



# Now Hear This!



Navy League of the United States

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

Volume 62, Issue 07

July 2009

## 2009 COUNCIL OFFICERS

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Vice President	Gary Gunderson 206.365.4219
Treasurer	Tim Katona 360.674.2628
Secretary	Susan Larsen 360.265.1441
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## NEW MEMBERS

- ★ Susan Grantham
- ★ Robert Green
- ★ Tom Warborg

## Olympic Bowl Trophy Celebrates 25 Years



The award was started 25 years ago in 1984 during Will Lent's tour as Council President. Trident was relatively new and breath taking at the time, so we felt strongly that we should do some form of recognition with a degree of permanence hence an award that would be permanently self perpetuating and affordable for our meager budget.

We felt a decorative silver bowl would be ideal so the late Jorgen Nelson, a member and Bremerton jeweler, kindly obtained one at cost. The late member, Orton Lee, manufactured the

wooden base.

The Sub Group and Force Commander happily approved and agreed to inform us of the deserving crew annually. Since then it changed from a single crew to the boat and its two crews.

Sublant also was so impressed that this action was duplicated in the Atlantic Trident force.

Following tradition, the Olympic Bowl was presented at the Annual Navy League Gala May 16, 2009.

*Submitted by Will Lent*



## President's Message

Greetings Navy Leaguers;

Your Navy League Council is doing well. Our membership continues to grow. We continue to bring additional council members into our council committees and activities. Whether they spend a few hours per month or a lot of hours in one or two weeks, every volunteer adds value to our council. I greatly appreciate every one of you that volunteers to help your council.

At our June Board meeting and June luncheon we formed the Nominating Committee in accordance with our bylaws. This committee is charged with nominating a slate of officers and directors for your approval, for 2010. Nominating committee members are Roger Wood, Carolyn Dankers, Louis Mejia, Sandra Smith, and Beverly Good.

We have moved our monthly luncheons back to Bangor Plaza at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor. Please ensure you get your RSVP in on time, in order to ensure you are on the base access list.

## Navy League Luncheon

The monthly luncheon for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League will be held on Tuesday, July 14th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Bangor Plaza Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor. The invited guest speaker is Captain Tim Block, Commanding Officer of the Strategic Weapons Facility, Pacific.

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, July 7th. The cost of the luncheon is \$15/person.

## Lessons of Midway

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

I would like you all to remember one of the most important naval battles in the history of the United States.

In June, 1942, the Battle of Midway turned the course of the war in the Pacific just six months after its beginning at Pearl

Harbor. From that point on, the United States military took the offensive and kept it until final victory. Losing Midway would have dramatically and terribly altered the course of the war. The Japanese forces that in just 5 years had stretched their dominion over much of Asia, the Pacific, and Indian Oceans, would have then had no obstacles between Tokyo and the west coast of America.

But of course, we didn't lose Midway. Although from our current perspective the battle seems to have been a mass of poor situational awareness, lack of clear communications, and some questionable decisions. There were decisive factors which, in the end, made the difference. We had broken the Japanese communications codes, which Admiral Nimitz was convinced would even the playing field although he expected to send his three carriers to Midway far outmatched.

The Japanese kept two damaged carriers out of the action while the Americans repaired what they could on YORKTOWN in three days (the shipyard commander told Nimitz it would take three months) and sent her out. Admiral Yamamoto assumed YORKTOWN was sunk at Coral Sea.



Admiral Nagumo broke doctrine by not doubling scout airplanes. The one scout that was delayed by catapult problems on a cruiser was the one that notified him late in the morning that in fact there was a carrier nearby.

Because of that lack of SA, he was planning a second strike on Midway when he finally found there was an American carrier nearby, and got caught up in the repositioning during the climax of the battle. It appeared that the Japanese may have been hamstrung by their own success in the preceding six months.

The amazing persistence and temerity of the American pilots who kept coming against heavy fire and small odds of survival. So many waves of airplanes from Midway and then the carrier aircraft threw themselves at the Japanese they literally exhausted the enemy's defenses.

Luck played a role in the Battle of Midway, but as is so often true of luck, luck was made and cashed in through hard work by cryptanalysts who broke codes and shipyard workers who did the impossible with YORKTOWN, bold strategy by Admiral Nimitz and sheer guts of the Sailors, Marines, and naval aviators who carried the fight to the enemy.

We are here today because of those people who were desperate to turn the tide of the Japanese onslaught, and because so many of them gave their brilliance, hard work, and lives to see it through.

# BROLPN Participates in Navy League Innovations Expo

Our Council's The Lone Sailor® Statue Memorial Committee was a featured presenter at the NLUS INNOVATIONS EXPO. Sponsored by Navy League's Public Affairs & Public Education Committees at the National Board of Directors meeting, National Vice-President **Pat DuMont** was looking to expose Navy League leaders to successful council projects. Committee members **Carol Meteney** and **Ron Testa** joined forces with U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation's **Paul Haley** to tell the council's great story to our many booth visitors at the Westin Arlington Gateway, in Arlington, Virginia on Saturday, June 13, 2009.



Bremerton Lone Sailor Statue Committee and loyal Navy League members for their support of one of the most remarkable Lone Sailor Dedications in the history of our Statue Outreach Program." Paul T. Haley, Director of Planned Giving, U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation

This inaugural edition of the NLUS INNOVATIONS EXPO was a huge success, judging by the amount of participants and attendees. National President **Mike McGrath**, in concert

with the EXPO's creator, NVP **Pat DuMont**, advised us that our committee is invited to present again at the next Innovations EXPO, to be held at the 2009 National Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas in late October.

*Submitted by Ron Testa,*

Paul Haley had high praise for our project in his testimony at the booth: "Admiral Walker and I wish to extend our congratulations to you and all the

## Comings and Goings

**Rear Adm. (lower half) Timothy M. Giardina**, who has been selected for promotion to Rear Admiral, will be assigned as director, readiness and training, N4/N7, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, Va. **Giardina** is currently serving as commander, Submarine Group Nine/Commander, Submarine Group Ten, Silverdale, WA.

**Cmdr. Christopher Corgnati** was relieved as Patrol Squadron (VP) 1 commanding officer by **Cmdr. Mark Rudesill** in a ceremony held at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, May 8. Corgnati and his family are moving to Washington D.C., where he will fulfill his orders to work for the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

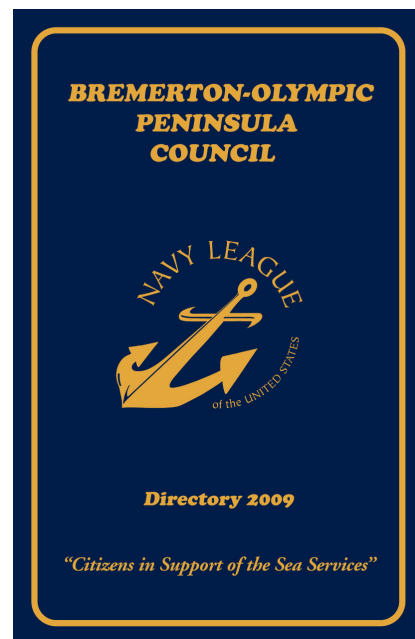
**Rudesill**, the 66th commanding officer of the Screaming Eagles of

VP-1, welcomes the challenge and opportunity. **Rudesill** is a native of Knoxville, Tenn., and a graduate of the University of Tennessee. He and his wife **Charla** have two children, **Bobby** and **Ashleigh**.

With a major maintenance period completed, the men of the guided-missile submarine **USS Ohio (SSGN 726)** (Blue) crew are ready to take their boat, June 9, and head back out to sea later this month.

Twenty-two **USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74)** Sailors visited **USS Arizona (BB 39)** Memorial to take part in a reenlistment ceremony May 30. **Stennis** Commanding Officer, **Capt. Joseph Kuzmick** served as the reenlisting officer for Sailors ranging in rank from third class petty officers to **Stennis** command master chief.

## 2009 DIRECTORY



The new 2009 Navy League of the United States, Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council Directory will be available in mid July. For more information, please contact **Johann Schoberl**, Directory Chairman at [nlus.bopc.directory@gmail.com](mailto:nlus.bopc.directory@gmail.com).

## Get involved!

Now is the time to step up to the plate and take an active part in Council activities.

President, **Dave Thomas**, has issued a call for volunteers. There are two new committees, the Communications Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. We also have formed this year's annual Dinner/Navy Day Committee for planning the Navy Day Dinner in October. **Will Lent** is heading this one up and **Norma Parker** is heading up the Installation Dinner which will be held in January. Come meet some of your council members and have a great time planning these fun events.

Think about whether you would like to work on a short term project or a very specific type of job or whether you would like to volunteer for a more long term role. There is work and fun for everyone.

If you are interested, and just want to explore the possibilities, contact **Dave Thomas** at 360 373-2673 or by email at [Dthomas751@comcast.net](mailto:Dthomas751@comcast.net) or any of the officers or board members.

# Evening Parade and Retirement Ceremony



Bangor Base, Washington - On May 28th the Marine Corps Security Force Battalion (MCSFBn) invited Navy League to an Evening Parade and retirement ceremony for Master Chief Timothy Moes after 28 years of Naval Service. The MCSFBn, Bangor is currently the largest Marine Corps Security Force Battalion in the world and is in direct support to Strategic Weapons Facility, Pacific (SWFPac).

Through assembly, ceremonial drill and pass in review; the Evening Parade displays the pride and dedication of the young Americans who serve in today's Navy and Marine Corps. Navy Band Northwest provided a concert of patriotic favorites throughout the parade, providing a wonderful sound stage for the event.

In his speech after the retirement ceremony, Master Chief Moes spoke of his service under several different Commander in Chiefs and how being a part of the Navy was no less than life-changing. His wife, son, closest friends and extended family were present. He has been a great friend to Navy League and will be missed.

*Submitted by Susan Larson*

# From Your Membership Chairman

Membership defined:

1. Being member of something

The state or condition of belonging to a group such as a species, social class, team, club, or political party

2. Members of organization

The members of a group such as a species, social class, organization, or mathematical set considered collectively

Why did I take time to define membership? Because as individuals, we can accomplish some things, but together as members of an organization, we can make many things happen.

As members of the Navy League of the United States - Bremerton Olympic Peninsula Council, we are different than other organizations. We are different than the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War, or other similar organizations. Why are we different? First, you don't have to be prior service or have served in a war/armed conflict to be a member. Second, this organization is designed to educate our fellow Americans about the importance of the sea services. We do not lobby for specific action to be completed by our elected officials; we only provide the information to help them understand how important it is to have a strong Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Merchant Marine force. Third, we are an organization of members who care about Sailors, Marines and Guardsmen.

As a member of this organization, it needs your help to educate our families,

friends, and neighbors on the importance of the Sea Services. It can be as simple as making the statement that you are a member of Navy League. If they are interested, they will ask you what the organization does. This is a great lead to allow you to talk about the mission of Navy League and also what we do here locally. Invite them to our monthly luncheon or even to become a member. Remember a couple months ago I mentioned that everyone is a recruiter for our council, I truly meant it. Without your continued support, this organization would cease to exist.

I hope to see many new members join our great organization during the rest of this year.

On another note, we have several new committees under Membership that could use your help. Are you able to talk to others? Are you able to help come up with new ideas on how to retain members? Or get new members? Do you have ideas that could make our council even more desirable to join? Do you have an opinion about the council and want to see changes. If you answered yes to any of these, we could use your help on the committees. If you didn't say yes, but think you can help, contact me. We meet monthly on the second Thursday of each month at 6 PM in Austin Chase Coffee in Silverdale.

*Submitted by Mark Lowe,  
Membership Chairman*

# Ferrari Rides Add to Award

At the our monthly luncheons, one of the features is an awards presentation to the Sailor of the Quarter. Part of the awards package is perhaps unique to this particular Council. It involves a ride in a Ferrari donated by a member who strongly supports the Armed Forces.

The most recent Awardee is PO1 Anthony Hoover of the Coast Guard's Marine Force Protection Unit at Bangor. He used his award to have his son Kyle take the ride for his 12th birthday. (PO1 Hoover will also get a ride when it can be scheduled, though even though he didn't know that).

Kyle enjoys classic and exotic cars, so



it was a great pleasure to have him ride along while "the ponies were exercised." He had a huge grin as we zipped aggressively through the gears. (mostly

**Continued on page five**

## Welcome New Members

Steve Slaton has been the Director of Marine Facilities at the Port of Bremerton for 5 years. He served his country for 29 years in the US Navy and retired as a Captain. Steve and his wife of 38 years, Deborah, have two sons. Zachary is an engineer at PACCAR; Toby just finished 5 years in the US Marines. Steve is on the board of Hospice of Kitsap County and involved with Kitsap Peninsula Visitors & Convention Bureau (KPVCB).

Terry Halvorson became General Manager of Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside in January 2008. Born and raised in Seattle, Terry has more than 20 years of experience in hotel sales, catering, convention and services at Seattle area hotels. She has two children, Joey and Trisha; that have both graduated college. In addition to BROLPN, Terry is involved with Puget Sound Naval Bases Association (PSNBA) and Bremerton Rotary.

## Ferrari (Continued)

on safe on ramps to the freeway). On the way back, we loved the rich, throaty growl as we briskly went the last few blocks, and the rumble of deceleration as we approached the stop light. I mentioned that his father could hear us from a few blocks away, at which time, Kyle made a classic comment-- "This is NOT a stealth car, is it?!" No, it certainly isn't.

It is an honor to be able to give back to those who serve our country, and are the ones standing between us and the world's problems. It would be great to have other Council members across the nation who have Ferraris, Corvettes, Porsches, Model Ts, Street Rods, etc. consider doing the same for our Armed Forces members. A safe drive in a great car is an easy gift to give. Let's support our troops, and not just with slogans.

*Submitted by Byron Faber*

## Sea Devil Bids Farewell to her first Commanding Officer at the Bremerton Marina Lone Sailor Memorial



The Commanding Officer and Crew  
Request the honor of your presence  
At the Change of Command Ceremony of  
US COAST GUARD CUTTER SEA DEVIL (WPB 87368)  
at which

Lieutenant Alanna G. Kaltsas, USCG  
Will be relieved by

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Victor J. Galgano, USCG  
At the Bremerton Marina in Bremerton, Washington  
On Thursday, the Ninth of July, Two Thousand and Nine  
At Eleven O'clock in the morning

Reception to Follow

## Marine Evening Parade on July 15

Don't forget to attend the Marine Corps Security Force Battalion Bangor's 2nd parade of 2009, at 15 July, 1900 (7:00PM), at field six at Bangor. They will be conducting a change of command from LtCol Hittinger to LtCol Zach White. For those not familiar, a "Parade" in this case is a formal ceremony that includes marching, the Navy Band, a show by the Battalion silent drill

team, a pass in review, and more. If you've never attended one, it's a great show that demonstrates the precision and professionalism of the Marine Corps.

Note: non-ID card holders need to be escorted by someone with an Evening Paracess, to gain access to the base. Please contact Dave Thomas at [DThomas751@comcast.net](mailto:DThomas751@comcast.net).

*Submitted by Dave Thomas*

# Bulletin Board

*from the Board of Directors*

■ It was announced that the **Armed Forces Day Gala** will show a net profit of approximately \$1,500.

■ The **Internal Audit** of the Council's 2008 financial accounting has been completed. A letter was submitted to the Board and approved.

■ The **Strategic Planning Committee Charter** was submitted to the Board by David Thomas, Committee Chair, and approved.

■ The **Communications Committee Charter** was submitted to the Board by Carolyn Dankers, Committee Chair, and approved. Greg Jose was appointed by Dave Thomas, President, to be added to the committee.

■ Funding was approved in the amount of \$2,000 to send two members of the **Lone Sailor Memorial Committee** to attend the NLUS Innovations EXPO at the Navy League National Board of Directors Meeting June 11-14.

■ **Roger Wood** was appointed to chair the **Nominating Committee** to select a slate of candidates for office for 2010. Members of the committee appointed by the Board are Louis Mejia and Carolyn Dankers. There were two committee members, Sandra Smith and Beverly Good, appointed at the June luncheon and all were accepted by a vote of the general membership.

■ **Will Lent** was appointed Chairperson of the Annual Dinner/Navy Day Committee. Carolyn Dankers will also serve on that committee.

■ **Norma Parker** was appointed Chairperson of the Installation Dinner Committee.

■ Motion was made and passed to move the monthly luncheons back to the **Bangor Plaza on Bangor Base**. The July luncheon will be at Bangor.

## NJROTC Cadets Participate in Devil Dog Days

Naval Junior Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets participated in a Devil Dog Days two-day training exercise May 1-2 with Marine Corps Security Force Battalion, Bangor.

The mission of the two-day training exercise is to provide NJROTC cadets with information and guidance as well as field training. It removes the cadets from a classroom setting, thus challenging their mental and leadership abilities to make sound decisions during difficult circumstances.

The NJROTC cadets came from three local high schools: Bremerton, Curtis, and South Kitsap High School.

Devil Dog Days, according to Sgt. Brandon Richman, is a yearly event which gives young men and women an opportunity of a lifetime to see if the military is their direction. "This training is an opportunity for a young cadet to get a glimpse of what the Marine Corps is really like and what to expect if they do decide to join," said Richman. The Corps is not for everybody and the military doesn't want to waste anybody's time. If you join and find it's not for you, then you're going to be wasting four years of your life

One South Kitsap High School NJROTC Student said the training is highly motivational for her and challenges each to come together and work as a team. "I think the training is really fun because of the team-building exercises and how it challenges us to

work together," said Jackie Brown. "My favorite was the tug-of-war, particularly because of the team-building it promotes. I joined NJROTC and wanted to be part of the Devil Dog Days because my sister did and told me that it was a lot of fun. I enjoyed it and would most definitely recommend it to my peers."

Although out of breath and beat, Bremerton High School NJROTC student Gavin Borchert was not broken. He shared how the training for him is an open door of opportunity once he's done with school. "I also like the team work," said Borchert. "I liked the night hike we did; it was a great effort, I think, to help everyone keep in step and follow one another. I plan to enlist right after college. My dad, who's in the military, inspired me to check this out and I also wanted to follow in his footsteps a little."

Lance Cpl. Mark Pierson said that many people do not know what Marines do on a daily basis. "I think this is very important for anyone who's thinking of joining the military because it shows them what the military is like, what would be expected of them and how to survive," said Pierson. However, when they get out here and see firsthand the training we do and the things we go through to survive; how we have to work together, eat together and live together as a family, it gives them a sense of appreciation for the military and what it stands for.

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## S.S. Virginia V visits Bremerton



The S.S. VIRGINIA V is one of the last surviving ships from the famous MOSQUITO FLEET.

She hasn't visited the Kitsap Peninsula since the mid 90's. With her gleaming wood and steam boiler she is listed as a National Historic Landmark Vessel and is one of the few remaining floating treasures of Puget Sound.

We hope you were able to attend the Harbor Festival and go back in time and experience the fabled days when steam ship passage was a way of life in West Sound.

# Silver Lifesaving Medal Awarded

Rear Admiral John P. Currier, Commander, 13th Coast Guard District, presented the Silver Lifesaving Medal to Petty Officer 1st Class Truman N. Skang, a native of Palau, for his heroic actions on the evening of July 20, 2008 at a ceremony held June 10, 2009.

Skang rescued a man from a vehicle that had plunged into Puget Sound from the Des Moines Marina in Des Moines, Wash. After the vehicle smashed through a barrier of the marina parking lot and plummeted into the water, Skang and several Good Samaritans immediately dove into the water and swam out to the car to assist.

After attempting to smash through the front windshield, and as the vehicle began sinking, Skang successfully opened the driver side window and worked the driver free. With the vehicle submerged and continuing to sink Skang braced his feet against the vehicle and pulled the driver through the window to safety on the surface. The driver was then brought to the shore and treated by emergency medical personnel. Tragically, a passenger and her dog died in the accident.

The Silver Lifesaving Medal was created by congress in 1874 and is awarded to people who endanger their own lives while saving or attempting to save another from drowning, a shipwreck or other perils of the water. The Coast Guard is the ultimate award authority for the Silver Lifesaving Medal and can award the decorations to members of all military branches as well as civilians.

*Provided by Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Coast Guard 13th District  
Media Advisory*

# Patriots Landing ... Your Best Assignment Ever!



Located between Washington State's Cascade and Olympic Mountains, near the southern shores of Puget Sound, Patriots Landing is a world-class retirement community designed specifically for military personnel.

The 16-acre, beautifully landscaped campus is just a short drive from Tacoma, Olympia and Seattle, and proximity to Fort Lewis and Madigan Army Medical Center, McChord Airbase and Sub Base Bangor assures you of convenient access to military services.

Within Patriots Landing you'll find a variety of living options – from cottages to studio, one- and two-bedroom independent retirement apartments and, if needed, assisted living apartments and services. They even have specialized services for those who need dementia or memory care.

The campus also features a heated

indoor pool, sauna and Jacuzzi, activity and game rooms, beauty parlor and barber shop, a fitness center, computer lounge, a bistro and extensive libraries. The exclusive restaurant is open 7am – 7pm with a full menu of choices and tableside service.

You've spent your lifetime serving others – defending our freedoms and protecting our way of life with honor and integrity. You've earned the respect of your country and much of the world. Now it's time for one more assignment – enjoying the pleasures and rewards of retirement.

You've Served Us – Now Let Us Serve You!



*Bob Hitchcock and Rachel McLain from Patriots Landing accepting their certificate and Lone Sailor Statue at the Memorial Dedication on May 23, 2009.*

## Committee Meeting Schedule








Tuesday	July 14	Strategy Planning Committee 5:00 Dave Thomas Residence
Thursday	July 9	Membership Committee 6:00 Austin Chase
Tuesday	July 21	Communications Committee 5:30 Reid Real Estate
Tuesday	Aug 11	Strategy Planning Committee 5:00 Dave Thomas Residence
Thursday	Aug 13	Membership Committee 6:00 Austin Chase
Tuesday	Aug 18	Communications Committee 5:30 Reid Real Estate



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## Planning Ahead

	Thursday	July 9	Deadline for making reservations For July Luncheon – 12:00 noon
	Thursday	July 9	Change of Command – 11:00 am Lt Alanna Kaltsas, USCG Sea Devil
	Friday	July 10	Captain Stone's Change of Command Contact Louis Mejia for Info
	Tuesday	July 14	Monthly Luncheon Meeting – 11:30 am Bangor Plaza - Captain Tim Block, CO, Strategic Weapons Facility, Pacific
	Wednesday	July 15	Marine Corps Security Force – 7:00 pm Parade and Change of Command, Bangor
	Thursday	July 16	2nd Bainbridge Ferry Tour – 9:15 Meet at Bainbridge Ferry Terminal
	Saturday	July 25	Whaling Days Parade Navy League Float will Participate
	Tuesday	August 4	Tour Trident Training Facility and Trident Submarine – 9:15 am Meet at Keyport Museum Parking Lot
	Wednesday	August 5	Board of Director's Meeting – 6:00 pm Reid Real Estate – Silverdale
	Tuesday	August 11	Monthly Luncheon Meeting – 11:30 am Bangor Plaza

## This Date in History

July 4, 1776 – American colonies  
declare their independence from  
Great Britain

 **Now Hear This!** is the official  
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