2024

Mayport Navy League August Newsletter

President – Bob Whitkop (904) 900-8934 http://www.mayportnlus.org

Calendar of Events

August 4- U.S. Coast Guard Birthday

August 8 - Food Farmacy at 390 Mayport Rd 10- noon

August 15- MNL Social at the Jumbo Shrimp Baseball game

August 22- Food Farmacy at 390 Mayport Rd 2-4pm

September 1 - MNL BOD Meeting, Ocean Breeze Conference Ctr 6:30pm

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Email sent from MNL BOD Lee Wahler: Photo of the USCG Cutter Tampa (WMEC 902) as it transits the Florida Straits on Feb. 4, 2024, supporting Operation Vigilant Sentry. Tampa is homeported in Portsmouth, Virginia.
Photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer Brodie MacDonald

Happy Birthday Coast Guard

Today marks the 234th birthday of the United States Coast Guard. Today honors more than two centuries of dedicated service, resilience, and excellence that has defined its proud history.

On this day, 234 years ago, President George Washington signed the bill drafted by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton which authorized the construction of 10 cutters, a small fleet that would grow to become today's Coast Guard. This milestone serves as a powerful reminder of our enduring mission and values. It also provides an opportunity to emphasize a key priority for our future: strengthening our culture.

This year, USCG celebrates the 30th anniversary of its core values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. They remain the bedrock of its success, and the foundation for nurturing a positive, inclusive, and supportive culture necessary for our continued excellence.

The Coast Guard has evolved into an international force: a force for peace in a sometimes hostile world; a force for stability in uncertain times; a force for protection against agents that would do harm; a force of recovery in the wake of global threats. Today, Coast Guard personnel are deployed throughout the world, and the demand for our capabilities and skills only grows.

Happy 234th Birthday, U.S. Coast Guard!
Semper Paratus (always ready)!

The Mayport Navy League values membership volunteerism and support

Mayport Naval Sea Cadets Participate in Marine Corps Yellow Footprints Youth Program at Parris Island NC

Ten of our Mayport Navy Sea Cadets and 47 others from around the country spent 3 days for their summer training at Parris Island, where US Marines are made! The Naval Sea Cadets participated in the prestigious Marine Corps Yellow Footprints youth program from July 10-12. This event provided a unique and rigorous experience designed to instill discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills in young cadets.

The Yellow Footprints program is held at Parris Island S.C. where the cadets engage in physical training, team-building exercises, and leadership development sessions. Marine Corps leaders shared valuable insights about military life and the importance of dedication and perseverance.
Brian Kennedy, a former active-duty Marine and MNL Past President, accompanied the Mayport Sea Cadets and described the experience by saying, "There were three drill instructors assigned to the unit, and I can say from first-hand experience, the Cadets were cut no slack."

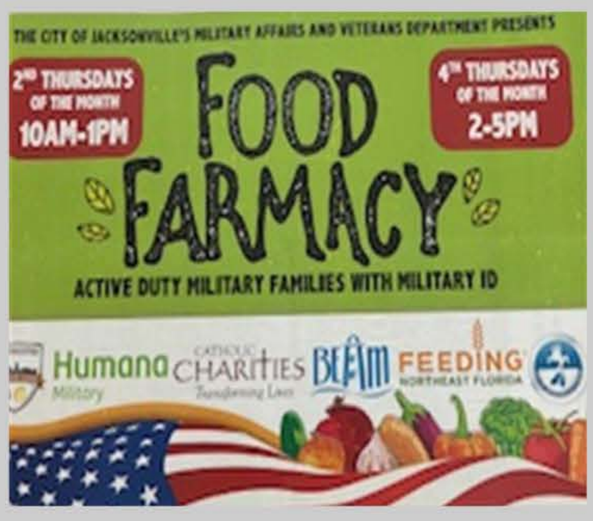
At the closing ceremony, the cadets were recognized for their achievements and received certificates of completion. Attending the ceremony were family members, friends, and Marine Corps leaders and instructors. Brian Kennedy summarized the experience saying, "From the yellow footprint opening reception, to watching a Marine Corps recruit company, and graduation ceremony on the Parris Island parade deck, our Sea Cadets experienced a taste of what it takes to become a US Marine."

In conclusion, upon arrival to Yellow Footprints, the Sea Cadets were asked how many were interested in a Marine Corps career and 13 hands went up. On the final day, they were asked the same question… and 14 hands were raised! Oorah!
For our Mayport Sea Cadets, the Yellow Footprints program was transformative and something they will remember for a long time.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to Brian Kennedy for volunteering time for this very memorable training evolution..

3rd Qtr SOQ Recognition Luncheon

On July 23rd at 11:30am, the Mayport Navy League hosted the 3rd Quarter Sailor of the Quarter luncheon at the Breeze Conference Center with over 150 attendees. Command Master Chief Derek Strickland was the Masters of Ceremony and Captain Brian Binder, Commander NAS Mayport, kicked-off the program. It was a wonderful ceremony with strong tenant command attendance to recognize their Sailors of the Quarter.



July 25th -Food Farmacy at the Fleet Reserve Association on 390 Mayport Road distributing food and Vystar Grant food gift cards to our Sailors and their families in heavy rain.
Pat Kluever, MNL Navy Liaison BOD, is shown giving out food cards.
Over 120 families were served.