The Fleet Sheet

Mayport Florida Council
Vol. 14 No. 4

Navy League of the United States
April 2013

From the Bridge

Ahoy - Mayport Navy League Shipmates!

They tell me that Spring is here - I am ready - are you!

We have a great line up for the Spring months - 18 April will be our Navy Focus Dinner at Ocean Breeze honoring the Mayport Aviation and Shore Sailors of the Year with Admiral Harris as our keynote speaker. If you have not met or heard Admiral Harris - fasten your seat belts - he is one of the most engaging people I have ever met! 25 April will be our Cook Out with Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville - always a fun afternoon with some right-fine burgers, dogs and some cool drinks! Mark 16 May on your schedule - Our Corporate Member Tulsa Welding School and our Community Affiliate Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home have generously underwritten the cost of renting the Jacksonville Museum and History Park for our May "dinner" - and our speaker is the superb Emily Lisska - the Executive Director of the Jacksonville Historical Society. Emily and I are working on the focus of her remarks - we are thinking about the role that Jacksonville played in World War II. Did you know that about 30,000 gunners were trained at the Yellow Water facility here? I found that out - wonder if Emily knows about it? The June dinner will be a different event, too! Our VP for Education - Programs, Rick Costner, is working to have that event at the Mayport Helicopter hangers - still working the details of that event - looking for a little "hands on" stuff!

Please remember that on Friday, 17 May, the Naval Station and the First Coast Commandry of the Naval Order will mark the 26th anniversary of the Iraqi attack on USS Stark with a memorial ceremony at the Naval Station Mayport Memorial Park. We lost 37 of our Mayport Sailors and it is a very good thing to gather together to remember them and support the families!

From the Bridge -Cont'd from page 1

1 June is the Annual Battle of Midway Dinner at the Renaissance Resort at the World Golf Village. The focus remains on the Midway Veterans, however, as you know we have expanded the evening to include all Veterans and POWs. Some great displays, great music, and the keynote speaker is Admiral Gortney - Commander, Fleet Forces Command. I will be going out again this year to raise money to support the attendance of any Wounded Warrior (and spouse/significant other) who is enrolled at the Jacksonville Campus of Wounded Warrior Project (2 tickets and hotel room - I don't want them to party and drive back up I-95!) This is truly a healing opportunity for these wonderful patriots - the package this year is $220.00. This one, I handle personally - so contact me!

Now that is all about what we are doing...now to the budget issue that has caused such turmoil in the Services over the past months.

On 21 March, the House of Representatives passed the Senate-amended version of H.R. 933, the "Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013," by a vote of 318 to 109, clearing the measure for the President's signature. The Senate passed the amended bill on 20 March by a vote of 73 to 26.

This is the final Congressional act in the Fiscal Year 2013 (FY 2013) appropriations process, which funds government departments and agencies through September 30, 2013. The Congress will now begin consideration of the FY 2014 funding and authorization bills for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2013.

The compromise bill agreed to by both the House and the Senate fully funds major Navy shipbulding programs. Advance procurement is added for an additional Virginia-class Submarine and continued LPD-17 class amphibious production. An additional DDG-51 destroyer is fully funded and funding is provided above the request for the National Defense Sealift Fund. The Navy's Operation and Maintenance account is funded at $7.5 million above the FY 13 request and more than $3.4 billion above the FY 12 enacted amount. The Coast Guard Vessels acquisition account includes more than $200 million above the amount requested in the President's budget. The sixth national Security Cutter (NSC) is fully funded and Advanced Procurement (AP) is included for the seventh NSC. The Compromise bill also funds the Procurement of six Fast Response Cutters (four more than the President's request) and includes funding for the Offshore Patrol Cutter and a new Polar Icebreaker.

The process was certainly disturbing as well as damaging to the moral and trust of our Sea Service personnel. As passed, this H.R. 933 sets things back on the right course - however, the cancelled maintenance availabilities, training programs and the loss of skilled work force personnel in the private sector will take time to recover. There will be unseen costs in regaining a quality output and schedule as contracts for maintenance are reactivated and work forces are rehired - all totally unnecessary!

Dig, understand and then tell your national representatives what you think of this budget process that our Congress and Administration have put on the shoulders of our Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Merchant Mariners - and our supporting private companies! **Are we all in?**

George Huchting
President - Mayport Navy League

Coast Guard Dinner March 22, 2013

Coast Guard Recognition Dinner and Honoring the Coast Guardsman of the Year - Sector Jacksonville

Thanks to super work by our Don Mooers, on Friday, 22 March, your Mayport Council joined with the Propeller Club of Jacksonville to host a joint dinner with the focus on our local Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville and honoring their Coast Guardsman of the Year.
The dinner was moved from the traditional Thursday to Friday to accommodate Admiral Baumgartner - Coast Guard District 7 in Miami. However after Admiral Baumgartner had accepted, the sequestering of the national budget hit and the Admiral had to cancel his trip up to Jacksonville! Jumping into the breach - Sector Jacksonville Commanding Officer, Captain Tom Allan, and his team put together a superb presentation - actually a case study - on a recent boating incident in which debris, life jackets and one body were discovered off of Jacksonville. It was a super example of how something moves from Search and Rescue to the investigative and detective work to identify the boat, the people who may have been on it and the cause of the tragedy. Commander James Rush, USCG, presented the Search and Rescue actions involved upon the sighting of the debris and oil sheen - a lot of assets were employed from Jacksonville and aircraft from up and down the coast. Commander Marie Byrd, USCG, discussed the prevention work she leads to head off such incidents and then the investigative work she heads up to bring to light the facts and the causes. This was an incident we all watched on TV - the floating deck piece and then figuring out it was a recently purchased used boat on the way south to Miami for outfitting, with 4 "souls" on board. Many thanks for this detailed and most interesting presentation -we learned a lot. When Captain Allan said his team would put to gather an evening for us that would be "insightful and entertaining" he was, as usual, spot on!

After the presentation, we Honored Petty Officer First Class Brian Antel from the Aids to Navigation Team in Jacksonville.Captain Allan shared with us the many reasons for this fine young professional's selection. Our Betty Howard and her team did a super job and the tailored Coast Guard Scrap Book with all the gift certificates was presented to Petty Officer Antel and his wife Amber. We were also privileged to have Amber's parents, Mr and Mrs Hale with us for the evening - wonderful family event. The Antel's cousin was at home with the Antels three children: Mrrick (9), Maelynn (7) and Makenna (1).

Remember - our Mayport Sea Sailor of the Year was from Russia and our Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville Petty Officer Antel hales from Australia! **There must be something really "right" with our country - we get the very best** coming to our shores and our Sea Services!

April Dinner Meeting Guest Speaker

REAR ADMIRAL SINCLAIR M. HARRIS
COMMANDER OF U.S. NAVAL FORCES SOUTHERN COMMAND AND U.S. 4TH FLEET
APRIL DINNER MEETING GUEST SPEAKER

Rear Adm. Harris is a native of Washington D.C. He is a 1981 graduate of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. His early sea assignments include tours in USS *Long Beach* (CGN 9), USS *Vincennes* (CG 49), USS *Jarrett* (FFG 33), USS *Coronado* (AGF 11), and as commissioning executive officer in USS *Benfold* (DDG 65). He commanded USS *Comstock* (LSD 45) during Operation *Enduring Freedom* and Amphibious Squadron 4/*Iwo Jima* Strike Group during humanitarian assistance and disaster relief - Hurricanes *Katrina*/*Rita* in 2005 and non-combative evacuation operation of Lebanon in 2006.

Ashore, Harris' assignments include tours in the Washington-area at the Institute for National Strategic Studies in the National Defense University; the Navy staff in the Assessment Division (OPNAV N81) Campaign Analysis, Modeling and Simulation branch; and the Joint Chiefs of Staff (J-5) Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate as the Global Security Affairs Division chief for Security Assistance. He was a senior fellow in the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group (SSG XXVI). In May 2008, Harris returned to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as the deputy director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (OPNAV N85B). He was assigned as the commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 5 from 2009 to 2010 providing Foreign Disaster Relief during the Pakistan Floods of 2010. Harris then served on the Chief of Naval Operations staff as the director, Navy Irregular Warfare Office/Future Concepts from 2010 to 2012. Harris now serves as Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet.

Harris earned a Master of Science degree in Operations Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1989 and is a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va. He also earned a Master of Arts degree in Defense and Strategic Studies from the University of Madras, India's Defense Services Staff College in Tamilnadu, India.

Harris' decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various other unit and campaign awards.

The Players Tickets and Birdies for Charity

CHIP IN FOR YOUTH TICKETS: Time is getting short to get your discounted tickets for the Players Championship (May 6-12). We have any one day tickets available for $40 each – the same ticket is being sold at Publix for $58! And the best part, $25 of each ticket sold comes back to us to support our youth programs at Mayport Navy League. The remaining $15 is donated by The PGA Tour to the First Tee Foundation – so all of your $40 goes to charity. Tickets will be available at the April Dinner Meeting or call Patti Burger, 834-3784, **GBBPLB@aol.com**.

Our **BIRDIES FOR CHARITY** campaign is underway!! You may donate online by visiting **www.birdiesforcharity.playerschampionship.com** and selecting "Mayport Council of the Navy League" as your charity. You may also use the donation form you received in the mail recently. Please return the completed form with your donation to Mayport Navy League. The individual who guesses the exact number of birdies made (or closest thereto) at the 2013 PLAYERS will **win $5,000.** In addition, if you win, the Mayport Navy League will also receive $5,000. In the event of a tie, a tie-breaker question will be used to determine the winner. (Helpful hints for making your guess are located on the back of the donation form.) All monies raised in our name go directly to support Mayport Navy League.

For our Council only: The person who contributes through Mayport Navy League with a **minimum donation of $50** and who comes closest to guessing the exact number of birdies made during the tournament will win a round of golf for two on the Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass – the course the pros play during THE PLAYERS! Contact Patti Burger, 834-3784, **GBBPLB@aol.com,** with questions or for more information.

ALS Walk - 2013

As many of you know, our Past President Dave Van Saun fought a heroic battle with ALS with his wife, Doris as his primary care giver. Dave lost his battle with ALS 17 November 2012.

For several years, our Mayport Council has joined the Jacksonville annual ALS Walk, under the banner of Captain Dave's Team, to raise funds for research to defeat this awful disease.

This year we are again joining this most worthwhile effort - Saturday, 6 April starting at Seven Bridges Grille and Brewery parking lot (9735 Gate Parkway, Jacksonville, FL 32246 - by the intersection of Gate Parkway and Southside Blvd - Tinseltown Theater).

Check in starts at 8:30 AM and the walk begins at 10 AM. The walk is 2 miles among a residential area and along beautiful tree lined street. The emphasis in on the word "walk" - some of us take it at a nice stroll pace!

Call Debbie Herrera, 288-1901 for more information,
Many thanks for your support in finding a cure for the truly awful disease! Hope to see you there!

Calendar of Coming Events

2nd Wednesday	Every month -
	Monthly mixer - Culhane's Irish Pub - 5 to 7 p.m.
April 2nd -	Board of Directos Meeting - 4 p.m.
	Queens Harbour - All are welcome!
April 6th -	ALS Walk - Captain Dave's Team
	Check in 8:30 a.m. -walk begins at 10 a.m.
April 18th -	Sailors of Year Awards
	ADM Snclair M. Harris, Guest Speaker
	Commander of U.S.Naval Forces
	Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet
April 10th	Mixer - Culhane's rish Pub - 5 to 7 p.m.
	Ocean Breeze - Naval Station Mayport
April 20th -	Florida Region Nominating Committee
	Tampa at the Intercontinental Hotel
June 1st	SAVE The DATE
	Tickets for the Battle of Midway are available now.
	See insert for more information
June 5th	Navy League Night at the Alhambra Theater

Mayport Sea Cadet is an Eagle Scout!

Our Sea Cadet Sean Luttrell was one of three local Boy Scouts to be presented with his Eagle Scout Award at a 9 March Court of Honor held at the South Beach Park Community Center in Jacksonville Beach.
Sean is standing to the right of the US Flag. His Dad, Mike (also an Eagle Scout) is behind the flag.
Sean has earned 31 merit badges and is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow - Scouting's Honor Society!

Well Done, Sean!

Special Thanks to our Sponsors
for the Battle of Midway Dinner - 2012
It was a GREAT Success!

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News from the Sea Cadets

On March 16th our Mayport Sea Cadets had tour/ training on the USS Gettysburg. The Cadets broke up into groups at 3 stations. Each Station focused on a particularly training. The Cadets' first station dealt with Fire Suppression and Fire Safety

The second station dealt and taught how our sailors repair a broken pipe or waterline while at sea.

The 3rd station, a cadet's favorite! was a trip to the Command Information Center (CIC). Here the cadets got to participate with the sailors in a 45 minute simulated Training Scenario. The Scenario depicted the crew at sea leading to a hostile air, surface and submarine engagement.

The Gettysburg visit concluded with a tour of the bridge followed by chow at the Galley with the crew.

Thanks!

Mayport Naval Sea Cadets

The Mayport Sea Cadets will again be working a concession tent at TPC for the dates of May 11 & 12. This proved be a great fund raising opportunity last year as both Navy League Members and Sea Cadet Parents worked the tent earning over $1000. If you would like to work a 6 hour shift you will receive **Free** admission to the TPC, **Free** Parking at TPC and **Free** Food and Drink….along with a few breaks as needed.

If you are interested in volunteering your time or have questions about this event, please email Jim Young at jyoung2160@comcast.net or Mike Luttrel at islejumin@comcast.net

Thank you to our Corporate, Business and Community Affiliates

Corporate Members

Tulsa Welding School

Business Members

Ashford University

Community Affiliates

All Purpose Printing and Graphics, Inc.
Atlantic Eye Institute
BAE Systems SE - Mayport
CDI Government Services
Culhane's Irish Pub, Inc
Hampton Inn & Suites
Hornblower Marine Service (Mayport Ferry)
Navy Federal Credit Union
Oto Melara North America
Quinn Shalz A Family Funeral Home
Renaissance Resort At World Golf
Smart Pharmacy, Inc.

The Corporate Membership program is structured to help industry maintain a strategic position in front of key military, civilian defense, and homeland security decision makers. From Washington, DC programs to local events with our Councils nationwide, the Navy League can help enhance your company's brand and patriotic reputation among industry and military leaders alike.

Community Affiliate Memberships demonstrates a company's commitment to the local council and a desire to support and advance the objective and purpose of the Navy League. This membership is designed for companies whose business is primarily local rather than national in scope. Community Affiliate membership demonstrates your desire to support young people through our special youth programs and scholarships.

Council activities range from special military installation visits and ship tours or cruises to a wide variety of social events as luncheons or dinners during which members of the Sea Services are honored or presented with awards. Council members work together to foster common local interest and to promote maritime issues of national importance.

And along the way, we have a great time!

Calling all business -

Join up as Community Affiliates and
Support The Mayport Council and The Sea Services.
Community Affiliate membership is $400 per year.
Call Pat Pumphrey, 280-0941 for various levels of Corporate Membership.

Navy * Marine Corps * Coast Guard * Merchant Marine * Mayport Sea Cadets

Membership News

Don't forget -

Membership drive is still open.

Let Debbie Herrera know each time you send in a new member.

Winner will be announced at our June Dinner Meeting.

WELCOME -

Craig Honour transferred his membership to Mayport Council.

Welcome Craig!

Decommissioning of the USS Underwood

Bill and Betty Howard with Business Member Ashford University's Jim Olsen at the USS Underwood decommissioning ceremony on 8 March at Naval Station Mayport

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Type of Membership
(Please circle one)

One - Year Membership	$50.00
Two - Year Membership Save $20 over 1 year rate	$90.00
Three - Year Membership Save $25 over 1 year rate	$125.00
Life Membership - Age 55 & below	$1,000.00
Life Membership - Age 56-75	$750.00
Life Membership - Age 76 & above	$500.00
Husband/Wife Membership	$85.00
Active Duty Spouse	$30.00

Membership Application

_____
Name (Mr., Mrs., Dr., etc.) First, Middle Initial & Last Name

_____
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Address Number, Street (Apt. Suite, P.O. Box)

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◯ Check enclosed (Make payable to NLUS) or

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"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."

----President Theodore Roosevelt (1905)

Mail your application to
NLUS, P.O. Box 2208, Merrifield, VA 22116-9958
or give to a Mayport Council Member

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ATTENTION ON DECK!

Please check out your Mayport Council's new website
located at:http://www.mayportnlus.org