Sea Notes



Q4 2023



NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES PALM BEACH COUNCIL

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Newsletter Publisher: Leslie Leibowitz Newsletter Editor: Dick Ray

Upcoming Events

WPTV-TV Tour – Jan. 21st 2024 Kickoff Cocktail Party – Jan. 21st Council Luncheon – Feb. 3rd

Council Officers

Jeff Leibowitz, President
Larry Caruso, Executive Vice President
Irv Silver, VP Development
Steve Rousseau, VP Youth Programs
Leslie Leibowitz, VP Membership/Programs
John Limoncelli, VP Legislative Affairs
Ted Peroulakis, VP Maritime Affairs
Richard Ray, VP Communications
Denise Rousseau, Secretary
HON Richard Wennet, Judge Advocate
Charles Zambrano, Special Projects Officer
Rod Dorilás, Special Projects Officer
Foye Belyea, Chaplain

President's Message





Palm Beach Council has earned the respect of citizens, community and industrial leaders, local military, and public officials here in the Palm Beaches and across the state and country.

Palm Beach Council Members & Friends,

The 2023-2024 Season has started off with some great activities since our September Welcome Back Cocktail Party...which, by the way, we're repeating as our 2024 Kick-Off Cocktail Party on Sunday, January 21, 2024, again at the fabulous Meat Market Steakhouse in Palm Beach.

Our council has toured WPBF (ABC) and been featured on-air twice this quarter. In January we will tour WPTV (NBC)...hopefully getting some additional on-air coverage by them after our visit. We had a wonderful lunch meeting at Carmine's in Palm Beach Gardens in October, a great trip to the Navy SEAL Muster in Fort Pierce in November, and in December had a fun Toys-For-Tots Holiday Party & Annual Meeting with one of our own, Dale Jenkins, presenting a fascinating talk based on his new and highly acclaimed book Diplomats & Admirals.

We were also able to support a home cooking respite for one of our Joint Forces units in Europe commanded by one of our own active-duty Navy members, CDR Erik Booher, USN, that supports the Ukrainian Defense Initiative, by providing funding for a monthly good-old American BBQ.

Soon to come is our Army/Navy Game Viewing Party, catered by Carmines, to be held on December 9, 2023. A few seats are still available, so check our website (www.pbcnl.org) for details and to register.

I welcome our new Council Secretary, LCDR Denise Rousseau, USNR (Ret.). Her husband, CAPT Stephen Rousseau, USN (Ret.) has been doing a great job as our VP of Youth Programs and we're very happy they decided to make the Council a family affair. I am also grateful to Ted Proulakis for taking on the important role of VP of Maritime Affairs and look forward to working with him and our military units over the coming year.

We are still in need of a Treasurer. If you or anyone you know, especially those with a financial, accounting, bookkeeping or QuickBooks background, can help the council in this critical role...please have them contact me as soon as possible. Let's also think outside of the Council and perhaps bring in new members who can help in this role.

President's Message (continued)

Speaking of which, we always need two things: New Members and Financial Donations. Our Council does great things supporting our youth and active/reserve units, and many of your friends and colleagues would probably enjoy being a part of our great works...so bring them to a meeting, get them to join and share the fun and pride! And of course, your contributions, easily made by clicking the top right button on our website, are always needed and appreciated.

I'd like to highlight one of many website improvements made over the past year. If you haven't visited the site in a while, please check it out at www.pbcnl.org. One of the more recent and important changes is that we no longer use PayPal as our payment gateway. There is now a much cleaner and more professional event registration and credit card processing system in place, and during January we'll be adding a Ships Store, where you'll be able to buy Council shirts and other logo merchandise.

Thank you for being a valued member or friend of our Council. Until I see you next, I wish you and yours a very safe, happy, and healthy holiday season and look forward to seeing you at all of the activities we have planned for 2024!

Very respectfully,

Click Here to Donate

Jeff Leibowitz, President

COUNCIL ACTIVITY SURVEY

As the Navy League continues to grow and evolve, it's vital to ensure that our activities and events align with the current interests and preferences of our members. To help us achieve this, we are conducting a short 10-question Council Activity Survey to gather valuable input directly from you. It will provide insights into the types and scheduling of events, as well as your budget and travel

preferences.

Your feedback is crucial in shaping our 2024 activities and beyond. We want to do our best to provide Council Members with the most enjoyable, meaningful and accessible programs and events possible. Please visit our website homepage at www.pbcnl.org and scan down to find the Survey. Your input is very important...so please complete the survey at your earliest convenience.

From Our Cadets



Marli Wilhoit is a 16-year-old high school junior, a C/Ensign in the RPBHS NJROTC Program, and the Lead Petty Officer for the Jupiter Langley Squadron Sea Cadet Unit. I wanted her to share her story with our Council as Marli is one of the most dedicated, confident, young women I've met through our Youth Programs. Her resilience and ambition are amazing, and I hope you will support her. Thank you, Leslie Leibowitz

My story starts back when I first joined Sea Cadets. This was the spring of 2021. I was 13 and had just completed my 2nd degree black-belt at an old-school martial arts dojo, and was transitioning from 9 years of fighting and grappling to Sea Cadets. My confidence was running high. Even before I went to my first drill, I had studied all the knowledge, knew all the movements, and thought I was most capable, even without any experience. Fast forward a couple months and I'm off to Recruit Training at Camp Blanding, with the same "full of myself" attitude.

Now of course, RT is no easy feat, no matter who you are, and eventually the toll of being under that much pressure started to get to me. During one of the hardest days, I held the hand of one of the people in my division for support, and just like that I was sent home. I hadn't prepared myself like I should've, and because of that, it caused me to break one of the most blatantly obvious rules of the training.





The Palm Beach Council supports seven sea service youth groups, including:

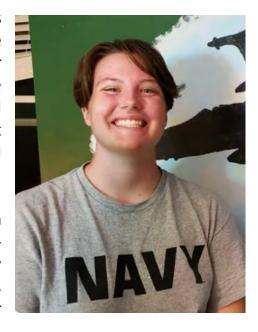
- Naval Sea Cadet Corps American Veterans Division
- Naval Sea Cadet Corps Jupiter/Langley Squadron (AC-3/CV-1)
- Navy JROTC Palm Beach Gardens High School
- Navy JROTC Royal Palm Beach High School
- Marine JROTC Palm Beach Lakes High School
- Marine JROTC Boynton Beach High School
- Young Marines of the Palm Beaches

From Our Cadets



As I was waiting for my dad to come pick me up, the same thoughts were replaying in my head over and over. "How am I going to face my unit? How am I ever going to be able to show my face at another training ever again? There's no point in staying in Sea Cadets, I've messed up too badly." Eventually, after I had gotten picked up and my mind had settled, I was able to think about it more. I was not going to give up. This was still something I was good at, and it would weigh on me even harder later if I just quit.

So for the next 6 months, I trained everyday to get ready for RT in the winter, and before I knew it I was at Camp Geneva for my doover. There would be no messing it up. This time I worked with my teammates in a way that benefited both of us. I would share my tips and tricks that I had picked up, and we would all give each other mental strength. At the end of the training, I was awarded Honor



Cadet by the CO of the training, and I was able to go back to my unit, not just with success, but with an award that would shine on everyone who had supported me.

After RT, I turned my focus to aviation. Sea Cadets had partnered with Women in Aviation to offer a training that allowed me to do the ground school for my Private Pilot's License in Key West! That sparked a love for flying, and it clicked with me. I wasn't going to waste the hundreds of dollars Sea Cadets had spent on me, so I started to pursue flight lessons and create a blog about my experiences throughout Sea Cadets, so that other people in my generation can become aware of the opportunities that are out there.

I am sharing a link so you can <u>Click Here for My GoFundMe</u> page, and I ask that you support my journey to becoming an official teen aviator.

The Palm Beach Council supports seven sea service youth groups, including:

- Naval Sea Cadet Corps American Veterans Division
- Naval Sea Cadet Corps Jupiter/Langley Squadron (AC-3/CV-1)
- Navy JROTC Palm Beach Gardens High School
- Navy JROTC Royal Palm Beach High School
- Marine JROTC Palm Beach Lakes High School
- Marine JROTC Boynton Beach High School
- Young Marines of the Palm Beaches

Science Fair



PALM BEACH REGIONAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

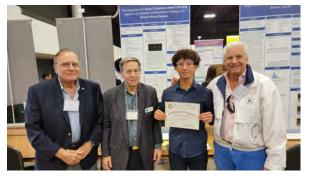
Navy League to Participate in Judging Science Fair Contestants

This year's Palm Beach Regional Science and Engineering Fair will be held on January 20, 2024 according to Navy League Board member Charles Zambrano. The event will be located at The Safe Schools Institute in Boca Raton. Students from area Middle and High schools will be submitting projects with an eye to becoming one of approximately 45 winners who will go on to become finalists at the Florida State Fair. The Palm Beach Council of the Navy League has offered to participate as judges for the various categories of competition.

The Fair encourages students to explore science and develop sound research techniques. Zambrano notes the difficulty in judging which student projects will become winners due to the overall completeness and sophistication of the work put in by these students. These are the students that will pursue other Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) endeavors including future projects, explorations, and jobs using sound Research techniques they learn from participating in the Fair.

The mission of the Navy League STEM Institute is to generate interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in the minds of America's middle and high school youth (grades 6-12). The Navy League has established an internal grant program under the Institute to fund existing and new STEM programs proposed by local Navy League councils. Our Council has committed \$2,000 for four \$500 scholarships for those we select as winners. Call or text Charlie Zambrano at (914) 645-2101 if you'd like to participate as a judge.









Military Affairs



The board welcomes Ted Peroulakis as our newly elected Vice President of Maritime Affairs. Ted joined our Council in 2021 and has attended many of our luncheons over the past five years. Ted also serves as a council director and will bring much talent and dedication to his new VP role.



A fire truck carrying none other than jolly old Saint Nick pulled up to the Navy Reserve Center to the wild cheers of many children on Saturday, December 2nd, where coincidently, the officers and sailors of the Navy Reserve Center held their annual Holiday Party. Santa posed for pictures and handed out toys to the delight of all. Deepfried Turkey with all the trimmings, and a wide assortment of cakes, cookies, and candies were plentiful and eagerly consumed. Afterward, a couple of Santa's elves, Council President Jeff Leibowitz and Larry Caruso, handed out 14 Sailors of the Quarter and Sailors of the Year awards to some very deserving sailors.









- Navy Reserve Center, West Palm Beach
- 4th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (4th ANGLICO) Marine Corps Forces Reserve
- Atlantic Undersea Test & Evaluation Center (AUTEC), Andros Island, Bahamas
- U.S. Coast Guard Station Lake Worth Inlet
- USS Florida Adopted Ship

Picture Gallery



October 5th WPBF TV Studio Tour

Council members visited the WPBF TV Studio and watched the live production of the News at Noon newscast, followed by a lunch at Tommy Bahama Marlin Bar.



WPBF TV - Interviews Council Members on Veterans Day

Phil Dunmire, Larry Caruso, Jerry Nelinson, Rod Dorilás, and Denise Rousseau.



December 9th - Army/Navy Game Viewing Party Irv Silver, Dick Ray, and Charlie Zambrano



- Navy Reserve Center, West Palm Beach
- 4th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (4th ANGLICO) Marine Corps Forces Reserve
- Atlantic Undersea Test & Evaluation Center, Andros Island Bahamas (AUTEC)
- U.S. Coast Guard Station Lake Worth Inlet
- USS Florida Adopted Ship

Picture Gallery



October 14th – Navy's 247th Birthday Celebration Luncheon, Carmines La Trattoria





















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Picture Gallery



November 4th – Navy SEAL Museum and Annual SEAL Muster, Fort Pierce
A busload of Council members saw a fascinating demonstration by the Navy SEALs at their annual muster and had time to also visit the Navy Seal Museum.



December 3rd – The Council's Annual Meeting and Holiday Party, PGA Resort

Members celebrated the start of the holiday season with a delicious brunch and a fascinating presentation by Dale Jenkins, who shared highlights from his new and highly acclaimed book
Diplomats & Admirals. Our members filled tables with toys to support the
Marine's Toys-for-Tots collection.



- Navy Reserve Center, West Palm Beach
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Updates From Our Members



USS Jack H Lucas Commissioned in Port Tampa

The USS Jack H Lucas (DDG 125), a new Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, was commissioned in Tampa, Florida, on October 7, 2023. Named after the youngest WWII Medal of Honor recipient, Pfc. Jack Lucas, the ship symbolizes American resilience and valor. The commissioning was attended by dignitaries, the ship's widow sponsor, and our Council board members Jerry Nelinson and Catherine Brister. This first-of-its-kind destroyer, equipped with advanced air and missile defense systems, represents a significant technological advancement in the U.S. Navy's fleet.



Jerry Nelison and CO USS Jack C. Lucas CAPT Brett Oster, COMMANDING OFFICER, USS JACK H. LUCAS (DDG 125)





Read the full article in SeaPower Magazine

https://seapowermagazine.org/uss-jack-h-lucas-commissioned-in-port-tampa/

The Battleship USS IOWA (BB 61) and Jerry Nelinson

In a moving article, Jerry Nelinson recounts his lifelong connection with the USS IOWA (BB 61), an iconic American battleship. His story begins in 1942 when, as a 17-year-old high school senior, he received an invitation to witness the USS IOWA's launching in New York. This event, costing him only 10 cents for travel, left an indelible mark on him, fueling a deep-seated admiration for the vessel.



Jerry's journey with the USS IOWA spanned decades, starting with his service in World War II as a member of the United States Coast Guard. After reading about the USS IOWA being awarded the Battenberg Cup, his memories of the battleship were rekindled, and he contacted the commanding officer of the ship. The sharing of his story and his offer to donate his cherished launching ticket to the ship's archives resulted in being invited to a celebratory dinner for the ship's crew. There Jerry presented his ticket, now a part of the USS IOWA's historical collection in Los Angeles. He also had the opportunity to tour the battleship, seeing the bathtub used by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

There is much more to this fascinating connection between Jerry and the USS IOWA and its resting place in Los Angeles, now as a museum ship at the Pacific Battleship Center. His article poignantly captures the essence of a naval legacy and personal reminiscence, intertwined with a significant piece of U.S. maritime history.

For the full story of Jerry Nelinson's unique bond with the USS IOWA click here to read or download the complete article.

2024 Save the Dates!



January 21st WPTV-TV Station Tour

2:45pm – 3:30pm Studio: 1100 Banyan Blvd. West Palm Beach

January 21st Members 2024 Kickoff Cocktail Party

4pm – 6pm Meat Market Steakhouse, 191 Bradley Place, Palm Beach

February 3rd Council Luncheon

11:30am – 1pm Feature Guest Speaker - Rear Adm., USN Peter A. Garvin,

President, U.S. Naval War College, BallenIsles Country Club

Council Board Meetings 11:30am – 1pm at BallenIsles Country Club

January 9th

February 13th

March 12th

April 9th

May 12th



Subject to change with notice. Stay tuned for more 2024 dates!

Customized Council Shirts

A Palm Beach Council Fundraising Offering



Men & Ladies Shirts

| Shirt #1 Short-Sleeve Golf/Polo @\$45 Men-or- Ladies White-or- Navy Blue S M L XL | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| - or - ☐ Long-Sleeve Dress @\$75 ☐ Men-or-☐ Ladies ☐ White-or-☐ French Blue ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL | | | | | | | | |
| Embroidery Line #1 @\$12 (if any): | | | | | | | | |
| Embroidery Line #2 @\$18/both lines (if any): | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ Pick-Up at Council Event = Free ☐ Ship vis USPS Priority Mail = \$10 Total for Shirt #1 = \$ | | | | | | | | |
| Shirt #2 Short-Sleeve Golf/Polo @\$45 Men-or- Ladies White-or- Navy Blue S M L XL | | | | | | | | |
| - or - ☐ Long-Sleeve Dress @\$75 ☐ Mensor-☐ Ladies ☐ White-or-☐ French Blue ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL | | | | | | | | |
| Embroidery Line #1 @\$12 (if any): | | | | | | | | |
| Embroidery Line #2 @\$18/both lines (if any): | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ Pick-Up at Council Event = Free ☐ Ship vis USPS Priority Mail = \$10 Total for Shirt #2 = \$ | | | | | | | | |
| Total for Order = \$ Paying by: ☐ Credit Card ☐ Debit Card ☐ Check ☐ Cash | | | | | | | | |
| Name DL Member Duest | | | | | | | | |
| E-Mail Phone | | | | | | | | |
| Mailing/Shipping Address | | | | | | | | |
| Credit/Debit Card #: Expires: | | | | | | | | |
| Name on Card: Billing Zip: Security #: | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Tax-Deductible Contribution (if any): \$ Signature: | | | | | | | | |

Send orders to: Palm Beach Council NLUS, 6963 Wilson Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33413

Invite your friends to join us and support our mission.



NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

PALM BEACH COUNCIL

☆ CITIZENS IN SUPPORT OF THE SEA SERVICES ☆
www.pbcnl.org

Do More Than Just Say
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- Civilians, Active/Reserve and Veterans of All Services Welcome!
 - Just Bring Your Desire To Help Those Who Serve, and Area Youth
- Help Support Palm Beach County...
 - Youth Programs That Build Character, Capability & Confidence
 - o U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps
 - Young Marines
 - NJROTC, MCJROTC and ROTC
 - o Help Develop Future Military, Business & Community Leaders
 - Palm Beach County Military Installations, Personnel and Families
- Welcome & Tour Visiting Ships
- Host & Help Visiting Service Men & Women
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 - Annual Printed/Mailed Almanac

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Join Today at: www.pbcnl.org

Tax-Deductible Contributions Also Appreciated – For Cadets, Active & Reserve Military, and more...

Go to https://navyleaguepalmbeach.org/donate/ to sponsor or contribute.

Invite your friends to join us and support our mission.

Join the Palm Beach Council TODAY!!! www.pbcnl.org

The Navy League was established at the request of Theodore Roosevelt, who said: "It seems to me that all good Americans interested in the growth of their country and sensitive to its honor, should give hearty support to the policies which the Navy League is founded to further. For the building and maintaining in proper shape of the American Navy, we must rely on nothing but the broad and farsighted patriotism of our people as a whole."

Navy League of the United States Citizens in Support of the Sea Services

Membership Application

| ☐ Mr. | ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Other ☐ Rank (if any) | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----------------------|--|--|--------------|-----------------------|
| First: | - 200 | Last | | | | Suffix: |
| Address: | | | | City: | | |
| | | | | - 44 | | |
| Mobile P | hone: | | Work | or Home Phone: | | |
| If Active/ | Reserve/Veter | an/Former Cade | et: (check all that a | ipply) | | |
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| FREE Mer | mbership: □ Activ | ☐ Credit Card | t Mentor Cad | et Officer/Instructor | □ Cash | Parent □ Former Cadet |
| Name on | Card: | | | Billing Zip: | | Security #: |
| Members | hip Type (choose | one): 🗆 \$55 Pren | nium Membershi | (includes Magazine | es & Almanac |) \$25 E-Membership |
| Additional | Tax-Deductible | Contribution (if a | any): | Signature: | | |
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| | the part and the first property of the party of | | the second secon | West Palm Beach, FL embership - Just \$25/yea | | Palm Beach Council |
| Help us supp | oort and serve our uni | formed service membe | rs by providing a tax- | deductible donation | | 15 |

www.pbcnl.org

You can join the Navy League in-person, online, by phone, or by visiting the National Headquarters.

To join now, visit: http://www.navyleague.org/join-us/individual-membership or mail this form as per above.

Navy League National Headquarters * 2300 Wilson Blvd. * Arlington, VA 22201 Phone 703-

To learn more about the Navy League of the United States, visit the our website at www.pbcnl.org.

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