



Now Hear This!



Navy League of the United States

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

Volume 61, Issue 05

May 2008

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- Debby Bearden
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- Glenn Croix
- Irmgard Jones

Join Us!

Armed Forces Day 2008

Navy League Gala "Honoring America's Heroes"

Please join us for the annual Armed Forces Day Navy League Gala, where we are proud to have as our guest speaker, Admiral Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear firsthand the state of our naval forces. For more information on Admiral Roughead, visit his biography online: <http://www.navy.mil/navydata/bios/navybio.asp?bioID=253>



To be held on Saturday, May 17th at the Admiral Theatre, located between 5th & 6th on Pacific Avenue. The menu is "surf & turf," both salmon and beef. A vegetarian plate may be requested when you make your reservations. The cost of the event – including dinner is \$45/person. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., to allow for networking and cocktails. The program will start promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.
Civilian Attire: Black Tie or Business.
Military Attire: Dinner Dress White.

Danny Vernon, a Seattle-based "Elvis tribute artist", will perform from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. He is truly an exceptional performer. Danny Vernon's voice is so

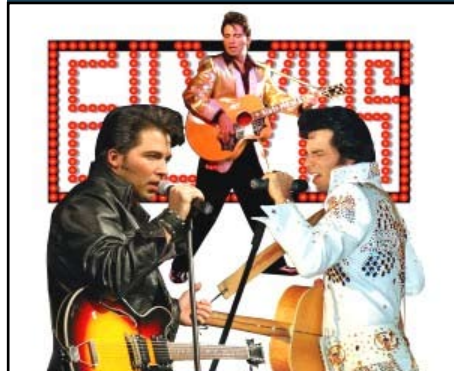
much like Elvis' that you will be amazed. He keeps the spirit of the "king" alive. (www.dannyvernon.com).

The Admiral Theatre staff will be taking all reservations at 360-373-6743. Payment may be made by credit card over the phone -or- you may mail your check to: Admiral Theatre, 515 Pacific Ave, Bremerton,

WA 98337.

For more information, contact Sandra Howes Smith – email: captstwo@wavecable.com or call 360-876-0255.

Scheduled Entertainment



Danny Vernon



President's Message

Hello Navy League members and friends!

On April 30th at 11:30 we will be hosting a Sequim Navy League Lunch at Applebees. If you are in the area lunch starts at 11:30. We'll look for you there.

May 2nd our Navy League council will be recognizing LAW DAY at a ceremony held at the Superior Court on 614 Division Street in Port Orchard.

Progress is being made for our Armed Forces Day gala. Invitations should already been received and finalization of our plans underway. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Our NJROTC Unit at South Kitsap will be celebrating the Graduation of two fine young people with their acceptance into the U.S. Naval Academy. **Rachael Cabacungan** and **Sarah Brown** will be recognized at a ceremony at South Kitsap High School.

Will Lent is our Luncheon Speaker this month with a great presentation of the Great White Fleet. Come join us on May 13th at our luncheon and get to know some of our members and Business Affiliates.

Our June Luncheon will be held at the Silverdale Beach Hotel. So look for more information on that in our next newsletter.

Thanks for being a Navy leaguer! I'm proud to be associated with all of you.

Curly Stitt

Northwest Navy Notes: April 2008

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

"Northwest Navy Notes" is a column written by Rear Adm. James A. Symonds, Commander, Navy Region Northwest, to provide updates on the operations and challenges in Navy Region Northwest and a review of what is important in the Navy today.



Greetings, once again, from Navy Region Northwest. Last month I took the opportunity to provide you a broad overview of what's going on at our installations around the Puget Sound. For the second installment of our monthly input to your newsletter I'll broaden the scope by telling you a little about what the Navy is doing around the world.

Across the globe, the Navy is executing the six core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy – forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security and humanitarian assistance/disaster response.

In the Middle East – power projection to win our nation's wars

Last week Navy and coalition aircraft flew 64 missions in support of OIF. These missions targeted and hit enemy positions, provided reconnaissance, integrated and synchronized ground forces, protected infrastructure, provided over watch for reconstruction activities and helped to deter terrorist activities.

The Navy in Africa – humanitarian assistance and maritime security

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 has 125 Sailors deployed in Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti working various humanitarian and military infrastructure projects under Joint Task Force Horn of Africa. Current and recent projects include well covers, schoolhouses, a veterinary clinic, a goat processing facility and an enlargement to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti.

In the Mediterranean – building maritime partnerships for regional

stability

USS Nassau will participate in Phoenix Express (PE08), the third annual multinational exercise designed to strengthen regional maritime partnerships. PE08 is focused on the development of increased maritime domain awareness, better information sharing

practices and the ability to operate jointly. In total, 13 countries will participate in Exercise Phoenix Express 08.

In the Atlantic and Pacific – promoting interoperability for trust and confidence

USS Nimitz CSG participated in Exercise Key Resolve/Foal Eagle 08 (KR/FE 08), a joint/combined exercise conducted annually with the Republic of Korea. KR/FE 08 improved combined readiness, interoperability and focused on the strategic, operational, and tactical aspects of general military operations in theater, and demonstrated resolve to support the Republic of Korea (ROK) against external aggression.

USS George Washington CSG and ships from Argentina and Brazil will participate in UNITAS 49-08 in April off the coast of Brazil. Conducted annually, the exercise enhances friendly, mutual cooperation, understanding and interoperability. This year, more than 3,500 Sailors will participate in cultural exchanges, a variety of maritime warfare and maritime interdiction operations scenarios.

Northwest Navy Sailors and ships cooperate globally and contribute significantly to protect and extend security and prosperity around the world. Next month I'll share some specific examples of how your Northwest Navy makes a difference.

For more information on the Navy in the Northwest, please visit us online at <http://cnic.navy.mil/cnrnw>.

Legislative Affairs Visits Congressman Norm Dicks



On April 7th, Guy Stitt and Carol Meteney were pleased to visit with Congressman Norm Dicks and speak with him about our concern as his constituents that all the Navy, Marine, US Coast Guard, US Flag Merchant Marine are in need of resetting the forces and funding. This Grass Roots Presentation that our Navy League offers will educate the Members of Congress that we as citizens and voters want strong Sea Services to be able continue to provide the level of National security and delivery of product that we are used to and want. Our Forces need our support and the families of those serving deserve the same.

Congressman Dicks was most receptive and stated his full support of the Military and all Sea Services. We enjoyed his comments and he ours. As citizens we can make a difference when allowed to make such presentations. With such presentation the Members of Congress are in touch with those they represent and can better understand our concerns.

I serve as the Northwest Region Vice President for Legislative Affairs. I am proud to say we do make a difference.

Submitted By: Carol A Meteney

Centennial Celebration of the Great White Fleet



It has been one hundred years since 42 “all white” ships sailed into Puget Sound as part of their 43,000 nautical-mile global peace-with-strength mission. President Roosevelt’s “Great White Fleet” attracted crowds of more than 400,000 while at anchor in Elliot Bay. They welcomed the ships with a parade through Seattle, which included 16 lively “teddy” bear cubs to honor President “Teddy” Roosevelt.

Local Navy League councils are supporting the US Navy’s Centennial celebration of the “Great White Fleet” by presenting special Centennial plaques to the mayors of six of the ports that the fleet visited 100 years ago. The cities involved are Seattle, Bremerton, Tacoma, Port Angeles, Port Townsend and Bellingham. A presentation ceremony is planned for each city. Sea Cadet Color Guards will be on hand to open each ceremony. The crews from the six “name sake” Navy vessels based at Naval Station Kitsap-Bangor will each receive a matching plaque from the local Navy League council.

Representatives of the “Great White Fleet” will be conducting a five-city “all-in-one-day” celebration on Saturday May 17th. Each city and site will have its own unique

backdrop of history and relevant news opportunities. The Bremerton Chamber of Commerce will have their “Armed Forces Day Parade” from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The Chief of Naval Operations will be visiting Bremerton as part of that celebration and will be on hand for the centennial presentation, which will take place shortly after the end of the parade at a place to be determined.

Tacoma, Port Angeles, Port Townsend and Bellingham will all have their presentations on Saturday, May 17th also. The Port Townsend City Hall will be the location of the presentation, which will take place just after the end of their Rhododendron Parade. Tacoma, Port Angeles, and Bellingham have yet to determine a time and place for their presentations.

The “Great White Fleet” will be sailing into Seattle on Tuesday, May 20th. Their plaque presentation will take place on the Bell Harbor Rooftop, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and will be part of a ship parade.

More information about the “Great White Fleet” can be found by going to two different websites: <http://www.greatwhitefleet.info> and <http://www.TheodoreRoosevelt.org>.

Submitted by: Gary Gunderson

Meet Your Board Members



Karen Ebersole

Karen was born and raised in Edmonds, so it was no surprise that after 21 years of active duty and Naval Reserve time, she would settle back in the Pacific Northwest.

After graduating from Edmonds Senior High in 1979, Karen joined the Navy as a hospital corpsman and spent 2 years on active duty before accepting an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. She says her experiences there were “unique”. “How can you really describe something like that? It was tough after two years on my own to be put into such a regimented environment.” After graduating in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Oceanography, her first tour of duty took her to Rota, Spain, where she met her husband, Ken, also a USNA graduate (Class of 1976) and also an Oceanographer. They were both then transferred to Norfolk, Virginia,

where Ken was aboard the USS America and Karen at the regional weather center doing meteorological and oceanographic work. When Ken was offered a position in London England, Karen opted to continue her Naval career in the reserves and worked with the CINCUSAVEUR Oceanographer while doing financial counseling part time for the Navy Family Service Center. Their son, Alex, was born in London. She jokes, “I met my husband in Spain, and my son was born in London. Every time I transferred overseas, I gained a family member!”

Karen worked a variety of part time jobs while Alex was growing up, including running a home business with Pampered Chef, as a barista at Barnes and Noble, and over 7 years working at a stamping and scrapbook store. She became a Realtor after Alex became old enough to not need so much of “Mom.”

“It was time for me to do something for myself now,” she said. “I love my job as a real estate agent at Reid Real Estate’s Silverdale office, and the satisfaction it brings me when I can find the perfect house for someone who thought they could not become a homeowner.”

Karen was elected to the council’s Board of Directors at our April luncheon meeting and currently is our council historian.

Will Lent to Speak about the Great White Fleet at May Luncheon

At the direct order of the Commander and Chief, President Teddy Roosevelt, The Great White Fleet made a historic circumnavigation of the world 100 years ago and in commemoration of that outstanding feat the CNO has ordered the aircraft carrier Nimitz back to Puget Sound next month. It is fitting, therefore, that Navy League present a program describing the circumstances surrounding the need for the voyage; world wide strategic fallout; and the description and capabilities of the sixteen powerful battleships that participated. This program, presented by Capt Will Lent, USN (Ret), will discuss the many interesting details surrounding this evolution and will include vintage photographs.

Submitted by Will Lent

Navy League Luncheon May 13

The monthly luncheon for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League will be held on Tuesday, May 13th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor. The public is invited to attend. Everyone should make a reservation by calling **Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) (360-782-5500) no later than Wednesday, May 7th**. The cost of the luncheon is \$15/person. If you do not have base access, enter only through the Main Gate off Luoto Road and you must have made a reservation to be on the list at the gate.

**Save the Date – Aug. 1, 2008 – Coast Guard Birthday
Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council to Visit Port Angeles**

Captain's Corner – So What's Next?

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



Hello Navy League! Now that the USS JOHN C. STENNIS has successfully completed our maintenance period it's time to take her BACK TO SEA!!! :-)

By the time you read this article the STENNIS will be underway, headed to Southern California to begin our workups in preparation for our next deployment. Aircraft Carrier Strike Groups are on a two year cycle, with about eight months for maintenance, eight months for training and eight months for deployed operations. So now that we have the ship ready for sea, it's time to get the crew ready.

We'll be spending a bit of our time training new pilots during carrier qualification periods, but most of what we'll be doing over the next couple of months is training the crew for deployed operations. That starts with what we refer to as unit level training: making sure we can respond to fires, flooding, medical emergencies, aircraft accidents, even chemical/biological warfare. After we complete our unit level training over the next two months we'll be headed out again this fall to do our intermediate and advanced levels of training. That is where we work not only with the embarked Air Wing, but also the Cruisers and Destroyers that will deploy with us, to make sure we have all missions covered

and all threats mitigated. Oh and did I forget to mention that we'll get to shoot some of our missiles at drones! That will be fun!

Over the past couple of decades the Navy has done a great job in tailoring our training programs to meet the most important needs.

What will this mean for our Sailors? We will spend about half of our time during the workups at sea away from the families, but it's time well spent getting ready for deployment. One of the things I enjoy about being home ported in the Pacific Northwest is that our underway periods are condensed down to just a couple of training periods, vice numerous small scope periods at sea that some of the San Diego based vessels participate in. It's kind of like taking your family to Disneyland. If you live in LA or San Diego you may decide to just go and watch the light parade, but if you live in Bremerton you get a condo, spend a week and see not just Disneyland, but also the San Diego Zoo, Sea World and Universal Studios. If you're going on vacation, you should get to have fun seeing it all! :-)

So yes the JOHN C. STENNIS is headed south for workups; and as we enjoy the sights at Universal Studios and on the missile range, we will keep you posted! :-)

Hope you have a great Navy Day!

Warmest regards,

Brad Johanson

VA Benefits Seminar

How to help yourself and others regarding Veterans Benefits!

WHO: Veterans, Active Duty, Retired, All Eras...Spouses, Widows, Dependent Children, Reservists, National Guard...

WHEN: Saturday, May 10, 2008
10am To 4pm

LOCATION: Fleet Reserve Association Hall
521 National Avenue S
Bremerton, Washington

QUESTIONS: How to reopen your claim for increase? What does "aggravation" mean relating to a service related problem? What documents are necessary when filing a claim? Are you aware you are entitled to dependent allowance when you receive 30% service connected disability? Has your service connected condition changed? When did you last update your claim? Learn how to help each other....Where to get help?

INFORMATION: Call Lena Swanson (360) 377-7011

Bulletin Board

from the Board of Directors

■ **Board Minutes** – A complete copy of the minutes of the Board of Director's meeting is available on the Website each month. Look under "Board Members Only." Check it out!! <http://brem-olympic.nlus.us>.

■ **Lone Sailor Project** – Board votes to release 2nd payment in the amount of \$100,000 to start the casting for the Lone Sailor Statue.

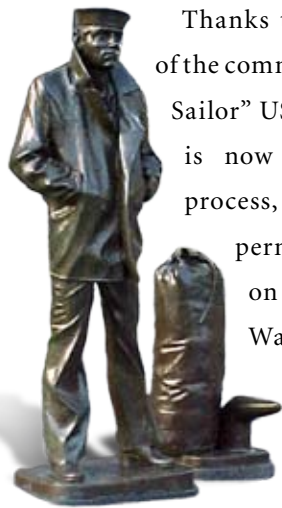
■ **Armed Forces Gala** – Plans are in final preparation. Earl Smith reports that we expect a sold out event.

■ **Audit Committee** – Norma Parker provided a letter from the committee verifying the Council's financial records are in order.

■ **Speaker's Bureau** – Guy Stitt reported that presentations are being made to various civic and community organizations.

■ **Tours & Travels** – Carol Meteney reported that we are planning a trip to Port Angeles for the Coast Guard Birthday in August – see next month's "Now Hear This" for details.

Casting begins for Lone Sailor Memorial



Thanks to the generosity of the community, the “Lone Sailor” US Navy Memorial is now in the casting process, bound for a permanent home on the Bremerton Waterfront. The

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council of the

Navy League of the United States, in making this announcement, indicated that they had reached the mid-point in raising funds to complete the exciting project.

The sculptor, Stanley Bleifeld of Connecticut, will supervise the casting of the seven-foot bronze statue at the Polich Tallix foundry in upstate New York. The foundry master indicated that his fine art foundry is the only one in United States with a metallurgist on staff. He caters to museums, private collectors and outdoor sculpture gardens, and has expertise in rigging work for safe transport across the United States. The foundry has been responsible for casting the previous Lone Sailor Statues that are now at ten sites around the country. Only two are on the West Coast and none in the Northwest.

During a recent project briefing attended by approximately fifty Kitsap community leaders, Congressman Norm Dicks and Bremerton Mayor Cary Bozeman expressed their gratitude to the local Navy League Council for undertaking this

important community project. They also indicated that this is the perfect statue to remind the community and its visitors of the importance of Kitsap’s maritime history and the significant role that the military plays in the local economy.

Jeff Kerneen, the Lone Sailor Committee treasurer, indicated that the significant contributions from Bradley Scott Inc., the Haselwood Auto Group and Bremerton Lion’s Club were key factors in reaching this important milestone.

Committee co-chair, Ron Testa stated, “We are encouraged by recent donations and that the momentum is building to bring this statue home to Bremerton.” He also said that the individual donations of 100 dollars or less have made a real difference in the fundraising campaign.

While much more needs to be done to complete the project, the committee indicated that they are pleased with the support and progress that is being made. Tim Thomson, also a Committee Co-Chair, suggested that donations may be made through the website, <http://www.lonesailor-bremerton.org>
Courtesy of "The Northwest Navigator"

Mail Bag

(From the Naval Base Kitsap Public Affairs Officer)

Hi Larry (Salter),
This has become one, very neat website!! Impressive.

*Thomas P. Danaher
CIVCNRNW, NOOP*

Notice

June Location Change

The “June” monthly luncheon will be held at the

Silverdale Beach Hotel
3073 NW Bucklin Hill Rd
Silverdale

MEMORIAL DAY EVENT ON BOARD THE USS TURNER JOY

The general public is invited to attend a Memorial Day ceremony, on Monday, May 26th, at 10:00 a.m., which will be held on the fantail of the historic ship, the USS TURNER JOY. The ship is located near the Bremerton ferry terminal. The ceremony is being sponsored by the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League Council.

Navy League President, Guy Stitt, will serve as the moderator. Chaplain Ronald Brown, Navy Region Northwest, will offer a Memorial Day prayer, and Rear Admiral James A. Symonds, Commander of Navy Region Northwest will serve as the guest speaker.

Colors will be presented by the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets. A memorial wreath will be laid in honor of those that have fallen. The District #4 VFW Ceremonial Honor Guard will perform taps and the rifle salute.

Parking is available at the Convention Center near the Bremerton ferry terminal. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

*Submitted by
Sandra Howes Smith and Tim Katona*

Land Title Company Joins Council as a Community Affiliate



Susan Larsen is the Bremerton and Silverdale Business Development Representative for Land Title Company.

Land Title Company... Locally Owned, Locally Operated

Land Title Company opened its doors near downtown Bremerton in 1968. From its inception and through the last 40 years, our mission has been to provide the Olympic Peninsula with consistent, courteous, and dependable service.

Today, the three-story Land Title Professional Building on Levin Road at Clear Creek in Silverdale houses Kitsap County title services, escrow services and our corporate headquarters. Title services for

Mason County are located in the heart of Shelton, on Railroad Avenue. Additional escrow offices are located in Port Orchard, Poulsbo, Shelton and Belfair.

Through all of our past and future growth, Land Title Company has and will continue to maintain one constant — excellent service. Being a locally owned and operated company, that service has extended into supporting our community. Land Title participates in many organizations including American Cancer Society's Relay for Life; Bremerton, Silverdale, Port Orchard and Poulsbo Chambers; Armed Forces Festival Events and now the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League.

We thank you, the members of the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League for your confidence in our company and look forward to working with you towards the League's common goals



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.



Capt. Harry Wiedmaier, USNR, Retired, addressed our Council at the April luncheon with a wonderful presentation on Patrol Torpedo Boats (PTs). Capt. Wiedmaier has been active with "Save the PT Boat, Inc." who has restored the PT 658 moored at the Navy and Marine Reserve Readiness Center on Swan Island, Oregon. For more information, please visit their website: <http://www.savetheptboatinc.com>.



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	May 7	Board of Director's Meeting, 6:00pm Reid Real Estate, Silverdale
	Saturday	May 10	VA Benefits Seminar For info see May "Now Hear This"
	Tuesday	May 13	Monthly Luncheon Meeting, Bangor Plaza, 11:30am Program – The Great White Fleet
	Saturday	May 17	Armed Forces Gala & Parade For info see April "Now Hear This"
	Tues-Thurs	May 20-22	Great White Fleet Celebration Seattle – See May "Now Hear This"
	Monday	May 26	Memorial Day Celebration, 10:00am USS Turner Joy
	Wednesday	June 4	Board of Director's Meeting, 6:00pm Reid Real Estate, Silverdale
	Tuesday	June 10	Monthly Luncheon, Silverdale Beach Hotel, 11:30am Program - CDR Chris Phillips, Navy Recruiter

MAY							JUNE						
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Notice - Date Change

The Sub Group Trident tour to Bangor has changed the date. The tour will be **July 29, 2008**, instead of June 3rd.

 **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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