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NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

- ★ Ms. Jean Lenihan
- ★ Charles & Estrella Knight
- ★ Ms. Anne Drennanf



President's Corner

In the waters off Cape Trafalgar, on 21 October, 1805 the Royal Navy (RN) Mediterranean fleet under the Command of Vice Admiral Horatio Nelson caught up with a combined French and Spanish fleet consisting of 32 ships of the line which had escaped their RN imposed blockades.

It was Napoleon's plan to use this combined fleet to support a large scale invasion of England where his experienced and capable army stood a good chance of conquering that Country. Nelson was at a slight numerical disadvantage with 27 ships of the line confronting 32 but, through the use of a well conceived and unconventional battle plan, he made an extremely aggressive attack breaking his enemy's line in two places. This put his well-drilled gunners in position to overwhelm his opposition resulting in a very one-sided victory.

Tragically, he was killed by a French sharpshooter during the battle, but his tactics and aggressiveness were credited with the victory which had saved his homeland

from Napoleon's invasion and initiated the heralded 100-year "Pax Britannica". From the aspects of decisiveness and effect, Trafalgar ranks on the same scale as the sea battles of Lepanto, Tsushima, and Midway.

Our Navy League will join our good friends and loyal allies, the Brits, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Nelson's Trafalgar victory at our annual Navy Day dinner. This affair is known as Trafalgar Night. It comes with a certain amount of traditional protocol that we will observe. We have confirmed Royal Navy Admiral Ian Rankin to give our program. This will be a great "fun" night to remember. Don't miss this once in a lifetime occasion. Make your reservation today!

Contributed by Will Lent

"TRAFALGAR NIGHT"

Date: October 27th
 Place: Merry Macs
 Time: 1800 No Host Bar
 Dinner: 1900 (Specify
 Prime Rib or Salmon)
 Cost: \$35.00 per person
 Dress: Civ, Coat & Tie
 Mil, TBD



Reservations required with RSVP no later than Oct. 20th.

Notification to the Membership ★ Election of Officers

The election of our League's Officers, who will serve in 2006, will take place at the October 27th meeting. The nominating committee's recommendations are as follows:

President	Larry Salter
Vice President	Lou Dufresne
Treasurer	Stan Mack
Secretary	Paul Lucas
Judge Advocate	Guy Stitt

The membership will consider those nominated and vote. A motion can be made to accept the nominations recommended or nominate from the floor. If hearing none, then the vote (the unanimous ballot) is called for. The results are recorded and thus we have a new group of elected officers. Then the new president appoints his/her board, they are not elected. The new officers will be installed in January at the annual meeting.

NOW HEAR THIS!

is the official news-letter of the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council of the Navy League of the United States. It is published monthly and mailed to all members.

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Editor's Note: As we prepare this issue for print the Navy's support relief operations along the U.S. Gulf Coast continue to evolve.

Norfolk Ships Deploy to Support Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts

Wednesday, August 31, 2005
Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- Three amphibious ships and a rescue and salvage ship based in Hampton Roads are getting underway Aug. 31 and heading for the Gulf of Mexico to support relief operations along the U.S. Gulf Coast following widespread destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina.

The multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) and the amphibious transport dock USS Shreveport (LPD 12), both based at Naval Station Norfolk; the dock landing ship USS Tortuga (LSD 46) and the rescue and salvage ship USS Grapple (ARS 53), both based at Naval Amphibious Base (NAB) Little Creek, Va., will join the Norfolk-based multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5), which is already off the Gulf Coast.

Navy support elements from Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 2, Assault Craft Unit 2, and Beach Master Unit 2, all based at NAB Little Creek, will also join the disaster relief effort.

The four ships will bring with them six disaster relief teams that include amphibious construction equipment, medical personnel, and associated supplies to assist with the relief effort.

Additional Ships Headed to U.S. Gulf Coast

Thursday, September 1, 2005
Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and dock landing ship USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41) are making preparations to get underway Sept. 1 for areas off the U.S. Gulf Coast in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) relief operations associated with Hurricane Katrina.

Truman will serve as the command center and afloat staging base, and will carry additional helicopters from Naval Air Station Jacksonville to support search and rescue (SAR) efforts. Whidbey Island will bring with it the capability to employ a movable causeway to the region.

The Navy's involvement in the humanitarian assistance operations is a collaborative effort. The Navy is working to meet local and state requirements forwarded to the U.S. Northern Command through the Department of Defense from state governors and FEMA federal coordinators.

Truman and Whidbey Island will join five other Norfolk-based ships that are already at sea and will remain on station for as long as necessary to provide important humanitarian assistance to the U.S. Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Katrina.

Additionally, USNS Arctic (T-AOE 8), based at Naval Station Earl, N.J., is en-route and arrived in the Gulf Coast operating area Aug. 31.



Norfolk, Va. (Aug. 31, 2005) CMDR, Second Fleet, Vice Adm. Mark Fitzgerald talks with a reporter during a press conference prior to the amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima and three other Hampton Roads-based amphibious ships getting underway today from Naval Station Norfolk to head to areas off the Gulf Coast as part of the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. U.S. Navy Photo



New Orleans, La. (Aug 31, 2005) - U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Shawn Beaty of Long Island, N.Y., looks for survivors in the wake of Hurricane Katrina as he flies in a HH-60J Jayhawk helicopter over New Orleans. Petty Officer Beaty is a member of an HH-60J Jayhawk helicopter rescue crew sent from Clearwater, Fla., to assist in search and rescue efforts. U.S. Coast Guard Photo

New Orleans, La. (Aug 31, 2005)
U.S. Navy Photo

To volunteer or make a donation <http://www.fema.gov/press/2005/katrinadonations.shtm>

Navy Learns from Exercise

Port Townsend, WA August 17, 2005 -- Though many Port Townsend residents may not have noticed, the training exercise going on at Naval Magazine Indian Island has brought a lot more with it than the gray crane ship looming across the bay.

The event brought nearly 1,000 Navy and Army personnel, some reporters from across the country to cover it and officials from Washington, D.C. to supervise. Simply put, that's because this thing is a big deal. It's called Joint Logistics Over the Shore (JLOTS), an exercise designed to work out kinks in the process of getting supplies ashore in areas with no working deep water ports. In this scenario, the Navy's Military Sealift Command is simulating administering humanitarian aid in Indonesia after a massive earthquake and tsunami off the island of Java.

Navy Capt. Jim Bird is the officer in charge. Bird is also the commander of Naval Beach Group One, a unit responsible for moving supplies from ship to shore and establishing a base of operations on the beach. Bird said JLOTS is a "proof of concept" exercise in which the training looks just about like the real thing does. He would know; Naval Beach Group One recently helped offload supplies to numerous Indonesian islands as part of the tsunami relief. "We just did this not too long ago," Bird said. Such operations are often conducted in hostile environments, something that was simulated during JLOTS.

The crane ship in Port Townsend Bay is the SS Keystone State. It's one of 10 like it that can serve as a mobile deep water port, used to load containers on to barges so they can be brought ashore. The ship can also provide a unique sort of port security. During a simulation in San Francisco a few months ago, the SS Keystone State's crew was able to use its cranes to nimbly sort through containers on another ship and remove one "suspected" of containing dangerous material - while both ships were moving.

Though it is under the control of the Navy when activated, the 668-foot ship is a civilian vessel owned by the U.S. Maritime Administration, one of 76 ships in the country's Ready Reserve Fleet. James Caponiti, associate administrator for Maritime Security, flew in from Washington to monitor the exercise. "There's a lot of scenarios you can drum up where bringing this ship in would be necessary," Caponiti said. "We do these pretty regularly at different locations."

The scope of the training operation does create the potential for environmental damage, said Bill Kalina, the civilian environmental director at Indian Island. Kalina said he's watching closely, and "they are doing this exercise in an environmentally responsible manner." Kalina said the military waited until after the end of bald eagle nesting season to begin, and they only conducted beach landings at high tide to ensure that prop wash didn't damage eel grass. The exercise ends Aug. 20.

Courtesy of Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader



Port Townsend Bay, off Indian Island (Aug, 2005) - The SS Cape Flattery, a cargo ship, sits abreast of the SS Keystone State, a crane ship brought in to serve as a mobile deep water port during the Joint Logistics Over the Shore training exercise at Naval Magazine Indian Island. The exercise concludes Aug. 20.

Photo by Steven J. Barry, Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader



Al Clayton - USN (ret.) of Seabeck, WA stands next to his "Eternal Sea Memorial Lighthouse"

The Guiding Light

My name is Al Clayton, owner of Nordic Finn Lighthouse. I am retired Navy and Merchant Marine. I have 31 years at sea; 24 years with the Navy and then I returned to sea as a US Merchant Seaman. I have been all over the world on Navy ships, Merchant ships and Ocean tugs. During that time I passed many lighthouses, some I was happy to see - they said, "You're coming home."

I built this 26 foot lighthouse in my shop. Now, this lighthouse is for all the folks that never return home from sea and never will. And I say all the folks that have gone to sea; Navy, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, Army, Marines, Air Force, fisherman, and the list goes on. The name of this lighthouse is Eternal Sea Memorial Lighthouse, and I built her in honor of all those who have been lost at sea. She is 2350 lbs, 26 feet, lamp light turns four revolutions per minute, includes inside lights and a fog horn.

I would like you folks to know that this lighthouse is here for all to visit at any time, easy to find as we live across the road from the Seabeck Post Office. Sept 18th will be her first birthday and we plan on having a potluck all day party. You can call me at 360-830-0546 most any time. I do build smaller lighthouses if asked to. I've got no place to go and not in a hurry to get there, so I'm in the shop till late at night. Let me know what you think about this if you got the time.

Al Clayton - USN (ret.)



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Planning Calendar

- Monday September 5 Labor Day
- Tuesday September 13 Monthly Luncheon - Bangor Plaza
- Tuesday October 11 Monthly Luncheon - Bangor Plaza
- Thursday October 27 Navy Day / RN Trafalgar Night / Council Annual Meeting - Merry Macs, Port Orchard

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

On this Date:

September 2, 1945 - Japan signs surrender documents on board USS Missouri (BB-63) at anchor in Tokyo Bay. FADM Chester W. Nimitz, USN, signs for the U.S.

September 30, 1954 - Commissioning at Groton, CT, of USS Nautilus (SSN-571), the world's first nuclear-powered ship.

September Luncheon

Date: September 13, 2005
Time: 11:30 AM
Place: Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor
Program: Capt Dan Peters, Commander of PSNS

Call Pioneer Services at 360.405.6336 by Thursday September 8th 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.