



THE SEA CHANT

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SPECIAL - NEW YEAR EDITION 2024



Contra Costa Council Navy League of the United States

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Farewell to 2023! My best wishes for a great 2024 as we look forward to new events, old and new leaders with us in the Bay Area and across the Nation leading the way to a safe and secure Country,



We have our work cut out for us to honor and recognize our Sea Services as we can through our upcoming events and awards ceremony. The only way to continue is with your support, our efforts to continue to make this Council one of the best around. We have done a great job, let's do a better one for 2024!

Pam Speka President



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Navy League Commemorates The Pearl Harbor Remembrance



Master Chief Travis Cutler speaks with 100 year old Sr Chief Jim Wise about Pearl Harbor.

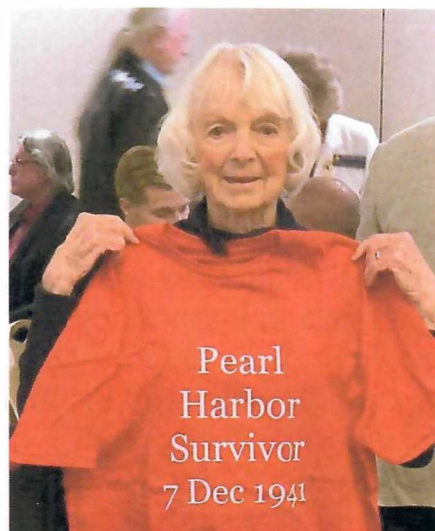
Sr Chief Jim Wise USN (Ret.) spoke with great detail about his Pearl Harbor experiences

Sr. Chief Jim Wise as he experienced "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner" - a thrilling experience for him, and his daughters:

He had such a wonderful night especially meeting Nurse Alice! The Master Chief (*seen in photo, next page*) Amazed with the Marine Recruiter, and the Navy Lieutenant. A true honor and privilege in every aspect of the evening. Highlighted also was his meeting with Captain Lam who extended his coin to the Sr. Chief. This was a moment of honor for him.

Regarding Pearl Harbor: When Pearl Harbor attacked Sunday December 7, 1941. Out at local cafe in Pensacola for lunch when MP ordered them all back to base "Japanese Fleet attack at Pearl Harbor and not a joke!!!"

Recruited for Flight School after pilots identified him as having innate skills while on training runs. When told to report to the commanding officers office, thought he was in trouble. "I understand you've been doing some flying while out on training runs" Uh Oh... then added "at the pilots request". Then offered Flight School based upon demonstrated performance.



Sr. Chief Wise compares notes with the Marine Corp representative.

102 year old Navy nurse, Alice Darrow who served in WWI at Mare Island and a Life Member of MOAA.

Faithful Greeters Wren Hall and Christie Robinson are always there for us.

All the survivors had captivating stories and Captain Lam delivered a tremendous address.



Pizza, Pizza

The Marine Corps Advisor Company B is based at the Reserve Training Center in Concord. The Inspector-Instructor Staff stationed there conducts Quarterly Drills with their Reservists.

The Drill in January was hosted at the Concord Training Center with some 35 Reservists in attendance. On Saturday, January 20th Navy Leaguers Pete Gates and Ron Rogness delivered 10 pizzas and a sheet cake emblazoned with an American flag motif to help feed lunch to this hungry bunch, plus 20 or so members of the Inspector-Instructor Staff.

We only stayed for a short while since this was a working weekend for them but from the number of sincere thanks we received, our donation seemed to be well received and appreciated.

The photo shows Pete flanked by some of the Marines shortly after the delivery and before the pizzas began to disappear.



Travis AFB VQ3 Holiday Cookie Delivery

Thanks to the Navy League Cookie Brigade



!Chief Nall (on the right) and his helper receiving the cookies produced by Lois Terrell, Connie Van Putten, Christie Clegg, Marge Burns and Dianne Cole. I think that is everyone. This was for their holiday party. at VQ3, Travis AFB. They were absolutely delighted at the Command. I was invited in to say hello to the Officer-in-Charge, LCDR Hanks, as well.

This event was a real plus for our organization and a big "thank you" is well earned for these producers of the "cookie brigade"!

Ron Rogness

Marine Corps Advisor Company B

Change of Command

On July 10, 2023, A Change of Command Ceremony for the Marine Corps Advisor Company B was held at the Reserve Training Center in Concord. Inspector-Instructor LtCol Joshua B. Simpson relinquished his Command to LtCol Brandon L. Davidson.

Brigadier General Day, the Commanding General of Force Headquarters Group, Marine Force Reserve, presided.

Family members, Headquarters Staff, MCAC B team members and several other distinguished attendees were honored during the Ceremony. Former Commander, Colonel Daniel W. Laux was also present following his return from Okinawa.

Contra Council of the Navy League was represented by Pete Gates, Liaison to the Command and Bill Kinsey, Legislative Affairs and Recreation Director. Other folks in attendance included: three members of the Marine Corps League, Ryan Thomas-Brown representing Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, Mike Conklin of "Sentinels of Freedom" plus a musical ensemble from Air Force Base-Travis .

A nice lunch was served to culminate the event.

LtCol Davidson was accessed to the Active Reserve program in 2015 as an Air Command and Control officer. Active Reserve assignments include Operations Officer for Marine Air Control Squadron 24, Inspector and Instructor at Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 48 and Reserve Capabilities Officer and Individual Mobilization Augmentee Operational Sponsor for Deputy Commandant for Information. He and his wife Amy Lee have four children.

Prepared by Pete Gates,



We thank UBEO Business Services for providing printing services for this publication.



OUSNI News
Weekly Update

Brought to You by the Members of the U.S. Naval Institute

Pentagon Puts Out Call for Swarming Attack Drones That Could Blunt a Taiwan Invasion

January 30, 2024 by Sam LaGrone and Aaron-Matthew Lariosa

The U.S. military has taken the next step in building thousands of lethal sea-borne attack drones that could be key to deterring a Chinese invasion of Taiwan. On Monday, the Defense Innovation Unit put out a solicitation for companies to submit pitches for small unmanned surface vehicles that could tie into the Pentagon's Replicator initiative, a defense official confirmed to USNI News on Tuesday. DIU's PRIME - Production-Ready, Inexpensive, Maritime Expeditionary - will buy drones in bulk to respond to a Navy operational need for small autonomous attack craft capable of "intercepting" enemy vessels at high speeds



Experience a morning at the National Naval Aviation Museum. every Tuesday starting **January 30 - February 27**. Visitors are invited to enjoy Chick-fil-A breakfast followed by a special presentation from the Museum curatorial staff and a movie in the Giant Screen Theater. There will be prizes and giveaways for each: guest!

Doors open at 9 a.m. The presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. with the featured film immediately following.

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Contra Costa Council of the Navy League of U.S.
 c/o Myriam Clark
 680 Moraga Rd., #6
 Moraga, CA 94556

The Navy League was founded in 1902 with a clear, three-pronged mission: to support the members of the Navy and their families; to educate the American people and their elected leaders about the critical importance of sea power for their economic prosperity and national security; and to help build America's future through successful youth programs like the Navy Sea Cadet Corps. Whether you ever served in uniform or not, we invite you to join us today. Our mission: "Citizens in Support of the Sea Services reflects both our commitment and our broad appeal to everyone concerned with the support of our men and women in uniform. Join in supporting our men and women of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and U.S. flag- Merchant Marine

Membership Alert: Members of the Navy League Contra Costa County Chapter will receive an automatic renewal notice from the Navy League of the U.S. on the renewal anniversary date. Members who wish to submit membership dues to the Contra Costa County chapter directly should note if payments are for new memberships or renewals.