



BULLHORN

Published Quarterly

VOLUME 50 ISSUE 4

Military Recognition Day Returns

The annual Margaret Flowers Civic Award Military Recognition Day (MRD) ceremony resumes after a two year hiatus due to COVID restrictions. The largest and most anticipated event of the Pensacola Navy League, MRD honors military members who have demonstrated significant community service. Honorees are nominated by their commands. Selection criteria is based on civic work in the community, leadership, rate proficiency and representation of appearance. Each nominee is recognized ceremoniously with one outstanding military community service leader selected for the prestigious Margaret Flowers Civic Award. Margaret Flowers was a retired civil service employee who left a legacy of service to both the U.S. Navy and the community.

This event will be held February 16th at 11:30am at the Pensacola Bay Center. Guest speaker is RADM Kyle Cozad, USN (Ret). RADM Cozad is the President of the National Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. Cozad, a native of Las Vegas, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Oceanography and Physics. He earned a Master of Science in National Resource Management, graduating with distinction, from the National Defense University's Eisenhower School. He also attended the Navy Corporate Business Course at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. His operational Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA) tours span all four MPR sites in Brunswick, Maine, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, Whidbey Island, Washington and Jacksonville, Florida. Cozad has served extensively as an instructor pilot in multiple operational tours and completed two tours with VP-30, the P-3 Fleet Replacement Squadron and one with the Canadian Air Force's 404 Squadron in Greenwood, Nova Scotia, as a CP-140 exchange instructor pilot. His shore tours include Navy Personnel Command as aviation commander and captain detailer; commanding officer, staff enlisted personnel; and executive assistant to the commander. He served as the 22nd senior director of the White House Situation Room and as a chief of naval operations fellow on the CNO's Strategic Studies Group.



OCT- DECEMBER 2022

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Newsletter and additional photos can be found on our webpage <http://pensacolanavyleague.org/>

Admiral Kyle Cozad is a superb example of triumph over adversity. He is the author of [RELENTLESS POSITIVITY: A COMMON VETERAN BATTLING UNCOMMON ODDS.](#)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CMDCM Mark Curley, USN (Ret), President, Pensacola Navy League



Happy New Year everyone!
As we close out a highly successful year of events that the Pensacola Navy League (PNL) hosted, participated and engaged in, we say "Thank you." We collectively salute all of our sponsors, members, local military units, community partners and civic organizations that made it possible to publicly recognize, thank and honor those who serve. We proudly supported our three Sea Services, the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard and Merchant Marines, along with our local Air Force and Army units.

On September 13th the PNL co-hosted the POW/MIA Recognition Luncheon with the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge Pensacola Chapter. The guest speaker was Hill Goodspeed, historian of the Naval Aviation Museum. He gave a great presentation, focusing on the individual inspirational stories of four different POW's.

As is the case every year, we always look forward to the Chicken BBQ Dinner. This year's event was a major hit with the PNL members, sponsors and the many military personnel and spouses who came together to break bread, socialize and enjoy an amazing barbeque dinner. Thank you to all the Chefs who out-did themselves, with the help of their secret elixir. I believe it's the Whiskey that's supposed to go into the BBQ sauce.

The annual Navy League Golf Tournament was held at AC Reed Golf Course onboard NAS Pensacola on October 7th. Naval Aviation Schools Command ran away with the trophy! This PNL fundraiser supports the Pensacola Navy Ball. Thanks go to Dean-o Fournier and Carla Cuilik for all of their hard work to make this tourney a success!

The Admiral's Club hosted the guest speaker series "Meet The Boss" on October 25th. We were all intrigued with the presentation given by Mr. Clark Merritt, Director of the Pensacola Port.

The council officially adopted the Coast Guard Cutters DAUNTLESS and DECISIVE. All five Coast Guard Cutters assigned to Pensacola, along with the Coast Guard Station and the Aids to Navigation Detachment have now been adopted by the Council.

The Port of Pensacola was also adopted during a ceremony held at the Port of Pensacola's Open House. I also presented the Port of Pensacola with the Bronze Sponsor recognition certificate. It was a great afternoon at the port with a lunch, followed by a tour of all of the port facilities. The day was very enlightening and was enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

We wrapped up our year with a grand celebration of the holidays at the Pensacola Yacht Club. RADM Peter Garvin, Naval Education & Training Command swore-in the new Board of Directors for 2023 in



BULLHORN NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly

**Pensacola Council
Navy League of the
United States**

P.O. Box 17486
Pensacola, FL 32522-7486
(850) 436-8552

Editor: Carol Z. Monroe
pensacol-

anavyleague@pensacolanavyleague.org or
monro122@erau.edu

reciting the Oath of Office.

While 2022 began with high expectations, it ends as we live up to those expectations. We will begin 2023 with grand anticipation of another year proudly conducting the business of the Navy League. Mark your calendar for the long anticipated Military Recognition Day Margaret Flowers Civic Award luncheon and ceremony, held February 16th at the Pensacola Bay Center. Due to COVID, this ceremony has been postponed since 2020. We hope to see everyone there! Check the Calendar of Events on page 17 for more important dates for the new year.

Together, let us again ensure this coming year is a success as we all support, not only the Sea Services and Merchant Marines, but all of the armed services in the greater Pensacola area. I look forward to working with all of you to make 2023 a grand year to remember. Thank you for all that you do in support of the Navy Leagues goals.

One way the Navy League supports the sea services is through unit and ship adoptions.

Navy League councils around the world provide personal support of units and ships from the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard and even adopt units from youth programs, such as the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, Navy League Cadet Corps and the Young Marines.

Navy League councils provide support through awards, invitations to attend events, financial support, scholarships, ship visits, emergency support, family support and more.

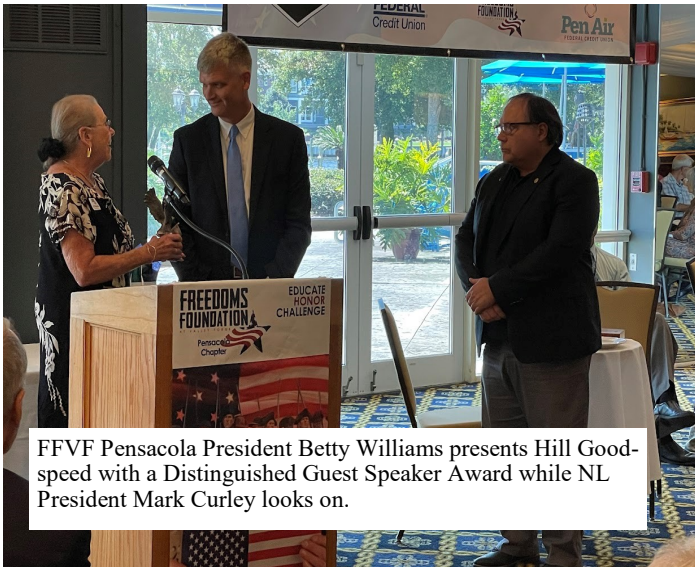
The Pensacola Navy League has officially “adopted” all of the five Cutters assigned to NAS Pensacola along with the Coast Guard Station and the Aids to Navigation Detachment. The most recent adoptions included the Coast Guard Cutters DAUNTLESS and DECISIVE and the Port of Pensacola.





POW/MIA Recognition

The 23rd Annual POW/MIA luncheon, hosted by the Pensacola Chapter Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge and the Pensacola Navy League, was held Tuesday, September 13th at Pensacola Yacht Club. Master of Ceremonies, CAPT J. Michael Denkler, USN (Ret) welcomed everyone including our local POW's. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by POW, CAPT Fred "Bill" Franke, Jr., USN (Ret). Chorister, Bonnie Buck, led the group in "God Bless America." CDR Mark Schmitt, USN (Ret) shared the Table of Remembrance, followed by "Tapps" played by bugler, Scotty Mills.



FFVF Pensacola President Betty Williams presents Hill Goodspeed with a Distinguished Guest Speaker Award while NL President Mark Curley looks on.

Guest speaker was Hill Goodman, Historian of the National Naval Aviation Museum. Mr. Goodspeed is a gifted storyteller, He is the author and/or editor of five books and also a contributing writer to two others. His works include U.S. Naval Aviation, which the Naval Institute Proceedings named one of the notable naval books of 2001. SKYLINE OF THE WORLD: YESTERDAY AND TODAY, was featured on the Today show. His numerous articles and book reviews have appeared in such publications as Proceedings, Naval History, Wings of Fame, International Air Power Review, The Journal of Military History, The Journal of Public History and Naval

Aviation News.

He has also provided historical commentary on the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), the Discovery Channel, the Smithsonian Channel and the History Channel.

He is the recipient of the 2012 Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge Meritorious Award for Public Communications and the 2014 Arthur W. Radford Award for Excellence in Naval Aviation History and Literature.

His powerful presentation chronicled in vivid detail the experiences of three past prisoners of war, all of whom particularly touched his heart.







Annual Membership Drive and Social

The Annual Pensacola Council Navy League barbecue and membership drive was held September 29th at the beautiful Pensacola Yacht Club. The casual barbecued chicken dinner is always a favorite event for the Pensacola Council. The guests feasted on chicken cooked by chefs Bobby Riggs, Don “DQ” Quinn, Harry White, Patty Veal, Buck Mitchell and others while enjoying great fun, camaraderie and a beautiful view. There is a rumor bourbon is involved in the cooking process, which may or may not have led to the superbly barbecued chicken. Unfortunately, heavy winds forced everyone inside this year, but our friends at the Yacht Club accommodated beautifully.



The Grilling Chefs de Cuisine



CAPT Terrence Shashaty, USN, CO of NASP speaks at the NL Chicken BBQ



NL President Mark Curley welcomes the guests.



GERMAN SQUADRON HOSTS OKTOBERFEST



The 2nd German Air Force Training Squadron (2nd GAF) is an integral part of the CTW-6 International Military Training program aboard NAS Pensacola. This anticipated event resumed after a 2 year hiatus due to COVID. The squadron imports beer, brats, pretzels and a band from Munich to share the most authentic Oktoberfest one could ask for. The tradition includes welcome remarks from the German Squadron CO and the tapping of the keg by the NASP CO CAPT Terrence Shashaty, USN. Prost!



By Dean-o Fournier, Event Chairman

The 3rd Annual Navy League and Marine Corps League Golf Tournament was held October 7th, 2022, with more than 80 golfers participating. Again, the weather cooperated providing a cool breeze with temps in the lower 80's and mostly clear skies on "The Cradle of Naval Aviation" A.C. Read golf course. The Navy League President, Mark Curley and the Commanding Officer of NAS Pensacola, CAPT Terry "Village" Shashaty, USN were our main cheerleaders for this event, leading the way with the opening remarks for the shotgun start.

Special thanks go to the NAS Pensacola MWR folks at A.C. Read, specifically newly appointed golf-pro Josh Meador and his team for making this tournament a success. 'Special thanks also to CAPT Ed "Cheech" Moreno, Commanding Officer of Naval Aviation Schools Command for volunteering six of his "stashed ensigns." They absolutely did a great job checking everyone in, setting up all the tee signs, monitoring the Hole-in-One's and taking hundreds of pictures.

For the second year in a row, out of the two par-3 Hole-in-One tries by everyone, we are still looking for the elusive Hole-in-One winner - maybe next year folks. Without the sponsors, the Hole-in-One wouldn't be even possible. Thanks to Pete Moore Chevrolet and Vertex Company.

The overall winners are:

- 1st *First on Site*: Anthony Eakle, Jack Tilley, Jarred Hunt, and Kyle Richmond
- 2nd *Amentum*: Jerry Stanbridge, Rich Murphy, Mike Pfitzner, and Dale Childress
- 3rd *MATSG "A" School*: Joe Vazquez, Spenser Brown, Slade Yawn, and Corey Jackson

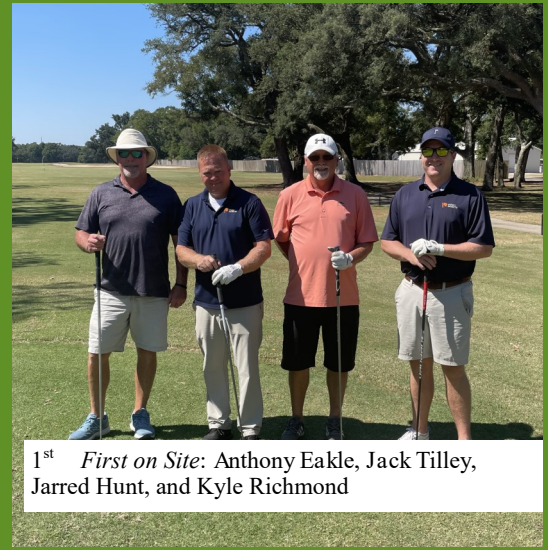
Command and Service winners (one team won both awards) *Naval Aviation Schools Command*: Kirk Tyler, Ryan Turley, Bob Leavitt and Rion Johnson. **Closest to the Pin** goes to David Derozzo, **Longest Drive** goes to Chuck Wood and **Most Accurate Drive** goes to Buck Mitchell. Congratulations to these dynamite players!

This year's tournament contribution was again incredible, providing more than \$5,000 to the Navy League and Marine Corps League, which in turn provided a donation of \$1,500 to the Navy Ball Committee "seed money" for the 2023 Navy Ball.

An overall special thanks to all the sponsors who made this event possible!!! Many "kudos" to our #1 major sponsor this year, Pen Air Federal Credit Union and a big thank you to our **Volunteers** (all from Naval Aviation Schools Command) ENS Ty Wrolson, ENS Bret Lundstrom, ENS Reagan Roelofs, ENS David Forbes, ENS William Doster, and WNS Brandon Walter. See you in 2023!



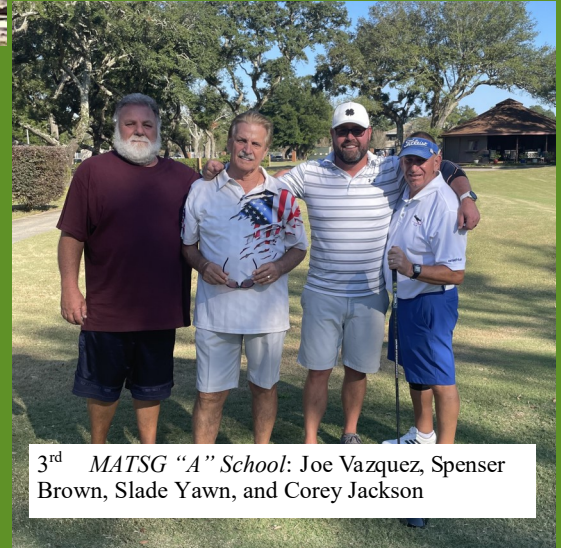
CAPT Terrence Shashaty, USN, CO of NAS Pensacola opens the tournament



1st First on Site: Anthony Eakle, Jack Tilley, Jarred Hunt, and Kyle Richmond



2nd Amentum: Jerry Stanbridge, Rich Murphy, Mike Pfitzner, and Dale Childress



3rd MATSG "A" School: Joe Vazquez, Spenser Brown, Slade Yawn, and Corey Jackson

Pensacola Navy League & Marine Corps Golf Tournament

PLATINUM SPONSORS

- Pensacola Beach (Island Realty)
- PenAir FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

GOLD SPONSOR

- Vertex

MAJOR SPONSORS

- amentum
- SkyWarrior
- LEONARDO
- FIRST COMMAND
- FLORA-DAMA LOUNGE, PACKAGE & OYSTER BAR

HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSORS

- Vertex aerospace
- PETE MOORE AUTOMOTIVE TEAM (WE ARE NOT IN CAR CITY!)

CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS

- McIntosh & Rouse (Tax and Accounting Services, 850.260.0505)
- Seville Quarter
- Vertex Dean-o-Fourier
- Daoine Enterprises, LLC

Admirals' Club "Meet the Boss" Speaker Series Concludes with Port Director



Port Director Clark Merritt speaks to the crowd.

The Admirals' Club hosted a "Meet the Boss" Speaker Series luncheon on October 25th at Pensacola Yacht Club.

Guest speaker was Clark Merritt, Director of the Port of Pensacola. A native of Pensacola, Clark discussed the tremendous revolution of the Port since his tenure. The port is northwest Florida's most diverse and business focused deep-water port. It is a full-service port offering services for all descriptions of special project cargo and offshore vessel Marine Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO). Merritt talked about how far the Port has come and his vision plan and investment strategy for the Port's future.

Clark Merritt is a graduate from the University of Florida and was commissioned in the U.S. Navy. He served on active duty with tours in tactical aviation squadrons, including combat operations during the Gulf War and as the maintenance officer for the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels). He retired from the Navy Reserves as a Commander completing over 21 years of service. He previously served as the Deputy Port Director after starting with the Port of Pensacola in 2013 as the Port Business Development Manager.



Distinguished guests, L-r, CAPT Scott Janik, USN (CO of Aviation Safety Officer School), CDR Evan Hipsly, USN (Ret), NL President Mark Curley, County Commissioner Robert Bender and District 1 Representative Michele Salzman



VADM Jeri Unruh, USN (Ret) serves as Emcee for the event



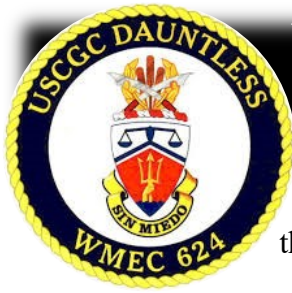
L-r, President Mark Curley with Clark Merritt and Pensacola Mayor Grover Robinson

NAVY LEAGUE GROUP TOURS THE PORT OF PENSACOLA

Several NL members enjoyed an Open House field trip at the Port of Pensacola that included a lunch, followed by a tour of all of the Port's facilities.

The Port of Pensacola was "adopted" by the Pensacola Navy League during a ceremony held during the Open House.

Port Director Clark Merritt was also presented with the Bronze Sponsor recognition certificate for the Port of Pensacola's sponsorship of the Pensacola Navy League.



USCGC DAUNTLESS EFFORTS RECOGNIZED

From Commander Ryan P. Devlin, USCG CGC DAUNTLESS to CAPT Matthew Meilstrup, USCG (Ret):

I wanted to give you an update of some recent accomplishments of our DAUNTLESS shipmates.

On December 12th, 2022, BM2 Kalie Jones was meritoriously advanced to BM1 by VADM Lunday at the Brooklyn Navy Yard (GMD). VADM Lunday, CMC DeMello, the LANTAREA Chaplain, and several others made a special trip to Brooklyn to advance BM1 Jones while the ship is in dry-dock.

Additionally, VADM Lunday informed the crew that DAUNTLESS was selected as the 2022 Hopley Yeaton Cutter Excellence Award winner for Medium Endurance Cutters, with DILIGENCE coming in close behind. Of note, BMC Llamas, my Command Chief, was nominated for the Superior Cutterman Award.

In 2022, during the Operation VIGILANT SENTRY phase elevation, USCGC DAUNTLESS interdicted 18 unseaworthy migrant vessels and held, processed, and repatriated 975 Cuban and Haitian migrants over 67 days in the Florida Straits and Windward Passage. USCGC DAUNTLESS upheld WMEC migrant holding standards despite operating short-staffed. USCGC DAUNTLESS was the first post-COVID-19 cutter to complete the full three-week TSTA, earning a 98% average drill score across 109 training evolutions and the Atlantic Area Overall Operational Readiness Award. During Operation UNIFIED RESOLVE, USCGC DAUNTLESS safely conducted a challenging and heroic rescue of 27 migrants from Monito Island in heavy surf conditions.

The winners will be recognized at the 2023 Surface Navy Association (SNA) National Symposium, which will be held in Washington, DC from January 10th-12th, 2023.

BIG CONGRATULATIONS to BM2 Kalie Jones and DAUNTLESS!



The recipients of the 2022 Hopley Yeaton Cutter Excellence Award were selected from amongst a highly competitive pool of nominees.

Cutter Excellence Award:

- (1) Large Cutter: USCGC MIDGETT (WMSL 757)
- (2) Medium Cutter: USCGC DAUNTLESS (WMEC 624)
- (3) Small Cutter: USCGC GLEN HARRIS (WPC 1144)

Christmas Dinner Dance

The Pensacola Council celebrated a great year at the Annual Christmas Dinner Dance held Tuesday, December 6th at Pensacola Yacht Club. President Mark Curley introduced distinguished guests and outlined the accomplishments of the year. The evening included the induction and swearing in of the newly installed Officers and Board of Directors for the Pensacola Navy League. RADM Pete Garvin, USN, Commander of Naval Education Training Command, swore in the new Board of Directors for 2023. Welcome aboard to new board members, Jacquie Gray, Meredith Jones and CAPT Thomas Daniel, USN (Ret). Guests enjoyed a wonderful meal and companionship along with music and dancing to the Jazzabouts Band.

Very special thanks to Jeri Blankenbeck and her committee for organizing this special event. Special thanks also to Pen Air Federal Credit Union for their sponsorship and continued support.







UPCOMING EVENTS

The Tall Ships America flotilla will enter Pensacola Pass April 27th –30th.

You will not want to miss this premier event for the city of Pensacola. The Tall Ships America flotilla is anticipated to feature six to ten tall ships that will amaze and inspire. *Mark your calendars for this incredible opportunity!*

The Juan Sebastián De Elcano Returns! In celebration of the Fiesta of Flags, this magnificent tall ship and her crew return to Pensacola to celebrate our city's heritage and enjoy the hospitality of the citizens of Pensacola.

Mark your calendars for May 29th – June 1st. There will be a welcome reception for the Captain and crew, hosted by the Pensacola Navy League and Seville Quarter in Phineas Phoggs, Seville Quarter on May 30th.

The *Juan Sebastián de Elcano* is a training ship of the Spanish Navy. It is a four-masted topsail, steel-hulled barquentine (schooner barque). At 371 feet long, it is the third-largest tall ship in the world.

Blue Angels Air Shows

- **When:** July 7-8 for Pensacola Beach show and Nov. 3-4 for the Homecoming show
- **Where:** Pensacola Beach and Naval Air Station Pensacola





JOIN THE PENACOLA NAVY LEAGUE

We welcome everyone to join our Pensacola Navy League and participate in our Council Events. Many of our activities offer both member and non-member prices. The non-member price option is for those not yet ready to join, but interested to see what the Navy League is all about. Additionally, Membership in the Pensacola Navy League offers perks to our members as a function of their level of membership. Examples of such perks include; invitations to free events, discounted tickets to special events, recognition, and more. In order to join and participate in the local Pensacola Navy League, membership with the National Navy League is a prerequisite. Visit our website for details and to join <http://pensacolanavyleague.org/members>

The categories of membership in the Pensacola Navy League are:

Regular Member – Any citizen of the United States desiring to support and advance the objective and purpose of the Navy League shall be eligible as a Regular Member. Active Duty members of any branch of the armed service persons are not eligible for membership while on active duty. Reservists are eligible for membership, but while on active duty are not eligible to vote or hold a Navy League office.

Honorary Member – Any outstanding person who has shown and expressed unusual interest in this Council and who has made significant accomplishments at local, regional, or national level of the Navy League shall be eligible for Honorary Membership upon unanimous approval of Council Members present at a regular monthly meeting. No dues shall be assessed against such Honorary Members. Honorary Members are privileged to take part in all social activities of the Council but shall not be eligible to vote or hold regular office in the Council.

Associate Member – Non- citizens may be Associate Members provided that they are proposed by a Council and not by an individual. An Associate Member shall be entitled to vote and hold office at the Council level, with the exception of serving as Council President. Current annual dues structure applies.

Guest Member – National Members who are not dues paying Local Members shall be designated as Guest Members. These members will receive invitations to local events but charged a higher cost than Regular Members. Guest Members shall also be eligible to receive the Bullhorn Newsletter via e-mail.

Spouse of Active Duty Personnel – Active Duty Spouses are eligible for either a FREE E-membership or a regular membership at a reduced rate; however, they may neither vote nor hold office. The offer of a free E-membership has been extended from 2020 until the end of 2021.

Community Affiliate Membership – Community Affiliate Membership is designed for companies whose business is primarily local rather than national in orientation, whose primary interest is in the activities and concerns of the local Council and desire to support and advance the mission and objectives of the Navy League. During each year of membership, a Community Affiliate Member may designate up to four (4) Regular Members, provided such Members are otherwise qualified. Designated members enjoy all the privileges of individual Membership including the right to vote and hold office.

Members in Good Standing - Members whose dues are current shall be considered Members in Good Standing, and shall have all resulting rights and privileges of membership including the right to vote and to serve as Council Officers and /or on the Council Board of Directors.

General - Each applicant for membership shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval. Upon approval, the Executive Secretary will provide the National Headquarters with appropriate documentation and national dues, if appropriate



AHOY NEW MEMBERS

ERIC J. CHERUBIN
JULIE B. CONNERLY
ERIC GLEASON
JACQUIE GRAY
MICHAEL HARBISON
SHARRON E. HARRIS
MEREDITH JONES
PHILOMENA MADDEN
OBIE POWELL
BRENDA RATKUS
MARC W. RATKUS
ROB WEBER
MEREDITH L. YEAGER



**The Navy League National Convention
2023 will be held in Dallas, Texas
June 7-11, 2023**



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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pensacola-Council-of-the-Navy-League-of-the-United-States/>

2022 Officers/Board of Directors Pensacola Navy League of the United States

OFFICERS	NAME	REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD
President	CMDCM Mark Curley, USN (Ret)	Sea Cadets LTJG Bob Hodges, USNSCC
1st Vice President	Mr. Edward Rouse	Military Liaison CMDCM Craig Forehand, USN
2nd Vice President	Mr. Tom Pace, Jr.	Admirals' Club Ms. Jeri Blankenbeck
3rd Vice President	CDR Evan Hipsley, USN (Ret)	Executive Secretary Ms. Carla Cuilik
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	Dr. Robert Dillard	CAPT Thomas Pruter, USN (Ret)
	Ms. Pamela Hatt	National Judge Advocate
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	Ms. Tiffany Joyner	President, Southern Region
	Mr. Stephen Luongo	CAPT Dan McCort, USN (Ret)
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	Ms. Carol Monroe	CCMDCM Michael Dollen, USN (Ret)
	RADM Donald P. Quinn, USN (Ret)	
	Mr. Bobby Riggs	
	CDR David Van Der Like, USNR (Ret)	
	Mr. Harry White	

Calendar Dates are Tentative



Admirals' Club

Join the Pensacola Navy League Admirals' Club to enjoy additional benefits and events while contributing to the mission of the Pensacola Navy League

Guest Speaker Series Events:

Standby for exact dates:

January

March

July

October

★ 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS ★

February 16
MRD Luncheon

March TBD
Symposium Social-Seville Quarter

April 20
Enlisted Appreciation Breakfast

May 11
Military Spouse Appreciation Luncheon

June 7-10
Navy League National Convention-Dallas

August 3/ August 18
Summer Social Membership Drive/Party
POW/MIA Recognition Luncheon

September 28
Chicken Barbecue

October 6
Annual Golf Tournament

November 3-4
Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show

December 5
Christmas Dinner Dance



CORPORATE SPONSORS



NAVY LEAGUE LOCAL GOLD SPONSORS



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RESPECT IS SOMETHING YOU EARN



At Pen Air Federal Credit Union respect is a guiding principle. We began in 1936 on board Naval Air Station Pensacola and have since expanded to Southeast Alabama and Northwest Florida. Combined with Online and Mobile Banking, we provide worldwide reach to serve all of our members wherever life may take them. Thank you for your service.

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