



Now Hear This!



Navy League of the United States

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

Volume 62, Issue 01

January 2009

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The 2009 BROLPN Installation Dinner

January 16, 2009 This is your chance to thank and roast our 2008 Officers and Board, enjoy a quick review of the highlights of 2008, celebrate our Community Affiliates and Corporate Sponsors and install our new Officers and Board Members for 2009.

We are looking forward to a fun

night filled with music and laughter.

Please telephone or mail your reservation as soon as possible. Make certain that your reservations are made by January 9, 2009.

Complete information is on the flyer in this newsletter.

For additional information call 360 373-2686

Operation Holiday Spirit



Richard Becker, Service Area Director - Western Washington, for TriWest Healthcare Alliance along with local TriWest staff members, present Tina Salter, Board of Directors Member and Committee Co-Chair, a generous contribution for "Operation Holiday Spirit."

Tina Salter and Alice Thomas, co chairs of Operation Holiday Spirit report great success with our first year of reaching out to local military families during the holiday season to help ring some added joy and laughter. Our members have been very generous and local organizations and businesses have been so supportive of the program. Everyone wants to show appreciation for all that the military and their families do for us on a daily basis.

We are excited that the **Marine Toys for Tots Program** will join with us this

year. Thanks to the Coordinator, Marine Harry Tachell.

Our special thanks go to the following:

Community Affiliates

AMI International
Land title & Escrow
Reid Real Estate
Skookum

Businesses and organizations

All Star Lanes
Costco Wholesale
Famous Dave's Bar-B-Q
Massi Aviation
Northwest Golf Range & Timer Falls
Miniature golf
Obrigado/ Lisa
Obrigado/Tony Milan II
Poulsbo Marine Science Center
Poulsbo Chamber of Commerce
Point Defiance Zoo
Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
Retired Officers Wives Association (ROWA)
Seaport Spa
Silver City Brewing Company
Steel Magnolias
That's-a-some-Italian Ristorante
Toys for Tots

The Northwest Region Chaplains provided the important link for our Council and the families. Thank you for your constant care of those who serve and their families.

Submitted by Carolyn Dankers

Northwest Navy Notes: January 2009

"The Pirate and the Fisherman"

By Rear Adm. James A. Symonds, Commander, Navy Region Northwest

Imagine a fisherman from a village in the developing world. He may live in Africa, Southeast Asia, or South America. He supports himself and his family as his people have done for hundreds of years. But recently his catches have been smaller: His country's naval forces



and coast guards are too small and underfunded to stop the illegal drift net operations that deplete local fish stocks. He's bringing in less money and can no longer afford to send his children to school. The village water well is old and poorly maintained, and his wife is ill from drinking contaminated water. There is little medical care available, and doesn't make enough money to pay for even that. The information he receives about the outside world comes from radical militiamen that come through his village and spread messages of hate about America. The prospects for he and his neighbors look grim... they don't have much left to support themselves, except for their boats and their guns.

Now imagine that same fisherman, from that same village. But now, his catch is improving. U.S. Navy ships are helping his country enforce fisheries laws, and illegal drift netters are staying away. His family is healthy... a Navy SEABEE Battalion spent a few weeks in his village, repairing the well and renovating the school house. Their drinking water is clean, and his children are in school learning in a more modern environment. A Navy medical team spent three days giving

free vaccinations and dental care to everyone. Now diseases that killed or weakened scores of the fisherman's fellow villagers are now eradicated. He's able to support his family, his children have a bright future, and for their prosperity and hope they credit the United States

of America.

The most effective way to fight piracy and activities like drug trafficking and terrorism, is to create conditions where those activities aren't the only viable ways to make a living. Poverty, disease, failing governments, lack of education, lack of hope-- those conditions breed piracy. In today's globalized world, the actions of a few criminals from a village in East Africa can cause problems right here in Western Washington.

"A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower," the Maritime Strategy, elevates humanitarian assistance to a core Navy mission. Through actions like ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S tsunami relief work and the PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP operation involving USNS MERCY, we've found that humanitarian operations require relatively little cost, but produce great rewards. Navy ships and assistance teams spending just a few days in an impoverished yet strategically important area can change thousands of lives for the better, and reap huge benefits for decades to come. Sea power today is working for a more secure and prosperous tomorrow, and helping make the difference between pirates and fishermen.

Membership Mysteriously Continues to Grow

This is a strange month for the membership report. We did not have any new members or new business memberships, but our numbers are higher this month than ever before--we are at 573 members. There must have been some late renewals or something to account for an increase in our numbers without any new members this month.

Whatever the reason, congratulations to everyone for our continued growth and march towards 600 members.

The Navy League National Membership is sponsoring a new member recruiting contest. For each new member recruited, you get one chance to win a \$500 gift card. i.e. 10 new members equals 10 chances to win. Bring in those new members!

*Submitted by Larry Salter,
Membership Chairman*

Nametags

Get that official membership look by ordering your magnetic nametag now. Until February 1, the price is \$8. To meet rising costs, the price will then go to \$10.

Either order your nametag at our monthly luncheon or call Carolyn Dankers at 360 769-7415 or email c.dankers@wavecable.com.

Information Update

Please send any change of contact information to our wonderful database manager, Larry Salter. We need current mailing address, E-mail address and phone numbers for all of our members

Larry's E-mail address is: lsalter@msn.com.

Please Join Us...

Annual Installation Dinner for Navy League Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

Date: Friday January 16, 2009

*Where: Kitsap Conference
Center at Bremerton Haborside*

Social Hour: 6:00 to 6:45 pm

*Program and Dinner
\$50.00 per person
\$325 per table of eight*

*Who is invited: Open members,
military, other organizations,
civic and business community*

*Dress:
Military – Service Dress Blue
Other – Business Attire*

*Parking:
Green and Red level \$4.00*

Program:

Thank you (roast) 2008 Officers and Board, welcome incoming members.

Installation of new Board of Directors

Review and Highlights of 2008

Speaker(s) to be announced

Special Recognition of Community Affiliates.

President recognition and awards

Menu (your choice):

Flat Iron Steak
Herb Encrusted Salmon
Tri-colored Tortellini



R.S.V.P.

Name:		
Number and Name(s) in Party:		
Reserve Full Table? Yes/No		
Entree Choice (number of each):	Steak <input type="checkbox"/>	Salmon <input type="checkbox"/> Tortellini <input type="checkbox"/>
Daytime phone number:		

Please mail the above information, along with payment to: PO Box 626, Bremerton Wa 98337 or call (360) 373-2686.

Ivy Green Cemetery is Veteran's Final Resting Place

Naval Hospital Bremerton's chief petty officer (CPO) selectees showed respect for those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country by helping to renovate the hallowed ground of Ivy Green Cemetery of Bremerton.

There are approximately 6,000 people laid to rest at the cemetery, of which several thousand are military veterans. Ivy Green is also the resting site for Navy Quartermaster John H. Nibbe, who was one of the earliest recipients of the Medal of Honor, was cited for his courage under fire while on the gun boat USS Peterel during Civil War action on the Yazoo River in 1864.

"It's an honor to be able to come here and help out," said Chief Hospital Corpsman (sel) Mark Coulombe, one of the NHB volunteers undertaking the community relations project. Just being here is symbolic and is a mark of respect to our roots.

The CPO-selectees and their chief petty officer sponsors handled ground-keeping chores and replaced railroad ties that served as steps to the Navy Plot. They chipped, sanded and painted worn-ports on the replica of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and completely spruced-up Nibbes grave marker and site.

According to Don Hock, City of Bremerton Parks and Recreation Department cemetery grounds keeper and manager, the original cemetery opened in 1898 and expanded in 1902. There are veterans from every branch of the service from as far back as the Civil War and Spanish-American War, both World Wars, the Korean War and Vietnam War. "We don't have any yet from Iraq or Afghanistan, knock on wood," Hock said. "There is a lot of history here,"

said Chief Gunners Mate (sel) Kevin Wyant, engaged in cleaning up the Navy plot. "Being here lets us give back to our community."

The Navy plot is the largest in the cemetery and is the final resting place for 61 crew members killed in action on USS Saratoga, CV-3, Feb. 21, 1945, off Iwo Jima. The Saratoga was brought back to the Bremerton shipyard for necessary repairs, related Hock. There were remains on board that couldn't be identified after the ship was bombed by attacking Japanese airplanes, so the best way to honor them all was with a group memorial.

Little Known Sports Fact – Earl Smith a Golfer?



You might already know that Earle Smith was the #1 golfer on the Naval Academy Team his senior year (1956-57). Yes, that's 51 years ago! He was also captain of the Naval Academy football team that same year. The Naval Academy Golf Team won the Eastern Intercollegiate Golf Tournament that year and came in 4th in the National Collegiate Golf Tournament in Colorado Springs. They were an incredible team!

BROLPN & the Public Invited to Concert Series

Navy Band Northwest invites you to attend their upcoming concert. Concerts are free and open to the general public.

January 14, 2009 - Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. Martin Luther King Commemoration Ceremony Naval Undersea Museum, Keyport, WA Navy Band Northwest's Brass Quintet, "Five Star Brass"

Feel free to contact Navy Band Northwest Public Affairs office at (360) 315-3447 or by email at NavyBandNW.CNRNW@navy.mil.

*Submitted by MU2 Justin Belka,
Public Affairs Coordinator
Navy Band Northwest*

November Luncheon Draws Excellent Attendance

We were back on schedule in December and our December 9 luncheon at Bangor Plaza was attended by over 75 members. If you were not there, you missed a great presentation by Bob Nugent, a former U.S. Assistant Naval Attaché in Moscow who is currently employed by AMI International. He is an expert on Soviet affairs and discussed the Russian Military adventurism, the invasion and occupation of Russia into the former Soviet State of Georgia and how it is affecting world stability along with his outlook on other unsettling moves currently being undertaken by the Soviets

Remember to call CTC 360-782-5500 early for reservations for the January luncheon if you need to be on the base access list. If you have base access without being on the Navy League list, please call Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) 360-782-5500 to RSVP so we have a head count.

Blueback Submarine Council Spreads Holiday Spirit

Sailors from the Portland, Ore., Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) received some assistance during the holiday season courtesy of the local Navy League of the United States Blueback Submarine Council. The council provided Sailors in need and their families with gift cards to local grocery stores, brand new clothes and toys for their children. This is the second year the council provided aid for Sailors and Marines in the Portland-Vancouver area.

Elly Steacy, who heads the council, went door-to-door selling candy from September through early December, totaling \$2,600 worth of candy, enabling her to buy clothes and toys for service member's children. She also contacted local businesses for donations.

"In today's economy, when Reservists are losing their civilian jobs, Soldiers and

Sailors, particularly enlisted personnel, are in dire need during the holiday season," said Steacy. "One of our (council's) purposes is to help and support the troops."

NOSC Portland's commanding officer, Cmdr. Jami Mason, worked in partnership with the council by having units under her command provide lists of personnel who could use assistance. "It is my job as commanding officer to do everything I can to support my people," said Mason. After all, supporting the person also helps support the mission. Mason also said, "Many of the recipients have children who may otherwise not receive Christmas gifts or a

hearty holiday meal." Mason and Steacy are hoping to continue this holiday tradition of helping service members throughout the coming year, and next Christmas as well.

Provided through the courtesy of "Northwest Navigator"

"AL QAEDA" TO BE TOPIC AT JANUARY 13th NAVY LEAGUE LUNCHEON

The monthly luncheon for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League will be held on Tuesday, January 13th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Bangor Plaza Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor. Kaj Ahlburg, who watched the 9/11 attacks from his office window in Manhattan, will be talking about "Al Qaeda and Islamic Terrorism".

Mr. Ahlburg practiced law and investment banking for 19 years in New York City. He is a member of the International Association for Counterterrorism & Security Professionals. He has attended conferences on Islamic terrorism at the Intelligence Summit, Terrorism Research Center and America's Truth Forum. He traveled to Israel to learn from the Israel Law Center about the terrorist threat there. We are indeed privileged to have him serve as our Guest Speaker.

The public is invited to attend, but must make reservations and enter only through the Main Gate off Luoto Road. Call Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) (360-782-5500) no later than noon on Tuesday, January 6th. The cost of the luncheon is \$15/person.

*Submitted by Larry Salter
Membership Chairman*

Bulletin Board

from the Board of Directors

■ **Board Minutes** – A complete copy of the minutes of the Board of Director's meeting is available by contacting our Council Secretary, Byron Faber, at byfaber@centurytel.net.

■ **Elections** – Mark Lowe and Louis Mejia were elected to the 2009 Board of Directors at the November meeting of the Council.

■ **Committee Chair Requested** – USS Alabama completes her overhaul and conversion from Trident I to Trident II in May. The ship is planning a "Return to Service Ceremony" in May or June. Following the precedent of the SSGN's, Gary Gunderson has been asked to look into our Council assisting the USS Alabama with the Return to Service Ceremony.

■ **Operation Holiday Spirit** – Over \$4,100 donated from business, affiliates members and our Council. Gift Cards and Holiday items to go to Chaplin Brown right after the December luncheon.

■ **Lone Sailor** – Donations total over \$243,000. Additional fundraising still needed for the Dedication Ceremony and Interpretive Wall.

■ **Administrative Assistant** – With our growth in membership and Council activities it has been proposed that the Council hire a part time Administrative Assistant. A committee chaired by Sandra Smith has been formed to look into the feasibility.

■ **Change of Location for Monthly Luncheons Discussed** – Due to the difficulty of getting Council Members on base, a committee chaired by Sandra Smith has been formed to look into moving our monthly luncheons to another location.

■ **Armed Forces Gala** – The date and location has been announced – May 18, 2009 at the Admiral Theatre.

■ **Veteran's Day 2009** – The Kitsap County Board of Commissioners has approved the use of the Kitsap Pavilion at no charge for the next two years.

Veterans No Longer Breaking the Law

For Veterans that have been saluting during the playing the national anthem can now rest at ease. The Defense Authorization Act of 2009, signed into law by President Bush on October 19th, amends Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code, allowing veterans and active duty personnel out of uniform to salute the flag during the playing of the national anthem. The original law, National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, forgot to include the national anthem when it authorized hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag. So now we can do both.

SEC. 1081. MILITARY SALUTE FOR THE FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NOT IN UNIFORM AND BY VETERANS.

Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

(A) Individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

(B) Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

(C) All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

*Information provided by
Ed Friedrich, The Kitsap Sun*

Comings & Goings

In a recent change of command ceremony while underway in the Eastern Pacific Ocean on board USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG60) **Cmdr. David Stuffle relieved Cmdr. James Minta** as commanding officer of the Everett-based frigate.

The ceremony marked the culmination of Minta's first at-sea command during which he led Davis in a highly successful unit level training period followed by the beginning of a counter-narcotics terrorism deployment. Minta will next report to Headquarters, European Command in Stuttgart, Germany.

Davis is Stuffle's second at-sea command. He previously commanded USS Gladiator (MCM 11). He reports from Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington DC.

Davis is deployed under the operational control of U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (NAVSO) as part of the Joint/Inter-Agency Task Force conducting counter-narcotics terrorism operations in the Eastern Pacific.

Fleet Readiness Center Northwest was recently commissioned as one of the Navy's newest activities. Witnessed by more than 500 people, Commander, Electronic Attack Wing Pacific, **Capt. Brad Russell** pinned the coveted Command Ashore insignia on the unit's first commanding officer, **Cmdr. James M. Parish**. The commissioning transitioned what used to be known as the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department, or AIMD, was officially established as FRC NW. The command pennant was presented immediately following the pinning.



Mark Lowe elected to the 2009 Board of Directors at the November meeting of the Council.

IMPORTANT LUNCHEON ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be aware and help us comply with the base security rules for gaining access to Naval Base Kitsap, Bangor, for the monthly luncheons. Unfortunately, there will be no "permanent" list available. **You must RSVP for every monthly luncheon to ensure you are on the list.** We must also confirm that everyone on our list is a U.S. citizen. We are required to submit our list to the base 5 working days prior to each event. For the January luncheon, this means you must RSVP not later than 12:00 on January 6. To RSVP, and be included on the list, call Karolyn at Concurrent Technologies Corporation, at 360-782-5500, not later than noon on January 6. The Navy League luncheon access list will be available at the main gate on the day of the luncheon. Thank you for your cooperation.

Remembrance Ceremony Held at Keyport

A few of our Council Members attended the remembrance ceremony that Naval Base Kitsap, Keyport held for the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor at the Naval Undersea Warfare Museum Dec. 7. The ceremony was in commemoration of the 67th anniversary of the Day that will live in Infamy, by what was then Imperial Japan, and was the 15th such ceremony held at Keyport.

Capt. Stephen Iwanowicz, commander, Naval Undersea Warfare Center and master of ceremonies, spoke to a maximum occupancy crowd of survivors, veterans, active duty personnel and their families and friends about what Pearl Harbor meant for the future of the country.

“Let us never forget the sacrifices that were made on that day and so many others for the continuation of the principles that guide this great country,” said Iwanowicz. “Their strength, drive, and devotion to the United States and its people brought us all through those troubled times and achieved supreme victory for our combined cause.”

At the end of the ceremony, the floor was opened to the audience, where survivors of the attack were invited to give their own, first-hand accounts. Tom Bird, a former crew member of USS Tennessee (BB 43), joked that he and his crewmates were some of the only Sailors awake when the attack first started. “I guess we had a pretty good crew,” said Bird, as the audience and fellow survivors laughed. Bird struck a serious note as well, noting how he felt like more should have been done to prevent the attack, and how unprepared everyone was. “I won’t get into the politics of it all, but I know a lot could have been done differently. The important thing is we learned from our mistakes and became stronger than ever before, he said. That type of attack would be impossible today.

South Kitsap High School Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps

The Navy program was established by act of Congress in 1964 and pushed by GEN Colin Powell then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs as a vehicle to assist in the growth of citizenship and leadership among our youth. The Army had a JROTC in place well before the other services but with the impetus given by the Chairman and Congress the Navy Junior Reserve Officers training Corps (NJROTC) was established.

South Kitsap H. S. NJROTC was established December of 1996 and has been very active in the school and community ever since. The objective of the program is to instill a sense of accountability and responsibility in our young men and women, giving them a better understanding of their government and how it operates while teaching them that they must give back to their community if they want it to flourish and grow. There is training, both hands on and scholastic, in the art of good leadership.

Our unit is set up like and active duty naval unit with a cadet Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Operations, Administration, Supply etc., and Enlisted cadet Seaman Recruit through cadet Master Chief Petty Officer. The cadets work their way up the chain of command through demonstrated effort, initiative and individual performance. Selection to Chief Petty Officer and above is done through cadet input and over seen by SgtMaj Brook USMC (Ret) and CAPT Tetrick USN (Ret). Promotion to the top four positions is by a cadet Selection Board made up of the top four first year cadets, the cadet CO, XO, OPSO, CMC. SgtMaj Brooks or CAPT Tetrick acts as a tie breaker.

The South Kitsap Wolf Company has been selected as a distinguished unit (Top 30% in the Nation) for the last eight years, a tribute to the outstanding young

men and women who have passed through our unit on their way to becoming strong, responsible and trust worthy citizens of this great Country.

It has and continues to be SgtMaj Brooks and my pleasure to help guide and direct these terrific students. I look forward to the experience each and everyday.

*Edward L. Tetrick, CAPT USN(Ret)
Submitted by Carolyn Dankers*

Help us honor our local servicemen!

Both the service members name and the sponsor name appear on both sides of these banners.



Please visit our website at www.kitsapbluestar.org for additional information.

Blue Star Banner Program of Kitsap County
P.O. Box 841 • Seabeck, WA 98380
Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated.





Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council
Navy League of the United States
Post Office Box 626
Bremerton, WA 98337-0131

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Planning Ahead

Wed	Jan 7	Board of Director's meeting - 5:30 pm Reid Real Estate, Silverdale
Tuesday	Jan 13	Monthly Luncheon Meeting - 11:30 am Bangor Plaza
Wed	Jan 14	Martin Luther King Commemoration Ceremony - 11:00 am Naval Undersea Museum, Keyport Navy Band Northwest's Brass Quintet "Five Star Brass"
Friday	Jan 16	Installation Dinner – 6:00 p.m. Bremerton Harborside Conference Center
Wed	Feb 4	Board of Director's meeting - 5:30 pm Reid Real Estate, Silverdale
Tuesday	Feb 10	Monthly Luncheon Meeting - 11:30 am Bangor Plaza Program – Saturday
Saturday	Feb 14	Happy Valentine's Day

This Date in History

January 16, 1930 – USS Lexington provides power to Tacoma, WA, when floods knocked out city power plants.

 **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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