

THE HELMSMAN

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

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USCG Holiday Party



Members and Guests of Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale

On December 1st we along with the Ft Lauderdale Council and Broward Navy Days held our annual Holiday Party for local Coast Guard units.

This year we had a change of venue, we convened at the Quarterdeck Restaurant on 17th St in Ft Lauderdale.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Navy Leaguers,

I hope that everyone is well as we enjoy the holiday season of celebrations and spending time with loved ones. Our Council has been active with several events since our last Newsletter. Our October dinner meeting featured a return to the STAR Center in Dania Beach, where Council member Graeme Holman, the Operations Director at the STAR Center, showed us the deck and engine room simulators and spoke about the STAR Center's many programs to train merchant mariners. In November, we held our election of officers for 2024 and had the XO and three enlisted representatives from one our nine adopted Coast Guard units, Station Fort Lauderdale, speak about their respective responsibilities at the unit. As some may know, Station Fort Lauderdale is one of the largest and busiest Coast Guard Stations in the US, and the crew is on duty 24x7 to keep us safe and secure. In December, we joined with the Fort Lauderdale Council for their traditional Toys-For-Tots collection dinner. Looking ahead, we will be holding our January dinner meeting on Thursday, January 11th at Tropical Acres, featuring CAPT Delano-Johnson and LCDR Huck from SOUTHCOM will be filling us in on their Coast Guard responsibilities at SOUTHCOM. We will also be swearing in our 2024 officers, and hope that you can join us.

We also had a great turnout for our annual Coast Guard Holiday Party jointly sponsored with the Fort Lauderdale Council and Broward Navy Days. A special thanks to our Treasurer Tom Carney for arranging the new venue at the Quarterdeck in Fort Lauderdale. Everyone had a great time, and we really appreciated the wide range of attendance from local units, including the Seventh District Commander, RADM Schofield and his wife. Our next event will be our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Station Fort Lauderdale on Saturday, March 23rd. More to follow on that as the date gets closer.

The beginning of the year is also the time to pay annual local dues. While paying local dues is not a requirement to be part of our Council, it is a way to provide us additional funds to support our adopted units. With Fleet Week 2024 being held in Miami, we will be missing out on the funds we normally collect selling soda and water like we did at Port Everglades. Any additional contributions to the Council will help us to continue supporting our units.



Finally, I want to recognize one of our adopted units, the USCGC MANOWAR, for being selected as Honorable Mention for the 2023 Hopley Yeaton Cutter Excellence Award for small cutters. In addition, the MANOWAR's Officer-In-Charge, BMCS Brodie McDonald was selected for Honorable Mention for the Hopley Yeaton Superior Enlisted Cutterman Award. These are very prestigious awards that cover the entire US Coast Guard cutter fleet, so making the Honorable Mention list makes them #1 as far as we are concerned!

I wish everyone a Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year!

Very Respectfully,

Glenn A. Wiltshire
Capt. USCG Retired
President, Broward County Council

Coming Events

Thursday January 11th, 2024

January Dinner Meeting at Tropical Acres. Our speakers will be CAPT Delano-Johnson and LCDR Huck from SOUTHCOM who will outline their Coast Guard responsibilities at SOUTHCOM.

Saturday March 23rd, 2024

Annual Easter Egg hunt Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale

2023 Officers

Thanks for serving!

Glenn Wiltshire - President
Tom Melville - First Vice President
Bruce Gottsch - Second Vice President
Tom Carney - Treasurer
Shelley Beck - Secretary
Robert Marks - Legislative Affairs
Julie Carlson - JAG

2023 USCG Holiday Party

This year we had a great turnout with over 75 in attendance. Coast Guard units represented included

District 7
Sector Miami
Station Fort Lauderdale
Air Station
TACLET South
ANT Fort Lauderdale



President Glenn and Larry Ott welcoming



Council President Glenn "Santa" Wiltshire with Rear Admiral Doug and Christine Schofield



Captain Chris Cedarholm, Rear Admiral Doug Schofield, District 7 Commander and Pete Crossland



Standing - Captain Mark and Joanna Hiigel, Sitting-Christine Schofield, Sitting/Standing-Captain Shawn and Tricia Koch, Far right sitting-CMC Eric Gibson and Amanda Kyle

2023 USCG Holiday Party



Council Treasurer Tom Carney and Lynn Drucker from the Ft Lauderdale Council



Oscar and Alicia Romano, Elaine and Bob Hogg of the Ft Lauderdale Council



Glenn with CMC Eric Gibson



Council Secretary Shelley Beck, Membership Director Richard Fournier, Ren Leuder

2023 USCG Holiday Party



*CDR Travis Gagnon and LCDR Steph Wood on left
and Captain Eric Smith and Rachel Thomas on right*





Legislative Affairs



Advocating on behalf of the Sea Services

Advocacy is a main pillar of the Navy League's mission. As a nonprofit organization, we are able to mobilize our grassroots membership to get to the heart of the issues that matter to the sea services, both on Capitol Hill and in our local communities.

Presently the NLUS has several campaigns underway. You are encouraged to go to their website <https://navyleague.quorum.us/NLUScampaigns/> and provide your support.

Support Pay Parity for Coast Guard Service Members

The Navy League of the United States is deeply concerned about the impact of a potential Congressional budget impasse on Coast Guard servicemembers. The men and women serving in our armed forces should never be asked to perform dangerous missions without pay. Yet this is exactly what will happen to Coast Guard servicemembers in the event of a budget stalemate in Washington because the Coast Guard is the only branch of the armed forces that falls under the Department of Homeland Security.

As such, they are still awaiting Congressional action to safeguard their pay during lapses in government funding. During the government shutdown in 2019, over 40,000 active Coast Guard members worked without pay. According to Admiral Karl Schultz (USCG, Ret.), "This marks the first time in our Nation's history that service members in a U.S. Armed Force have not been paid during a lapse in government appropriations."

Luckily, a bipartisan coalition of Senators has just introduced the "Pay Our Coast Guard Act" as companion legislation to an active bill in the House under the same name. It is time to get Congress to pass this important legislation! The Coast Guard is essential to national security operations, which include search-and-rescue missions, securing American ports and borders, interdicting drug and human smuggling, and protecting our maritime environment.

Coast Guard servicemembers should not have to worry about the well-being of themselves and their families while sacrificing in service to our nation.



News from National



See you in sunny San Diego!

NATIONAL CONVENTION 2024

November Dinner Social



BROWARD COUNTY COUNCIL – NAVY LEAGUE

Dinner Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale

PROGRAM:
Featuring Adopted Unit
USCG Station Fort Lauderdale



November Dinner Social



Member's Corner

Remember these folks?



Treasurer Tom Carney recently took a trip to Bel Aire Maryland to visit his mom. While there he also visited with former members Marianne and Joe Giambrone.

As you may recall Joe is a former council President and Marianne held numerous council positions, most notably as the editor of our newsletter.

Today they are still active in the Navy League, at the National level. Joe is the National Treasurer and Marianne is a regional president.

Congratulations council member Peter Paige



Council member and US Coast Guard Auxiliary member Peter Paige recently was awarded the Recreational Boat Safety Program Specialist Device by US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 39



Happy 248th Birthday!



odds & ends...

Why is the US Naval Academy mascot a goat?



While goats in general might not suggest anything remotely maritime, the humble creature has roots in the sea.

Sailors for years brought goats aboard ships for very practical reasons. The cloven creatures provided a source of fresh milk, while their modest stature and stability on their feet made them easier to transport and handle than cattle, according to the U.S. Naval Institute.

Sailors would often release trips (or herds) of goats on otherwise deserted islands along their sea routes, so that they could later return to cull the herd for fresh meat and leather.

Even after modern technology emerged in the 19th century that allowed for better food storage, crews often brought goats aboard as a sort of ship mascot.

In 1893, a live goat named El Cid made his debut as a mascot at the fourth Army-Navy Game. El Cid was a gift to the Brigade of Midshipmen from officers of the USS New York. With the goat, Navy gained a 6-3 win over Army that year, so he was adopted as part of the team.

The only US Navy ship authorized to fly a foreign flag

Commissioned in 2001, the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Winston S. Churchill was named for the famous prime minister who led Britain through World War II and has been permitted to fly the Royal Navy's White Ensign – a red St. George's Cross on a white field with a Union flag in the canton – during special occasions.

Not only is this warship the only vessel in the U.S. Navy's fleet to fly a foreign flag, but it's also the only ship with an officer from Britain's Royal Navy aboard as a permanent member of the ship's company to ensure proper navigation – all meant to honor the "British Bulldog," Winston Churchill.



A ship's ensign is the largest flag flying aboard the vessel and denotes the nationality of the ship. When the USS Winston Churchill flies the Royal Navy's ensign, it's hoisted from the port side of the mast, with the American flag on the starboard side. During its normal operations, only the Stars and Stripes are raised.

Remember

If you see a photo that you would like to see or have in full resolution you can go to our website <http://www.bcnavyleague.org> and download it.

STAR Center Meeting



**STAR Center welcomes the
US Navy League, Broward Council**

Thursday October 12th, 2023
2nd Floor Banquet Room (Rm 217)

On October 12th we visited the STAR Center in Dania Beach for a Dinner Meeting and a tour of the facility.

STAR Center is a not-for-profit (501 (c) (3)) division of the Safety & Education Plan of American Maritime Officers (AMO), the largest maritime labor organization for licensed merchant mariners in the USA.

The primary mission of STAR Center is to train the men and women of the American Maritime Officers union,

insuring that they are ready in all respects to meet the requirements of the contracted companies and to assist in raise-of-grade and certain professional development training of the active participants of the trust.

The school is also the top choice of inland and ocean going professional mariners throughout the world, who are trained at the school on a space available basis as allowed by the Plan rules.



Graeme Holman, STAR Center Director of Operations and member of Council

STAR Center Meeting



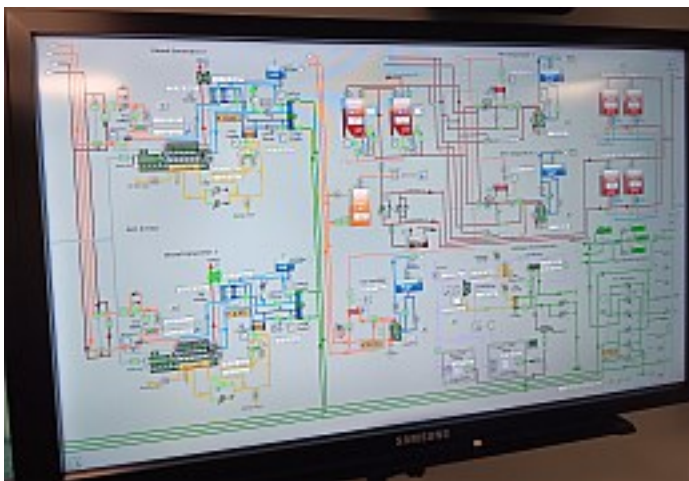
Glenn with Graeme after presenting Council coin and pin as guest speaker



Len Reuder, Lawrence and Yuki Denmark



Coast Guard Auxiliary members Christian Durante and Al Cusson and Natalie Bunting



Touch screen terminal that works just like a real bridge control screen, used to control and monitor diesel generators, refrigeration and fuel systems on the ship.



Bryan Jones with Mission United, Larry Ott with guest Fred



Simulated view from bridge of ship entering NY harbor



John Weeks, Fran Shaw, Ken Stoller and guest Sid

News from our Adopted Units

USS Paul Ignatius -DDG117

Congratulations to our Sailors of the Year!
BM1 Parker, HM2 Bahamou, MM3 Jordan, &
PSSN Meier!



USCG Station Ft Lauderdale



Pictured here with Glenn are Station CO, LT Dadlani, XO, LT Truncale and BM3 Zachary Sunderlin

Air Station Miami Enlisted Person of the Quarter



Pictured L-R Air Station CO Capt Smith, Command Chief Salazar, EPQ HS3 Caroline DeLoach and Council President Glenn Wiltshire

HS3 DeLoach was recognized for her performance in the Air Station Medical Clinic, including identifying a significant savings for vaccines and completing physical exams when a coworker was absent.



On November 29th Council President Glenn Wiltshire traveled to USCG Station Fort Lauderdale to present the an Enlisted Person of the Quarter to BM3 Zachary Sundellin. BM3 Sunderlin was recognized for his performance as a boat coxswain as well as being responsible for procuring supplies for the Operations Division at the Station.

It's that time

Each year, we ask our members to pay local dues and/or make a donation. Local dues provide direct financial support to the Council while your National dues help the Navy League continue with its mission.

Our renewal form has the names of the military units we support as well as several major events we host, its our hope that you might consider making a donation to one or more of these units along with your dues in order to help us to continue the support we provide.

and in closing...



and don't forget...



BROWARD COUNTY COUNCIL – NAVY LEAGUE

**Dinner Meeting
Thursday, January 11, 2024**

**Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale**

**PROGRAM:
Featuring CAPT Aaron Delano-Johnson
LCDR Ethan Huck
US Coast Guard SOUTHCOM Activities**

Cocktail hour 6:30pm Dinner 7:15 pm

**Choice of:
Prime Rib of Beef
Salmon**

**Members and Guests - \$40
Active Military and Spouses: \$25**

**Please RSVP with your dinner choice
by January 8th by calling or emailing
Shelley at 954-224-3687 or
browardnavyleague@gmail.com**