



# NOW HEAR THIS!

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES  
BREMERTON-OLYMPIC PENINSULA COUNCIL



Volume 64, Issue 09

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## Rear Admiral Select Mark R. Whitney Speaker for September 13 Luncheon

Captain Whitney has been promoted to Rear Admiral and we will look forward to hearing when we can start using his new title officially. Captain Whitney is so well prepared for his current role as Commander, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility. He has served in many impressive shore and afloat positions since being commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy in April 1984 after earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering from Maine Maritime Academy.



Following Surface Warfare Officers School and Steam Engineering Officer of the Watch School, he served on the USS Luce (DDG 38), and then went to Destroyer Squadron (COMDESERON 12). He also served at the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) supporting Operations Desert Shield/Storm as a member of the USSOCOM Crisis Action Team.

In December 1994, Captain Whitney completed his graduate education at the Naval Postgraduate School, earning a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and receiving the Naval Postgraduate School Superior Service Award. For the next six years Captain Whitney served in many important roles in the new construction and overhaul of at least four aircraft carriers at several shipyards.

Captain Whitney assumed responsibilities as Chief Engineer on the

USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) in August 2000 and completed a combat deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He served on the OPNAV staff as Surface Ship Maintenance and Modernization Section head under the Director of Surface Warfare and then went to the Director of Air Warfare and served as the Aircraft Carrier Requirements Officer.

Finally, in August 2004, he reported to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and IMF where he served as the Operations Officer (Code 300). In July 2006, he reported as the Assistant Deputy Commander for Industrial Operations, Naval Sea Systems Command. On May 23, 2008, Captain Whitney was welcomed back to Puget Sound as the 47th Commander of PSNS and IMF.

His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Gold Stars, Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star, Joint Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star, and the Battle Efficiency Ribbon in addition to various campaign and service awards.

Captain Whitney lives in Bremerton with his wife Lisa Ann Long and their twin sons, John and Austin.

Please contact Diane Garrett at CTC on or before September 8 to make your reservations and be certain to give Diane your birth date and the correct spelling of your name as it appears on your driver's license.



## President's Message

Soon the media will be filled with the stories of 9/11/2001 and it is important for us to stop and reflect on what happened that day in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people lost their lives in a very short time. Amazingly, 12,000 people survived that day from the Twin Towers due to well-trained emergency teams.

While no one can really be prepared for such an immense disaster, our emergency teams went right to work risking their own lives. People from across the nation immediately offered support and prayers. Blood banks were full for the first time in years, organizations had more volunteers than they could use and amazing stories of caring and valor prevailed. National Guard and other military units provided immediate support.

Now ten years later, Ground Zero features a park, a fountain, a museum and more. Memorials have also been built at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. Steel beams from the Trade Center are arriving at our doorsteps in Gig Harbor, Bremerton and Silverdale. Let these be reminders of the strength of our citizens and our country.

As a direct result of 9/11, our military has been seeking out the radicals who

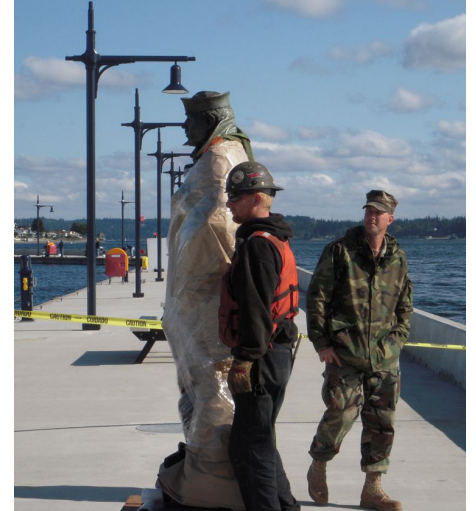
planned and supported these terrible events and threatened more. The young men and women who have volunteered to protect us, leave their families and go into harm's way top my list in the hero category. We need to take time to say thank you and provide support any time we can.

Since 9/11/2001, our young men and women have been serving multiple deployments around the world and thousands more personnel are working around the clock to make certain that they have the very best possible equipment and training. For them, each day for the last 10 years has been critical as they try to stabilize the hot spots and protect us.

Navy League provides us with many opportunities to meet the people who are making these critical decisions. We are invited to tour the submarines and the aircraft carriers to learn more about their daily lives of where they sleep, eat and work. Military leaders come to our luncheons and share their stories and we are honored to attend their special events. Our organization is dedicated to supporting the men and women of the sea services and their families. We also pledge to share their stories with others so that everyone understands the sacrifices that they make so that we can go about our daily lives in freedom.

Let us never forget...

## Lone Sailor Remembered



Members of the Lone Sailor Committee met on August 17 to celebrate the third anniversary of bringing the Lone Sailor Statue to the Olympic Peninsula. Thanks to the many donations from members of our community and beyond and to a generous grant from the Birkenfeld Foundation, our Council was able to bring an exact duplicate of the Lone Sailor Statue that stands in front of the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington D.C. honoring all of those who serve or have served our country.

Since this seven-foot image of a second class Petty Officer came to our area, the artist who designed the original and who made certain that our sailor was an exact duplicate has passed away at age 86. Mr. Stanley Bleifeld won many awards and was recognized worldwide for his artistic skills. Our statue might be one of his final pieces of work.

The Lone Sailor Committee was co-chaired by Tim Thomson and Ron Testa. Other members of the committee attending the celebration were Carol Meteney, Dick and Shirley Vlist, Dave Schaffer and his family, Doug and Lea Cook, Carolyn Dankers and Linda Testa.

We learned that the crew of the USS Michigan are planning for an event at the Lone Sailor Memorial and that other groups have chosen the site for reenlistments and retirements.

If you have not taken time to walk down to the breakwater at the Bremerton Harbor to see the Lone Sailor up close, plan to do so as soon. It is a great photo opportunity.



WTC beams arriving in Western Washington



## A Note from the USS Bremerton



Byron,  
Greetings to you and the Navy League from Diego Garcia. I apologize for not communicating earlier but we have had long periods of radio silence. We have been pretty busy operating in CENTCOM. I wish I could give more detail about what we have been doing. Rest assured it has been in the best interest of our country. In addition to our regular job out here, we have visited Singapore, Bahrain and currently are in Diego Garcia south of the Equator. It is a very, very small atoll in the southern Indian Ocean. Thanks for all the support from the Navy League. Once we broke silence, I received a lot of email from you. I was excited to hear about the recent donation. We have been using the funds that the Navy League provided for many crew activities during our port calls. I look forward to seeing you in Jan/Feb. I don't have fidelity on our schedule out that far yet.

Keep in touch,  
Caleb

### Editor note:

Byron Faber is the lead contact with our mutually adopted submarine, the USS Bremerton. Byron hopes to visit the sub in Hawaii to present some recognition plaques to their sailors of the Quarter and the Year. Naturally, the trip will be at his own expense.

See Byron for more info.

## Random Notes on the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS)



*The Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1913.*

- ◆ 1891—Establishment of Naval Station
- ◆ 1908—Repair of Great White Fleet before they left for Japan
- ◆ 1914-1917—Construction of wide variety of ships, tugs and small boats
- ◆ 1941-1946—Repair of battle damage to U.S. ships
- ◆ 1950?—Name Change: Bremerton Navy Yard
- ◆ 1950's—Korean Conflict: Activation of mothballed ships. New construction of Guided Missile Frigates (FFG's)
- ◆ 1965—Construction of the first nuclear-powered submarine USS Sculpin (SSN 590)
- ◆ 1972—Name Change: Puget Sound Naval Shipyard
- ◆ 1990—Initiate program to recycle nuclear powered ships
- ◆ 2003—Consolidation of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and the Naval Intermediate Maintenance Facility, Pacific Northwest (located at Bangor, Bremerton and Everett, WA)

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility is now the Pacific Northwest's largest Naval shore facility and one of Washington State's largest industrial installations.

## New Naval Aviation Exhibit at the Keyport Undersea Museum

Come check out the new exhibit highlighting significant torpedo launching aircraft used by the navy in the last hundred years. There is a real WWII airdropped Mark 13 torpedo and models of two iconic WWII torpedo bombers, a TBD devastator and a TBF/TBM Avenger.

The Museum wanted to honor the one hundredth anniversary of naval aviation while keeping to their mission that focuses on undersea topics.

Video interviews with navy personnel that fly and maintain different aircraft

the torpedo specific content into the big picture of naval aviation are available for viewing.

The exhibit will continue to the end of 2011, but check it out now.

The Museum is now open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. From October through May, it is closed on Tuesdays. Admission and parking are free. For additional information, call 360 396-4148.

Note: Our Council will celebrate the Naval Air Centennial at our December luncheon meeting.

## HT1 (SW/AW) Aaron Lyon Senior Sailor of the Quarter (He is a Hull Technician First Class Petty Officer)



*Captain Charles E. Baker, the new C.O. of the Intermediate Maintenance Facility at Bangor, presents HT1 Aaron Lyon with a Navy League plaque and a gift certificate from Clearwater Casino and Resort for being the Senior Sailor of the Quarter. Photos by MT1 (SS) Ivan Richardson II.*

Petty Officer Lyon has filled a critical role as the Hull Division Leading Petty Officer. He is dedicated and highly motivated and expertly manages the day-to-day administrative functions within the Division for 34 Military personnel. His tenacious work ethic and strong leadership ability has led to zero qualification delinquencies. As the PSNS/IMF Bangor Navy and Marine Corp Relief Society Coordinator, he was the cornerstone for this year's fund drive, leading 10 divisional key persons in obtaining 100% contact and exceeding the commands goal by more than \$2,000 with a total donation amount of \$9,128. Petty Officer Lyon's drive and character have greatly contributed to the overall success of the Division.

*Katie Eberling  
IMF PAO*

## MM2 (SW/AW) James Oxford Junior Sailor of the Quarter (He is a Second Class Machinists Mate Petty Officer)

Petty Officer Oxford's mechanical knowledge and willingness to accept more challenging jobs while supervising two personnel demonstrated unrivaled technical knowledge by overhauling, repairing and testing over 18 SUBSFE ball valves, two get valves and four relief valves. He reviewed and ensured all objective quality evidence was properly completed leading to first-time quality work. As Assistant Section Leader, he was responsible for writing an accurate watch bill and tracking qualifications for 21 personnel. He volunteered to assist with the Spring 2011 PFA Cycle and was selected to led the early morning Fitness Enhancement Program for Sailors assigned to the Puget Sound Shipyard site, overseeing five personnel.

*Katie Eberling  
IMF PAO*



*Captain Baker presenting MM2 James Oxford with a Navy League plaque and a gift certificate from Clearwater Casino and Resort for being the Junior Sailor of the Quarter. Photos by MT1 (SS) Ivan Richardson II.*

## Volunteers Needed on USS Turner Joy



All those with a love ships and the sea you're talent is needed to help with our Bremerton Historical Ship Association USS Turner Joy (DD951) moored in the Bremerton Marina. She is taken care of by volunteers and those that love working aboard ships maintaining her strong history for those that tour her. That they might remember the rich service that history has recorded. If you have interest and some time even an hour per week to help in the gift shop or assist in tours as well and many other volunteer jobs, you are asked to call Director Steve Boerner, Ship and Gift Store. The number to call is 360-792-2457 or email [dd951@sinclair.net](mailto:dd951@sinclair.net). He is the person to talk to about any volunteer work. You will be asked to come and visit and see if it would fit your time and ability to assist in this very important work.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to tour the entire ship this would be a good time to do so and you will see how well she has been maintained by all the volunteers.

**USS Turner Joy DD 951**

**Bremerton Historic Ship Association  
300 Washington Beach Ave.**

**Bremerton, WA 98337**

**Website: [www.ussturnerjoy.org](http://www.ussturnerjoy.org)**



# NUWC Keyport Summer Food Drive Results



Captain Stephen Iwanowicz, Commander, NUWC Keyport, gives food to Ralph Johnson with South Kitsap Helpline while (from left) Garvin Tootle with North Kitsap Fishline, Hoyt Burrows of Central Kitsap Food Bank and NUWC Keyport's divers look on. More than 1,000 pounds of food was distributed to the Central Kitsap Food Bank, North Kitsap Fishline and South Kitsap Helpline. (Silvia Klatman, PAO, NUWC, Keyport)



ND2 Kraig Reiter and ND2 Sammie Rochelle from NUWC Keyport Dive Locker unload a van full of food donated by NUWC Keyport employees. More than 1,000 pounds of food was distributed to the Central Kitsap Food Bank, North Kitsap Fishline and South Kitsap Helpline. (Silvia Klatman, PAO, NUWC, Keyport)

## Membership Appreciation Night - A Huge Success

Mike and Janele Hancock welcomed us with open arms to their wonderful home overlooking the Hood Canal. Norma Parker, our Membership Chair, with assistance from Kathy Berndston prepared enough food for a battleship. Appetizers, a variety of salads and wonderful baked beans accompanied the barbecue. A huge chocolate cake and pies followed the dinner.

While the food was extraordinary, the opportunity to relax and talk with members and guests from Port Angeles to Gig Harbor really made the evening special.

All the components for a perfect evening were there, a magnificent setting, great food and good company. At one point, even a doe and her fawn wanted to join us.

Thanks Norma for making this happen.

## Wanted: Past Issues of SeaPower

Have you been wondering what to do with the past issues of SeaPower?

Let us help you. Bring them to a luncheon and we will distribute them for you. For example, the last issue focused on our Coast Guard and we would like to share copies with our friends at the different Coast Guard units as well as at schools and retirement homes. The new issue is supposed to focus on Marines and so we have some ready readers for those magazines.

Have you noticed that almost every issue of SeaPower has an article written by Guy Stitt's Company, AMI. He provides a global view of the sea services. In the back of the magazine, check out the membership information and you will see Larry Salter's name as one of the leading Navy League recruiters in the country.

These magazines are part of your membership benefits and provide so much information. Read them and then share them if you don't want to collect them.





COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74)  
FPO, AP 96615-2874

1 Aug 2011

Dear Friends of STENNIS,

I wanted to convey my gratitude for your patriotism and support for the Sailors and families of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74), as we begin our deployment to defend our great nation and its interests overseas.

Our crew recently enjoyed some well-deserved time off after their exceptional performance in several critical training exercises in May and June of this year. During these evolutions, this ship and battle group earned scores that placed it at the top of all carrier strike groups for the past several years. I could not have been more proud of your Sailors' dedication and daily efforts.

In addition, before our departure, we hosted the official player's dinner for the United States Golf Association's Junior Amateur Championship. Even during a leave period, our Sailors professionalism ensured that this event was a rousing success. Because of their efforts, we were able to provide a memorable experience for countless young adults across this country.

Since departing the Pacific Northwest just days ago, we have already brought our Carrier Air Wing onboard, and begun carrier qualifications to further our pilots' proficiency and flight deck crew skills. During the next several days we will also complete replenishment of fuel and ordinance at sea, execute force protection drills, and complete countless other evolutions. Through constant preparation we meet our weighty responsibilities and ensure that America's interests abroad are in solid hands.

Finally, our Sailors will soon enter foreign ports, where they will serve as ambassadors for our great Navy and our country. There, they will be able to create life long memories while supporting the Chief of Naval Operations' vision of theater security cooperation.

Your generosity means a great deal to our Sailors and I thank you for your continued support. I plan to write to all of you on a regular basis. I am sure that you will join me as I eagerly anticipate the many successes and triumphs of this courageous and dedicated crew in the months to come!

Warm Regards

R. REIS

Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer

# Planning Ahead

For best service, register early for the luncheon and the tours.

September 5	Labor Day
September 7	Board Meeting Reid Realty, Silverdale, 5:30 pm to 7 pm
September 11	Patriot Day - Flags at half-mast RDML Biesel, Speaker, Evergreen Park, Bremerton, Noon
September 13	Luncheon - Captain Mark Whitney, Commander PSNS/IMF
September 16	POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 18	U.S. Air Force Birthday
September 24	Council Cruise - Vancouver B.C. to Los Angeles
October 5	Board Meeting, Byron Faber's home
October 11	Luncheon - Captain Culp, CO of Naval Hospital Bremerton
October 12	U.S. Navy Birthday
October 15	Teddy Roosevelt, Re-enactor, Kitsap Mall, 1 pm
TBA	U.S. Navy Ball
TBA	Navy/Army Flag Football, local
TBA	Navy League Birthday Celebration, local
October 26-31	NLUS National Convention, Chattanooga, Tenn.



*"Wherever we go, wherever we sail, we're not just passing through. We're training and working with friends and allies. Perhaps even pulling into port and doing community relations projects. Wherever we go, we will be engaged."*  
 Commander, Carrier Strike Group 3, Rear Admiral Craig Faller

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## Navy League of the United States Mission Statement and Goals

A civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that it's national defense and economic well being are dependent upon strong sea services – United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard and the United States Merchant Marine.

### Navy League Goals

1. Educate national leaders and the nation.
2. Support the men and women of the sea services.
3. Provide assistance to the sea service families.
4. Support the youth program.