



Navy League of the United States, St. Louis Council

PORTSIDE

Only with power at sea can America survive.

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* Past Presidents

Welcome to the St. Louis Council of the United States Navy League!

Every year, we look forward to supporting the worldwide mission of the Navy League as well as our numerous local outreach projects. It is important for us, our community and this great nation to sustain youth initiatives, which our council will achieve through our continued support of the local Sea Cadet Program, the Cleveland and Riverview Gardens NJROTC programs and the University of Missouri NROTC Unit. However, outreach in our council is a year-round initiative, and 2010 will be even busier than ever!

In January, we took time to recognize the contributions of our local men and women of the sea services at our annual awards dinner. On March 24th, we will welcome 50 foreign naval officers at a dinner when the Naval War College's International Class visits the Gateway City. We will also support Navy recruiting efforts with the Cardinal Company mass enlistment ceremony held at Busch Stadium in downtown St. Louis – a tradition that is now more than 50 years old. This year, Cardinal Company is scheduled for September 3rd, which will be a sell-out crowd on a Friday night game to start the Labor Day Weekend. And, the Navy has selected St. Louis to host another Navy Week in 2010, which will occur September 6 – 12.

Our council has adopted both USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and the soon-to-be commissioned Virginia-class submarine, USS Missouri (SSN 780). These unique relationships give our local community the opportunity to provide direct, hands-on support to the men and women who work so hard to protect our freedom. Locally, we may also have an opportunity this summer to cruise the Mississippi River aboard a local Coast Guard vessel. In 2009, we helped sponsor a corporate breakfast at the

St. Louis Science Center featuring Vice Adm. Dave Venlet, designed to educate our community leaders about the importance of sea power to our nation's national defense and continued well-being. This year, we will use the same venue to talk with another very influential group -- our local high school guidance counselors. On September 8, we will leverage the technology of the newly-commissioned USS Missouri as a supporting event for Navy Week.

On April 19, Rear Adm. (Ret.) Greg Slavonic will talk about his time in the Middle East as a PAO, and how his civilian role at Computer Sciences Corporation is helping NAVCO and other Navy Leagues with 22 Navy Weeks nationwide this year, including ours this September. (If you bring a potential new member, I will buy the wine!)

Speaking of new memberships, on May 25, we will host a lunch and golf outing at Lake Forest Country Club in Lake St. Louis. New members who sign up that day will eat, drink and play nine holes of golf on us. Please help us spread the word about this event. Those members who join our council early this year will have many months packed with incredible activities!

While these events are planned with the teamwork and dedication of our members, it is truly the financial support we receive through local corporate donations that allows us to execute our mission. Our council leaders are instrumental in helping to secure this funding through our two big annual fundraisers – the golf tournament and the Navy Birthday Ball. This year's golf tournament will be held

(Continued on Page 2)

Welcome-from page 1 at Cardinal Creek Golf Course at Scott Air Force Base on September 9, which will coincide with the scheduled Blue Angel afternoon practice for that weekend's air show. (Note: We will not be responsible for lower-than-average scores due to distractions caused by six blue-and-gold F/A-18s overhead!) To wrap up our year, the Navy Birthday Ball will be held on October 16. With our current economy, I will need all hands on deck to help our council generate new corporate sponsorships. Fortunately, Boeing and Anheuser-Busch InBev have already committed their support, but we have seven months to work together and identify many more partners. As you can see, 2010 is going to be a very busy year for our council. In order to help you track all of these activities, our public affairs officer, Garrett Kasper, has created our council's first Website: www.navyleague-stlouis.org. Garrett has charted a new course for us on the information super highway, and this tool will be absolutely invaluable in keeping all of us informed about events and the most up-to-date information on the sea services we support. With a tool this powerful, we now have more options to contact our members electronically, which will be faster and more affordable. Vice president of communications, Bob Fredrickson, will soon send out a survey to determine the best way forward for contacting members. Ideally, we would like to be able to send more emails to more members in 2010, and rely less on costly mass mailings.

I am honored to serve as your council president this year, and look forward to working with all of you in 2010. As always, if you have any feedback or recommendations for me, please do not hesitate to write me at dankloep-pel@aol.com.

Dan Kloepfel
President

St. Louis Navy League Unveils New Web Site



www.navyleague-stlouis.org

The St. Louis Council has merged onto the information super-highway! In an effort to keep members more informed of council operations, events and news about the sea services, Garrett Kasper has developed a sleek, user-friendly Website to kick off 2010.

"Our Website is a very powerful tool for all members to stay informed about this council, stay plugged in at the highest levels of the Navy League and also read online news from around the fleet," Kasper said. "It's important that everyone bookmarks this address in their favorites and visits it often."

The home page was designed as a "dashboard" with the very top-line information available at a glance, including the next council event on the right-hand side. A variety of buttons on the left side will open secondary windows with council information, Navy League information and other links to the sea services including Navy News, which is updated several times daily.

At the top of the home page, you will find some unique links such as the "Flag Bridge" where communications from council president Dan Kloepfel will be featured. The "Signal Shack" will allow visitors to read and print

archived "Portside" newsletters and other council documents, such as meeting minutes. The "Chart House" will feature various CNO-level updates and talking points from the Navy Chief of Information's Office. Lastly, "Vulture's Row" will be the best place to look-out from above and see photos of our council in action!

Visitors may also go to links for the USS Missouri (SSN 780) commissioning committee's site, St. Louis Navy Week site and the upcoming Navy Ball. If you have questions about any particular event, the "Council Officers" page has contact information for those in charge. A comment section is available, too, should you have a request for information. It will be sent via email to the Webmaster, who will then forward it to the appropriate council leader.

"Building a new Website is like building a new house," Kasper said. "We're still moving in and customizing things, and trying to figure out what fits where. We appreciate everyone's patience and welcome feedback in these first few months as we get ourselves situated online."

HONORS FLIGHT

By Ethel Mariam and reprinted from the ROA
"Transmitter"

At the crack of dawn on November 18, 2009, a total of 37 veterans of World War II assembled at the St. Louis airport, for an Honors Flight to Washington, DC. Volunteers from the USO of Missouri were on hand to greet these distinguished patriots, provided coffee/bagels/etc. and wished them well on their trip. The flight arrived at Reagan Airport in Washington, DC at 10:30 AM and the greeting we received at the airport was truly awe inspiring and made it difficult for the veterans to answer questions from the large crowd on hand to greet us. There was clapping, hand shaking, hugging and many pictures were taken as these veterans were "welcomed to Washington".

The veterans proceeded by charter bus to visit the WW II Memorial, which included a box lunch and a chance to meet with several civilian and military dignitaries including former U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole. After a quick trip to the Korean Memorial, it was on to Arlington Cemetery to witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Later in the day the veterans departed for Reagan Airport where they enjoyed a complimentary dinner before flying back to St. Louis. Another rousing reception awaited the veterans as they returned to the airport in St. Louis, once again from the USO volunteers and other citizens who wanted to show



their appreciation for the dedicated service of these men and women during World War II. I can truly say it was a wonderful trip and one of the

most outstanding days of my life.

Editor's Note: The Honors Flight program is available to all World War II veterans free of charge. Businesses and citizens donate money to pay the expenses (airfare, etc.) associated with the trip. It is a unique opportunity for those who defended our nation during World War II to visit Washington and see the Memorial which has been constructed to honor them. The individuals who participate in these Honor Flights are most grateful for this opportunity **CAPT Ethel Mariam** enlisted in the Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emer-

gency Service) in June, 1943. After attending boot camp she was assigned to the Naval Training Center in Bainbridge, MD where she served in the Supply Department as a Storekeeper 3rd Class. She was discharged from active duty in 1946 and joined the Navy Reserve in 1947. After graduation from St. Louis University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Commerce in 1949, she received a direct commission as an Ensign in the Navy Supply Corps. She remained in the Navy Reserve and was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1974 and then retired in 1983. CAPT Mariam, thank you for your dedicated service to our nation.

2009 NAVY BALL

The St Louis Council of the Navy League held their annual Naval Military Ball on October 24th, 2009 at the Marriott Airport Hotel. The nearly five hundred guests enjoyed a generous portion of Military pomp and circumstance supplied by our own Sea Cadets and JROTC students along with Military Members from the United States Transportation Command. Ceremonial Music was played by the Scott Air Force Band and everyone danced till Midnight to *Sentimental Journey*. The meal was simply wonderful and the wine flowed freely. Our guest speaker for the evening was VADM Dave Vinlet, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command. Corporate support from Boeing and A/B Inbev was much appreciated and made the evening a financial success. Gen McNabb and VADM Harnicek represented TRANSCOM. Commanding officers from the Reserve Center and Navy Recruiting were also in attendance. The planning committee led by Dan Koeppel did a masterful job and we look forward to the 2010 Ball with TRANSCOM in the lead.

PORTSIDE

Opinions expressed herein are those of the editor or columnists and are not necessarily those of the St. Louis Council or the Navy League of the United State. Published by the Navy League of the United States, St. Louis Council

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ANNUAL MEETING

By Dick Kallemeier

On January 26th members of the St. Louis Council gathered at the MAC West to hear RADM Mary Landry, USCG, Commander 8th Coast Guard District speak about the modernization of the Guard and their role in home land security. Admiral Landry was followed by the annual award presentations and the installation of officers lead by our new president Dan Kloeppe. Special recognition was given to Bob Fredrickson, the immediate past president for his three years of dedicated and outstanding leadership of the Council.

2009 Award of Excellence

The purpose of the Award of Excellence is to encourage retention, community and intra-service involvement and improved job performance of junior naval services personnel through recognition.. This is the seventh year giving the awards and the committee did presentations at TRANSCOM, NOSC St. Louis and Coast Guard Headquarters in the RAY Building

LT Timothy D. Barnes, USN, assigned to *US-TRANSCOM*, is a top-notch performer who continually demonstrates superior leadership, initiative and great creativity in a highly demanding role as a Patient Movement Operations Officer. He is responsible for coordinating airlift and launch of time-sensitive urgent, priority and routine patient movements. During the award period he orchestrated 3,679 patient movements including 3,477 casualties from Iraq. One of his special assignments was to airlift an urgent burn patient from Germany to San Antonio, a 5300 mile non-stop flight. This mission required complex coordination with 6 burn team members, air refueling, medical equipment waivers and unique ground transportation. Executives. LT Barnes was deployed and unable to attend the annual meeting. His wife Melissa and daughters Halei and Hanna accepted the award for him.



Bob Fredrickson and LT Barnes

LT David Johanson, USN is a hard charging, highly skilled and competent *USTRANSCOM* Naval Intelligence Officer. He leads a 24/7 Intelligence Indications and Warning Team focused on emerging threats around the world. Giving superb intelligence support during wartime operations he efficiently and expeditiously reviewed and processed over 30,000 messages

during peaks in Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. A superior leader and team builder, LT Johanson gave clear direction and excellent leadership to a joint service Indications and Warning team. He mentored junior Airmen and Sailors on the complexities of the command's mission and maintaining a global focus on threats to missions and assets. LT Johanson routinely works extremely long hours but finds time to be the directorate's federal voting assistance representative and as the Charity Fund Coordinator raised over \$17,000.



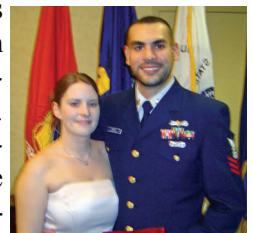
LT Johanson and wife Andria Willeams



LS1 Michael, Beverly and Lauren Murphy

LS1 Michael D. Murphy, USN was nominated for his community involvement and assistance to service members and others by the *Navy Reserve Expeditionary Strike Group 7*. As a civilian physical fitness expert he uses his skills to lead daily unit physical training. He gets the maximum training effort from individuals and as a result the unit has a 98% physical exam pass rate. Supporting the exercise routine LS1 Murphy provides diet and exercise counseling and free membership in "Boot Camp" his private fitness business. Michael Murphy was recently awarded the Operation Homefront National Achievement Award for his outstanding support of their newest program HEROS Care. HEROS coordinates mental health professionals to support the families of deployed service members. Finally, Petty Officer Murphy's greatest contribution was the donation of one of his kidneys to an unrelated person in great need.

BM1 Josip P. Pehar, USN has taken a critical leadership role in the *USCG Sector Upper Mississippi River* boat force program. His duties include the safe operation of 6 Response Boats while performing as a qualified Coxswain and Boarding Officer. He led the Sector boat forces preparations for the 2009 Standardization Team visit. As a result, the boat forces earned the Sumner I. Kimball Readiness Award. Petty Officer Pehar lead boat crews over the 3 major summer



BM1 Josip and Kathleen Pehar

holidays in areas on the Missouri River and the Lake of the Ozarks that are notorious for boating accidents. He assisted local law enforcement ensuring boaters were operating safely and not under the influence of alcohol. BM1 Pehar is a strong supporter of his community. Helping a neighborhood family whose home was burglarized during the holiday season, he organized a gift drive. The children's stolen presents were replaced and the holiday spirit was restored to the family.



HM1 and Crystal Plein

HM1 **Nicholas J. Plein, Fleet Marine Force, USN** possesses peerless technical and tactical expertise, his medical knowledge is boundless, and his genuine care and concern for the members and the families of the *3d Battalion, 24th Marines* is incomparable. During the award period the battalion was mobilized as the last Marine battalion to serve in Iraq. There were 1500 Marines and Sailors assigned across the United States and Iraq with families residing in 5 separate states and 6 separate commands. "Doc" Plein knew the medical status and readiness of each and every member. As a planner and chief trainer, Petty Officer Plein conducted pre-mobilization training of the newest life-saving equipment and techniques. The result of his effort is the aid station was rated FULLY TRAINED when they arrived at 29 Palms and the battalion earned a 95% Medical Readiness Rating. In summary, Doc Plein's dedication and integrity to his mission has saved countless lives in combat.



HS1 Mays and guest Jenny Armbruster

HS1 **Jonathan W. Mays, USCG**, assigned to the *USCG St. Louis Health Services Field Detachment* volunteered to serve as the corpsman onboard the Coast Guard Barque Eagle, a training sailing vessel, for Academy Cadets and Officer Candidates summer cruise. During the cruise he distinguished himself through his performance as the "go to" person for any issues or information relating to medical services. As the Eagle sailed over 10,000 miles across the Atlantic, around Europe, back to the U.S., north to Nova Scotia and finally returning to New London, Petty Officer Mays provided excellent health care and mentorship to hundreds of cadets. In addition to his assigned duties, HS1 Mays quickly became a significant part of the crew by volunteering to serve during sail

stations, a labor intensive operation involving readjusting 17 sails on three masts for speed and maneuverability. His outstanding medical knowledge and leadership skill set an excellent example for the officer candidates.



**2009 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE RECIPIENTS
HS1 Mays, BM1 Pehar, HM1 Plein, LT Johanson,
LS1 Murphy**

With the exception of **LT Timothy Barnes** all of the Award of Excellence recipients attended the Council's Annual Meeting. LT Barnes, deployed to the middle east in mid-December, was represented by his wife and two daughters. The council would like to express our appreciation to the award nominators, without their special and continuous effort we would not be able to recognize these fine service members.

Scroll of Honor

Each year the national office of the Navy League provides the council with one Scroll of Honor and 12 Awards of Appreciation. The Scroll of Honor is the second highest award of the Navy League on the national level, and the highest award on the region, area, and council levels. It may be awarded to those who have contributed in an outstanding manner to the furtherance of Navy League programs. This year at the annual meeting **Lieutenants Gene and Peggy Inglish, U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Corps** were presented the Scroll of Honor for their outstanding leadership and support of the Sea Cadet Corps and Honor Guard. They consistently inspire and train the cadets to perform public honor guard events. Gene and Peggy devote untold hours planning, scheduling and performing honor guard ceremonies on the average of xx times per month.



Gene and Peggy Inglish

In addition, **Charles Williams, Phillip Jones, Bob Eade, Doyle Wilhite, Jim Erlinger, and Jane Strecker**, were recognized for their outstanding performance and received *Certificates of Appreciation*.

Youth Programs



Cleveland High School
NJROTC

Riverview Gardens High School
NJROTC



Midshipman First Class Alan J. McGinnis, University of Missouri Naval ROTC, will receive this year's St. Louis Council Distinguished Graduate Sword.

MIDN McGinnis is a native of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and in December he will receive a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and be commissioned an Ensign in the Navy. He is serving as the Battalion Commander for the spring semester 2010 and is the top student in his class based on academic performance, leadership aptitude, physical fitness, and organizational support. During his 4 year tenure in the NROTC program, he has received recognition in many University activities including the Academic Achievement

SEA CADET AWARD WINNERS ARE GUESTS OF NAVY LEAGUE

By LT Jane Stecker, USNSCC, Commanding Officer

One of the happy duties of a commanding officer is to introduce award winners to the public. It was my pleasure to announce the 2009 Award Winners of Battleship Missouri Division/Training Ship Missouri of the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps during the St. Louis Council's Annual Meeting in January.

Our 2009 Officer of the Year is **L T J G T o m**

O'Brien, Executive Officer and

the Region 7 Officer of the Year. The Instructor of the Year is **ENS Ken Nowack**, Division Officer and Region 7 Instructor of the Year. The Sea Cadet of the Year is **CPO William O'Brien** with League Cadet of the Year honors going to **SA Tyler Higginbotham**. SA Higginbotham is also the Region 7 League Cadet of the



Peggy & Gene English, Ken Nowack, Tom O'Brien, Jane Stecker

of the League Cadet Tom LoRusso Shipmate of the Year Award **SA Rexx Villotti** received

the Sea Cadet Tom LoRusso Shipmate of the Year Award. The new commanding officer of Battleship Missouri Division, **LT Jane Stecker**, had an unexpected surprise when she received a Certificate of Appreciation from the St. Louis Council. However, the best and most wonderful surprise came when our very own Ops, Recruiting, and Public Affairs Officers, **LT Gene English** and **LT Peggy English**, received the Scroll of Honor from the Council. The Scroll of Honor is usually awarded to one single person but how do you separate the Englishes? Where you see one, the other is sure to be close. They are the Holmes and Watson of our Sea Cadet unit. We can't imagine one without the other. Bravo Zulu to you both.



SA Higginbotham, CPO O'Brien, SA Villotti

Distinguished Graduate Sword Award

By Bob Eade



Award, the Physical Fitness award and the Community Service Award. Following graduation, ENS McGinnis will report to the Navy Nuclear Power School at Charleston, SC, to commence training in the highly selective Nuclear Propulsion Program.

The Council's **Captain Robert Eade** will make the sword presentation during the Joint Military Services Awards Parade on April 24, 2010, at the Francis Quadrangle. Council members who may be in the area are invited to attend and see the outstanding military bearing of the 250 member cadet corps

2010 ST. LOUIS NAVY LEAGUE COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

Name:					
Address:					
City:		State:		ZIP:	
Primary Phone:			Mobile Phone:		
Email Address:					
What is the preferred method to contact you in 2010? (Choose only one option, please.)					
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not have access or use email. Please contact me only with regular U.S postal mailings.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please e-mail me updates regularly, but use "snail-mail" for formal invitations or newsletters.					
<input type="checkbox"/> I am online. Just email me updates and I'll use the Website to download/print my own info.					
For each item identified below, circle the number to the right that best fits your judgment about Navy League Communications through 2009.					
1 = Poor 3 = Average 5 = Excellent					
I feel that this council sends me enough information annually.	1	2	3	4	5
I feel the information mailed to me is useful or relevant.	1	2	3	4	5
The Portside newsletter is a main source of my council information.	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate the quality of the Portside newsletter?	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate letters or other correspondence?	1	2	3	4	5
I feel that my awareness of this council's events/news is:	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate the timeliness of invitations in 2009?	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate the quality of the 2009 Navy Ball invitations?	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate the timeliness of correspondence in 2009?	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate your ability to navigate online?	1	2	3	4	5
I think switching to e-mail based updates is a _____ idea.	1	2	3	4	5
How would you rate the quality of the new Website? www.navyleague-stlouis.org	1	2	3	4	5

Please write any additional comments on an additional sheet of paper. Or, you may contact our VP for Communications, Bob Fredrickson directly at (636) 394-7112. You may print and mail your survey to him, or save it electronically. Please send the completed form to Bob at either address:

Mail: Bob Fredrickson
316 Claymont Drive
Ballwin Mo 63011

E-mail: rfreddy40@aol.com



**Navy League - St. Louis Council
Richard Kallemeier
14775 Thornbird Manor Pkwy
Chesterfield, MO 63017**

Calendar of Events and RSVP Coupons

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER

**Monday 19 April 2010
Speaker RADM (Ret) Greg Slavonic
Former Reserve Chief of Information,
Topic-Navy Week 2010
Holiday Inn Airport – West
3400 Rider Trail South
St. Louis, Mo 63045
Cocktails: 1800 Dinner :1830
Cost: Members and Guests - \$25
Dress: Coat and Open Collar**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

**Submit your reservation to Ethel Mariam, 7257 Amherst Ave.,
University City, MO 63130.
Make payment to St. Louis Navy League.**

Name: _____
Guest/s: _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____
Number Attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please submit by 15 April 2010

LUNCH AND GOLF OUTING

**“welcome new council members”
Tuesday, May 25th, 2010
Lake Forest Country Club
300 Yard Drive
Lake St. Louis, MO 63367
Welcome Aboard – (12:00 noon)
Lunch – (12:30) Golf – (1:30)
NL members cost:
lunch -\$15 nine holes of golf -\$35
Cost for new members who
join NL that day - FREE**

LUNCH AND GOLF OUTING

**Submit your reservation to Dan Kloeppe,
10 Stone Falcon Ct., Lake St. Louis, MO 63367.
Make payment to St. Louis Navy League.**

Member: _____
Phone #: _____
E-mail: _____
New Member(s): _____

Number for lunch: _____ Number for golf: _____
Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please submit by 15 May 2010