AM on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, in the Port Everglades Administration Building Auditorium. The US Navy is planning to send more ships our way this year and along with the US Coast Guard and a Royal Canadian Navy ship scheduled to participate we may

have eight ships in port. 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 Holidays, and on behalf of the Council Board we wish you a safe, healthy, and prosperous 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

JANUARY GUEST SPEAKER



Lieutenant Brittany Panetta is the Commanding Officer of the USCGC MARGARET NORVELL (WPC 1105). She is a 2009 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Management.

LT Panetta served as the Deck Watch Officer and First Lieutenant onboard USCGC VIGILANT (WMEC 617), homeported in Cape Canaveral, Florida from 2009 to 2011.

LT Panetta then transferred to CGC NANTUCKET (WPB 1316), homeported in St. Petersburg, Florida where she served as Executive Officer until 2013. While onboard NANTUCKET, she assisted in the disestablishment of the D7 High-Tempo High-Maintenance (HTHM) Patrol boat program, completed over \$3.1M worth of cutter maintenance, and oversaw the interdiction and humanitarian care of more than 350 illegal immigrants.

In July 2013, LT Panetta reported to Washington D.C. as the Assistant Coast Guard Liaison Officer for the United States House of Representatives. In this capacity, she worked to advance Coast Guard legislative priorities, including passage of two authorization Acts and Appropriations Acts for fiscal years 2014-2016. She also played a key role in promoting the visibility and understanding of Coast Guard programs, missions, and priorities in Congress.

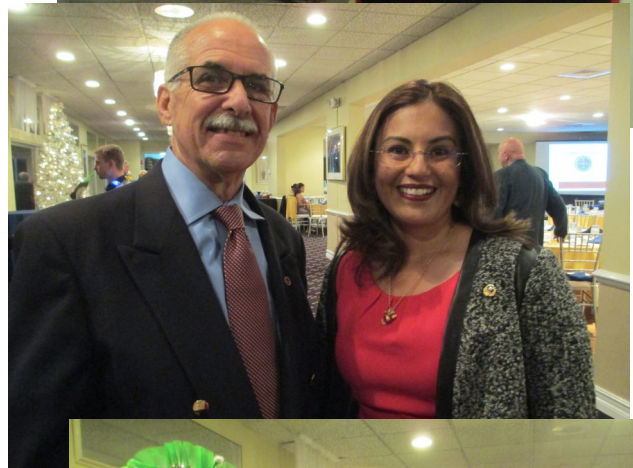
LT Panetta's personal awards include the Coast Guard Commendation Medal and Coast Guard Achievement Medal, with Operational Distinguishing Devices.

LT Panetta is a native of Miami and is married to Major Joseph Panetta, U.S. Army.



DECEMBER SOCIAL

On Wednesday, December 21, Council members joined Fort Lauderdale Council for a dinner social at Coral Ridge Yacht Club. Brigadier General Kevin Iiams of U.S. Marine Corps Forces, South served as guest speaker (he is shown below with outgoing Fort Lauderdale Council President Oscar Romano). Fort Lauderdale Council swore in their 2017 Council officers; congratulations to new President Abiud Montes.



ANNUAL COAST GUARD HOLIDAY EVENT

Here are some of the folks that enjoyed the annual Coast Guard holiday event.



RECOGNITION

On December 14, Council President Glenn Wiltshire made a presentation to the Enlisted Person of the Quarter from our adopted ship, USCGC ROBERT YERED. SN Tashina Gonzales was presented with a certificate of achievement and a monetary award and is shown in the photo to the right of Council President Glenn Wiltshire. Also in the photo are the YERED's Executive Officer LTJG Belveal (far right) and Chief Farmer (far left).



SHOEBOX PROGRAM

Each year, thousands of mariners arrive in Port Everglades on cargo ships and tankers. Seafarers' House's Shoebox Program ensures that these mariners feel the holiday spirit while they are away from their families. Board members Joe Giambrone, Marianne Giambrone and Larry Ott have been serving as volunteers for this program for several years. Marianne spends time wrapping shoeboxes and filling them with personal care items. Joe coordinates the schedules of the numerous volunteers who deliver the filled boxes to visiting ships. Larry delivers the boxes to the ships. Below are photos taken during one of Larry's ship visits.



On December 19, Board Member Senior Chief Alan Starr made a presentation to the Enlisted Persons of the Quarter from our adopted unit, TACLET South. ME1 Ryan Scullin and ME2 Eric Spier were presented with certificates of achievement and monetary awards and are shown in the photo with Senior Chief Starr.



COUNCIL NEWS

The following individuals were elected at the December 2016 dinner social as the Council Officers for 2017. Thanks to all for agreeing to serve another term.

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

The Board of Directors approved the following dates for Council events for 2017. These dates are subject to change so please check your email or your Council's website or Facebook page.

Events

January 12 - dinner social at Tropical Acres
February - to be announced
March 9 - dinner social
April 8 - Coast Guard Easter egg hunt & BBQ at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale
May 1 - 7 - Fleet Week
June 8 - dinner social
Sept 20 - Sea Cadet Night - joint meeting with Fort Lauderdale Council
October - Oktoberfest - details to be announced
November 9 - dinner social
December 14 - dinner social

Board Meetings

Any Council member interested in getting more involved is welcome to attend any board meeting. The meetings are held at the Port Everglades Administration Building starting at 6:30 PM and usually last no longer than 2 hours. The 2017 dates are:

January 9
February 6
March 6
April 3
April 24 (for May)
June 5
August 28 (for September)
October 2
November 6
December 4



WINGS OF FREEDOM

Four of the most famous WWII bomber and fighter aircraft will be visiting Pompano Beach and Boca Raton as part of the World War II "Wings of Freedom" Tour. Tours are available to view the restored aircraft - B25 Mitchell, B51 Mustang, B17 Flying Fortress and B24 Liberator. Flight experiences are also available; call 800-568-8924 for additional information. Aircraft will be at Pompano Beach Airpark from January 23-26 and at Boca Raton Airport from January 26 - 29. No reservations are needed for the walk through tours. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.



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.

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



**BCNL Member
Discount with
this ad**

PEARL HARBOR

On Sunday, December 4, Broward Navy Days hosted the 75th commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. Survivor Ed Hammond was on hand for the moving ceremony. Council board member Alan Starr served as the MC of the event. LT Mark Ketchum, Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale and Florida Representative George Moraitis made welcoming remarks; CDR Michael Fredie, Commanding Officer of TACLET South was the guest speaker. A wreath was placed into the water as Council member bagpiper Rob Latimer played *Amazing Grace* and *Going Home*.



Left: Ed Hammond

Middle photo (left to right) LT Ketchum, CDR Fredie, Representative Moraitis

Bottom photos: Rob Latimer and Alan Starr



FLIGHT 19 MEMORIAL

On Monday, December 5, Naval Air Station Museum (NAS) Fort Lauderdale hosted the 71st anniversary Flight 19 memorial ceremony. The event took place at the Museum Building located near the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport. The ceremony commemorated 14 crewmen from the 5 TBM Avenger airplanes and 13 crewmen from the Mariner rescue seaplane who all vanished on December 5, 1945.



Top: Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum
Center: Council Board Member Bob Marks
Bottom: Part of the standing room only crowd on hand for the memorial ceremony

Photos courtesy of Carolyn Burns. Additional photos posted on Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum's Facebook page

SEA SERVICE NEWS



The Coast Guard joined with officials from the Royal Canadian Navy on December 15 at Port Everglades to highlight what the agency called "one of the largest drug of-

floods" in its history. The operation filled most of the flight deck of the 418-foot Coast Guard Cutter Hamilton with more than three dozen pallets stacked with cocaine, seized during 27 vessel interdictions and five drug bale recovery operations in the eastern Pacific. "Today we'll be offloading 53,000 pounds. That's equivalent to about 24,000 kilograms of cocaine ... with an estimated wholesale value of \$715 million. That's probably equivalent to 2-plus billion on the streets of America," said Vice Adm. Karl Schultz, commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area. The amount of cocaine on the deck of the Hamilton was so massive that a crane was used to lower the drug-laden pallets to the dock.



This fiscal year Marines will receive smart phones that make calling for fire support easier, quicker and more accurate. The Target Handoff

System Version 2 is a portable system designed for use by dismounted Marines to locate targets, pinpoint global positioning coordinates and call for close air, artillery and naval fire support using secure digital communications. The system is an upgrade to the Corps' current Target Handoff System and is made up of a laser range finder, video down link receiver and a combat net radio. THS V.2 uses commercial off-the-shelf smartphones that reduce the system's total weight from roughly 20 to 10 pounds, making it easier to transport. It also features new, more intuitive software. Information is transmitted via an encrypted combat net radio, ensuring mission security.



Huntington Ingalls Industries' Ingalls Shipbuilding division was awarded a \$1.46 billion contract for the detail design and construction of the amphibious transport dock Fort Lauderdale

(LPD 28). The LPD 28 is named Fort Lauderdale to honor the Florida city's historic ties to the U.S. Navy, which date to the 1830s and include an important naval training center during World War II. The 684 foot long, 105 foot wide San Antonio class ships are a major part of the Navy's 21st century amphibious assault force.



On December 19, Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Paul Zukunft served as the keynote speaker for the First Flight Society's annual celebration at the Wright Brothers Memorial in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina. The ceremony marked the 113th anniversary of the Wright

brothers' first flight, commemorated 100 years of Coast Guard aviation and honored the service of two Coast Guard aviators, Capt. Frank Erickson and Cmdr. Stewart Graham. Erickson was the first Coast Guard helicopter pilot and was assigned to the service's first helicopter detachment. In the early 1940's, he trained over 100 U.S. and British service members to fly helicopters. Graham began his Coast Guard career as a surfman, but earned his wings as a naval pilot and underwent training to become the Coast Guard's second helicopter pilot. Graham completed the first helicopter take-off and landing on a vessel on the high seas. Erickson and Graham took part in the "Miracle at Gander" rescue in Gander, Newfoundland, 1946, when a passenger plane crashed in a remote location. They successfully rescued 18 passengers from the crash site and demonstrated the ability of helicopters to perform under such circumstances.



On December 15, Senator Thom Tillis of North Carolina visited our adopted ship USS Bataan. He is shown in the photo talking to dog handler, Cpl. Sunsette Winsler in the hangar bay.

The ship is underway with the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) participating in ARG/Marine Expeditionary Unit Exercise.



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

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

NAME: _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: HOME: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2017:

INDIVIDUALS	\$35	HUSBAND/WIFE	\$65
--------------------	-------------	---------------------	-------------

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

DECEMBER EVENTS



Coast Guard personnel at Briny's Irish Pub for the annual holiday event



Council Board Members Nancy Lindberg and Larry Ott at the December dinner social

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

