



THE SEA CHANT'S

"LITTLE SKIPPER"

Contra Costa Council Navy League of the United States

HOWDY FOLKS – THIS IS OUR LITTLE NEWSY NOTICE TO JUST KEEP YOU INFORMED ON WHAT WE ARE STILL DOING TO KEEP UP WITH OUR SEA SERVICE UNITS! CAN'T KEEP US DOWN. WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN. YOUR DONATIONS AND DEDICATION IS SO IMPORTANT TO KEEP US GOING FORWARD AS WE APPROACH 2021...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FRANK'S MESSAGE HERE: A fond farewell, and still a dedicated member, and serving our Marine Corp. [retired] which he has promised to fulfill.

Greetings to the members of the Contra Costa Council of the Navy League. 2020 has truly been the "lost year". Fortunately, we have a great board and great people who represent us with all our units. We have kept in touch with all our men and women serving our country and they know we are there for them. Stay safe, happy holidays and let us hope 2021 allows us to meet in person again. **Frank Wallace, President.**

New 2021 President's Message: from Pam Speka

Our gratitude to Frank Wallace for serving in 2020 as our President with all he has on his table, and a fulltime job too! Much appreciation to Frank for taking on this role. It is an honor to serve as President of this Council, but does take many hours to keep the wheels turning.

Our mission does not change in these times – we have had to do business differently but want our membership to know we are here in full force.

CCCNL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020

Please visit the CCCNL website for a complete list of Council Board Members and Liaisons at: <http://www.cccnl.org>

Frank Wallace, President
 Pam Speka, Immediate Past President
 Jim Harbuck, Past President
 Bill Kinsey, VP Legislative Affairs
 Myriam Clark, VP Membership
 William R. Sharkey, VP Communications
 Chris Clegg, VP Youth Affairs
 Bruce and Christine Clegg, Web Master
 Christie Robinson, Recording Secretary
 Steve Cruikshank, Treasurer

UNITS WE SUPPORT

U.S. Coast Guard Station Rio Vista
 • U.S. Coast Guard Station Vallejo •
 USCG Sector San Francisco • USCG
 Aids to Navigation Team – San
 Francisco • USCGC Sea-going Buoy
 Tender ASPEN • USCGC Tern • USMC,
 Advisor Company B, Reserve Center •
 USN VQ-3 Unit Travis Air Force Base •
 USN Strategic Telecommunications
 Detachment, Travis AFB • USN
 Recruiting Station, Golden Hills Zone,
 P. H. • Sea Cadet Diablo Squadron
 and Training Ship-Lorraine Hughey,
 and USMC Recruiting Station,
 Pleasant Hill, CA.

- Congressional briefings and demonstration of tasks have been put on hold, but our dedicated Legislative Affairs, **Bill Kinsey** continues to keep in close touch with our Congressional folks, so we do not lose touch. You're tops Bill!
- This was one of his best Congressional briefings – showing the duties of our Aids to Navigation unit! USCG and our Council worked hard on this one!



Left to Right: Bill Kinsey, NLUS; Alison Pines, CA-11; BMC Ortiz, ANT-SF; Ryan-Thomas Brown, CA-11.

“Best of the Best” Sea Services Awards , and the **Congressional Certificate** from Congressman Mark DeSaulnier who strongly supports our Sea Services. We honor these young leaders of tomorrow and appreciate the extra efforts of our Liaisons to reach their units and present these awards. We thank them for their initiative to keep this important function alive in these times.

Sea Cadets Unit Update: Rusty Henricks, LTjg, Julie Whitman, and our Liaisons, Bruce and Chris Clegg keep the ball rolling with our Sea Cadets! Their 2020 awardees are: Navy Leaguer–PO1 Autumn Geckler and Sea Cadet–Dmytro Rudenko.

USCGC ASPEN and USCGC TERN – Fleet Week festivities (October 3-11, 2020) offering virtual experience for this year to still enjoy the exciting event safely. Our Liaisons, Trevor and Wren had a break from all the reservations, passes, etc. The Aspen will award MK1 Robert S. Verhalen with our Council award, and the Congressional Certificate.

USCG RIO VISTA annual BBQ- got bakery fresh Cupcakes from local bakery and delivered by Liaison, Lois Terrell who never forgets to greet and take care of this fine unit. **Thanks Lois!** Their awardee is ME2 John Micolta Yepes.

Station Vallejo -Got a surprise visit from Liaisons, Al and Jo Romine, with lunch! One of their favorite things to do for this unit on a regular basis. Nothing stopped them!

Travis Navy Units: NavComm and VQ3 - “latest news” They have reported that they are not going to have their *Thanksgiving/Holiday Feast* which we have provided the desert cookies! Since this pandemic has impacted all festivities, we can at least stay in touch. They are not even able to accept anything at the gate. Thanks Marge Burns for your constant upkeep on these fine USN units that serve this country.

USN Recruiters: Still around doing what they do best. Business just keeps up with these special times as they continue to find good recruits. Awardee to get our award and the Congressional recognition is BM2 Ofori Kingsford. Gary Fenstermacher does what he can.

USMC Recruiters: Also, Liaison, Gary Fenstermacher will make sure awardee, Sgt. Russell R. Sales is recognized.

Concord Marines (Marine Corps Advisor Company B) Marine of the Year, Sgt Sharp Thao; A formal award ceremony was held at the Concord Marine Base to honor Sgt Sharp Thao as the Marine of the Year for 2020. The event was conducted by LtCol Daniel Laux and 1stSgt Christopher MacVarish in the presence of Sharp's fellow Marines. The Navy League Marine of the Year Award and a Congressional Award Certificate were presented by Contra Costa Council Liaison Pete Gates. All Covid protocols were adhered to.

SECTOR SF – Special Awardee for this unit is GM2 Kimberly Zsuffa. Thank you, liaison, Lorin Andersen!

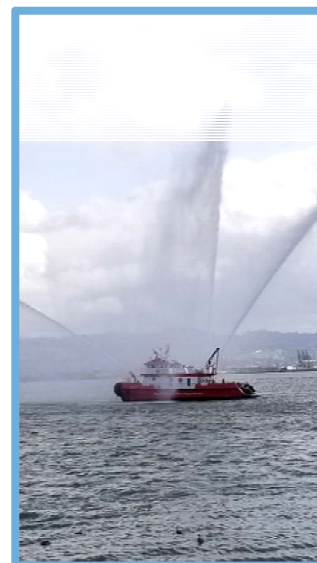
Aids to Navigation: Liaison, Ron Rogness in contact with the new CO, who is Chief Jason Satter. He has been in touch with Navy League before this and appreciates the work of our organization!

The awarding of ‘Best of the Best’ to a member of that unit, PO Joshua Sagona. Lorin Anderson, liaison to Sector, kindly offered to do that presentation on my behalf along with another presentation he was doing at Yerba Buena.

Our units keep on doing what they must to keep this country strong and protected. So much appreciation to all of them from our Council. We all hope that 2021 will see easier times to be able to see these fine folks.



We are ready for the next dinner 2021!





CCCUS Navy League life member Roland "Andy" Andersen is celebrating his *100th birthday* Nov. 25! Pictured is a family photo of 3 of his 4 sons, all 3 of his grandsons and all 3 of his great-grandsons from 2019 Christmas.

Lieutenant Andersen USNR, Retired served during World War II. He was a plank owner, commissioning the USS Kasaan Bay CVE-69 on 4 Dec. 1943 and decommissioning it on 6 Jul. 1946. He participated in the invasion of Southern France in Aug. 1944. During 1945 she sailed into the Pacific performing replacement aircraft delivery to the western pacific, carrier training for air groups and replacement pilots and Anti-Submarine Operations until the end of the war. After the war she was assigned to "Magic Carpet" duty making 4 trips to the states bringing soldiers and Marines back home from the pacific war. He served in the reserves for 10 years.

LEST WE NEVER FORGET our Pearl Harbor survivors, and their service to this country and the world. Unable to host our annual Remembrance Dinner, but our hearts are full of appreciation and remembrance.

A special note of thanks to those organizations that donate every year to this dinner event: The Blue Star Moms, Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley, Military Officers Assoc., & the Alameda, Lake Merritt & Oakland Navy League Councils, Bay Area Navy Nurses Corps Association.

Your **DONATIONS** keep us going in strong force as we continue into 2021.

A Special thanks to our Board Members who keep leading this council year after year. They are holding strong for 2021 changes.

Want to Join us in our Mission? Contact:

SEND COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO:

Contra Costa Council of the Navy League of U.S.

c/o Myriam Clark, Membership Chair

680 Moraga Rd., Apr. #6

Moraga, CA 94556-2328



Contra Costa Council of the Navy League of the U.S

4551 Alhambra Way

Martinez, CA 94553-4405

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

