



Navy League of the United States

The Helmsman

Broward County, Florida Council, Inc.

Serving the Sea Services Since 1902

VOL. 18 ISSUE 4

Robert Hein, President
Denise Hein, Editor

APRIL 2007

NAVY

MARINE CORPS

COAST GUARD

MERCHANT MARINE

MARCH EVENTS



Shelly Stein presents Marion Gundling, Principal of our partner in education, Silver Ridge Elementary School, with the flag flown aboard the USS Leyte Gulf CG-55



Bill and Joan Fucillo, Laura Janetis, Erwin Sefton and Larry Ott enjoyed a "Night at the Races".



Marines of the 26th MEU enjoy Valentine's Day cards sent by the students of Silver Ridge Elementary School to USS Bataan LHD-5.

APRIL SOCIAL

When – Thursday, April 12, 2007
Where – Tropical Acres Restaurant
Time – Cocktails at 6:30pm – Dinner at 7:15pm
Menu – Prime Rib of Beef or Broiled Red Snapper
Cost - \$30
Speaker – RADM Hugo Blackwood, Deputy Commander
Navy Reserve Region Southeast.
This is "Honor the Reservists" Night.

Reservations: Celeste Keegan, 954-973-7814 or
bcnavyleague@yahoo.com
No later than April 8, 2007

CONTACT YOUR BOARD

President – Robert Hein - 954-764-6366
First VP – Bill Weiler - 954-344-4513
Second VP – Brian Kling - 954-907-7529
VP – Legislative Affairs – Jerry Corcoran - 305-371-7612
Secretary – Marianne Giambrone - 954-389-0545
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JAG – Ed Rumin, Esq. - 954-565-9492
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Celeste Keegan - Director - 954-973-7814
Steve Naimoli - Director - 954-564-1400
Larry Ott - Director - 954-771-1765
Jay Porges - Director - 954-972-0074
Alan Starr - Director - 954-772-8285
Mark Stein - Director 954-974-0006
Al & Shelly Stein - Directors 954-472-0285

E-MAIL— bcnavyleague@yahoo.com

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

There is plenty of Navy League related activity and this is a relatively peaceful time. We had a very successful Night at the Races on March 16th. It was a unique activity enjoyed by many Navy League members and friends. It was an event that should not be missed in the future.

March 31st was our Annual Barbeque and Easter Egg Hunt. The children loved it and the adults were observed having a good time too. Military families from Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale and Coast Guard Air Station Miami were there. It was an old fashioned picnic.

April is Admiral's month starting with the Freedom Award luncheon aboard MV Caribbean Princess on April 1, 2007. Two of our members were recognized for their achievements. The Freedom Award was presented to Mr. Jerry Rosenthal, BCNL and the Lori J. Murphy Volunteer Appreciation Award was presented to Celeste Keegan, BCNL. An award she truly deserves for her long term dedication to the men and women of the sea services. The guest speaker was RADM David W. Kunkel, USCG, Commander Seventh U.S. Coast Guard District.

Our dinner social will feature RADM Hugo Blackwood, USNR. He will speak on the role of the reservist in today's armed services. We will also be giving awards for the Navy and Marine Corps Reservists of the Year.

The end of the month brings Fleet Week and there will be an admiral or two during the series of events. Included will be our famous Broward County Council Junior Officer's, Party at the Riverfront Briny Pub. If you wish to volunteer at Fleet Week events, please call April Davis, Operations Manager for the MDM Group at 954-467-3555.

We are participating in an absolutely wonderful program similar to Toys for Tots, but better. It is the United Through Reading Program. It is the most heart rending program I can remember in my lifetime involvement with the Navy as a child and an adult. We send children's books to the USS Bataan LHD-5. They arrange for the Dad or Mom to be video taped while reading a book to their child. The tape is then sent to the family to enjoy while their loved one is at sea. This is a great way to help hold military families together during long deployments. Can you imagine the look on a child's face as their parent comes off the ship holding THE BOOK in their hand?

Robert N. Hein

President
RNH1@earthlink.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 1 - April Fool's Day, Freedom Award Luncheon, Palm Sunday
April 2 - Passover begins
April 6 - Good Friday
April 8 - Easter Sunday
April 9 - Board of Directors Meeting
April 12 - Social dinner
April 22 - Earth Day
April 30 - May 4 - Fleet Week 2007

BIRTHDAYS

Apr 02 Wayne Miller
Apr 20 Peggy Raben
Apr 20 Jerry Rosenthal
Apr 21 Col. Don Bartlett
Apr 23 Richard Kuhta
Apr 24 Dorothy Porges
Apr 29 Rosalind Starr

NEW MEMBERS

Heloise Wu
1819 SE 15th Street #803
Fort Lauderdale 33316-3015
954-760-7547
gniwu@msn.com
Sponsor - Bob Hein

Barbara Bone
7775 Yardley Drive #301
Tamarac, 33321
954-726-8797
Bbone7775@aol.com
Sponsor - Celeste Keegan

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 30- May 4, 2007 - FLEET WEEK. Many volunteers opportunities will be available. Contact April Davis, 954-467-3555..

May 5 and 6, 2007 - McDonald's Air and Sea Show - Fort Lauderdale Beach.

May 10 - Monthly Social at Tropical Acres Restaurant - honoring the Enlisted Person of the Year - Coast Guard Air Station Miami. and the Distinguished Sailor of the Year Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. Capt. Steve Mehling USCG will be the speaker.

May 18 - Friday - 5K run at Coast Guard Air Station Miami - 0630. Volunteers and runners are needed. Contact Celeste at 954-973-7814 for further information.

December 3,4,5,6, 2007 - 20th Anniversary celebration of the commissioning of USS Leyte Gulf CG-55 at Port Everglades. Activities will be centered at the Sheraton Yankee Clipper Hotel. Volunteers are needed. Contact Celeste Keegan at 954-973-7814.

USS Bataan LHD-5 – ET2(SW/AW) Jennifer Bates was named Commander, Naval Surface Forces Atlantic Naval Air Traffic Controller of the Year. The award honors the top technician in the Naval Surface Forces Atlantic air traffic control community. Congratulations to this fine young sailor on her fleet achievement.

USS Leyte Gulf CG-55 – FC1 Piso and FC2 Ladrillono earned the Commander Naval Surface Force Palanx Close in Weapons Systems Excellence Award. Despite the challenges of a demanding operational schedule, the CIWS mounts were maintained in the highest state of readiness in the Atlantic Fleet. They should be justifiably proud of their accomplishment and commitment to excellence.

USS New Orleans LPD-18 was commissioned on March 10, 2007 in New Orleans, LA. The only ship in recent Navy history to be built and commissioned in the same city.

USS John F. Kennedy CV-67 was decommissioned in Mayport, Florida on March 23, 2007. The end of the era of CV's. All the new carriers are designated CVN.



Corcoran Associates
305-371-7612

Downtown Saloon
954-463-9800

Grady Marine Construction, Inc.
954-523-1212

Todd Kazdan DO
954-581-7660

Resolve Marine, Inc.
954-764-8700

Ship Supply of Florida

Tropical Acres Restaurant
954-989-2500

SUPPORTERS

Bahia Cabana Resort

Publix Cordova Road
954-847-2844

Second Edition Book Shop
954-431-0884

Walmart
4700 Flamingo Road Cooper City

Wayward Sailor Pub
3045 North Federal Hwy. FTL

Membership News

Visit our website at: www.bcnavyleague.org. It is very informative.

Council "Challenge" coins are now available. Cost - \$6.00. Contact Joe Giambrone at 954-389-0545.

Reminder to ALL members – If you make a dinner reservation and do not cancel 24 hours in advance, you will receive a bill for that event. We are obligated to pay for the number of dinners we order. Thank you.

Travelers

Celeste Keegan traveled to Norfolk to present the USS Leyte Gulf CG-55 sailors of the year with their plaques, certificates and checks from the Council for their achievement and spent an enjoyable day on board visiting with the Captain and crew.

Jay and Dorothy Porges went to Charleston for a family wedding and then enjoyed a cruise with their daughter and grandson.

Tom and Sandra Jones visited their daughter in New York state and got reminded of why we live in South Florida – blizzard and below freezing temperatures!!!!

The McGonagle's enjoyed a cruise aboard MV Maasdam.

Ailing and Recovering

Other events of interest

VP Brian Kling was honored by the Broward Chapter of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association as the Chapter Member of the Year for all of his good work. Congratulations Brian. We are proud of you.

Congratulations to the NJROTC of Flanagan High School. They took First Place again this year in the Florida State Competition and will move on to the national finals. Well done ladies and gentlemen. We are very proud of you.

Ship Greetings and Events

USS Arleigh Burke DDG-51 and USS Mahan DDG-72 visited Miami from March 16-20 along with the German frigate Sachsen and the Royal Navy vessel Wave Rimmer and were hosted by the Miami Council NLUS.

USS Blackhawk MCH -58 visited Coast Guard Station Miami in March and was hosted by the Miami Council NLUS.

SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

USS Leyte Gulf CG-55 Sailor of the Year



OS3 Dean Graunke

Hometown: Rochester, New York
Duty Title: Operations Specialist – Surface Watch Supervisor
Time in the Navy: Three years
Why I joined the Navy: To have the opportunity to get an education while being able to travel the world and see things I would have never otherwise seen.
Most exciting/rewarding Navy experience: Being recognized by the Command Sergeant Major of the Army for achievements and hard work over the past few months, and receiving his personal coin.
Greatest achievement since joining the Navy: Named USS Leyte Gulf's Blue Jacket of the Year for 2006.
Goal hoping to achieve before leaving the Navy: To continue learning as much as I can, not only about my rate but about jobs that exist around me. (through OJT and ESWS)
Plans after Navy life: To finish my Bachelor's Degree and start a career in a field that can provide for my wife and future children.
The thing I like most about my job is: Knowing that we work side by side with people making some of the most important decisions in regards to the welfare and safety of this ship. No matter what is going on we are direct advisors to Officers, which allows for instant feedback on your performance. Once you get good at our job, its very rewarding to see your knowledge paying off.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello Everyone,

We've passed a third of the time allowed to be on deployment. No, I'm still sane. I've not fallen into a trap or become obsessed with the quote, "Beware the Ides of March". You'll receive this newsletter in April.

The USS Bataan LHD 5 and the USS Nitze DDG 94 have been off the coast of East Africa for almost two months now. Mothers and fathers of these people must be so proud. They know their sons and daughters are protecting our freedoms.

But as I look at the newspapers, and see all the tears shed for those leaving, and the joyful faces at the time these people return to the shores of America, I can't but be proud to be a mom of one of these men, and an American.

They are not in this part of the world to spread terror or hatred. They are there to show the rest of the world, that became lost, the right way to live. Maybe they need to follow the crumbs back to the path which long ago was started with love.

Come home soon, guys and gals, safely.

Robert we'll all be waiting for you.

Mom,

Denise Hein, Editor



BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
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Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33339-9252

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS ACTIVITY PLAN 2007

Internal education will include monthly reports by the vice president of legislative affairs to the Board of Directors including reviews and evaluations of new issues. Members will be notified by email of urgent action items.

External education

1. Will invite local dignitaries to dinner meetings and socials
2. Will utilize Council programs such as the NJROTC, MCJROTC and Fleet Week Air/Sea Show to promote the sea services.
3. Will use press releases to spotlight issues rather than just information about the Council. We have to figure a way to promote the Council but at the same time tell why we did what we did.
4. Make appearances and give presentations on the mission of the Navy League to community organizations.
5. Present ideas to bring out Navy/Marine Corps//Coast Guard support to the local perspective.

Congressional Education/Cooperation

1. The three members of Congress we have been assigned to deal with are very different in their constituencies, agendas and committee assignments.
2. The Diaz-Balart brothers have visited Coast Guard District 7 and are strong in their support of a strong military presence and Homeland security interests.
3. Rep. Kendrick Meek will need education to demonstrate how the Navy League and the council will help him with his agenda to improve conditions for his constituents, especially as related to the fact that the military is the best training ground for minorities with limited opportunities for advanced education and training.

These goals will be addressed through internal education of the membership to improve the member's grasp of the political and budget process and how it benefits or threatens our areas of interest. Members may be advised of new issues and requests to respond to appropriate government entities as necessary.

External education will be the responsibility of the council members. Materials will be given to them to use when out in public to show the importance of the sea services, especially in the South Florida area.

Congressional education will begin when the Vice President of Legislative Affairs makes appointments with the local representatives assigned to Our Council and learns more about their feelings on various issues. Military liaison officers in the area will be contacted to see what information, visits, briefing and events the members of congress have participated in with the sea services.

FLEET WEEK 2007

Fleet Week 2007 will be held in Port Everglades and other venues from April 30 to May 4, 2007 followed by the McDonald's Air/Sea Show on May 5 and 6 on the Fort Lauderdale beach.

The following ships are expected to be in Port Everglades for the event:

- USS Kearsarge LHD-3
- USS Ponce LPD-15
- USS Gunston Hall LSD-44
- USS San Jacinto CG-56
- USS Forest Sherman DDG-98 and an unnamed attack submarine.

The U.S. Coast Guard will have representatives from District 7 (Miami)

The ships will be open for tours on May 1, 2 and 3 in the morning hours ONLY.

If you and your friends wish to tour any of the ships you must provide the following

Information as soon as possible – Name, Last, first, middle, race, sex, date of birth, Social Security Number, Drivers License number and State of issue, City and State of Birth(or Country if not born in the USA) street address, City, State and zip code along with the date you wish to tour. You will be notified by Pro Series of the time of your visit.

Other events open to the Public

April 30 – ALL HANDS Welcome Party – Seminole Hard Rock Café and Resort
6-8 pm

May 1 - Junior Officers Party – hosted by the Broward County Council NLUS
Riverfront Briny Café – on the river in the Riverfront complex –
6-8 pm

Chief Petty Officers Party – hosted by the CPOA of Miami – Fort
Lauderdale Yacht Club, Fort Lauderdale – 6pm until ???

May 2 - Anchors Aweigh Party – Downtowner Saloon – on south side the river at the
Andrews Avenue bridge – 6-8pm

As other information becomes available you will be notified by email. Hope you will be able to make some of these events and show your support for the men and women of our Sea Services.