

THE HELMSMAN

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



Larry Ott, President
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

DECEMBER 2018
Volume 29 Issue 7

www.bcnavyleague.org

browardnavyleague@gmail.com

DECEMBER EVENTS

BROWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
BROWARD NAVY DAYS
FORT LAUDERDALE COUNCIL

HOLIDAY PARTY HONORING

ALL LOCAL U S COAST GUARD UNITS

McSORLEY'S BEACH PUB
837 N FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH BLVD
FORT LAUDERDALE

Located on A1A facing Fort Lauderdale Beach
(South of Sunrise Blvd on the corner of NE 9th St)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018
6:00–8:00 pm

TWO FREE DRINKS FOR COAST GUARD
PERSONNEL AND THEIR SPOUSE/GUEST
FREE BUFFET FOR ALL*****ENTERTAINMENT

CASUAL HOLIDAY ATTIRE
UNIFORM NOT REQUIRED



JOIN US AT OUR
NEW VENUE ON
THE BEACH!!

BROWARD COUNTY AND
FORT LAUDERDALE COUNCILS
GENERAL DINNER MEETING
AND
TOYS FOR TOTS EVENT

Guest Speaker
CDR Joseph Meuse
Commanding Officer, TACLET South

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Coral Ridge Yacht Club
2800 Yacht Club Blvd, Fort Lauderdale

Cash Bar 6:00-7:00pm
Dinner & Meeting - 7:00 pm

Members and Guests - \$40

Bring a new, unwrapped toy

Please RSVP to 954-522-8995
no later than 9AM on Monday, December 17
Admittance by reservation only
Checks should be made payable to
Fort Lauderdale Council NLUS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ELECTIONS ARE OVER. NO mudslinging or lies. NO recounts. NO hard feelings. At least that was the way the Broward County Council of the Navy League conducted our elections at the November Dinner Meeting. By unanimous vote, the following were elected to office for 2019:

President: Larry Ott

First Vice President: Erwin Sefton

Second Vice President: Marianne Giambrone

Vice President of Legislative Affairs: Robert Marks

Treasurer: Tom Carney

Secretary: Shelley Beck

Previously as a board member and currently as President, I have been grateful for the valuable contributions these officers have made to this council. Through their dedication, the Broward County Council continues to gain awards and recognition during the National Convention. Thank you to my fellow officers and let's keep up the momentum.

The speaker during the meeting was Captain James A. Passarelli. As Chief of Staff and second in command of the Seventh Coast Guard District, he has monumental responsibilities as the 7th District encompasses 1.8 million square miles and is the largest and busiest of the Coast Guard. Captain Passarelli was assigned to Miami this summer and we had been awaiting a chance to meet him. Captain, welcome to South Florida.

Looking ahead, we have several items on the calendar. Beginning with December 6th, both councils and Broward Navy Days will host the local Coast Guard to a Holiday Party at McSorley's on Lauderdale Beach. This is always a fun event as we relax and enjoy each other's company. Then on December 19th, there will be a joint council dinner meeting at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club with Cdr Joe Meuse as the speaker. Cdr Meuse is the Commanding Officer of TACLET South located Coast Guard Air Station-Miami. TACLET is one of our council's adopted units. Let's all come out for this enjoyable meeting and support this event. Bring a toy for Toys for Tots. Also for the month of December and a couple weeks of January, Seafarers' House in Port Everglades will be delivering holiday wrapped shoeboxes to the crews of the many merchant ships that will visit. This is a great opportunity to go aboard these ships and meet their crew and officers.

The effort to get funding for a new ice breaker is still before Congress. The current ice breaker, Polar Star, is 42 years old and well past its lifetime. In the next few years, there will be increased activity in the Arctic region with shipping lanes, oil and mineral explorations and cruise ships. Russia is reported to have 40 icebreakers and some are armed. China also has shown interest in the Arctic. Call or write your congressional representatives and encourage them to support ice breaker funding.

Finally, thanks to all who support the work of this council and the sea services. Hope to see you soon at the upcoming events.

Larry M. Ott
Council President



FLIGHT 19

The Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at Noon at the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum. The public is invited to attend the event at the Museum 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. This year's 73rd anniversary ceremony honors the 14 crewmen from the 5 TBM Avenger planes and the 13 crewmen from the Mariner rescue sea who all vanished on December 5, 1945. The memorial also remembers the 95 service members who died while training at Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale from 1942-1946 and the heroes of WWII while educating the public about the important role Florida played in training for the battlefield and on the home front. (story from Naval Air Station Museum website)

GUEST SPEAKER



Commander Joseph Meuse earned his commission and a Bachelor of Science in Government Studies in 1998 from the United States Coast Guard Academy. Prior to assignment as Commanding Officer TACLET South, Commander Meuse successfully served in a variety of operational and staff assignments.

Upon graduation from the Coast Guard Academy, Commander Meuse was assigned to the Coast Guard Cutter MOHAWK in Key West as a Deck Watch Officer and First Lieutenant/Deck Department Head. From 2000 - 2003, Commander Meuse served as a Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) Officer in Charge (OIC) / Deployable Team Leader (DTL) at Tactical Law Enforcement Team (TACLET) South, Miami. After TACLET, Commander Meuse was selected to participate in the Tactical Officer Graduate Studies program at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. Upon graduation, he was awarded a Masters of Science degree in Leadership Development and assigned to the Coast Guard Academy as a Company Officer. From 2007 - 2009, Commander Meuse was assigned to the Maritime Security Response Team (MSRT) Chesapeake, VA as the Direct Action Section (DAS) Team Leader. Following that assignment, Commander Meuse served as the Operations Officer for the International Training Division (ITD) at Yorktown, VA. From 2011-2014, CDR Meuse was the Commanding Officer of MSST New Orleans (91112). His most recent assignment was as XO TRACEN Cape May.

Commander Meuse's personal awards include two Meritorious Service Medals, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Navy-Marine Corp Achievement Medal, and the Commandant's Letter of Commendation. He is married to Katie Meuse and they have one child, Robinson (10).

MEALS WITH MEMORIES

Our Council was asked to participate in the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary's 2018 Meals With Memories - A Luncheon Honoring our Veterans. The event was held on Saturday, October 20, at Coast Guard Air Station Miami in Opa Locka. Council President Larry Ott, Past President Glenn Wiltshire and First Vice President Erwin Sefton set up a table to share the Navy League story and recruit new members.

Veterans were able to talk to companies regarding benefits, outreach programs and job opportunities. All attendees received a free meal. The American Legion was on hand and all contributions made at the event were given to Post 144 (our Council made a financial contribution).



President Larry Ott, Past President Glenn Wiltshire, Erwin Sefton and his friend Jack



Captain Morin of Coast Guard Air Station Miami stopped by the Council table with members of the Florida Panthers dance team

INSTALLATION OF 2019 OFFICERS

Broward County Florida Council
Navy League of the United States

Cordially invites you to join us for the
Installation of Council Officers for 2019

aboard the Royal Princess

Port Everglades, Florida

on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at 11:00 AM

Guest Speaker To Be Announced

The following officers will be installed:

President – Larry Ott
First Vice President – Erwin Sefton
Second Vice President – Marianne Giambrone
VP Legislative Affairs – Robert “Bob” Marks
Secretary – Shelley Beck
Treasurer: Thomas “Tom” Carney

Boarding begins at approximately 10:30 AM
followed by Installation and Luncheon

\$45 per person

Please return enclosed security information along
with your check no later than December 31, 2018
Attendance cannot be guaranteed for those missing the RSVP deadline



BROWARD COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE
INSTALLATION OF 2019 COUNCIL OFFICERS

****REQUIRED SECURITY INFORMATION**

FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING**

Full Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Drivers License (and State of Issue) or Passport Number

Full Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Drivers License (and State of Issue) or Passport Number

Please make your check payable to BCNL and mail your payment (\$45 per person) along with this security form to reach me no later than December 31, 2018

Marianne Giambrone 1546 Barcelona Way Weston FL 33327

NOTE: If you attended last year's event, your information is on file – please just submit the full names of each person attending

INSTALLATION OF 2019 COUNCIL OFFICERS ROYAL PRINCESS — JANUARY 19, 2019



Once the ship is ready for our group, we will board the beautiful vessel and be directed to one of their lounges.

While in the lounge, guests can enjoy a cocktail and mingle with fellow guests. The swearing-in of 2019 Council officers will take place and we'll hear brief comments from the guest speaker.



We will then be directed to one of the for-mal dining rooms to enjoy a 3-course meal.

Guests may tour the ship after lunch but must disembark by 3PM.

OKTOBERFEST

Broward County Council and Fort Lauderdale Council joined in an Oktoberfest Celebration on October 17 at Old Heidelberg Restaurant. Great German food, drink and music were enjoyed by all in attendance.



Chief Ryan Visage from Navy Recruiting District, his wife Krystina and their family.



National Vice President Pat Dumont, Council Past President Glenn Wiltshire and Secretary Shelley Beck



Guests spent an evening of food, drink and great conversation



Alan Starr with Council President Larry Ott



DECEMBER DINNER SOCIAL

On November 8, the Council held its monthly dinner meeting at Tropical Acres Restaurant. Captain James Passarelli, Chief of Staff of the Seventh Coast Guard District, served as guest speaker. He gave a very interesting overview of the many types of missions handled by the Coast Guard which include drug interdiction, search and rescue, migrant interdiction, enforcing laws to conserve marine resources, conducting marine safety inspections and investigations and much more. Guests were able to get their many questions answered after the presentation. (some photos courtesy of Charlie Schmidt)



Joan and Erwin Sefton



Council President Larry Ott with Captain Passarelli



Marianne and Joe Giambrone



Mr & Mrs Sonny Matta



Everglades Council President Tom Melville, South Florida Area President Elaine Hogg, Bob Hogg



Joanne Melville and Nona Hart from Everglades Council

LOCAL EVENTS

The School Board of Broward County honored the Broward Veterans Coalition for their accomplishments on behalf of veterans in Broward County. The ceremony was held on November 7, 2018 at the Broward County School Board Building in Fort Lauderdale. Each of the Broward Veterans Coalition Board Members who attended were presented with a certificate. Council Board Member Joe Giambrone is also a Board Member of Broward Veterans Coalition and is shown (in red shirt) in the front row of the group photo. (Photo from Veterans of Weston Facebook page)



On Saturday, November 17, a ceremony was held re-dedicating the Michael Savenelli Vietnam War Memorial Wall at the William “Bill” Kling VA Clinic in Tamarac. The event was hosted by the Miami VA Healthcare System and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 23. Vietnam veterans were presented with a commemorative label pin. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz served as a guest speaker and is shown in photo with Council Board Member/National Treasurer Joe Giambrone.



Coast Guard Station Miami Beach was awarded “Military Unit of the Year” by the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association Foundation. “The Foundation recognized our ongoing efforts in completing countless recreational boating safety boardings, providing security zones for high capacity vessels, locating and terminating illegal charters, and intercepting migrants alongside our Department of Homeland Security partners. Bravo Zulu on a job well done!” (Story and photo from USCG Station Miami Beach Facebook page)



On November 11, board member LCDR Alan Starr and the Spruance Division Sea Cadets participated in the Veterans Day Remembrance at the Sunrise Civic Center Amphitheater. (photo from United States Naval Sea Cadets – Spruance Division Facebook page)



RECOGNITION

On October 11, Council President Larry Ott visited the USCGC Robert Yered to recognize two of their outstanding crew members. Larry presented Enlisted Person of the Quarter EM3 James Lewis (top photo) and Enlisted Person of the Quarter MK1 Michael Kocenski (bottom photo) with certificates of accomplishment and monetary awards. Commanding Officer Lt Joshua Tucker was on hand and is shown with Larry in the photos.



On October 12, Council President Larry Ott and Past President Glenn Wiltshire visited Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. They recognized the achievements of Enlisted Person of the Quarter SK2 Gabriel Rivas. Shown in the photo is Larry, SK2 Rivas with his wife Jessica and daughter Joanna and Station Commanding Officer LT Derek Wallin.



On October 25, USCGC Margaret Norvell's Enlisted Person of the Quarter was recognized. Council President Larry Ott was on hand to make a presentation to DC2 Michael Martinez. He is shown in the photo with Commanding Officer Lt Christopher O'Meara.



Photos of recognition events were provided by Larry Ott, Glenn Wiltshire and Alan Starr.

RECOGNITION

On November 7, Board Member LCDR Alan Starr visited Coast Guard Air Station Miami to recognize their Enlisted Person of the Quarter. Alan presented AMT2 Chad Romp with a certificate of accomplishment and monetary award.



On November 8, Past President Glenn Wiltshire was onboard the USCGC Bernard C. Webber to recognize the achievements of Enlisted Person of the Quarter BM3 Wyatt McGuire (photo next column). He was presented with a certificate of accomplishment and monetary award. Also recognized was LTJG Karolina Del Hierro Vega (photo below), who was promoted from Ensign to Lieutenant Junior Grade. Commanding Officer LT Nate Neuhardt, is in both photos.

On November 8, the Enlisted Person of the Quarter at TACLET South was recognized. Board Member LCDR Alan Starr visited the unit to recognize ME2 Julian Cubides with a certificate of accomplishment and monetary award.



LOCAL DUES

The Local Dues/Donations notice is included in this newsletter. As a reminder, the Council depends on these funds which directly support Council activities. Examples of Council activities:

Support of our adopted units: USS Bataan, USS Leyte Gulf, USCG Air Station Miami, USCGC Paul Clark, USCGC Margaret Norvell, USCGC Bernard C. Webber, USCGC Robert Yered, 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: The Council hosts an annual Easter egg hunt & BBQ as well as a holiday party for our local Coast Guard units: USCG Air Station Miami, USCGC Paul Clark, USCGC Margaret Norvell, USCGC Bernard C. Webber, USCGC Robert Yered, Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale, Aids to Navigation (ANT) and TACLET South.

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

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.

Commissioning: Council volunteers are already involved in the commissioning planning of the USS Paul Ignatius and has already made a financial donation. Additional support of volunteers and funds will be needed in 2019.

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Council members have again volunteered this year to participate in Operation Homefront's holiday toy drive. These holiday stocking stuffers get picked up from six local Dollar Tree Stores and distributed to our local military units. Here is a little more about the program from the Dollar Tree website:

Every day, brave men and women in the armed forces selflessly defend our country and the freedoms we cherish. When they deploy, they leave behind families that often struggle with day-to-day expenses and unforeseen emergencies. Operation Homefront, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, provides emergency financial and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors. Once again this year, Dollar Tree is partnering with Operation Homefront to launch our 2018 Holiday Toy Drive, running November 1st through December 6th. We hope you'll join with us to show your support for service members and their families – simply purchase a toy and drop it off in a collection box located in any of our more than 6,500 Dollar Tree stores nationwide. Operation Homefront will collect and distribute these items to military families in your area.



COMMISSIONING

Planning for the commissioning of the USS Paul Ignatius continues. The Committee is chaired by Mary Anne Gray of Broward Navy Days and co-chaired by Council member/National Treasurer Joe Giambrone and Fort Lauderdale Past President Oscar Romano. A planning meeting was held in November with another one scheduled in mid-December. Even though the committee was only created in September, much has been accomplished including setting a budget, starting fundraising efforts, designing plank plaques and commissioning coins and planning the many social activities that take place during commissioning week.

It's not too late to get involved. If you would like to serve as a volunteer, contact Shelley Beck at shelleybeck@bellsouth.net.

If you would like to become a sponsor or get involved in the planning, please contact Mary Anne Gray at maryanne@browardnavydaysinc.org.



BROWARD COUNTY FLORIDA COUNCIL
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

2019 LOCAL MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: (changes only) _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE: HOME _____ CELL _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2019:	INDIVIDUALS	\$35
	HUSBAND/WIFE	\$65

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT AN ADOPTED/SPONSORED UNIT WITH AN ADDITIONAL DONATION
(mark your choice):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> USS BATAAN | <input type="checkbox"/> USS LEYTE GULF |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Station Fort Lauderdale | <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Aids to Navigation Team |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Air Station Miami | <input type="checkbox"/> USCG TACLET South |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Holiday Party | <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Easter Egg Hunt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USCGC PAUL CLARK | <input type="checkbox"/> USCGC MARGARET NORVELL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USCGC BERNARD C. WEBBER | <input type="checkbox"/> USCGC ROBERT YERED |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Programs—Sea Cadets |

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

*THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MEN AND WOMEN
THAT PROVIDE OUR SECURITY*

NEWS



Andrew Fitzgerald, the last surviving member of the Coast Guard crew aboard the motor lifeboat 36500

during the historic rescue of 32 seamen off the stricken oil tanker Pendleton rescue has died. On February 18, 1952, as a nor'easter raged off the shores of Cape Cod, two large tankers split in half, propelling the then 20-year-old Coast Guard engineer and three other Coast Guardsmen into history on their 36-foot boat. Facing 60-foot high seas, the four men boarded the 36500, led by coxswain Bernard Webber, and headed out into the storm to find the sinking tanker Pendleton, where 33 men waited anxiously for help. As the crew of the 36500 navigated through the Chatham sandbar, they lost their compass. Fitzgerald was in the front of the boat when it hit some swells and knocked him all the way back toward the rear. Then the engine stalled and Fitzgerald had to go down below and re-prime it. Fitzgerald was burned by the hot plugs as he restarted the engine, Fitzgerald and his crewmates saved 32 of the 33 seamen who had been stranded on the Pendleton. *(photo and excerpt of story from Cape Cod Times)*



On November 15, The U.S. Coast Guard unloaded about 18.5 tons of cocaine, seized in international waters in a series of interdictions, at

Port Everglades. The estimated the value of the cocaine is about \$500 million wholesale. The Coast Guard, working with other U.S. agencies and law enforcement from other countries, seized the drugs from 15 separate, low-profile smuggling boats off the coasts of Mexico, Central and South America in the eastern Pacific Ocean during a period of a little over a month. The delivery also brought in 49 suspects, who will be prosecuted in South Florida. *(photo and story from the Miami Herald)*

EVENTS

On December 9 at 2PM, the Pearl Harbor Remembrance will be held at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. Captain Joseph Meuse, CO of TACLET South will be the guest speaker.

Celebrated annually on December 7th, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii during World War II. During this attack, 2,403 American servicemen were killed and more than 1200 servicemen were injured. This attack also resulted in severely damaging or sinking five battleships, three destroyers, three cruisers, three destroyers and one mine-layer. It also resulted in the destruction of more than 200 aircraft and the damaging of 159 other planes. *(photo and story from holiday-scalendar.com)*



BUSINESS CARD ADS

Do you own your own business or know someone that does? Please consider supporting the Council by placing a business card ad in the Council's newsletter, the Helmsman. For \$125, your ad will appear in the newsletter for an entire year (normally 10 issues). The Helmsman is sent out to more than 300 people including local politicians, military personnel and other military-related organizations. For more information, please contact Marianne Giambrone at browardnavyleague@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**

CHANGE OF COMMAND



On November 26, Admiral Craig Faller was named the new commander of U.S. Southern Command. Secretary of Defense James Mattis presided over the ceremony. Admiral Faller assumes the role from Admiral Kurt Tidd. Past President Glenn Wiltshire was on hand for the ceremony and welcomed Admiral Faller and his wife to South Florida on behalf of the Council. He presented Admiral Faller with a Council coin. (photo provided by Glenn Wiltshire)