



NOW HEAR THIS!

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
BREMERTON-OLYMPIC PENINSULA COUNCIL



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September 2010

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NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

- ★ Pete DeBoer
- ★ Wendy Miles

Rear Admiral Caldwell, Speaker for September 14 Luncheon

While we will all miss Rear Admiral Caldwell and his wonderful wife, Kim, we look forward to having the opportunity to hear him share some thoughts before he leaves for his new assignment as commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He has become such a welcome part of our community through his extensive participation in so many different activities. He and his wife bring a welcome enthusiasm, humor and joy of life to all gatherings. They both also bring a rich appreciation of history as they both come from a long line of military members. We will always remember the great presentation on the Great White Fleet.



Rear Admiral Caldwell currently serves as the commander for Submarine Group 9 and is headquartered at Naval Base Kitsap in Silverdale. He assumed this role on August 7, 2009. He is responsible for the readiness, training, logistical, administrative and personnel support of all U.S. Ballistic Missile (SSBN) and Guided Missile (SSGN) submarines in the Pacific Northwest.

Rear Admiral Caldwell received his commission, graduating with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering. He holds a master's degree in Operational Research from the Naval

Postgraduate School. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Naval Submarine League's Charles A. Lockwood Award.

Rear Admiral Caldwell served on the USS Boston, USS Alabama, USS Buffalo, and commanded the USS Jacksonville, homeported in Norfolk, Virginia and the Submarine Development Squadron in New London, Connecticut.

Ashore, Rear Admiral Caldwell held a wide variety of impressive positions around the world. He was selected for Flag rank

in 2007 and was subsequently assigned as the deputy commander for U.S. Strategic Command's Joint Functional Component Command for Global Strike in Omaha, Nebraska. The same assignment now held by the officer who will replace Caldwell as Subgroup 9 commander, RDML Robert Hennegan.

Come listen to Rear Admiral Frank Caldwell before he leaves for his new assignment in Hawaii and thank he and his wife for their strong support to the military, our council and the community. Please make reservations now with CTC by calling 360.782.5500. Encourage your friends to attend and you will have a great time.

Luncheon Deadline

Call CTC now for your luncheon reservation

360-782-5500



President's Message

Congratulations and thank you to our all volunteer board, Navy League membership and past presidents, for your leadership in our councils continued growth and presence in our community. We are now the largest Navy League Council in the Northwest and are participating in more highly visible events achieving even greater recognition for our Sea Service's officers and enlisted men and women.

By "partnering" more with other community service organizations like the local Chambers of Commerce, Puget Sound Naval Bases Association and Veteran's Organizations, we are approaching new levels of being able to educate both the military and civilian population about the importance of maintaining the world's most capable and effective Navy and Maritime Services.

We're proud to say that we are a 100% volunteer and non-profit national and local organization. 100% of our Corporate, Business and Private donations and

sponsorships are applied to our mission of providing public education and outstanding service awards.

Participating in more events creates greater opportunities for meaningful volunteering. Perhaps you are a writer, photographer, graphic artist, have computer skills or maybe a great smile and handshake that could help us in a variety of ways like reporting on tours or events for the newsletter, helping "meet and greet" at luncheons and other hosted events like the Armed Forces Day events, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, special dinners and Awards Ceremonies and more.

Most of us can find some time to have fun with other volunteers. We're hoping to build up our limited "Free Time" pool of volunteers of members with a variety of interests and skills who are willing to put their time and talents to a good use.

Our goal is to continually improve the quality of our mission and invite you to join in the fun! Please chat with Mike Hancock, our Membership Chair at (360) 698-6477, or me at (206) 365-4219 about how your volunteering could benefit everyone.

*Respectfully submitted,
Gary S. Gunderson*

Navy League National Convention Jacksonville, Florida Online Registration is Now Available

The deadline for registration is October 1, 2010. Detailed information about the National Convention is [online](#) and in the August issue of Seapower magazine. A proxy card is also available in the August Seapower for those members who cannot attend the Annual Meeting of Members.

National Convention Chairman Diane Wright and her committee have developed an exciting program with some terrific optional events. A special opportunity is the Kennedy Space Center tour on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, departing at 7:15 a.m. (cost \$125/person). During this guided tour of the world's largest launch facility, you will get an up-close look at the coastal

launch pads that unleashed the power to put people on the moon and send space shuttles to the International Space Station. The tour culminates at the Apollo/Saturn V Center, home of the largest rocket ever built. As an added bonus, the tour will include personal insights from Mr. Bob Crippen, Navy League Palm Beach Council member, former astronaut and retired Kennedy Space Center Director. Bob was the pilot of STS-1, the first orbital test flight of the Shuttle Columbia, the first true manned winged spaceship. Information regarding this tour and the other optional events may also be found at the link above and in the August and September issues of Seapower magazine.

Change of Command for US Coast Guard Station Seattle

Gig Harbor Council adopted The USCG Station Seattle and established a great relationship with the people stationed there. This effort has been continued by Ken and Janet Weller who have now joined the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council. On August 12, Ken and Janet Weller, Byron Faber, Helen Miller and Carolyn Dankers attended the Change of Command for this station. We bid farewell to LT Melanie Burnham and welcomed LT Kris Tsairis.

LT Burnham invited very few people to her Change of Command and we were honored to be a part of that select group. She clearly has established an excellent working relationship with her group.

Under her watch, she briefly described the duties of the Station. Over 170 lives were saved in just the last year. This group is part of the network along the west coast that checks for smugglers of illegal substances and people. They monitor all of the Puget Sound area and work with the many law enforcement and environmentalist groups to keep us safe and improve our quality of life. This includes monitoring and teaching boater safety.

After the ceremony, we joined the group for a great lunch. Thank you Ken and Janet Weller for your hard work in maintaining such great ongoing relations with this group. Our Council looks forward to continuing what Gig Harbor Council has done for many years.

Coast Guard of the Quarter - Station Seattle

Ken Weller, Coordinator for the Adopted unit of Coast Guard Station Seattle for our Council recently presented a plaque to J. T. McDonald, ME2, USCG along with a savings bond, as part of the recognition for his outstanding work during the first three months of this year.

His commanding officer, LT Burnham, USCG indicated that ME2 McDonald was being recognized for his superior leadership and performance as a Tactical Crewman and Boarding Officer.



He was also described as an excellent role model for others.

She also cited his strong work ethic and dedication to Maritime Law Enforcement has moved him into a role of being the primary contact for all Law Enforcement activities at this unit. ME2 McDonald gave up liberty to help the Station and gave training for junior members. He also attended many different training programs.

Our Council was very pleased to be a part of this ceremony.

Impressive Coast Guard Sector Seattle Tour

On July 26, there were 17 folks from the Navy League who had the privilege of going to the Coast Guard Sector Seattle headquarters to tour the facilities, see the weapons they have for use, participate in the award ceremony for the Sailor of the Quarter, and then have a ride around Elliot Bay waterfront on a 41 foot cutter. It was a very comfortable day and we were quite impressed, once again, by the professionalism of our military folks. LT Melanie Burnham, the commander of the Stations Seattle spoke to us about what the Coast Guard does and how they function in their assigned areas of responsibility.

For lunch, we each donated enough extra to have several of the Coasties join us, which

we all enjoyed very much.

After the lunch, we toured the Vessel Tracking Service where we were shown how the Coast Guard monitors and controls all the shipping in Puget Sound from Olympia to the mouth of the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

We then were treated to a tour of the Homeland Security office for the area, which is called the Joint Harbor Operations Center. Here is where any disaster or threat would be monitored and where the responses, would be coordinated. There is a great integration between the Coast Guard, Navy, local and state police and Canadian authorities.

The final stop of the day was to see the Coast Guard Museum on the base. It houses

historical displays of the Coast Guard's past, as well as a display on the only Coast Guardsman who received the Medal of Honor in WWII.

The tour left us all with a greater appreciation for all that these dedicated people do to make life safer for America.



Names of tour group: Rebecca Alexander, Carolyn Dankers, Byron Faber, Douglas Garner, Susan Granthem, Celia Grether, Steve Grether, Gary Gunderson, Barbara Hobough, Byron Kane, Sally Kane, Helen Miller, Gary Nystul, Joette Nystul, Don Tjossem, Jim Walkowski, Ken Weller and LT Burnham



Council Receives First Place for Parade Entry

This was a busy summer as we participated in the Armed Services Parade in Bremerton, the Fathoms O' Fun Parade in Port Orchard and the Whaling Days Parade in Silverdale.

Local Sailors, Marines and members of the Coast Guard represented their units as they rode aboard a SAFE Boat in the parades. Our President, Gary Gunderson rode in the first two parades and our Treasurer, Tim Katona rode in the Whaling Days Parade representing our council. We received First Place Award for our category in the Fathoms O' Fun parade.



We thank the SAFE Boat Company of Port Orchard for providing one of their exciting vessels for the parades and for their ongoing support of the military.

Thanks to the hard work of Gary Gunderson, Louis Mejia and Carolyn Dankers for their organizational work in making this possible. Thanks also to Sandra Smith for her hard work over many years in making our entry successful. Of course, the real thanks goes to the military representatives who gave their time to participate.

US Marine Corps Sunset Parade a Huge Success

For the first time, the traditional Marine Sunset parade was held at a public venue so that anyone might attend. Over 1,000 people filled the grandstand and the special seating at Silverdale Stadium to watch the Marines and Navy perform. There were many others watching from beyond the fences of the stadium.

Navy Band Northwest greeted visitors with their wonderful music. Marine and Navy members of the US Marine Corps Security Force Battalion at NBK-Bangor worked together to produce a unique parade based upon the strong traditions of the two forces.

The Battalion is the largest Marine Corps Security Force battalion in the world. Since its reorganization in 1977, the Battalion has been awarded the Navy Unit Commendation, three Meritorious Unit Commendations and a Commandant of the Marine Corps Certificate of Commendation.

Thirteen Marines wore uniforms depicting a specific time period in the history of the US Marine Corps. They hope to have a similar display of naval uniforms for the parades next year.

PVT Lucy Brewer II, the new Marine mascot, was presented and awarded her rank.

According to legend, Lucy Brewer was originally a farm girl from Massachusetts, who disguised herself as a man and served as a Member of the USS Constitution Marine guard during the War of 1812.

Civil War re-enactors demonstrated their skills and equipment. Lt Colonel Zachary White and Sergeant Major Smith led some of the events. Captain Mark Olson, Commanding Officer of Naval Base Kitsap and RADM Aucoin also participated in some of the events.

Quite a few Navy League members attended this great event. Our council was delighted to partner with the following to help provide and serve food for the military after the event. Pepsi, Costco, Silver City Brewery, McClouds, Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton Chamber, Silverdale Chamber and Port Orchard Chamber, Ed Hanninfan, the Miss Kitsap Court, Michele Wasson, Michelle Tomlinson at Hampton Inn and Suites, and Mike Strube. A big thanks goes to Cris Larsen for helping coordinate this part of the event and encouraging the Battalion to hold the Parade in a public spot.

See you there next year.

Photos on page five

Naval Base Kitsap Sailors Honored at NL Luncheon

MA2 (EXW) Joseph E. Tent, Jr, was honored for being named Kitsap Junior Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2010. MA1 (EXW/SW) Wayne G. Harris was honored for being named Kitsap Senior Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2010.

Both of these young men, from Naval Base Kitsap, were presented with a personal plaque provided by Patriot's Landing, a gift certificate to a local restaurant and a photo sitting provided by Hudson Photography. Alice Thomas presented these awards with the help of her husband and Past Navy League President, Captain David Thomas, USN, Retired. Master Chief Lucas accompanied both men and spoke of their many accomplishments.

Thanks to the Photographers

Thanks to Karen Ebersole, Susan Larsen, Ron Sleeper, Helen Miller and Byron Faber for capturing the moment. Your photographs really breathe life into our newsletter articles.

US Marine Corps Sunset Parade a Huge Success (Cont'd)



Upcoming Tours



Don't be left behind ... sign up for the next tour now!

Save Friday, September 24 for a tour of the Intermediate Maintenance Facility (IMF) and a Windshield tour of the lower base led by Mr. Tom Danaher.

According to your tour leader, Byron Faber, this event is one of the rarest tours we will get. Very few people get to have the privilege of touring the IMF.

Byron says to meet at the Naval Undersea Museum parking lot at Keyport at 11:30 a.m., where you will board a bus to be taken to lunch on the base at Bangor. You will have a buffet lunch upstairs, where we usually have our Navy

League monthly luncheons. The cost will probably be in the neighborhood of \$13. Captain Don Neubert of IMF hopes to join us for lunch.

The tour is scheduled for an hour and a half and will include very interesting things related to the maintenance of the sub fleet, including seeing a periscope laid out in it's components.

After the tour and a look at the lower base, we will return to the Keyport Museum parking lot.

Please be advised to wear closed toe shoes, and leave your cameras, recording devices, memory cards, laptops, and contraband at home or in your locked car. Contraband is defined a weapons, knives, pepper spray, mace, self-defense items and no alcohol or illegal substances. Carrying some of these on base is a felony offense.

Contact Byron to get on the list and find out the required security information. byfaber@centuryte.net or 360 638-1235

Third Fleet Reception – Seattle



Several members of our Council were invited to attend the Third Fleet Reception that was one of the highlights of Fleet Week in Seattle. Vice Admiral Richard Hunt, Commander of the Navy's Third Fleet hosted the Reception and made us feel very welcome. He is responsible for 50 million square miles of ocean on America's doorstep with a force that is arguably too small

for the job. He supervises about 65,000 sailors and nearly 100 ships and submarines in the eastern and northern Pacific Ocean, which includes the Bering Sea, Alaska, the Aleutian Islands and a segment of the Arctic. His mission is to help oppose terrorists, provide naval assistance for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and safeguard American interests in the face of competitors such as China and Russia.

The Reception was held on board the US Green Bay. This ship is designed to carry Marines into special places. It can carry hovercraft and several types of planes including the Osprey. The ship is designed for both fighting and in humanitarian relief efforts. The guests had fun exploring this ship and talking to the Marines and Sailors who serve aboard.

Area Navy League Councils Work Together

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council, Lake Washington Council and the Everett Council sponsored the annual picnic for the Navy ships that come for Sea Fair and Fleet Week.

This year sailors from the USS Kidd (DDG 100 pulled up to NAVSTA Everett to enjoy the barbecue, spend the night and pick up Sea Cadets, Boy Scouts and other VIP's for a trip to Seattle as part of the Seafair's Fleet Week August 4-8.

The USS Kidd is currently homeported in San Diego. It is the third Navy ship named after RADM Isaac C. Kidd who was the first American flag officer to die in World War II. The current USS Kidd deploys with Carrier Strike Group 3.

At the barbecue, everyone had the opportunity to enjoy free food, music and games, inflatable games and volleyball.

This is the third year that our council has been a sponsor and it is a great opportunity to work with the other councils and to help bring the young people together with the sailors to learn more about life in the Navy.

Annual Retiree Seminar

Our Council has been invited to participate in this free event designed for uniformed and military retirees, spouses and surviving spouses. There will be information available on benefits, medical coverage legislation, veteran's services and other pertinent info. Keynote speakers will answer questions and address concerns. Pre-registration is optional (360-315-3055).

Date: Friday, September 17, 2010

Time: 8 am –1 pm

Where: Bangor Cinema Plus Theater
Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor

Captain Walter A. Huff USMC, Retired

Born: Nov. 14, 1922

Died: Feb 7, 2010

Captain Huff served our country in WW II as a Marine. He lived in Sequim and was a member of our council participating in our luncheons and the tours. He was recognized at our Marine Birthday Celebrations as our oldest Marine and was given the first piece of cake. Thanks to Henry Alexieff for bringing Walter Huff to events and to being a good friend to this fine gentleman.

Navy League of the United States Mission Statement and Goals

A civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that its national defense and economic well being are dependent upon strong sea services – United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard and the United States Merchant Marine.



Navy League Goals

1. Educate national leaders and the nation.
2. Support the men and women of the sea services.
3. Provide assistance to the sea service families.
4. Support the youth program.

Planning Ahead

**For best service, register early for the luncheon and the tours.
See article on tours for registration information and dates.**

Sept. 1	Council Board Mtg, 5:30 p.m. Reid Real Estate, Silverdale
Sept. 8	Deadline for newsletter articles for October c.dankers@wavecable.com
Sept. 9	Luncheon Registration Deadline Call CTC 360 782-5500
Sept. 14	RADM Caldwell, luncheon speaker, 11 a.m. Bangor Plaza, Bangor
Sept. 6,	Labor Day Holiday – Please fly the flag
Sept. 9-10	Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 10	Naval Sea Cadet Corps Anniversary – Celebrate their birthday
Sept. 11,	Patriot Day – please fly the flag at half-staff
Sept. 17,	POW/MIA Recognition Day - please fly the flag Constitution Day/Citizenship Day US Air Force birthday Yom Kippur begins at sundown Retirement Seminar, Bangor active and retired military (see article)
Sept. 24	IMF Tour contact Byron Faber now! (See article)

Now Hear This! is the official newsletter of the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council of the Navy League of the United States. It is published monthly and provided to all members.

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We welcome your comments and story ideas. Items for publication, changes of address, and inquires should be sent to:

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