



Now Hear This!



Navy League of the United States

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

Volume 61, Issue 02

February 2008

2008 COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Guy Stitt 360.373.2686
Vice President	Dave Thomas 360.373.2673
Treasurer	Gary Gunderson 206.365.4219
Secretary	Byron Faber 360.638.1235
Judge Advocate	Tim Katona 360.674.2628

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- ★ West Sound Bank

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

- ★ Jan Angel
- ★ Dennis Noble
- ★ Earl and Pat Gillett

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council Rings Out the Old Year Welcomes the New Year at the Installation Gala

A fun filled evening was shared by the attendees of the Installation Gala on Saturday, January 19, 2008 at Bangor Plaza. A memorable address was given by retiring president, Stan Mack, as

he said goodbye to Council Members and good friends as he yielded the gavel for the last time before his move to Eugene, Oregon. Stan reminded us of our accomplishments this past year some of which were the restoration of the Lyman Memorial located at the Sylvan Library; the Navy Day Festival and Gala; the Veteran's Day Ceremony with over 1,000 attendees including Congressman Norm Dicks, Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell and Commissioner Josh Brown; the USS Michigan Return to Service Ceremony; the Memorial Day



Ceremony a board the Turner Joy; and of course, our Lone Sailor Project; to name a few. A busy year for the 2007 Officers and Board of Directors.

Following Stan's

address, we were entertained with a presentation by Vice Admiral Melvin G. "Mel" Williams, Jr., Deputy Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command. VADM Williams, pointed out that when he was a young recruit, Stan Mack was the instructor who taught him "Wax on, Wax off" as a young serviceman. Flag Officers attending included RDML Jim Symonds, RDML (ret) Thomas Stone, and RDML (ret) Stuart Platt. In addition the event was attended by numerous Commanding Officers, Sea Cadet adult leaders, elected officials and their representatives, Business Associates and Community Affiliates of our Council.



(Above) The Oath of Office was administered to the Incoming Officers and Board of Directors by Ron Testa and Carol Meteney, National Directors, and witnessed by NW Region Navy League President, Dr. David Todd (not pictured). (Left) Taking over the gavel from Stan Mack is incoming President, Guy Stitt.



President's Message

Hello Navy League members and friends! By the time you read this we will have had our installation dinner

where we installed our 2008 Officers and Board of Directors.

I am excited about 2008 and the key goals we have laid out. Over the next two months I will travel up to Sequim and host a lunch with our members there in order to get to know them and their concerns as well as gain buy-in on our goals and objectives. I'm hoping to find some key members to contribute to our board.

We drafted our Goals for 2008 and I would appreciate your inputs. Please email at gstitt@amiinter.com with your comments and ideas.

- Maintain continuity of our council operations
- Retain our over 500 members and increase total membership substantially to greater than 700 – seek to win Retention Award
- Increase our interaction with local business and community organizations in order to educate and inform them of the importance of Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine and our Navy League
- Establish a Speakers Bureau (interested? Email gstitt@amiinter.com)
- Unveil a new enhanced Website – Seek to win award. (This has already been launched - <http://brem-olympic.nlus.us/>) It is already getting great attention nationwide. Your comments for improvement are welcome.
- Add new “Meet and Greet” Social Functions
- Highlight and Celebrate our Board of Directors – This excellent group is responsible for the significant awards our Council has won. You will see one highlighted monthly in our newsletter.
- Streamline our processes and lessen the administrative burdens of our Board of Directors

RADM Tim Giardina, Commander Submarine Group Nine will be our Luncheon Speaker in February and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Thank you for continuing your support of our Armed Forces and our Navy League!

Gary Stitt

Meet Your Board Members



Carol Meteney

Carol Meteney was born in Detroit, Michigan. She moved to California when she was 6 years old & went to school in Gardena Ca. She married right out of high school & had 4 great children. Divorced after ten years, she married Albert J. Meteney in 1967. Al was in the Navy and thus her love for the Navy developed.

After Al's retirement and several other moves they settled in the Northwest and again fell in love with the Navy in this area. They became Navy League members as Al was now retired and had for years been entertained, honored, and familiar with the Navy League. He often said when he grew up he wanted to belong to such a wonderful organization as the Navy League. After joining they became very active. When asked to run for office, Carol became the Judge Advocate for our Council.

In following years she filled the positions of Treasurer, Vice President and then President 2000-2001. She was the first in our council to serve two years as President. Carol says, “I found it easier the second term as she knew what was expected and we all worked very well together.” Our council grew to the 500 members during that time.

Carol states, “the Navy League and our Council have been a very large part of my life and when elected a National Director I was honored to serve in that capacity.” She is now in her 7th year as National Director. She has been chairman of the Awards Committee & a member of that committee for 4 years. She is currently the Northwest Region Vice President for Legislative Affairs. As part of our very active council, She feels it is our duty to fulfill the goals of the Navy League mission.

She is also a member of the MOAA Board of directors and Past President of ROWA (Retired Officers Wives Association).

Carol states, “I am proud to be part of this Navy Town.” She is currently working with the Lone Sailor Statue Committee to bring that National Statue to Bremerton for future generations to enjoy and learn the history of honored service so many have experienced.

We continue to teach our youth the history of our nation through good works and service. She hopes you will consider joining our effort to bring the statue home to Bremerton. Go to the website and donate please.

www.lonesailor-bremerton.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Luncheon Date Change

The March luncheon will not be held on the normal 2nd Tuesday. For March only, the luncheon will be on the first Wednesday – March 5th, 2008.

Reservations must be made by Wednesday, February 27, 2008. Call Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) (360) 782-5500 for reservations.

Captain's Corner - "Individual Augmentees"

by Captain Bradley Johanson, Commanding Officer of the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74)



Hello Navy League! I hope you're off to a great start for 2008! As I contemplated what topic might be appropriate for this month's Captain's Corner there was one example of

service shared by our Sailors that percolated right to the top, and that issue is the challenges faced by our "Individual Augmentees", also referred to as IA's. These are Sailors who are assigned tours ranging from six months to over a year in support of the Army, Marine Corp or Joint Headquarter's elements outside of the Navy infrastructure. Many of the jobs are assigned to support missions where the armed services are over tasked based on our current manning, or where the rotation rate for active duty, reserve or national guard forces have stretched our fellow services to the limit. Since teamwork is always our goal, the Navy will always support our fellow services as they encounter these challenges. We currently have over 12,000 Sailors Navy wide assigned to IA positions. The majority of those (8,000) are in Iraq, Afghanistan and Djibouti, Africa. The jobs assigned range from logistics support (ordering or processing spare parts, food, water, fuel, etc.), to security assistance (guards at entry control points), to support for communications infrastructure (computer based and voice communications). The variety of assignments is really quite broad, but that's an area where the Navy excels - flexible response to any challenge encountered. Perhaps the most challenging part of an IA assignment is not the length of time or the serious nature of the mission, but the fact that it's assigned in a location

outside of the Navy's support infrastructure. Our Sailors are used to the Navy systems for meals, sleeping accommodations, the ways to train, manage pay issues and conduct themselves in a day to day lifestyle. When our Sailors are brought into a different lifestyle and support base, it is challenging for them to acclimate to the new conditions. Where our Chiefs and Officers would normally be there to support them getting started in a new unit, for the IA's there are not necessarily Navy Chiefs or Officers to help them get their feet on the ground. Kind of like visiting a foreign country where English is not widely spoken and encountering a life threatening situation whether it be due to medical emergencies, crime or natural disaster all by yourself. Tough challenges for our young Sailors and a situation where our Navy units focus a lot of effort to assist, even though we are thousands of miles away. The Navy has put together a proactive program to help our Sailors prepare for their IA assignments to get them the appropriate training, to ensure their home unit maintains contact with them while they are forward deployed, and to provide them with post deployment assistance as they decompress from the challenging times they have faced at the tip of the spear.

As you consider the many contributions our military service members make during these times in support of the global war on terror, please consider the incredibly valuable service provided by our Individual Augmentees. These are tough assignments and our American Service Men and Women deserve that pat on the back. Thank you Navy League for your patriotism and devotion to country.

Warm regards,
Brad Johanson

Our Membership Continues to Grow!

Our membership numbers continue to grow--we are at 522 this month. In last month's newsletter, incoming President Guy Stitt articulated that one of our Council goals for this year is to not only retain our membership, but to increase our numbers significantly. To do that, we need your help. Recruit not only your friends, but bring in a business to be one of our Community Affiliates. Community Affiliates are recognized for their support to Navy League on the front page

of the newsletter, a link to their business from our website, recognizing their support at community events like the Armed Forces Day Gala, and an opportunity to have a short article about their business in our newsletter or a short presentation at one of our luncheons. In addition, they get a very attractive plaque to display in their place of business. Good recruiting

Submitted by Larry Salter
Membership Chairman

Bulletin Board

from the Board of Directors



Board members get down to business

■ **Membership Directory** – Watch for the new Membership Directory to be available soon. Copies will be available at the luncheons. Please contact Carolyn Dankers by e-mail at c.dankers@wavecable.com for all updates. This year's directory will be adding your e-mail address.

■ **New Website** – Our new and improved website is up and running. Check it out!! <http://brem-olympic.nlus.us> The current copies of "Now Hear This" as well as back issues can be found on the website.

■ **Veteran's Day Committee thanks Crazy Eric's** – Crazy Eric's to be awarded a plaque for their generous donation of time and food for the Veteran's Day Celebration. Crazy Eric's provided a wonderful lunch served to all who attended the celebration on November 12. Please stop by Crazy Eric's Drive In's two locations, one on Hwy 3 in Belfair and the other in Navy Yard City at National and G Streets.

■ **Guy Stitt, President, and the Board of Directors are looking for a few good men and women to join a committee** – We are looking for members that would like to become more involved. Are you a chaplain? We need one! How about Public Affairs? Sandra Smith is looking for some help here too. If you would like to join a committee, please contact Guy at gstitt@amiinter.com.

■ **Karen Ebersole joins as new Historian** – Karen has volunteered to take over for Vern Young who has been keeping the records for our Council for a number of years now and submitting the Annual Report to National which has resulted in our Council being named **Outstanding Council**. Welcome, Karen. We appreciate you stepping forward.

■ **Louis Mejia takes on the project to acquire a new cover for our Navy League Float** – Thanks Louis for keep our "float" afloat for this year's parades.

"Battle Of Leyte Gulf" to be the subject at Feb 12th Navy League Luncheon

The monthly luncheon for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council of Navy League will be held on Tuesday, February 12th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor. Our own retired Navy Captain, Will Lent, will be speaking on the "Battle of Leyte Gulf," which is considered the most extensive sea battle in history. This was a real turning point of WWII in the Pacific. If you haven't seen one of Will's presentations, you don't want to miss this one; and if you have, we know you will be there!

The public is invited to attend, but you must make reservations and enter only through the Main Gate off Luoto Road. Call Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) (360-782-5500) no later than Wednesday, February 6th. Remember, the new cost of the luncheon is \$15/person.



KITSAP'S FALLEN HERO MEMORIAL NEEDS DONATIONS

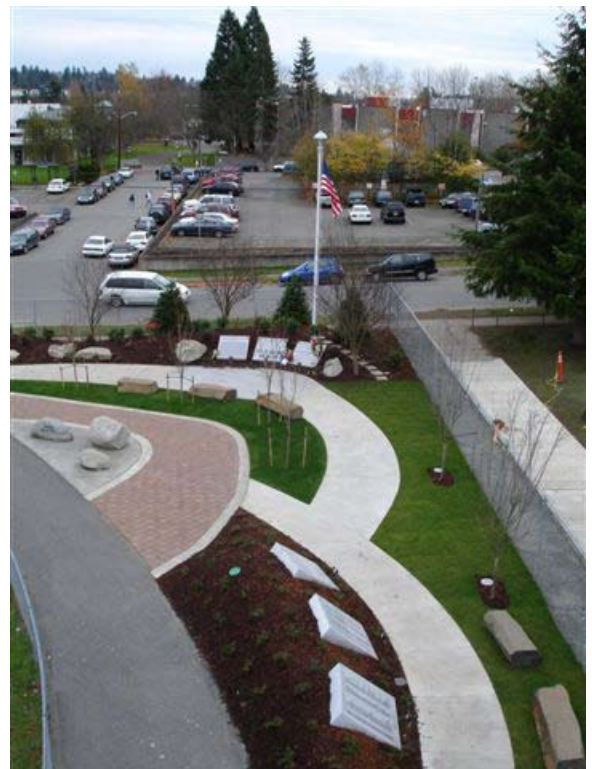
The "Path of Freedom," Kitsap County's memorial to our fallen heroes, can be seen night or day at Bremerton High School's Memorial Stadium. Entrance to the park is through the walkway gate next to the covered stands.

438 men & women of Kitsap County have been killed in action since WWI. The Semancik Foundation, with the cooperation of the Bremerton Schools, and with much of the labor and materials from Sean Olmsted's Clear Creek Nursery, expanded on the stadium building project of the 1946-47 Bremerton Student Body. Three 2,000 lb. granites list our Kitsap fallen heroes in the park with the seven military insignias as the centerpiece and the quote, **"For those who have given life, limb and soul, so we might enjoy our freedom."**

Donations are still needed to finish paying the bills of this magnificent memorial.

- ★ **Kitsap Honor Guard - Diamond donor** (\$5,000+)
- ★ **Platinum donor** (\$2,500-\$4,999)
- ★ **Gold donor** (\$1,000-\$2,499)
- ★ **Silver donor** (\$500-\$999)
- ★ **Landscaping** - 3 benches @ \$500 apiece; 9 trees @ \$300 each.
- ★ **Tiles in your honor will be included.**
Walkway Tiles - \$100 for personalized message up to four lines on 8"x8" walkway tile.

For more information, please contact Lane or Deanna Dowell at 360 479-1189 or dowells@wavecable.com. The website <http://www.semancik.org> will soon have photos of park.



Save the Date – May 17, 2008 – Armed Forces Gala

Guy Stitt travels to COMPACFLT and COMSUBPAC



Ed Zajonc, NL Council president Guy Stitt, Admiral Bob Willard, PSNBA President Jim Nall, IAM Lodge President Jim Pappas

The Council's President, Guy Stitt, travelled together with the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association (<http://www.psnba.org>) President, Mr. Jim Nall, Mr. Jim Pappas, local lodge President for the International Association of Machinists, and Mr. Ed Zajonc of the Puget Sound Ship repair Association to Washing, D.C. to visit COMPACFLT and COMSUBPAC.

The Group visited Admiral Bob Willard, Commander, Pacific Fleet, RADM Joe Walsh, Commander, Submarines Pacific, and Mr. Bill Ryzewic, SES and Deputy Chief of Staff at PACFLT for Fleet Maintenance. We discussed important issues relating to the bases and ships home ported in the Northwest, as well as more global issues affecting our US Navy.



PSNBA President for Jim Nall, Ed Zajonc, RADM Joe Walsh, NL Council President Guy Stitt, and IAM Lodge President Jim Pappas

Senator Maria Cantwell's Letter to Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council



MARIA CANTWELL
WASHINGTON

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
FINANCE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS

January 19, 2008

Navy League of the U.S. Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council
PO Box 626
Bremerton, WA 98337

Dear Friends,

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my congratulations to the new 2008 Officers and Board of Directors. I would also like to express my continued support and appreciation to the members of the Navy League of the United States Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council. I regret that I am unable to join you today, but would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your service to our nation.

The Navy League of the United States plays a vital role in the support of our Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine. Your committed efforts are invaluable in educating and informing the American people in the importance of sea power, improving the public's understanding and appreciation of our Armed forces, providing support and recognition for our Reserve forces, and educating and training our youth in the customs and traditions of our Sea Services through the Naval Sea Cadet Corps.


Stan Mack, as outgoing President, I want to personally thank you for your commitment and efforts in helping our Sea Services. Once again, under your leadership, the council has continued to receive some of the highest honors from Navy league headquarters. Thanks for your commitment!

Guy, I have great faith that you will serve this council well as its new president. Your experience and accomplishments leading the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association will lend themselves to this endeavor. To all that know you, your commitment to our community and to the Navy is clear. You have my continued support and appreciation this year.

Vice Admiral Williams, thank you for traveling back to Kitsap County and helping us show our support for this great organization. Your years of leadership and dedicated service to the United States Fleet Forces Command and this country and both honored and appreciated.

Once again thank you to all in attendance for your service to our nation!

Sincerely,



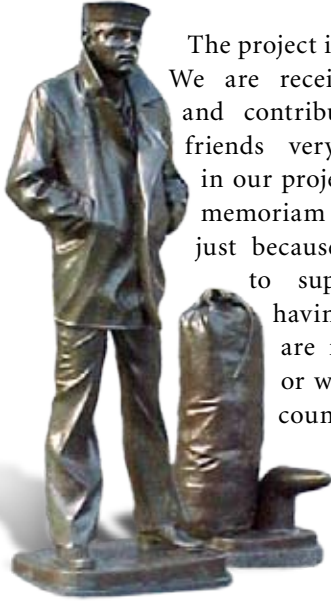
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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Web: <http://www.senate.gov>
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

The Lone Sailor Statue Status



The project is doing well. We are receiving letters and contributions from friends very interested in our project. Many in memoriam and some just because they want to support those having served or are now serving or will serve our country.

The Kitsap Sun ran the photos taken of a Sailor on the pier to reflect the position he should face. All of the photos will be carefully studied and that decision will be made by the committee. Votes from the readers on this issue were registered in the Kitsap Sun on their web site. Our committee is pleased for this interest.

Soon there will be the face of our Lone Sailor Statue on Kitsap Transit Busses displayed in all parts of the county. Look for him, then pass the word. An ad is now in the winter issue of the Westsound Home and Garden magazine. Other ad's are running in the Kitsap Sun. Donations can be accepted with those ads or through the web site www.lonesailor-bremerton.org.

The committee has planned the first of many receptions in hope of generating interest in the business world. The committee is very active in contacting those groups that wish to hear more about this worthwhile project. We continue to need donations, and any help in that endeavor would be appreciated. Let the community leaders know we want this to happen and are working hard to make that a reality.

See you at the council luncheon meeting. Please ask for a brochure.

Submitted by Carol A Meteney

"Veterans Forum" to feature The Lone Sailor

BVA member, P.J. Scott of the Washington Regional Group, currently hosts and produces a half-hour monthly program entitled "Veterans Forum" for KBAT television. The program can now be seen and/or listened to via the Internet. In February, "Veterans Forum" will feature The Lone Sailor Project. It will air five times: Tuesday, Feb. 5th at 9:30am; Thursday, Feb. 7th at 6:00pm; Friday, Feb. 8th at 2:00pm; Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 4:30pm; and Saturday, Feb. 16th at 6:30pm.

"This program has never finished lower than third among the most viewed local programs," said PJ, who credits the large audience to the three Navy bases and a larger-than-average veteran population in the Seattle-Tacoma area.

Veterans Forum in April featured 93-year-old Legionnaire Bill Davis speaking about his father's military exploits during the Spanish-American War, the Asiatic Fleet, and the Great White Fleet of Teddy Roosevelt's Administration. Joining Davis was Retired Navy Captain George Beida



Blind Host of Veteran's Forum on KBAT television, P J Scott, interviews American Legion District CDR, Tom Patterson, a Navy Veteran, as a part of her upcoming program. The Lone Sailor Project will also be a feature of this airing.



Charleen Burnette of KBAT Television "mikes up" Ron Testa for his television appearance on "Veteran's Forum News" in February. Ron will be interviewed by blind TV Host, P J Scott regarding our Council's Lone Sailor Project. P J likes to bill herself as the "Vanilla Oprah."

Werkhoven.

PJ lost much of her vision when she was exposed to radiation while in the Navy. She can still see outlines of objects and must wear dark glasses during show tapings to protect her eyes from the bright studio lights.

For additional information about Veterans Forum and its broadcast schedule, go to <http://www.bitv.org/schedule.shtml>.

Submitted by Ron Testa

Watch for the "Great White Fleet" Coming in May

Rear Admiral Symonds makes January Luncheon Informative and Interesting



Station Whidbey Island. Adm. Symonds brought to our attention that there are over 50,000 civilian employees, contractors and Navy personnel in the Northwest, and that over 90% of the world's trade moves over the seas and Tacoma and Seattle's ports are the closest to the Asian nations. Also, 70% of the planet is covered by water. All are a concern for Unified Security of our maritime forces, the Coast Guard, the Marines and the United States Navy.

An additional highlight of the luncheon was Alice and Dave Thomas being presented an award for their "Outstanding Service" to the Brem-Olympic Council of Navy League.

Rear Adm. James Symonds, commander of Navy Region Northwest, was the guest speaker at the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League's monthly luncheon on Jan. 8. Symonds took command of Navy Region Northwest on July 11. He previously directed the Navy's Environmental Readiness Division. He amassed 4,000 flight hours in an A-6 Intruder and more than 1,000 carrier landings. He was stationed for 14 years at Naval

James Tucker Honor's "The Lone Sailor"

James E. Tucker, who passed away January 10, 2008, was proud of being a Pearl Harbor survivor of WWII. He served as the president of the Pearl Harbor Survivor Association. Jim was a very kind and loving father of two children, John and Judi; grandfather of six; and great-grandfather of eleven.



Jim lived and loved life to the fullest. At Jim's request there will be no services. He will be laid to rest at the veterans memorial cemetery in Kent, Washington. Donations may be made in his honor to 'The Lone Sailor' memorial, The Lone Sailor Project, PO Box 626, Bremerton, WA 98337-0131.

www.
Kitsap
BLUE STAR.org

The Blue Star Banner Program of Kitsap county is to recognize and support the "local" military personnel who are serving in our Armed Forces.

A large Blue Star banner will be created for each "local" military member proudly serving our Country. These will be displayed throughout Bremerton, Poulsbo, Silverdale and Port Orchard for as long as the member is serving. We will also be displaying a banner for those who have died while serving our Country; they will be displayed with a Gold star.

You could help by sponsoring a banner or submitting a name for a banner. Both the service members name and the sponsor name appear on both sides of these banners.

The banners will remain hanging until either the military man or woman departs the Armed Forces or 3-5 years (the life expectancy of the banners).

Please visit our website at www.kitsapbluestar.org for additional information.

(360) 440-6497
Blue Star
Banner Program of
Kitsap County
P.O. Box 841
Seabeck, WA 98380
Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated.

Port Orchard
PROUDLY SALUTES



SSGT DAVID GIBBONS
ARMY

PROTECTING OUR FREEDOM
SPONSORED BY
Gibbons Family

★ ★

Luncheon Door Prize Winners

The luncheon cost has increased to \$15.00. With the increase each lunch includes a ticket for the door prize drawing. The winners for the January luncheon were:

- Mrs. Katie Eberling** – A free lunch for the February luncheon
- Bill Cunningham** – A gift certificate from Red Robin



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



Planning Calendar

- Wednesday February 6 Board of Director's Meeting, 6:00pm
Reid Real Estate, Silverdale
- Tuesday February 12 Monthly Luncheon Meeting, Bangor Plaza, 11:30am
Speaker - Will Lent
"Battle of Leyte Gulf"
- Tuesday February 19 Boeing & Restoration Center Tour, 10:30am
Boeing Museum of Flight's Aviation Center
Paine Field, Everett
- Wednesday March 5 Monthly Luncheon Meeting, Bangor Plaza, 11:30am
Speaker - To be Announced
- Wednesday March 5 Board of Director's Meeting, 6:00pm
Reid Real Estate, Silverdale

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On This Date

February 20, 1962 - LCOL John Glenn, USMC becomes first American to orbit Earth.

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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Editor (Web Issue) Sheila Broumley
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We welcome your comments and story ideas. Items for publication, changes of address, and inquires should be sent to:

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or email: nparker@reidrealestate.com