

2006 COUNCIL OFFICERS

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NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

★ Ms. Junay Johanson



President's Corner

As Summer arrives, things may actually be slowing down a little for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council. We get a couple months of reduced activity before our next big events- the Annual Dinner in October and the Veterans Day Celebration in November.

We had a great turnout and the weather held for the Memorial Day Event aboard the USS Turner Joy. See the accompanying article and pictures (by Vern Young) for a more detailed account. Stan Mack, the Council Treasurer, put together a great ceremony that went off flawlessly-thanks Stan.

Six current members and our newest member, Junay Johanson (her husband Brad is the new Commanding Officer of the John C. Stennis), made the trek to Seattle for the joint event with the Seattle Council at Tillicum Village. This was another great

event and the weather was perfect for this time of the year. A good time was had by all and was recorded for history in a photo.

We had another great luncheon on the 13th with our guest speaker Captain Chuck LaSota, Commanding Officer of the Special Weapons Facility, Pacific (SWFPAC). Dave Thomas has again captured the meat of the presentation in his accompanying article. I asked the membership to help me out with four tasks and I was really excited that more members volunteered than I needed-thanks to those who volunteered. Your Council is very active, you can help in small ways without having to sign up for a large time commitment. Every little bit helps. Again, thank you.

I use "great" a lot in my articles. I could come up with other adjectives that describe all the wonderful things that are going in our Council, but "great" certainly captures my opinion of the efforts of the Board of Directors and our members and what those efforts are producing in way of support for the Sea Services. Thanks for all that you do.

Larry

Council Nominating Committee Established

The Council By-Laws require that a Nominating Committee be established annually. It shall be comprised of the following:

- a. a member appointed by the President - this year that person is Carol Meteney.
- b. two members selected by the Board of Directors - the Board selected Past Presidents Will Lent and John Payne.
- c. two members elected by a vote of the membership - the vote was held at the June 13th luncheon - Ron Testa and Tim Katona were elected.

Notice of membership of this Committee shall be announced sixty days in advance of the annual meeting and a report of the Committee shall be made to the membership at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall select at least one nominee for each office and nominations may be made from the floor at the election meeting. No member of the Nominating Committee shall be eligible for nomination to any elective office. This article serves as the 60 day announcement required by the By-Laws. If any Council members would like to get involved in the Board of Directors as an Officer, please contact Carol Meteney.

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 mailed to all members.

Editors Kirk Piering and James Klose

Editor (Web Issue) Dave Shafer

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

Editor
Now Hear This
PO Box 626
Bremerton, WA 98337-0131

or email: lkpiering@raytheon.com



Tim Katona, owner of Evergreen Transfer and Storage, with his new Community Affiliate membership plaque which was presented by Larry Salter. Photo by Carol Meteney

Strategic Weapons Facility Pacific Update

Captain Chuck LaSota, Commanding Officer of Strategic Weapons Facility Pacific, provided our membership with an update on his command at the June luncheon. Captain LaSota was accompanied by Lt. Col. Jim Dillon, Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Security Force Company; Master Chief Perkins, Command Master Chief; and Public Affairs Officer Denise Barnes. He started by thanking the membership for supporting the Sailors and Marines of his command.

Captain LaSota described the priorities at SWFPAC, which are Safety, Security, Quality, Schedule, and Productivity/Efficiency. He explained their importance to meeting the command mission, which is to provide missiles and weapons systems support to the fleet (SSBNs, SSGNs, and SSNs). SWFPAC has a workforce of 1561 including government workers and contractors working alongside Sailors and Marines. The SWFPAC security force comprises about 50% of the workforce. Training and qualifications include indoctrination of new people, production schools, formal qualifications, and annual re-certifications. SWFPAC capabilities include Missile Assembly and Testing, a Calibration facility that supports all ships in the region, and support of START treaty inspections.

Captain LaSota described the challenges of handling Trident II D-5 missiles now versus the Trident I C-4 missiles the command handled just a few years ago. The Trident II D-5 missile is almost twice as heavy as the Trident I C-4 requiring larger

handling equipment and slower operations. He emphasized that preparations to load a missile take almost a month, even though the loading evolution is completed in a single day. Captain LaSota discussed the recent successful FCET-35 conducted by USS Alaska, which proved the accuracy and reliability of the Trident Weapon System.

SWFPAC won the Strategic Systems Program Raborn Award for the second year in a row this year, the third time that the command has won the award, for best facility within the SSP claimancy.

by David Thomas



June Luncheon speaker Captain Chuck LaSota receiving the traditional Navy League "speakers mug" from Council President Larry Salter. Photo by Carol Meteney

Navy League Float Placed First

The results are out for the trophy winners of the June 24th Port Orchard "Fathoms O' Fun Parade". Our Navy League float won First Place in the "Military and Veterans Groups" entries. I believe this is a first for that parade.

We were very fortunate to have had the Navy Region NW Band marching along with our float this year. The Navy Band won an additional award, the "Appreciation Award." The "Armed Forces Festival Ambassadors," who are the young people who always assist us with our "Armed Forces Day Gala," won first place in the "Visiting Royalty" category. So, all in all, it was a very successful (although hot) day.

Thanks to the "Puget Sound Naval Bases Association" for sponsoring our float for this year's "Fathoms O' Fun" parade. Thanks to Ron Testa for riding on the float and representing our Navy League council. President Larry was out of town for this one.

by Sandra Smith



Pictured are some of the managers from Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) displaying their new membership plaque, presented by Council President Larry Salter at far right. Photo by Carol Meteney.

Navy League Visits Tillicum Village



The recent Tillicum Village event was enjoyed by seven Navy Leaguer's from Bremerton and nine from Seattle. The weather was perfect for a great boat ride; the salmon dinner was wonderful; and the cultural entertainment was interesting. There was even time for a stroll around the beautiful Blake Island setting before the boat ride back to Seattle. Seattle Council President Diane Jaffa did a great job in setting up the event, working the logistics, and getting us a substantial discount. We hope to try more joint council events in the future.

Photo Courtesy Diane Jaffa

Coast Guard Receives Upgraded Helicopter



The Coast Guard recently delivered the first of three re-engined HH-65 Dolphin helicopters to Coast Guard Air Station Port Angeles as part of the Deepwater Program.

Twin-engine HH-65 helicopters are particularly well-suited for search and rescue, fisheries patrols, maritime security, border patrol, monitoring illegal immigration, and drug interdiction.

The Deepwater Program is the largest modernization and recapitalization program in the history of the Coast Guard. The remaining two helicopters are scheduled to be delivered by mid July to ensure the unit has a full complement of upgraded aircraft.

Courtesy U.S. Coast Guard

Memorial Day Service

The Memorial Day observance aboard USS Turner Joy was a huge success again this year. Coordinator Stan Mack was able to arrange for the Kitsap Battalion, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps to present colors; LCDR Antony Berchmanz, Chaplain Corps, to give the invocation and benediction; MU2 David Boord to play Taps; and a 21 Gun Salute performed by the Marine Corps Security Force Company, Bangor.

Add these details to a beautiful day, a great guest speaker and refreshments afterwards and you have the arrangements that ensure a successful Memorial Day event. A special thanks to our guest speaker, Captain Roy Swift, Chaplain Corps, USN Retired, who provided pertinent and moving remarks. President Larry Salter performed the MC duties and read General Colin Powell's Essay on the American GI. Captains Swift and Salter also laid a wreath in the water to honor those Sea Services members who have lost their lives.

by Larry Salter



Photos by Vern Young



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

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Planning Calendar

- Tuesday July 4 Independence Day
- Tuesday July 11 Monthly Luncheon, Bangor Plaza - Speaker, TBD
- Tuesday July 11 PSNBA Reception for VADM Sullivan, COMNAVSEASYSCOM, 5 PM at the Keyport Underwater Museum
- Tuesday July 18 Tour - Naval Base Kitsap, Contact George Rose
- Saturday July 29 Whaling Days Parade, come see the Navy League Float

Happy 4th of July!

July							August						
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30	31												

On This Date

July 4, 1777 - John Paul Jones hoists first Stars and Stripes flag on Ranger at Portsmouth, NH
 July 23, 1958 - USS Nautilus (SSN-571) departs Pearl Harbor for first submerged transit of North Pole.
 July 31, 1874 - Commissioning of USS Intrepid, first U.S. warship equipped with torpedoes.

July Luncheon

Date: July 11, 2006
Time: 11:30 AM
Place: Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor
Program: TBD

Call Pioneer Services at 360.405.6336 by Wednesday, July 5th to make your reservation. You are asked to call even if you have a standing reservation.

RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY
 All participants must be signed up and on the reservation list. Guests and members without a base pass must also be on the list and enter through the main gate.