



Now Hear This!



Navy League of the United States

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

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September 2009

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United States Coast Guard Cutter HEALY (WAGB – 20)



lane on the planet and is becoming a region of intense international interest.

The Healy is designed to continuously break through solid ice 4 ½ feet thick at three knots and the view from the bridge is spectacular. Be the first to hear Capt Sommer's interesting sea stories coming in fresh off the ice and be sure to sign up

The Commanding Officer of the Cutter HEALY will be returning from the North Pole Ice Pack, a few days before our October 6th Luncheon, to be our guest speaker at the Bangor Plaza. Captain Frederick J. Sommer (CO) is now deployed on a special joint mapping mission with the Canadians in the Northwest Passage Region which is opening up as the potentially most sought after shipping

for the USCGC HEALY TOUR that Byron Faber has scheduled at Pier 36 in Seattle. Don't miss the luncheon or the tour and please bring a friend.

More information on the Healy can be found at www.uscg.mil/pacarea/cgchealy.

*Submitted by Gary S Gunderson
Vice President USNL Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council*





President's Message

Greetings, Navy Leaguers.

Your Navy League Council continues doing very well. Mem-

bership is solid. We continue to gain support from the community. Our interactions with the Naval services continue to do very well. This past month we bade farewell to Rear Admiral Giardina and welcomed Rear Admiral Caldwell to Submarine Group Nine. We participated in Seafair events hosted by the Seattle Council.

Looking forward, your nominations committee is selecting officer nominees for the 2010 year for our council. Thank you to the nominating committee for all of their hard work.

Our Communications Committee, under the direction of Carolyn Dankers, is making good progress and improving our communications to our members. This includes the recently completed and distributed Council Directory. If you have good ideas or some time to devote to assisting in our efforts to improve communications, please contact Carolyn.

I would like to remind everyone that the October luncheon will be held on October 6, a week earlier than normal, to accommodate the schedule with our guest speaker. It should be a great presentation by the Commanding Officer of the USCGC Healy.

Order Your Council Nametag

The next time you attend our luncheon, ask about getting a nametag so that others will recognize you and know that you are a supporter of our sea services.

Ask George Rose or Tony Ivanjack at the registration desk. They will be happy to collect \$10 and will have the nametag ready for you at the following luncheon.

"Semper Paratus" since 1790

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

Through dozens of conflicts, thousands of disasters, and numerous name changes, the U.S. Coast Guard has been an integral part of our Nation's armed services since 1790.

Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton formed the Revenue Marine on August 4th of that year, after the last of the Continental Navy's ships had been auctioned off and the Continental Marines disbanded. Established to enforce customs laws, that original force of 10 cutters (designated so from their size and rigging, and because British customs patrol boats at the time were called cutters) and their crews were our young nation's only armed maritime service for eight years.

In 1915 the Revenue Marine, by then sometimes known as the Revenue Cutter Service, merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to become the U.S. Coast Guard. In 1939, the U.S. Lighthouse Service also merged with the Coast Guard, as did the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation in 1942. In 1967, the Guard came under the newly-created Department of Transportation, and in 2003, changed again to the Department of Homeland Security. During both World Wars, the Guard came under the Department of the Navy.

The Coast Guard has been well represented in the Northwest since the 1850's, and our Region could claim the Coast Guard as its own. Revenue Cutters participated in the Puget Sound War and so-called Pig War of the 1850's. The Light House Service began maintaining aids to navigation in Northwest waters around the same time. Later in that century, Seattle was the summer home of the Revenue Cutter BEAR, and her legendary Captain Michael Healy. BEAR, and similar cutters, were some of the first representatives of the U.S. government in the newly acquired Alaska territory, charting waters, enforcing laws, and



saving lives in the last frontier.

**Cle Elum, WA is the hometown and final resting place of the Coast Guard's only Medal of Honor recipient, Signalman 1st Class Douglas Munro. Munro was killed by enemy fire in 1942 at Guadalcanal while rescuing Marines from an overrun beachhead.

**The National Motor Lifeboat School in Illwaco, Washington is the world's premier learning institution for rough water rescue.

**The Coast Guard routinely performs some of the most amazing rescues, in some of the world's most challenging conditions, in the Bering Sea and at the mouth of the Columbia River.

**All Polar Icebreakers, as well as High and Medium Endurance Cutters, Buoy Tenders, Patrol Boats, and several types of aircraft, call our Region home.

The Navy and Coast Guard have worked together since 1798, and nowhere is that relationship as strong as in our Region: Coast Guard personnel and vessels are stationed at Naval Station Everett and Naval Base Kitsap; Coast Guardsmen and Sailors work side by side in the Joint Harbor Operations Center in Seattle; our services routinely work together in search and rescue missions, and during disaster response like the December 2007 floods. Few partnerships are as beneficial to the people of the Northwest as that between these two maritime services.

The Navy League has a distinguished history of support to the Coast Guard. As the Coast Guard marks their 219th Birthday, take time to remember the Coast Guardsmen who gave the ultimate sacrifice, whether fighting enemies or saving friends. And if you're able, take the time to thank a Coastie for remaining true to the motto, Semper Paratus, Always Ready, for whenever and whatever their country needs.

Thank You for All That You Do

There are so many people who make our Council strong. Here are a few we would like to highlight this month.

Greg Jose, a new member of the Communication/Education Committee for volunteering..... Greg is the manager of Corporate Image and Opportunity for **Art Anderson & Associates**, a community affiliate

Sandra and Earle Smith for their amazing amount of work in making our participation in the parades a positive experience. They do so much work ahead of time in securing a place for the float, writing the script and making certain that everything works. At the Fathoms of Fun parade in Port Orchard, Sandra made breakfast for the participants, including the NW Band. We won the "Best Military Veteran Entry" award at the parade. "Thanks," also goes to **Louis Mejia** for his help with the Navy League Float.

We would like to say thanks to **George Rose** and **Tony Ivanjack** for doing such a great job at the registration desk for each of our luncheons. Good hospitality and a cheerful smile is what makes our luncheons a fun experience along with the great programs produced by **Will Lent**.

CO of USS Alabama Brings New Insight to August Luncheon



The USS Alabama recently completed a two-year refueling overhaul at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. During their stay, the crew participated in events like Great White Fleet, Sea Fair, and Trident 100th Tour. CMDR Todd Massidda, said "I appreciate the support from my crew and all the ships in the area."

After the overhaul work was completed the two crews had seven months to get the ship recertified. The DASO 20 (Demonstration and Shakedown Operations) included 15 major inspections and recertification's being done. Vice Admiral Locklear, Director of Navy Staff, and other dignitaries were onboard for the ship's launch in February. This is a

significant return to sea as one quarter of the ship's lifetime has been spent at the shipyard.

Gary Gunderson, Vice President of BROLPN Navy League, presented CMDR Massidda with a commemorative mug and a CD copy of Pearl Harbor by Don Green, Pearl Harbor survivor and Navy League member. Bob Aronson, President of Pacific Northwest Chapter, Naval Submarine League, presented CMDR Massidda with a commemorative coin and book.

Our thanks to Will Lent for all his efforts in bringing these interesting and informative guests to our monthly luncheons.

2nd Annual Operation Holiday Spirit

BROLPN is excited to kick off our 2nd annual Operation Holiday Spirit project! This year we will be helping the Kitsap County families of Individual Augmentees, the "forgotten" families.

Naval Base Kitsap's Fleet and Family Support Center has about 200 families with a service member deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Horn of Africa, or Guantanamo Bay. These sailors are on active or reserve status, and voluntarily leave their parent command to augment an Army unit or Marine squadron. While the

sailor's family is still attached to the parent command, the command may depart the area on a mission, leaving the family with no local support. That's where the Fleet and Family Support Center steps in. They offer Pre and Post Deployment briefs to the sailor and family, along with monthly contact by phone and e-mail. A special newsletter is shared within the Individual Augmentee community. There are monthly events to bring the families together for support and socializing.

We look forward to making a

difference in the lives of these special families this holiday season. Please join us in our efforts by making a tax deductible donation. For more information, contact Tina Salter at 360-981-7166. Donations can be made to:

Navy League, BROLPN Council,
ATTN: OHS
P.O. Box 626
Bremerton, WA 98337

Submitted by Leah Wattree

Did You Know?



This is submarine “Typhoon” as it was called in NATO documents or “Shark” as it was called in Russia. It is considered to be the biggest submarine in the world, with over than 170 meters (515 feet) long and 23 meter (70 feet) wide. It can carry 20 ballistic nuclear missiles and there were only six of those built. Only 3 left intact, but are staying

now out of service with armament control blocks detached according to the agreement between USSR and USA signed by M. Gorbachev. Without those they are way too peaceful.

*Submitted by Bob Aronson
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
President, Pacific Northwest
Chapter, Naval Submarine League*

Navy Day Celebration set for October 23, 2009

Each year, Navy League Councils around the world celebrate President Theodore Roosevelt’s birthday as Navy Day. Roosevelt used monies from his Nobel Peace Prize to boost a small social group called Navy League. He wanted a group of civilians who would use their influence to help build a strong navy.

This year, we will celebrate Navy Day on Friday, October 23 at the Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside. Social hour begins at 6pm with the program and dinner starting at 7pm. A quartet from the Bremerton symphony will

entertain us during the social hour.

A Teddy Roosevelt impersonator will help remind us of our rich heritage and our invited Speaker Rear Admiral James F. Caldwell Jr., Commander, Submarine Group Nine will help us understand our current situation and provide insight into the future.

More information will be on our web site and in the next newsletter. In the meantime, if you have questions, feel free to contact co-chairs, Will Lent, (360) 830-5183 Willnoralent@aol.com or Carolyn Dankers (360) 769-7415 or c.dankers@wavecable.com.

Navy Band Northwest Schedules Three More Concerts

Navy Band Northwest would like to inform you of our FREE upcoming Keyport Concerts. Navy Band performances this year at the Keyport Naval Undersea Museum Auditorium include:

September 20 - “Five Star Brass” Quintet, and Clarinet Quartet

October 18 - “Cascade” Big Band

November 15 - “South By Northwest” Show Band

Please take a moment to view the Navy Band Northwest webpage for our public performance schedule as it is updated monthly: <https://www.cnrc.navy.mil/cnrrnw/Programs/CommandStaff/NavyBandNorthwest/NavyBandNWPerformances/index.htm>.

For additional information about Navy Band Northwest and any questions about these upcoming concerts, please contact Navy Band Northwest Public Affairs office at (360) 315-3447 or by e-mail at NavyBandNW.CNRRNW@navy.mil.

While attending our concerts, we also encourage all of our audience members to visit with the knowledgeable and friendly staff of the Naval Undersea Museum and enjoy their fine collections and displays. This one of a kind museum offers rare glimpses into the science and operation of the U.S. Navy’s undersea heritage. For more information on this official U.S. Navy museum please call the Curator’s Office at (360) 396-5517 or visit: <http://naval.undersea.museum>.

Thank you for your support of the United States Navy and Navy Band Northwest. We look forward to seeing you at a performance in the near future.

*Submitted by
LTJG Patrick K. Sweeten
Director, Navy Band Northwest*

Helen Miller's Memorable Stennis Tiger Cruise



As I rattled on about Navy League, its mission, the activities and the hundreds of hours our members volunteer in support of the Sea Services, including visiting our Congressional Leaders urging funding and support of the Sea Services, Josie was impressed and one day asked if I would attend a ceremony and pin her with her new award pin which I was honored to do.

Later in the cruise, Josie confided that because of all

that I had told her about the Navy League and its support of the Navy, she was going to re-enlist and requested that I attend the ceremony. I was amazed and slightly embarrassed when Josie, in front of the entire medical department, told me that she would otherwise have left the service had it not been for our discussions about Navy League.

The Ceremony itself was charged with emotion. This is an experience I will never forget.

Submitted by Helen Miller

There was an interesting twist to the latest USS John C Stennis CVN 74 Tiger Cruise for Helen Miller. The Stennis Medical Department was selected to provide escorts for the five Navy League members on the cruise.

As our last names were the same, Petty Officer Josie Miller volunteered to be my escort. Josie is a delightful lady from Hawaii, and we spent countless hours together exploring the ship together. Often we started the day with breakfast in her mess hall at an ungodly hour.

Smile, Your New Council Photographer is on the Job

Dodie Garner has agreed to serve as our Council Photographer. She loves to take candid shots, so just smile if she is looking in your direction. If you haven't had a chance to meet Dodie yet, please take time to say hello to her at our next event.

Norma Parker and Leah Wattree will continue their fine camera work. In fact, if you take pictures that you would like to be shared, please send them to Norma Parker at nparker@reidrealestate.com

reidrealestate.com

When you E-mail your photos to Norma, include the date, place and the name of the people in the photo so that she can use them in the newsletter. Norma distributes the photos to Karen Ebersole for our Annual Scrap Book and some also go to Johann Schoberl for our Web Site.

Thanks ladies for all of the good work that you do.

Submitted by Carolyn Dankers

Director NUWC Keyport to Speak at Navy League Luncheon

The monthly luncheon for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League will be held on Tuesday, September 8th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Bangor Plaza, Sub Base Kitsap - Bangor. Mr. Jim VanAntwerp, Executive Director of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Keyport, will serve as the 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 Thursday, September 3rd. The cost of the luncheon is \$15/person.

Armed Forces Day Gala Committee Hard at Work

Mark Saturday, May 15, 2010, for the Armed Forces Gala honoring our local military.

The Gala caps an exciting week of events including the oldest and largest Armed Forces Day Parade in the country. Dinner and live entertainment are being planned for Saturday night as we host representatives of the Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard.

The planning committee has already started the planning of this event and would welcome your suggestion and participation. Contact Mark Lowe at mark-d-low@comcast.net for more information.

**October Luncheon Date Change – October 6
1st Tuesday instead of 2nd Tuesday**

Have You Checked Our Website Today?

Looking Toward the Future – Learning from the Past is the title of a great research paper on US Navy Carrier Operations and the importance of a strong US Navy. The paper highlights the role our carriers play in providing a strong platform for military support and humanitarian assistance worldwide.

CNA Analysts and Solutions staff has synthesized material from many key players.

An abbreviated copy is available on our website at <http://brem-olympic.nlus.us>.

Trips & Tours Schedule

Naval Magazine Indian Island
Sept 10 @ 1 pm

**Wa State Ferry Tour -
Bridge to Engine Room.**
Roundtrip from Bainbridge
Sept 15 @ 9:15 am

USS John C Stennis
Sept 29 @ 10 am
(Don't know yet about lunch aboard)

USCG Healy Ice Breaker tour
Oct 9 @ 10:30 am
Lunch aboard ship

Naval Hospital Kitsap
Jan 11 2010 @ 10am
Lunch at the hospital

For more information, contact Byron Faber byfaber@centurytel.net or (360) 638-1235.

Submitted by Byron Faber

USCG Sea Fox Commissioning Set for September 18

Save the date! A new Coast Guard Cutter, Sea Fox, is arriving at Naval Base Kitsap and we will be involved in her commissioning on Sept 18 at 2:00 p.m.

We are excited to welcome the crew and their families to our area and look forward to meeting them as soon as possible.

The USCG Sea Fox is a sister ship to the Sea Devil which our Council helped commission a year ago. Both are part of the Maritime Force Protection Unit at

Naval Base Kitsap. Their Commanding Officer is CDR Michael Baroody. These vessels provide an invaluable service to the navy and the nation with their unique ability to exercise Coast Guard law enforcement authority while enforcing a Naval Vessel Protective Zone in near-shore and offshore areas.

More specific information on the Commissioning will be available at our September luncheon.

Guy Stitt Receives Award



Guy Stitt receives a Great White Fleet plaque as a personal tribute for his tireless efforts in support of the sea services and Navy League from Gary Gunderson, Will Lent and Carolyn Dankers.

As Council President last year, Guy helped celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Great White Fleet's visit to the Pacific Northwest. President Teddy Roosevelt sent the fleet around the world to demonstrate our naval strength and abilities.

Similar plaques were given to the Commanding Officers of submarines bearing the same name as ships that were a part of the Great White Fleet. These presentations occurred around Puget Sound at ports where the Great White Fleet visited and were arranged by Gary Gunderson.

Guy continues to advocate for a strong Navy and military presence in our area and to support the policies set forth by President Teddy Roosevelt.

National Convention to be held in Corpus Christi

Check out the National Convention web site at <http://www.navyleagueconvention.org/>, or to register online for the upcoming convention in Corpus Christi, Texas, October 27 - November 1.

For those members interested in "Coming Early and Staying Longer," visit the convention portal at <http://www.corpusnavyleague.org/>.

"Good Bye" to One Friend and "Hello" to Another

A Farewell/Welcome Reception was hosted by PSNBA, Navy League – Bremerton/Olympic Peninsula Council, and Naval Sub League on Tuesday, August 4th.

We gathered to say farewell to our good friend, Rear Admiral Tim Giardina, and welcome Rear Admiral James F. Caldwell, the new Commander for COMSUBGRU 9.

The reception was held in the Fountain Room at Fountain Park, Bremerton Harborside.

Information Update

Please send any change of contact information to our database manager, Larry Salter or notify anyone at the Membership Desk (have you checked it out yet?) at the monthly luncheon. 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.

Navy League Float Wins Award



Alice and Dave Thomas proudly ride our Navy League float during the Fathoms of Fun Parade in Port Orchard. The Navy League took the "Best Military Veteran Entry" award for the float. Congratulations to our Float Committee.

Committee Meeting Schedule

Tuesday	Sept 8	Strategy Planning Committee 5:00 pm Dave Thomas Residence
Thursday	Sept 10	Membership Committee 6:00 pm Austin Chase, Silverdale
Tuesday	Sept 15	Communications Committee 5:30 pm Reid Real Estate
Wednesday	Sept 23	Veteran's Day Planning Meeting 9:00 am Kitsap County Fairgrounds
Thursday	Oct 8	Membership Committee 6:00 pm Austin Chase
Tuesday	Oct 13	Strategy Planning Committee 5:00 pm Dave Thomas Residence
Wednesday	Oct 23	Veteran's Day Planning Meeting 9:00 am Kitsap County Fairgrounds
Tuesday	Oct 20	Communications Committee 5:30 pm Reid Real Estate



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


Postage for your newsletter has been provided by **Bank of America**  **Home Loans**

Planning Ahead

Tuesday	Sept 8	Monthly Luncheon Meeting – 11:30 am Bangor Plaza – Speaker, Jim VanAntwerp
Thursday	Sept 10	Tour Naval Magazine, Indian Island
Tuesday	Sept 15	WA State Ferry Tour Bainbridge Ferry Terminal – 9:15 am
Friday	Sept 18	Sea Fox Commissioning – 2:00 p.m. Keyport
Sunday	Sept 20	Navy Band Northwest Free Concert "Five Star Brass" Quintet , and Clarinet Quartet Keyport Naval Museum
Thursday	Sept 29	USS John C Stennis Tour – 10:00 am
Wednesday	Oct 7	Board of Director's Meeting – 6:00 pm Reid Real Estate – Silverdale
Thursday	Oct 1	Deadline for Making Reservations For October 6 Luncheon – 12:00 noon
Tuesday	Oct 6	Monthly Luncheon Meeting – Bangor Plaza –11:30 am Speaker –Captain Frederick J. Sommer US Coast Guard Healy
Sunday	Oct 18	Navy Band Northwest Free Concert "Cascade" Big Band – Keyport Naval Museum
Friday	Oct 23	Navy Day Celebration Kitsap Conference Center – 6:00 pm

This Date in History

August 26, 1865 – Civil War ends with Naval strength over 58,500 men and 600 ships

 **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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