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NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

- ★ Jerry Armstrong
- ★ John Loiselle



President's Corner

It was another great month for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council. The highlight of our activities just occurred May 20th, The Armed Forces Day Gala. It turned out to be a great evening. The food was great, the entertainment (The Navy Band of the NW and The Cornucopia Concert Band) outstanding, and our guest speakers (Congressman Norm Dicks and Rear Admiral Jeffrey B. Cassias, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet) provided informational and relevant comments about how things are going in the Pacific Area of Operations and our local area.

I would like to thank the Gala Committee for all their hard work and outstanding success-Marilyn Caldwell, Earle and Sandra Smith, Dave Shafer, Tina Salter, Carol Meteney, Paul Lucas, John Payne, and Roger Nance. Great job team!

We also had our newly refurbished float in the Armed Forces Day Parade with a

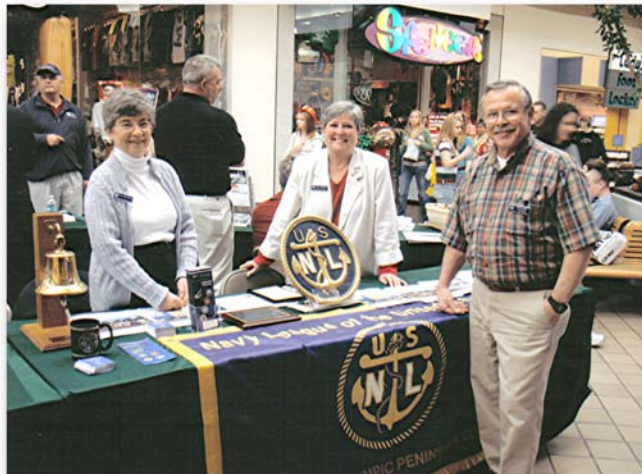
couple of sharp looking Marines and six Sailors of the Year/Quarter from local commands. Our special guest was a 98 year old retired Navy Lieutenant, Leo Perry, who joined me at the front of the float. Thanks to John Payne and his working party of Earle and Sandra Smith, Lou Dufresne, and Kevin Cummings (an active member who moved out of the area, but was back visiting his mother) for sprucing up the old float with new fluff. First Command Financial was the Float Sponsor and they handed out flags to help celebrate this years Armed Forces Day Slogan-"Wave the Flag, Proud and Tall."

Sorry I missed the luncheon last month, but business travel interfered with my being there. I want to thank Stan Mack for covering for me and from all reports, he did an outstanding job-although I have heard that some (but, not many) missed my Submariner jokes. Please take a look at Dave Thomas' articles regarding the awards and Mrs. Monika French's remarks.

We hope to see you at the Tillicum Village Special Event on 7 June. Thanks for all that you do to support our Sea Services.

Larry

Military Appreciation Day at Kitsap Mall on March 25th



Carol Meteney, Council Tour Director (center) and Paul Lucas, Council Secretary (right) represented the council during the morning, handing out membership applications and answering questions about what the Navy League is and what we do. Lou Ann Wood, Council Chaplain (left) joined Carol and Paul at noon.

NOW HEAR THIS!

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Military Family Support Services

The guest speaker at the May luncheon was Monika French, wife of our Region Commander and member of our Navy League Council. She discussed the challenges for Navy families, noting that she has been "in" the military all her life, as her father was an Army officer and she met her husband in Korea, when she was 14.

She discussed the organizations and programs that are available to support Navy spouses and families, including Northwest Regional Officer Spouse Organization (NROSO) which focuses on mentoring officer spouses; CORE Northwest which provides continuing education for spouses of Commanding Officers, Executive Officers, Command Master Chiefs, and command ombudsmen; Junior Officer Spouses mentoring program offered by NROSO; and Compass which provides mentoring for new spouses of all ranks. Monika requested Navy League members assist as a conduit to businesses to assist Navy families that require assistance from time to time.

Monika ended by introducing Loara Newquist, ombudsman for Intermediate Maintenance Facility. Loara explained the ombudsman program. The program is run for the Commanding Officer, to provide a conduit between families and the command. The ombudsman assists families by providing access to or information on obtaining resources, and assists with child or spouse abuse cases when necessary. The ombudsman is an

unpaid, volunteer position, chosen by the Commanding Officer. The ombudsman must maintain confidentiality with the families that she serves and provides a vital conduit to ensure families receive important information from the command. The ombudsman receives basic administrative support from the command.

Stan Mack thanked the guest speakers and presented them with the traditional Navy League speakers mug.

by David Thomas / photo by Carol Meteney



Ms. Loara Newquist (left), ombudsman for Intermediate Maintenance Facility and Monika French (right), spouse of our Region Commander and Council Member receive the traditional Speakers Mug from Stan Mack

Recognizing our Sea Service Members

The May luncheon at the Bangor Plaza provided the venue for our quarterly awards presentations. Treasurer Stan Mack, standing in for President Larry Salter, presented the Legal Officer of the Year plaque to LT Nell O. Evans. LT Evans is the Navy Region Northwest Deputy Judge Advocate and was chosen for her outstanding work in ethics, investigations, military justice, and as a prosecutor.



Legal Officer of the Year plaque is presented to LT Nell Evans by Stan Mack as Capt. Marty Evans (no relation), Commanding Officer of the Regional Legal Services Office looks on

Awards chairman Alice Thomas presented awards to the Kitsap Sailors of the Quarter. These included Bluejacket of the Quarter HN Rhiana Wimberly from Naval Hospital Bremerton, Junior Sailor of the Quarter MA3 Amanda Porter from Marine Corps Security Force Company, and Senior Sailor of the Quarter ET1(SS) Adam Merkel from USS Michigan.

Each of the awardees received a plaque, and gift certificates courtesy of Hudson Photography and Red Robin Restaurant.

by David Thomas / photos by Carol Meteney



Blue Jacket of the Quarter for Naval Hospital Bremerton, HN Rhiana Wimberly accompanied by CAPT Mark Boman and CMDCM Tracye Sherril. Alice Thomas, Awards Chairman, is presenting the award



Junior Sailor of the Quarter, MA3 Amanda Porter from Marine Corps Security Force Company accompanied by MAC Niccum. Alice Thomas presents the award



Senior Sailor of the Quarter, ET1 (SS) Adam Merkel from USS Michigan accompanied by his Commanding Officer CDR Terry Takats and COB Donald Lassiter

Change of Command Ceremony for the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74)



Upper Left: New Commanding Officer of USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) Captain Bradley Johanson with Carol Meteney and Jennifer Nance. Lower Right: Outgoing Stennis CO, Captain Dave Buss with Carol, Jennifer, and his wife Donna (right). Photos by Vern Young

By JO2 Christopher Gethings
USS John C. Stennis Public Affairs

Capt. Bradley Johanson relieved Capt. David Buss as commanding officer of USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) in a change of command ceremony in the carrier hangar bay May 5.

"To the crew: I prowled the ship last Monday during my last night underway," said Buss. "The ship told me of its Sailors' professionalism and their vigilance, and was proud." Buss received word the day before the ceremony of his selection to admiral.

"I'm pleased that the results came just prior to the change of command," he said. "This way the crew can help me share in the success because it's been the crew of the John C. Stennis that made this promotion happen."

Before taking over command of Stennis, Johanson served as chief of current operations at United States Northern Command, where he orchestrated military relief efforts in the wake of hurricane Katrina.

"It is my goal to keep this spirit of excellence alive and well," said Johanson to the ship's officers and crew. "Admiral select Buss, my thanks to you sir."

USS John C. Stennis is the flagship for Commander, Carrier Strike Group Three, which includes Carrier Air Wing Nine, USS O'Kane (DDG 77), USS Preble (DDG 88), USS Key West (SSN 722) and USNS Bridge (T-AOE 10).

Navy League at Armed Forces Day

Article by Sandra Smith, photo below courtesy Marge Lent, photos right by Vern Young and Sandra Smith

Possibly the oldest veteran to be in this year's 58th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade was 98-year-old retired Naval Officer LT Leo Perry. LT Perry joined the Navy in 1929 and retired in 1956. With "a little help from his friends" (the young Navy sailors and Marines), he was assisted onto the "Navy Region NW/ Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League Float."

LT Perry's daughter, Marge Lent (the lady in the red hat), said "Dad was honored to ride in the Armed Forces Day Parade. This was the first time in his life that he had ever been in a parade. It brought him to tears."





Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council
 Navy League of the United States
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Planning Calendar

- Wednesday June 7 Special Event - Evening at Tillicum Village
- Tuesday June 13 Monthly Luncheon - Bangor Plaza
Speaker, Capt Chuck LaSota, CO of SWFPAC
- Friday June 16 Tour - Whidbey Naval Air Station
Contact Carol Meteney
- Tuesday July 4 Independence Day
- Tuesday July 11 Monthly Luncheon - Bangor Plaza
Speaker, Capt Dowell, CO of NUWC, Keyport.
- Tuesday July 18 Tour - Naval Base Kitsap
Contact George Rose

June

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| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

On This Date

June 21, 1945 - Okinawa declared secure after most costly naval campaign in history. U.S. had 30 ships sunk and 223 damaged, mostly from kamikaze attacks, with 5000 dead and 5000 wounded, while the Japanese lost 100,000 dead
 June 25, 1950 - North Korea invades South Korea beginning the Korean Conflict

June Luncheon

Date: June 13, 2006
Time: 11:30 AM
Place: Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor
Program: Capt Chuck Lasota
 CO SWFPAC

Call Pioneer Services at 360.405.6336 by Wednesday, June 7th 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.