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- ★ Tryck, Nyman, Hayes, Inc.
- ★ West Sound Bank

**NEW MEMBERS**

*Welcome Aboard*

- ★ Congressman Norm Dicks
- ★ Grant Lynch
- ★ Larry Seaquist



**President's Corner**

It continues to be quite a summer for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council. We are still in the planning stages of our two big fall events, the Annual Dinner in October and the Veterans Day Celebration in November.

Sorry I missed the July luncheon. Stan Mack again did a great job in covering for me. Please see the accompanying articles by Dave Thomas on the events during the luncheon.

Our Navy League Float and the Float Committee continue to have a busy summer. The Float took first place in the military division for the Fathoms of Fun parade in Port Orchard on June 24th. Thanks to Ron Testa for representing Navy League on the Float. The next parade you will have an opportunity to see our Float will be during Whaling Days in Silverdale on 29 July. Come wave to Dave and Alice Thomas, our guest Navy League riders and all the outstanding sailors--John Payne reports that there will be more sailors than ever before on the Float.

Our National President asked Local Council Presidents to visit their elected Representatives and provide a Navy League briefing and outline the issues that the Navy League is supporting. I was able to visit with Congressman Dicks on 5 July to pass along that message. It was well received by the Congressman. In addition, Congressman Dicks accepted my invitation to become a member of our council--a hearty welcome to our newest member, Congressman Norm Dicks.

During the last Board Meeting, Treasurer Stan Mack reported that the Council is doing very well financially. Our fundraising activities for the Armed Forces Day Gala were very successful, not only were we able to host a significant number of military personnel and their spouses, but we added almost \$6500.00 to our operating budget to fund Council activities that support the Sea Services. Much of that support comes from the companies listed on the left as our Corporate Sponsors and Community Affiliates. I would like to thank Patriots Landing for renewing their membership as a Community Affiliate.

See you all at the August luncheon. Thanks for all that you do.

*Larry*



*Congressman Norm Dicks speaking at the recent USS Ohio Return to Service celebration*

## 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.

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## Coast Guardsman of the Year Recognition

At the July meeting our council recognized the outstanding accomplishments of MK2 Jared Crostwell, leading mechanic on USCGC Osprey (WPB-87307), Coast Guardsman of the Year for January to December 2005. Master Chief Butz, Officer in Charge of Osprey described the outstanding contributions that MK2 Crostwell made to improving the performance of Osprey during the year. Alice Thomas, awards chairman, presented MK2 Crostwell with a Navy League plaque, a gift certificate to Sportsman's Warehouse, and a gift certificate provided by Hudson Photography.



Awards Chairman, Alice Thomas, recognizes MK2 Jared Crostwell for his selection as the 2005 Coast Guardsman of the Year for District 13. On the right, is Master Chief Butz, Officer-in-Charge of the USCG Cutter Osprey. Port Townsend is the Osprey's homeport.

## USS Michigan (SSGN 727) Conversion Update

Commander Terry Takats, Commanding Officer USS Michigan, was the guest speaker at the July luncheon. He thanked the council for support of his ship and crew and acknowledged the plans for a return to service ceremony planned for February or April of next year, supported by our Navy League Council. CDR Takats was accompanied by Senior Chief Casey O'Leary, due to the Chief of the Boat and twelve crew members being in Detroit for Detroit Navy Week, hosted by the Detroit Metro Navy League Council.

CDR Takats reported that the Engineered Refueling Overhaul is 95% complete, the ship is out of drydock, and making good progress on the conversion. He described the differences between the conversion of Ohio and Florida, the first two SSGN conversions, and Michigan and Georgia the second two. Due to lessons learned from experimentation and from the first two conversions, there are significant changes to the Battle Management Center. Michigan is in the final testing phase of the Tactical Tomahawk Weapons Control System (TTWCS). CDR Takats pointed out that improved training facilities allowed his crew to more rapidly complete the testing phase on TTWCS.

CDR Takats talked about the programs that are in place to recognize crew members and keep them motivated in the challenging environment of the Shipyard. They focus on leadership, teamwork building, and Submarine Heritage. The Michigan crew has been heavily involved in the community, including adopting a family in need, working on the water for life, and a Cooperative Education Program with Clear Creek Elementary School. The result has been the ship receiving the 2005 Commander Pacific Fleet reenlistment excellence award.

*Story Provided by David Thomas*



*CDR Terry Takats, Commanding Officer USS Michigan, guest speaker at the July luncheon with Council Treasurer Stan Mack  
Photo by Hearst Coen*



You're invited to Seattle's Pier 91 to tour some of the finest ships from the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and Canadian Navy, visiting Seattle the first week of August for Sea Fair, 2006.

U.S.S. CLEVELAND  
U.S.S. CHUNG-HOON  
U.S.S. MILIUS  
U.S. Coast Guard Cutter FIR  
Ships from the Royal Canadian Navy  
The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the BLUE ANGELS

### TOUR INFORMATION

**Date :** August 3, 4, 5, & 6, Thur - Sun  
**Time:** 9:30 to 3:30, Thur, Fri, & Sat, and 12 Noon to 3:30 on Sun.  
**Location:** Pier 91, Seattle Waterfront  
**Reserve:** No reservations taken.  
Tours are first come, first served.  
**Cost:** Free  
**Website:** [www.seafair.com](http://www.seafair.com)



## USS Alaska Departs Bangor for Final Time

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Mary Popejoy,  
Northwest Region Fleet Public Affairs Center

SILVERDALE, Wash. (NNS) -- After 20 years of service in the Pacific Northwest, USS Alaska (SSBN 732) departed Naval Base Kitsap for the final time July 8. Alaska is being relocated to the east coast to undergo an engineering refueling overhaul in Norfolk and a new homeport in Kings Bay, Ga.

"It was 20 years ago in this very building, Alaska completed her first strategic onload of C4 missiles," said Capt. Derek Hesse, commodore, Submarine Squadron (CSS) 19. "Her final offload of D5 missiles took place a few days ago in this very building." "Alaska was the first Trident to be converted to the D5 missile system in the Pacific and conducted the first D5 missile patrol out here in the Pacific, as well," he said. Hesse added that Alaska has had many more successes, every one of which exemplifies the words alert, confident and able.

Alaska's accomplishments include CSS 19's Strategic "S" three years in a row; the Tactical "T" for 2004-2005; 2004 Battle "E"; Pacific Fleet's Retention Award three years in a row; Navy League's Outstanding Trident Award, 2003-2004 and the 2005 Omaha Trophy.

"It's not just the awards that made Alaska so great, it's the exceptional performance of every man in the crew, from the captain to the most junior seaman," said Hesse. During its time at Naval Base Kitsap, Alaska completed 47 C4 and 12 D5 missile patrols. "Today, we regrettably say goodbye to one of the finest ships in the submarine force, one which has been an absolute cornerstone of our nation's defense in the Pacific," said Hesse.

"Alaska is ready to go. It's ready to go to overhaul and the east coast to continue serving our country," said Cmdr. Jon Fahs, commanding officer, Alaska. Alaska has finished her tour in the

Northwest, however the memories made here will always remain.

"It's been a wonderful home for the ship and crew. I can't imagine anything better," said Fahs. "It's definitely with a heavy heart we'll be leaving this area because many of us have spent a long time here. It's been very enjoyable, not just because of the area, but the support we've received."



Bangor, Wash. (July 8, 2006) - USS Alaska (SSBN 732) Commanding Officer Cmdr. Jon Fahs salutes commodore Submarine Squadron 19, Capt. Derek Hesse before making the journey to Norfolk, Va. Alaska is changing homeports to Kings Bay, Ga., and undergoing an engineering refueling overhaul in Norfolk. U.S. Navy photo by Danise Barnes

## Animals Helping Out On Local Navy Bases



SubBase Bangor - Zorro, a military working dog for Naval Base Kitsap, jumps through the obstacle course as Master-at-Arms 1st Class William Renfro, follows him. Zorro has been apart of NBK for two months and is being trained to conduct foot patrols; vehicle and building inspections and other required tasks. Navy photo by Seaman Samuel Renteria



Naval Magazine Indian Island - Logger Jerry Harpole stands watch over Mrs. Sarah Nell Davis as she leads the logging horse team members, Tom and Jerry. Davis recently toured with the Bremerton Olympic Peninsula Navy League to observe and learn first hand about the horse logging operations conducted on Indian Island. Horse logging on U. S. Navy installations first started on the Indian Island base in the early 1970's, a direct result of the Navy's Forestry Program's commitment to environmental excellence. Using horses is a little easier on the environment than machinery. With horses you minimize problems with soil compaction and damage to the rooting zone. Navy photo by Senior Chief Jerry McLain



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## Planning Calendar

- Tues - Sun Aug 1 -6 SeaFair Fleet Week - Seattle Waterfront Pier 91  
Ship tours Aug 3 - 6
- Tuesday Aug 8 Luncheon, Bangor Plaza - Speaker, John Dwyer  
Chief of the Inspection Division  
USCG Sector Seattle
- Monday Sept 4 Labor Day
- Tuesday Sept 12 Monthly Luncheon, Bangor Plaza - Speaker, TBD

### August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

### September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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

## On This Date

August 3, 1958 - USS Nautilus (SSN-571) is first ship to reach the North Pole submerged.  
 August 4, 1964 - USS Turner Joy and USS Maddox report being attacked by North Vietnamese PT boats in Gulf of Tonkin.  
 August 17, 1962 - Navy's first hydrofoil patrol craft, USS High Point (PCH-1) launched at Seattle, WA.

### August Luncheon

**Date:** August 8, 2006  
**Time:** 11:30 AM  
**Place:** Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor  
**Program:** Mr. John Dwyer, Chief of the Inspection Division, USCG Sector Seattle

Call Pioneer Services at 360.405.6336 by Wednesday, August 2nd 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