



THE HELMSMAN

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

Glenn Wiltshire, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

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EASTER EGG HUNT/BBQ

On Saturday, April 18, the Council hosted the annual US Coast Guard Easter Egg Hunt and BBQ at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. The weather was perfect for a day of fun for the children as they searched for plastic eggs, played in the bounce house, participated in the coloring contest and enjoyed face painting by Candy the Clown. Chefs Erwin Sefton and Charlie Schmidt handled the grill and made sure there was no shortage of hamburgers and hot dogs. Of course, the Easter Bunny made an appearance to the delight of many of the children. Special thanks to The Fitzgerald Group for sponsoring the event and to Shelley Beck, Council Secretary, for serving as the event coordinator. Thanks also to the crew of Station Fort Lauderdale and to all the Council volunteers.



Brad Fitzgerald and his son with Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Event Coordinator Shelley Beck



JUNE DINNER SOCIAL

Dinner Meeting
Thursday, June 8, 2017

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale

PROGRAM:

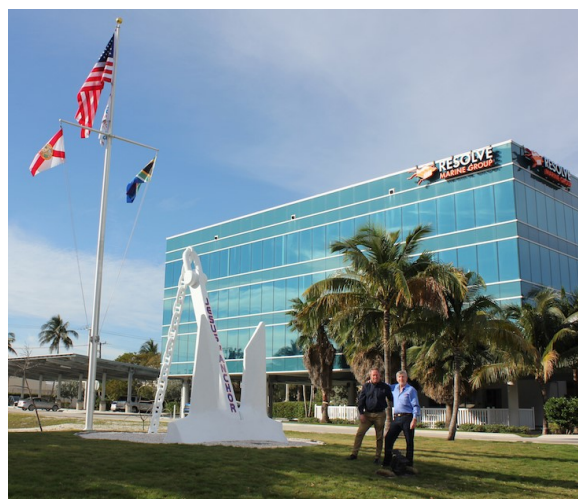
JOSEPH E. FARRELL JR
President & Chief Executive Officer
Resolve Marine Group

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 June 2 by e-mailing browardnavyleague@gmail.com or calling Joan at 561-336-3610



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's been a busy time since our last newsletter in early April. We started with our Council hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt for Coast Guard families at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale on Saturday, April 8th. Even though we had to delay the start of the hunt a little due to an accident that blocked much of I-595 eastbound that affected the arrival of the families, the weather cooperated and we had a great turnout. Shelley Beck did a great job coordinating the event, Charlie and Erwin once again tended the grill, and Marianne and I took care of eggs, games, and prizes. A special thanks to Brad Fitzgerald and the Fitzgerald Group for making a significant cash donation to defray the cost of the event,

That was followed soon thereafter by Fleet Week 2017. A last minute change in the Navy's ship deployment schedules resulted in the USS NEW YORK being the only Navy ship participating along with a contingent of US Marines from Camp Lejeune, but the Coast Guard stepped up and added the buoy tender USCGC JOSHUA APPLEBY along with the USCGC FORWARD and our own adopted unit Fast Response Cutter USCGC MARGARET NORVELL. From the "All Hands" opening ceremonies on May 1st, held this year on the Riverwalk in Esplanade Park in Downtown Fort Lauderdale, through the final events on May 6th, Broward County Council members stepped up and played key volunteer roles in the Broward Navy Days organization. While attendance was down at our Junior Officer Party at Briny's due to the reduction in ships, the Coast Guard JOs filled in and made it a great event. There was also an "upset" during the annual Resolve Marine Damage Control Olympics competition, where the crew of our own MARGARET NORVELL, the smallest unit in the competition, beat all competitors. Great job by LT Panetta and her crew. Finally, a number of our members assisted by volunteering to sell soda and water and Council coins during Fleet Week to raise additional funds for our programs. While the crowds of visitors were smaller, we were able to bring in over \$1,000 that will go to support our programs. A special thanks to Larry Ott and his employer for once again donating the soda and water along with others who donated supplies or their time and helped out at this and many other Fleet Week events.

Due to the Easter Egg Hunt and Fleet Week events, we did not hold our usual April and May dinners, but our final Council dinner before the summer break will be on Thursday, June 8th. Joe Farrell, CEO of Resolve Marine, will be our guest speaker. In addition to hearing about Joe's distinguished career in the marine salvage industry, he will also be filling us in on a recent special presentation he made to Senator McCain for his service aboard the USS ORISKANY during the Vietnam War. I look forward to a big turnout for this event.

While Council events will slow down for the summer months, we will be bidding farewell to the CO's/OINC at Changes of Command for four of our adopted units, starting with BMC Strobe at the Aids to Navigation Team on June 1st followed by LT Ketchum at Station Fort Lauderdale on June 16th, CDR Freddie at the TACLET South on July 7th, and CAPT Lutes at the Air Station on July 21st. We wish they and their families well as they move on to their next assignments, and welcome their reliefs into the Council family.

Joe and Marianne Giambrone will also represent us at the Navy League National Convention in Milwaukee in June. Joe has been nominated to continue as a National Director for the Navy League and also to serve as one of the National Vice Presidents, and Marianne will be present to accept our Distinguished Council award for 2016. That recognition only comes from the hard work of our Board and members, so as we get closer to 2018, it will be time to put together our slate of officers and Board for next year. Please let me know if you are interested in stepping up and taking a stronger role in our Council's leadership.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. 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



FLEET WEEK RECOGNITION

Fort Lauderdale Council hosted the Sea Services Enlisted Person of the Year Awards Banquet during Fleet Week. The event was held at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 and honored 22 sailors, Marines and Coastguardsmen from the visiting ships as well as local commands. The following personnel from our adopted units were honored.

BM1 Ronald Garcia, USCGC Margaret Norvell

MK3 Devin Gilbert, USCG Aids to Navigation

ME2 Eric Spier, USCG TACLET South

BM2 Jared Tidwell, USCG Station Fort Lauderdale

AST1 Jaime Vanacore, USCG Air Station Miami

COAST GUARD EASTER EGG HUNT & BBQ

The Easter Egg Hunt and BBQ brought out children of all ages—here are just a few of them:



COAST GUARD EASTER EGG HUNT & BBQ



Erwin Sefton & Charlie Schmidt manned the grill



Candy the Clown did an awesome job of face painting



Winners of top prizes for finding the most eggs



Crew from Station Fort Lauderdale



The Easter Bunny



Every child went home with several toys

Thanks to all Coast Guard families who attended this year's event—we hope to see you again next year!

FLEET WEEK

The Council was pleased to participate in another successful Fleet Week! While heightened military readiness scaled back the number of ships that participated, it did not reduce the number of events planned for visiting military personnel. The Navy's Amphibious Transport Dock USS New York, and U.S. Coast Guard Cutters Forward, Joshua Appleby and Margaret Norvell arrived in Port Everglades on May 1st for a week of public tours, community outreach projects and a military band concert. Other events included a welcoming party, golf classic, a visit to Miami Dolphins camp and a Miami Marlins game, fishing tournament and sailing regatta as well as breakfasts, luncheons and dinners honoring the military. While ship tours were taking place, Council volunteers sold cold beverages and Council coins at Port Everglades. The Council hosted its annual Junior Officers Reception on May 2nd at Briny's Irish Pub.



Above: Council President Glenn Wiltshire at VIP Opening Ceremony
Below: Council Board Member Alan Starr at the event



Above: Volunteers assisted during ship tours



Below: Council volunteers at Port Everglades manning the table to sell beverages/Council coins and to inform visitors about the Navy League



Below: Council Treasurer Tom Carney on a ship tour



FLEET WEEK—JUNIOR OFFICERS' RECEPTION

The Council hosted the Junior Officers Party at Briny's Irish Pub on Tuesday, May 2.



FLEET WEEK

The team from our adopted ship, the USCGC Margaret Norvell came out the winners of the Damage Control Olympics. Congratulations!



Following were taken at the Celebrity Lunch held at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale—local chef Joe Studiale of Tropical Acres (below with Board member Alan Starr) helped prepare the meal



Erwin Sefton, Brittany Panetta CO USCGC Margaret Norvell and Council President Glenn Wiltshire



Alan Starr, Dania Beach Mayor Tamara James and Council President Glenn Wiltshire



Following were taken at a reception aboard the USS New York



RECOGNITION

On May 10, Council President Glenn Wiltshire recognized Enlisted Person of the Quarter AET1 Kevin Washko at Coast Guard Air Station Miami. Also in the photo are CAPT Lutes and MCPO Joyce.



On May 24, Council President Glenn Wiltshire recognized Enlisted Person of the Quarter BM2 Jerome Teague on our adopted ship, the USCGC Margaret Norvell.



OUTSTANDING COUNCIL

The Council Performance Awards Committee recently announced that the Council has been awarded an "Outstanding" rating for 2016. The rating recognizes the Council's efforts in support of our Sea Services, JROTC cadets and Sea Cadet cadets. Thanks to every Council member who attended an event, paid local dues or made a donation to the Council; without you, we could not continue to host events and recognize our military and youth. A special thanks to Council President Glenn Wiltshire who has been an exemplary leader. Second Vice President Marianne Giambrone and Board Member Joe Giambrone will accept the award on the Council's behalf at the National Convention in Milwaukee in June.

Other Florida Councils that were recognized were: Key West, Saint Augustine/Palm Coast and Fort Lauderdale who were rated "Meritorious" and Tampa and Jacksonville who were rated "Honorable Mention".

USS BATAAN—NEWS



On April 30, our adopted ship, the USS Bataan's Heritage Committee sponsored a Days of Remembrance to close the ship's Holocaust Remembrance week. The committee built a

Star of David wreath and set up a memorial, including historical information, to bring awareness and honor all those who suffered during the Holocaust. The Sailors and Marines paid tribute by dropping off hand-made flowers and cards throughout the week. The commemoration closed with a ceremony and military procession, where the wreath was taken from the mess decks and laid to rest in the ocean. Senior Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuel) Hawa P. Riley served as the heritage committee coordinator and believes it is important to remember this time in history. The Commanding Officer of Bataan, Capt. Eric Pfister, also shared some thoughts during the ceremony. He invited the crew to look back and remember that fear and indifference can lead to hatred and creates and opportunity for evil to thrive. In 1980, Congress established the United States annual commemoration of the Holocaust known as the Days of Remembrance, which runs from April 23-30, to include Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah) on April 24. Bataan and its ready group are currently deployed in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations in support of maritime security operations designed to reassure allies and partners, and preserve the freedom of navigation and the free flow of commerce in the region.

RECOGNIZING OUR YOUTH

Each year, the Council recognized the achievements of graduating cadets from 5 local high school ROTC units. Each cadet is presented with a Navy League Youth Medal at the school's award night. The medal is more commonly referred to as a Teddy Roosevelt medal since the Navy League was founded in 1902 with the encouragement of President Theodore Roosevelt.

The following cadets were recognized:

Cooper City NJROTC - Cadet John Lystad

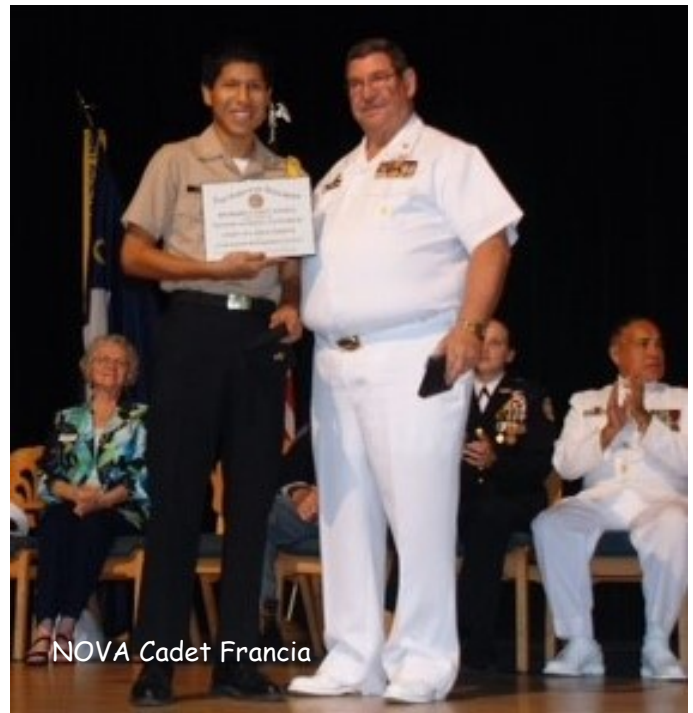
Flanagan NJROTC - Cadet Logan Matza

MAST Academy NJROTC—Cadet Lucas Hope

NOVA Southeast NJROTC - Cadet Josue Francia

Stranahan M CJROTC - Cadet Tristan Amerson

Taravella NJROTC - Mimai-Fabian Bosneanu (photo not available)



NOVA Cadet Francia



Stranahan Cadet Amerson



Cooper City Cadet Lystad



Flanagan Cadet Matza



MAST Academy Cadet Hope

RECOGNITION

On March 17, Council President Glenn Wiltshire honored Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale's Enlisted Person of the Year. BM2 Michael Baldi was recognized with a certificate of accomplishment and monetary award. Shown in the photo are (left to right) MKC Herring, BM2 Baldi, Glenn Wiltshire and BM1 Brayton.



NAS MUSEUM

The Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum invited the public to join them for the grand opening of the Lt. Col Leo R. Gray Tuskegee Memorial Butterfly Garden. The event was held on Memorial Day at the Museum which is located at 4000 W Perimeter Road in Fort Lauderdale. Additional information and photos of the event will appear in the next issue of *The Helmsman*.

During Fleet Week, visiting military were at the Museum to help spruce it up!



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

Community Affiliate members support our Council's grassroots efforts. Community Affiliate benefits include up to 4 individual Navy League memberships, a subscription to SEAPOWER magazine and annual SEAPOWER ALMANAC and recognition by our Council. If your company would like to find out more about becoming a Community Affiliate, please contact us at bcnavyleague@gmail.com.

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@sci-us.com



**BCNL Member
Discount with
this ad**

SEA SERVICE NEWS



On May 18, the crew of the USCGC Hamilton offloaded approximately 18.5 tons of cocaine (shown in photo) in Port Everglades worth an estimated \$498 million wholesale.

The drugs were interdicted in international waters along Central and South America by several Coast Guard cutters and a Royal Canadian Navy ship sailing with an embarked Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) team aboard. The offload represents 20 separate, suspected drug smuggling vessel interdictions. The Coast Guard increased U.S. and allied presence in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Basin, which are known drug transit zones off of Central and South America, as part of its Western Hemisphere Strategy. The law enforcement phase of counter-smuggling operations in the Eastern Pacific are conducted under the authority of the 11th Coast Guard District headquartered in Alameda, California.



On May 8, the Navy's newest littoral combat ship, the future USS Gabrielle Giffords (LCS 10), departed from Mobile, Alabama, beginning her journey to her commissioning site in Galveston, Texas. The ship's commis-

sioning is scheduled for June 10, after which she will begin her transit to her eventual homeport of San Diego. Gabrielle Giffords is the ninth littoral combat ship delivered to the Navy and the fifth LCS of the Independence variant. The Independence variant is noted for its unique hull, ability to operate at high speeds, and large flight deck size. LCS is a high-speed, agile, shallow draft, focused-mission surface combatant designed for operations in the littoral environment, yet fully capable of open ocean operations. LCS is complementary to the surface fleet, with the ability to counter and outpace evolving threats independently or within a network of surface combatants.



On May 3, our adopted ship, the USS Leyte Gulf arrived in Tromso, Norway, for a scheduled port visit to enhance U.S.-Norway relations as the two nations work together for a stable, secure and prosperous European region. The ship's presence in the Norwegian Sea is a demonstration of our continued commitment to the collective security of the European region. Leyte Gulf departed its homeport of

Norfolk on March 27 on a scheduled deployment to conduct maritime security operations in support of U.S. allies and partners and U.S. national security interests in Europe. Strengthening partnerships during the port visit to Tromso demonstrates enduring relationships and our shared commitment to promoting safety and stability within the region, while seeking opportunities to enhance our interoperability as NATO allies.



Marine Corps Systems Command is bringing innovative, life-saving and award-winning technology to Marines on the front line.

The Infrascanner is a portable, medical diagnostic device that provides early detection of intracranial hematomas—or bleeding within the skull—in the field, potentially saving lives and improving casualty care and recovery. The handheld device uses near-infrared light—invisible light that is nearly visible to the naked eye—to effectively check for intracranial hematomas on different parts of the skull. With the device, medical personnel at battalion aid stations can quickly assess Marines who may have suffered a head injury. Prior to the fielding of the Infrascanner in 2015, medical personnel relied primarily on the Military Acute Concussion Evaluation, a questionnaire and screening tool gauging the severity of symptoms and potential cognitive deficits associated with concussions.



National Maritime Day was observed across the United States on May 22, the date that the American steamship Savannah set sail from Savannah, Georgia. It

was the first transoceanic voyage fueled by steam. National Maritime Day was created by the United States Congress on May 20, 1933 to recognize the maritime industry, National Maritime Day also honors America's Merchant Marines for their contributions and sacrifices for our country. Special acknowledgment is given to ships and seafarers that have held a prominent place in our nation's history. Locally, Port Everglades hosted its 7th Annual Keep Port Everglades Shipshape painting party on May 20 to honor and recognize the maritime industry and its benefits. Keep Port Everglades Shipshape is a port-wide campaign held to encourage recycling and cleanliness at the world's third busiest cruise port and Florida's top containerized cargo port.

COAST GUARD EASTER EGG HUNT & BBQ



The day was for families—on the left is Station Fort Lauderdale XO Jessica Schafer who enjoyed the day with her sister and her family. On the right is USCGC Margaret Norvell CO Brittany Panetta and her mom

BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
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