

# THE HELMSMAN

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



Larry Ott, President  
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

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

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## DINNER SOCIAL

Thursday, November 14, 2019

Tropical Acres Restaurant  
2500 Griffin Road  
Fort Lauderdale

### PROGRAM:

Rear Admiral Steve Poulin, USCG  
Director of Operations  
U.S. Southern Command

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 Nov 2  
by e-mailing [browardnavyleague@gmail.com](mailto:browardnavyleague@gmail.com) or  
calling Joan at 561-336-3610

Election of 2020 Council Officers will take place

## SEA CADET NIGHT



On September 18, the Council joined members of the Fort Lauderdale Council to celebrate Sea Cadet Night. The evening was well attended by Navy Leaguers, local military and Sea Cadet family members. The Spruance Division Sea Cadets color guard presented the colors (photo above). Eight cadets from the Spruance Division Sea Cadets talked about their summer training experiences. As always, hearing these cadets talk about their training was quite impressive.

Abuid Montes, Fort Lauderdale Council President and Larry Ott, Broward County Council President each addressed the group.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The autumn season began on a strong note with the Sea Cadet night. Cadets shared their various summer training experiences which is always most interesting and sometimes humorous. The Spruance Division of the Sea Cadets is sponsored by the Fort Lauderdale Council and is led by Broward County Navy League board member, Senior Chief Alan Starr. Senior Chief was recognized for his 25 years of service with the Sea Cadets.

Octoberfest followed with another joint meeting of the two councils at Old Heidelberg German Restaurant in Fort Lauderdale. This is always an enjoyable event and a time to get to know other members over a delicious German dinner.

November 14<sup>th</sup> will be the date for our next dinner meeting at Tropical Acres. I am very pleased that Rear Admiral Steven Poulin USCG will be our speaker. Rear Admiral Poulin is assigned to Southcom and as such has a broad knowledge of events and issues. Don't miss this meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

The US Navy just celebrated their 244<sup>th</sup> year of service. Happy Birthday to the US Navy. On November 10<sup>th</sup> the Marine Corps will celebrate their birthday.

The Broward County Council is pleased to welcome the Everglades Council to our membership. Everglades Council has decided to merge with us and their president, Tom Melville has accepted a position on our board. Tom and several of their members are no strangers to us as they have been attending various meetings and events. Welcome Everglades members!

Finally I would like to draw attention to Senate bill S.2297. If this bill is approved it would permit the Coast Guard to be paid in the event there is another partial government shutdown. So far there have been 1,585 messages sent to congress by Navy League members. Contact your congress members for support of the Pay Our Parity Act S. 2297.

Don't forget to make your reservations for the November 14<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting!

See you then.

Larry M. Ott

Council President



## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members

Richard Fournier of Pompano Beach

Florence Scheffler of Lauderdale by the Sea

and

All members of the Everglades Council

## KEEP CONNECTED

Don't forget to visit and like our Council's Facebook page where you will get up-to-date information about many of our adopted units, other sea service news as well as events we are hosting

[www.facebook.com/Browardcountynavyleague/](http://www.facebook.com/Browardcountynavyleague/)

Also visit our website where you can read about our adopted units, get the latest event news and find previous editions of The Helmsman. You'll also find links to other related websites such as Operation Homefront and Broward Veterans Coalition.

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

Don't forget to visit the Navy League website. You'll be able to utilize the Voice to Congress feature, learn more about Navy League programs, shop for Navy League merchandise and more. It is recommended that you create a user name and password that will enable you to view additional information that is not available to the general public. It will also enable you to easily pay your membership dues.

[Navyleague.org](http://Navyleague.org)

NEW: There is now a Florida Region website - visit the website to see the activities of the other councils in the Florida Region as well as other Navy League information.

[floridanavyleague.org](http://floridanavyleague.org).

# GUEST SPEAKER – NOVEMBER DINNER SOCIAL



Steven D. Poulin  
Rear Admiral, United States Coast Guard  
Director, J3  
U.S. Southern Command

Rear Admiral Poulin graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1984 with a B.S. in Management. He reported to U. S. Southern Command in June 2018 and serves as the Director of Operations (J3), directing the U.S. military operations across the Caribbean Basin, Central and South America.

Previously, he was Commander of the 1st Coast Guard District, headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, where he directed Coast Guard operations in the Northeast, across an area ranging from New Jersey to the U.S.-Canadian border.

Rear Admiral Poulin's other flag assignments were as the Judge Advocate General and Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard, where he led a dedicated group of legal professionals and was responsible for the delivery of all legal services in support of the Coast Guard's missions, and as the Director of Governmental and Public Affairs, where he was responsible for external engagement with Congress, the media and other intergovernmental entities.

Prior operational tours include Commander, Coast Guard Sector Mobile, AL; Incident Commander for DEEPWATER HORIZON oil spill response operations in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida; Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Sector Mobile, AL; Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Group Galveston, TX; Law Enforcement Officer and Assistant Operations Officer at Coast Guard Group Mobile, AL. RADM Poulin's initial officer tour was as a deck watch officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter

DAUNTLESS homeported in Miami Beach.

His staff positions have been Chief, Coast Guard Office of Maritime and International Law; Special Adviser for Border and Transportation Security in the Office of Vice President Cheney; Coast Guard Liaison to the U.S. State Department Office of Oceans Affairs; Legal Counsel, Coast Guard Port Security Director; Legislative Counsel, Coast Guard Office of Congressional Affairs; U.S. Delegation to the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization; staff attorney, Coast Guard General Law Division.

His military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal and Coast Guard Commendation Medal, among others. RADM Poulin is married to the former Sherry Robbins of Plattsburgh, NY. They have two children and two grandchildren.

## 2020 COUNCIL OFFICERS

The following is the slate of Council Officers for 2020:

President: Larry Ott

First Vice President: Tom Melville

Second Vice President: Bruce Gottsch

Vice President, Legislative Affairs: Robert Marks

Secretary: Shelley Beck

Treasurer: Tom Carney

JAG: No candidate

Write-in candidates will be accepted by the secretary until October 31, 2019. The name of the proposed candidate and office for which they wish to be considered must be accompanied by 20 signatures of council members in good standing. Mail information to Secretary, BCNL, P O Box 39252, Fort Lauderdale FL 33339. Elections will be held at the November dinner social. Members must be present to vote.

# SEA CADET NIGHT

Each year, Sea Cadet Night is the most popular dinner meeting as guests are always amazed at the training these young men and women participate in during their summer vacation.



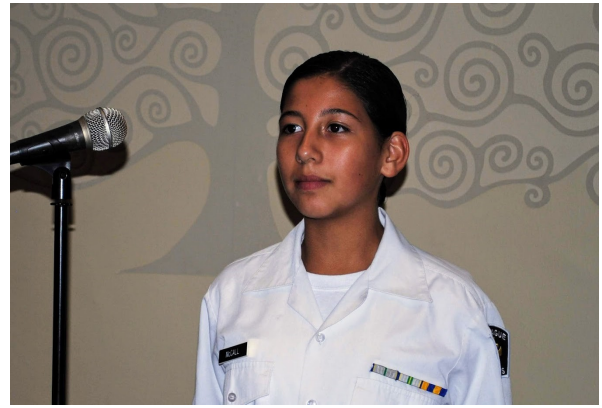
PO 3rd class Hayward Benjamin attended Camp Pendleton Petty Officer Leadership Academy and rode on the USS New York for Fleet Week.



Seaman Jonas McCall attended National Flight School in Pensacola



Seaman Tyler Jones attended Petty Officer Leadership Academy, Field Ops training in Portland, Oregon and rode the USS New York for Fleet Week



PO 3rd class Olivia McCall attended Petty Officer Leadership Academy, North Florida



PO 3rd class Nikolas Rogers attended 40 color guard as CO in Broward/Miami counties over summer, rode USS New York for Fleet Week and staffed Recruit Training



Seaman Michael Ryan attended Heritage and US Navy tours in Washington DC

# SEA CADET NIGHT



PO 2nd class Ryan Visage, Jr. attended scuba training in Fort Lauderdale and lead cadet outdoor adventure training in Tennessee



PO Bianka Harris attended Petty Officer leadership academy, Recruit Training and the Naval Academy. She was promoted to CPO at the beginning of the evening's program. She was also awarded the Navy League Teddy Roosevelt medal.



CDR Meuse, Council President Larry Ott and LT Piantedosi



David Drucker, Nona Holt, Todd Ramey and Rick Ciravolo



LCDR Alan Starr was recognized for his 25 years of service to the Sea Cadets—his wife Rosalind is shown with him



Rosa and George Reeves with JoAnn and Tom Melville

Thanks to Charlie Schmidt for providing all the photos from Sea Cadet Night

# AWARD RECIPIENT

Boatswain's Mate Second Class Luis Ortiz, USCGC PAUL CLARK (WPC-1106) was selected as the Coast Guard's 2019 National IMAGE Meritorious Service Award recipient. This award honors service members and civilian employees who have supported Coast Guard missions, or whose attributes best epitomize the Core Values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

PO Ortiz demonstrated exceptional leadership and led the Law Enforcement Program onboard PAUL CLARK. He is dedicated to developing others and has served as a mentor for 21 personnel and organized training to grow similar programs at other units. As the cutter's Leading Boarding Officer, PO Ortiz personally led boardings of more than 55 vessels. By assisting and working with mariners to correct discrepancies on the spot, he significantly improved relations with the local Hispanic boating community. He served on Pursuit Crews during seven high-risk interdictions, successfully recovering 46 undocumented migrants and identifying six human traffickers. PO Ortiz ensured all migrants and detainees were treated with professionalism and dignity, while comforting individuals while they were anxious, wet, and tired. PO Ortiz's leadership, mentorship, and personal character are an example for all to follow.

PO Ortiz was officially recognized and honored at the Salute to the Military Celebration Dinner at the 47th National Image, Inc., National Training Program on September 19, 2019 in Las Vegas, NV. National Image Inc is a nonprofit Hispanic advocacy organization. It has served the Hispanic federal workforce and community since 1971.



Photo from National Image's Facebook page showing all the Meritorious Service winners

# RECOGNITION

On September 4, the Enlisted Person of the Quarter, Quarter 2, was recognized at an All Hands event at Coast Guard Air Station Miami. Alan Starr represented the Council in presenting a certificate of accomplishment and monetary award to HS1 Radoslaw Florczak. Unfortunately, photos are not available.

On October 17, Alan Starr visited the USCGC Robert Yered to recognize their outstanding enlisted persons of the quarter. Alan presented certificates of accomplishment and monetary awards to ET2 Kyle Galan (top photo), MK2 Daniel Osborne (middle photo) and SN Holly Ross who recently departed for BM "A" school but was on hand for the presentation.



# NAVY LEAGUE NEWS

The Council is pleased to announce that new member Rick Braswell has agreed to serve on the Board of Directors as Chaplain.

The Navy League will host its fourth Anchors Aweigh Congressional Fly-In on November 14 in Washington D.C. Navy Leaguers will meet members of Congress on Capitol Hill and present the Navy League's legislative priorities.

The Navy League Board of Directors meeting will be held at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel in Arlington Virginia on November 15 and 16. Council Second Vice President/South Florida Area President Marianne Giambrone and Council Board member/National Treasurer Joe Giambrone will attend

On December 13, the Council will host its annual Coast Guard holiday party. The event will once again be held at McSorley's on the Beach.

Whether you are a council member in need of new business cards and award supplies, or a supporter in search of Navy League gear, the Navy League store provides items for purchase for everyone that would like to help fly the Navy League flag. Select one of the two vendors - Vanguard or Vistaprint - to purchase the items you need. Visit [navyleague.org](http://navyleague.org) and click on Ship Store.

## BUSINESS CARD AD

Larry M. Ott  
Licensed Funeral Director

**Kraeer-Fairchild Funeral  
Home & Cremation Center**  
4061 North Federal Highway  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308  
954-565-5591  
Fax 954-565-7899  
[Larry.Ott@DignityMemorial.com](mailto:Larry.Ott@DignityMemorial.com)  
[www.kraeerfairchild.com](http://www.kraeerfairchild.com)



BCNL member  
discount with  
this ad

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](mailto:browardnavyleague@gmail.com).

# LOCAL DUES

Local dues notices will be sent out in December. Your dues to National Navy League help support the overall mission of the Navy League while your local Council dues directly support our Council activities. The Board of Directors would like to provide support to additional units in the future and we can only do so when we receive monetary support from our members. Please support the Council by sending payment of local dues when you receive the statement.

Support of our adopted units: USS Bataan, USS Leyte Gulf, USS Paul Ignatius, USCG Air Station Miami, USCGC Paul Clark, USCGC Margaret Norvell, USCGC Bernard C. Webber, USCGC Robert Yered, USCGC Manatee, 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 all of our local Coast Guard units: USCG Air Station Miami, USCGC Paul Clark, USCGC Margaret Norvell, USCGC Bernard C. Webber, USCGC Robert Yered, USCGC Manatee, Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale, Aids to Navigation (ANT) and TACLET South.

Support of Sea Cadets: Richmond Heights 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 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.

# OCTOBERFEST

Broward County Council and Fort Lauderdale Council joined in an Oktoberfest Celebration on October 16 at Old Heidelberg Restaurant. Great German food, drink and music were enjoyed by all in attendance.



Thanks to Shelley Beck for providing the photos

# EVERGLADES COUNCIL

Due to a declining membership, the decision was made to disband the Everglades Council and to merge their membership into the Broward County Council. Following is a brief history of the Everglades Council as provided by Tom Melville, who has served as their President since 2005.

The Everglades Council began in 1969 as the Broward Women's Council. They received their Charter from the Navy League of the United States in October 1969. They held monthly lunch meetings with speakers as opposed to other councils which had dinner meetings. Many of their members did not drive at night, some did not even go out at night. They donated the bronze plaque monument to the fourteen Naval Airmen of Flight 19, lost on December 5, 1945. The plaque is now in the small park at the foot of the control tower at Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport.

The Council changed their name to the Everglades Council Navy League in 1998. This was when they began having men join the Council. In January 2000, in a joint decision with the Gold Coast Council, the Gold Coast Council merged into the Everglades Council. This merger happened largely because the Everglades Council took over sponsorship of the Seabee Sea Cadet unit previously sponsored by the Gold Coast Council. Tom Melville joined the Everglades Council because of their sponsorship of the Seabee Sea Cadets. These Sea Cadets eventually dwindled in number and were finally assigned to other Councils. The Council has supported the Deerfield Beach High School MCJROTC Unit for many years.

The first male President, Al Hubbard, was elected in 2003. He died in June 2005. Tom Melville was elected President in December 2005.

Tom Melville has graciously agreed to serve on the Council's Board of Directors and is on the slate of Council officers for 2020 as First Vice President.

We look forward to welcoming the members of the Everglades Council at our future events.



# SEA CADET NIGHT



Barbara Makris, Tom Carney, Robert Fletcher, Bruce Gottsch, Shelley Beck, Mark Lemay and Bob Marks