



Now Hear This!



Navy League of the United States

Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council

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October 2009

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NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

- ★ Karen Donnicks
- ★ Robert Donnicks

Rear Admiral Caldwell to be Featured Speaker at the Navy Day Dinner on October 23rd

RADM James Caldwell assumed Command of Submarine Group Nine in August, 2009. Barely giving the Caldwell's time to get settled into their new quarters, Rear Admiral Caldwell has accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker at our Navy Day dinner event at the Bremerton Convention Center on October 23rd.



NBK-Bangor is the very heart of our US Navy Trident Submarine force in the Pacific. It's important to keep fresh in our minds the complex nature of the tasking of the Commanding

Officer responsible for this critical and powerful element of the Navy. Rear Admiral Caldwell's friendly demeanor reflects a confidence that the officers, ships and crews under his command are standing-the-watch and are ready.

Honoring Teddy Roosevelt's birthday, we have a couple from Port Angeles who are Teddy and Edith Roosevelt "reenactors" as an added treat to refresh us with our turn-of-the-century president's

view of our standing as a global maritime country.

This is a "don't miss" Navy Day Event welcoming RADM Caldwell and his wife Kim to our community and to enjoy a special evening with your friends. Please get your reservations in to Carol Dankers. c.dankers@wavecable.com

Submitted by Gary S Gunderson, VP, Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League



President's Message

Greetings, Navy Leaguers.

This past month, September, your council hosted the USS Bremerton to its namesake city. The crew was very excited and happy to be here, and thanks to the outstanding support of council members led by **Sandra and Earle Smith**, they went home to Pearl Harbor very happy and satisfied. Council members set up a rousing welcome, multiple social events, provided an opportunity for crew members to interact with the locals via an "adopt a sailor" program, and even set them up with great seats at a Mariners Ball game. A very nice job by everyone involved.

Looking forward, your nominations committee is selecting officer nominees for the 2010 year for our council. Thank you to the nominating committee for all of their hard work. We should see the results of their work by the time this makes it into the newsletter. We will hold the elections and our annual meeting of members either at the October 23 Annual Navy Day Dinner or at our November luncheon.

Remember, the October luncheon will be held on October 6, a week earlier than normal, to accommodate the schedule of our guest speaker. It should be a great presentation by the Commanding Officer of the USCGC Healy, just back from the Arctic Ocean.

Our annual Navy Day Dinner will be on October 23. I look forward to seeing many of you there. It should be a great event. Our November luncheon, celebrating the Marine Corps Birthday, on November 10, will fall the day before the Veteran's Day celebration at the Kitsap pavilion. You are encouraged

to come out to both and support our Naval Services.

You are requested to participate in Council events, including planning and setting them up. **Mark Lowe**, chair of the Armed Forces Gala Committee, is getting things rolling for next year's event, and is looking for members to assist. Our Membership (Chair **Mark Lowe**) and our Communications/Education (Chair **Carolyn Dankers**) Committees are looking for members to assist. Please contact the committee chairs if you can provide some assistance.

Your council is strong, vibrant, and doing good work for the Sea Services. Keep up the great work!

Tour of the CG Icebreaker Healy



We will tour the Healy in Seattle on Oct 9. We meet at the pier 36 at about 10:30 -10:45 for the tour at 11:00 AM. I will provide directions to those who sign up. We will have lunch aboard the ship, at a cost of about \$4 each. Please let me know ASAP if you wish to attend. For more information about the Healy here is their web site. <http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/cgcHealy/>

Comings and Goings

Commander, Submarine Group 9, Rear Adm. Timothy Giardina was relieved by Rear Adm. Frank Caldwell Jr. during a change of command ceremony at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Aug. 7.

After being awarded the Legion of Merit for exemplary command of Submarine Group 9, Giardina followed in the change of command tradition by reading his orders to Sailors and guests. Caldwell then followed by reading his orders, and Rear Adm. Douglas McAneny, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet received the report of relief from Caldwell marking the official change of command.

Giardina will report to U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk, Va. as director, Readiness and Training.

Cmdr. Christopher Phillips, BROLPN's Luncheon Speaker on June 10, 2008, Assigned to the Horn of Africa. Command of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Seattle

changed during a ceremony, July 24, at Naval Station Everett as Cmdr. Scott Murdock relieved Cmdr. Christopher Phillips as commanding officer. Capt. Yolanda Reagans, Commander, Navy Recruiting Region West, served as presiding officer and presented Phillips with a Meritorious Service Medal during the ceremony. During his speech Phillips spoke highly of his fellow NRD Seattle Sailors. See article in the December 2008 issue, page 6, of "Now Hear This" found on our web site, <http://brem-olympic.nlus.us>.

Rear Adm. (lower half) Scott H. Swift, who has been selected for promotion to Rear Admiral, will be assigned as director for operations, J3, U.S. Pacific Command, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Swift is currently assigned as commander, Carrier Strike Group Nine, Everett, Wash. We remember him as our luncheon speaker, "Notso Swift."

Where are the Carriers?

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

It's become common knowledge that whenever a world crisis happens, the first question our national leadership asks is "Where are the carriers?" Since tipping the balance of power in World War II, the U.S. Navy's aircraft carriers have proven themselves, in war and peace, to be our nation's pre-eminent power projection platforms.



We mostly think of carriers in their combat roles... turning the tide of war at Midway, holding back the onslaught in Korea, firing the first shots against Taliban targets in the Global War on Terror. When force is needed, nothing takes the place of a carrier.

These ships, however, have also proved their worth in "showing the Flag" like no other. In the Taiwan Straights, the Mediterranean, the North Pacific, the presence of a U.S. carrier sends a message to friend and foe alike that our country is interested, engaged and ready.

The carrier force provides the unique ability to overcome political and geographic barriers to project power ashore without infringing on a nation's sovereignty. Carriers and their embarked air wings respond to threats including piracy, terrorism, weapons proliferation, drug trafficking, and other illicit activities. They've also had tremendous success in humanitarian assistance and disaster response. Countering threats and helping allies far from our nation's shores protects the American homeland, enhances global stability and secures freedom of navigation for all nations.

Today our carriers are busy around over the world, routinely carrying out all

missions of the Maritime Strategy. While deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, aircraft from Carrier Air Wing 8, the striking arm of USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT expended more than 61,000 pounds of precision guided ordnance to support "Troops in Contact." In

the wake of Typhoon Fengshen, which hit the Philippines in June 2008, the Navy quickly provided a carrier strike group to assist the Armed Forces of the Philippines in humanitarian relief efforts on Panay Island. USS RONALD REAGAN was on station off Iloilo, Philippines, within 36 hours of tasking. During eight days of continuous flying, RONALD REAGAN's aircraft delivered 519,000 lbs of supplies, such as rice and water.

Our Region is fortunate to have USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN and USS JOHN C. STENNIS homeported at Naval Station Everett and Naval Base Kitsap, respectively. JOHN C. STENNIS returned to Bremerton in July after completing a six-month deployment to the western Pacific. It marked the first time the Navy's next-generation, multi-mission helicopters, the MH-60S and MH-60R, were integrated into the carrier strike group, providing a new strategic maritime security capability to warfare commanders.

"Where are the carriers?" Right now, these multi-purpose platforms are everywhere...in the Indian Ocean, the North Pacific, the Persian Gulf, and right here in Navy Region Northwest, able to project power and provide sustained presence for whatever mission our country requires.

Bulletin Board

from the Board of Directors

■ **Carolyn Dankers** resigned from the Nominating Committee. Norma Parker was appointed to replace her.

■ It was announced that the **USS Bremerton** would like to be adopted by our Council. A Motion was made and passed to create a committee to look into the adoption of the USS Bremerton. Dave assigned **Carolyn Dankers** as chairperson for the committee.

■ **Annual Report Training:** **Carol Meteney**—reminder that the training will be held at Patriot's Landing on September 25th at 11:00-1:30. **Dave Thomas, Alice Thomas, Carolyn Dankers, and Carol Meteney** will be attending. We anticipate that new annual report forms will be discussed as well as electronic/digital submission.

■ **Nominations** for 2010: **Roger Wood** Chair. It was decided that we would have the annual meeting and elections at the November Luncheon

■ **CSG-9 Hail and Farewell Reception** - Motion was made and approved to assist PSNBA with the cost of the reception. \$500 will be sent to PSNBA.

■ **US Coast Guard Sea Fox Commissioning** – Will be September 18th at 2pm. PSNBA is matching our contribution of \$500 to support the reception following the Commissioning.

Salute to US Navy

The Navy is celebrating their **234th birthday** on October 9, 2009 at the Bangor Plaza Ballroom. Navy League members were specifically invited to attend.

Cocktails are at 6 pm and the Ceremonial Events at 6:40 pm. Dinner is at 7 pm. Civilian Dress is Semi-formal attire.

Tickets for retired military and civilians are \$35 and may be purchased at Bangor or Bremerton bases by October 6 at Samuel Adams, Bremerton ITT/Resource Center Building 1200, or Bangor Security (best place to purchase if you do not have base access). For more information on tickets, call **(360) 476-6719**.

Let's show our support of the men and women of the Navy by attending this wonderful event.

Submitted by Carolyn Dankers

Membership is a Funny Thing

Membership is a funny thing for an organization. You have people that participate in all activities and others that never attend a single event. Belonging to an organization like Navy League means different things to people.

Why did you join Navy League? Why do you continue to be a member?

I believe even those members that don't participate in the luncheons, social events, tours, trips, ship commissioning or decommissioning, retirements, galas, parades, change of commands, dinners and such; remain members because they believe they are supporting an organization that is committed to our Sea Services. By the way, did you know we have a very full calendar of events?

Why did I join? After 24 years in the Navy and having worked with



Navy League for many of those years, it seemed like a natural fit to join an organization that supported my views about the sea services.

We need members to be active. An organization that is active and shows that to the community also grows its **membership**. If more members join committees

that support many of the above mentioned events, it brings in fresh ideas and distributes the amount of work to complete them. **I really like people bringing fresh ideas to the table!!**

In order to build our membership, we need to be an active organization. An active organization brings in new members because they want to be part of something that they believe in and is fun. Okay, not always fun.....we do

have to work to put on these events. To me, the reward is seeing people enjoy an event that I helped plan with my fellow Navy Leaguers.

At the next Council Luncheon and soon in the mail will be a questionnaire. We will be asking why you joined Navy League. What type of activities do you like? Would you be willing to work on a committee? What type of activities do you want in the future? What you do or don't like, and many others. We want you to be honest and give us good feedback. Again, this is your organization and you have a hand in molding it.

*Submitted by Mark Lowe,
Membership Chairman*

Hero's Welcome

This years **Heroes' Welcome** has been moved to Thursday, November 5, 2009, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Jackson Park. The change to midweek and at night came as a response to the feedback we received from last year's event. Members of Navy League are invited to participate.

Admiral Symonds will be the Guest Speaker and we are planning to include honoring the Canine units that have served. We have 3 Canines and their handlers who have returned this year from Iraq and Afghanistan. We will also have a duet with LCDR Schneirla (Ret) and Anni Deleon the daughter of one of our IA's. Last year her Dad was still overseas. This year she will be able to sing to him directly since he is back safe and sound.

For more information, contact Robin Moeller robin.moeller.ctr@navy.mil

Navy League, thank you for all you do for us!

*Submitted by Robin Moeller,
Work & Family Life Consultant,
Fleet & Family Support Program,
NBK Bangor, 360-396-5939*



Many gifts were exchanged at the reception for the officers of the USS Bremerton on Friday, August 29. CDR Howard Warner the CO of the USS Bremerton accepts a 12-inch high "Lone Sailor Statue" from our Navy League President, Dave Thomas on behalf of the boat.

Happy Birthday to the United States Navy

by Rear Admiral Gary T. Blore

This month the Coast Guard would like to wish Happy Birthday to our sister sea service, the United States Navy, on the occasion of their 215th year and for their tireless defense of our nation at home and abroad. The U.S. Navy is unparalleled in almost every way, whether the measure is organizational size, capabilities, versatility, technological sophistication, or mobility. The U.S. Navy's ability to project sea power anywhere, at any time, not only provides deterrence and protection against those who would do America harm, but allows the United States to be the international leader for the navies of the world's democracies. But to truly appreciate the Navy we must understand its origins.

The Continental Navy, which was formed during the Revolutionary War in 1775, is the precursor to our modern Navy. However, due to an erroneous belief that the new nation lacked a need for a standing Navy during peace-time, the Navy was disbanded just after the end of the war in 1784. It was during the development of the American Constitution that the permanent establishment of a navy was re-examined and first specified, that Congress would "provide and maintain a navy."

Re-commissioning of the Navy in 1794 proved to be critical to the health of the growing American republic. Threats to maritime commerce increased and the need for a "blue water" navy proved critical to the economic stability of the still fledgling United States. The Naval Act was passed to establish a permanent Navy capable of projecting force wherever American interests were threatened.

Since then, our country's Navy has helped shape both our nation and our world. In their earliest years, they fought the Quasi War with France, the pirates of the Barbary Coast, and

the War of 1812. The United States' fledgling maritime forces proved to the world that they could and would maintain sea control and project power wherever needed in their young Nation's interest.

In every major, and many minor conflicts around the world, the U.S. Navy has played an integral role in protecting America and her allies. The Navy Flag proudly flies thirty-two battle streamers and this short essay cannot hope to properly acknowledge the many sacrifices our sailors have made during conflicts spanning over more than 200 years of service. And, as America has changed, so has our Navy. Today's Navy is as likely to practice international relief efforts, such as during the Indonesian Tsunami of 2004, or conduct international diplomacy in concert with our Department of State, as well as being vigilant warriors.

The 21st Century Navy is an organization with a reach like none other in history. They operate from space to the deepest ocean, from the mountains of Afghanistan to the shores of Puget Sound. In fact, here in Western Washington we're fortunate to have the Navy's third largest Fleet concentration. Since the Wilkes Expedition in 1842, the Navy has been an integral part of the local seascape. They charted our waters, named our towns and islands, and secured the Pacific Northwest for the United States.

I believe Admiral C.A.H. Trost captured the essence of why we need both a wartime and peacetime Navy when he said: "When a crisis confronts the nation, the first question often asked by policy makers is: What naval forces are available and how fast can they be on station?"

Our country once made the mistake of believing we didn't need a Navy. Fortunately for the United States, and

the world, that's not something we need now fear. History's greatest Navy is here, and will be here as long as we remember a good Navy is like oxygen... you really notice it when it's not there.

On a personal note, while I am a Coast Guard Aviator, I am first and foremost a Naval Aviator, having trained, served, and fought as part of the Navy Team; and I am very proud to share this common maritime heritage, as are my fellow Coast Guard Guardians. On this 215th birthday of the United States Navy, and on behalf of the Coast Guard in the Pacific Northwest, I wish every sailor a Happy Birthday and a very heartfelt Bravo Zulu (Well Done) for all that you do every day at home and abroad.

To all the Sailors of the United States Navy, "Happy Birthday."

Rear Admiral Gary T. Blore

13th Coast Guard District Commander

Seattle, Washington

Thank you, Melanie Reeder, for your Service

Melanie is moving over to be the Command and Staff Director and **Chris Haley**, who just returned to the Public Affairs position after two years in Guam, will assist with future "Admiral's Message" columns from **Admiral Symonds**. **Mr. J Overton**, the Public Affairs Speech Writer, also plays a key role in the research and writing of these articles for the column.

Melanie states, "It has been my distinct pleasure to work with Navy League and I look forward to seeing you around the bases. Thank you very much for what you do in support of our Navy."

Good luck on your new assignment, Melanie. "Now Hear This" will miss you.

Coast Guard Captain to Speak at Navy League Luncheon – Check the New Date and Time

The monthly luncheon for the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League will be held on **Tuesday, October 6th, at 11:00 a.m.** in the Bangor Plaza, Naval Base Kitsap - Bangor. **Captain Fredrick J. Sommer**, Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard ice breaker, USCG Healy, will serve as the guest speaker.

Council Members must make reservations and enter only through the Main Gate off Luoto Road. Call Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) (360-782-5500) no later than noon on Thursday, October 1st. The cost of the luncheon is \$15/person.

USS Bremerton Welcomes Gary



Gary Gunderson is all smiles as he is coming off the USS Bremerton submarine after docking in Bremerton. Gary was able to ride the submarine in. He caught a Navy Tug early in the morning on Wed, Aug 26th. The tug brought him out to the USS Bremerton

(SSN-698) and he was able to board her. He was able to ride on the bridge, on top of the submarine when she came in to Bremerton to a welcoming crowd and the Navy Band playing to start the USS Bremerton's return visit to it's namesake city. What a thrill!



Navy League was on the Pier to welcome the USS Bremerton SSN-698 to Bremerton. The "Welcoming Committee" holding the flags, (l to r) are **Earle Smith, Don Bassler, LaMoyne Jevne** and **Delbert Sutton**. (l to r), holding the banner are a young son of one of the men coming in off the submarine, **Sandra Smith**, and **Dee Bassler**.



The crew of the USS Bremerton enjoying the hearty lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, chili and salads with all the trimmin's. A good time for all was enjoyed at the Horse and Cow.

Theodore Roosevelt Bibliography

The Rough Riders by Theodore Roosevelt, *Theodore Rex* by Edmund Morris, *Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* by Edmund Morris, *The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America* by Douglas Brinkley and *Mornings on Horseback* by Avid McCullough

These wonderful books are available at your local library and we thank the research staff at the Kitsap Regional Library for providing us with this information.

Our Roosevelt re-enactor for the Navy Day Dinner on **October 23** celebrating Navy League's birthday and Theodore Roosevelt's birthday suggested that we might also like to read a book by Kathleen Dalton, *Theodore Roosevelt, a Strenuous Life*.



Here is one happy sailor picked up at the Horse and Cow who got to ride in Byron Faber's 1988 bright red Ferrari. This young sailor was the man in charge of the ship's store of USS Bremerton hats, t-shirts, mugs, etc.

Thank You for All That You Do

There are so many people who make our Council strong. Here are a few we would like to highlight this month.

Our thanks to **Tim Katona**, Evergreen Transfer and Storage, and our Council Treasurer, who sponsored Mr. Van Antwerp at our September luncheon.

Special thanks to the generosity of **members of the Indian Island Tour**. While having lunch, they spotted some Bangor Sailors also having lunch at the Chimacum Café and picked up their tab.

Ruth Bond is one of our active Council members and is the Branch Manager of the **Kitsap Regional Library** at 1301 Sylvan Way in Bremerton. Did you know...? With a library card from the Kitsap Regional Library you can do the following:

*Reserve book group kits up to a year in advance – see titles on our website



Larry Salter, Concurrent Technologies Corporation, and BROLPN Past President, presents this year's CTC donation for Operation Holiday Spirit to Leah Wattree, Co-Chair. Thank You, Larry and CTC for all that you do for Navy League.

*Download a favorite book to your MP3 player or Ipod

*Check out audio books on CD or cassette

*Or check out the latest in movies and music.

*Or you can stop by any of our NINE libraries and check out many of the free programs... Opera Previews, Lectures, Movies, Demonstrations, etc.

For more information, go to www.krl.org.

Thanks Ruth for all that you do.

Monthly Lunch Information

Your comments about the monthly lunches are important, so we are making a few changes. The social hour will start at 11:00 o'clock so you have more time to socialize and network. The program will begin at 11:45.

We have been trying this schedule for the last three months and it seems to be working.

Remember next month, our luncheon will be on October 6 so make your reservation by October 1.

November is Marine Birthday Month, so plan on joining the celebration with the special birthday cake ceremony and participate in the Toys for Tots program.


Introduce a friend to Navy League by bringing them to lunch. They will certainly say "Thank you."

*Submitted by Carolyn Dankers,
Luncheon Chair*

**October Luncheon Date Change – October 6
1st Tuesday instead of 2nd Tuesday**



Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council
 Navy League of the United States
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Postage for your newsletter has been provided by **Bank of America**  **Home Loans**

Planning Ahead

Thursday	Oct 1	Deadline for Making Reservations For October 6 Luncheon – 12:00 noon
Tuesday	Oct 6	Monthly Luncheon Meeting – Bangor Plaza Social 11:00, Lunch 11:45 Speaker –Captain Frederick J. Sommer US Coast Guard Healy
Wednesday	Oct 7	Board of Director's Meeting – 6:00 pm Reid Real Estate – Silverdale
Friday	Oct 9	234th Navy Birthday Ball Bangor Plaza Ballroom – 6:00 pm
Friday	Oct 9	Tour USS Healy – 10:30 am Seattle Pier 36
Sunday	Oct 18	Navy Band Northwest Free Concert "Cascade" Big Band - Keyport Naval Museum
Friday	Oct 23	Navy Day Celebration Kitsap Conference Center – 6:00 pm
Wednesday	Nov 4	Board of Director's Meeting – 6:00 pm Reid Real Estate – Silverdale
Thursday	Nov 5	Deadline for Making Reservations For November Luncheon – 12:00 noon
Thursday	Nov 5	Hero's Welcome – 5:30 to 8:00 pm Jackson Park
Tuesday	Nov 10	Monthly Luncheon Meeting Social 11:00, Lunch 11:45 Bangor Plaza – Marine Corp Birthday
Wednesday	Nov 11	Veterans Day Celebration Kitsap Fairgrounds President's Hall

This Date in History

October 13, 1775 – The Continental Congress establishes Continental Navy, later the U.S. Navy.

 **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 provided to all members.

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