

# The Ship's Whistle



Dec 2020

An occasional e-mail bulletin of newsworthy information for Members of the **Massachusetts Bay Council**, Navy League of the United States and other friends of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. The Navy League is unique among military-oriented associations in that it is a civilian organization dedicated to the education of our citizens, including elected officials; and the support of the men and women of the sea services and their families.



Hanukkah is a Jewish festival known as the Festival of Lights commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. In the New Testament, it is referred to in John 10:22 as the Feast of Dedication.



We wish all to have healthy and happy holidays and a safe, healthy and better New Year!

## Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

As scheduled, the Annual Meeting was held by ZOOM 30 November. Re-elected for 2021 were the Officers and Board now listed on our website: [www.massbaynavyleague.org](http://www.massbaynavyleague.org). The Bylaws were amended to permit electronic meetings.



## A VERY BIG "THANK YOU"

to our members who have contributed to the Toys for Tots campaign. Over \$7000 worth were donated to the Marine Toys for Tots program. Some of the toys and games are pictured while awaiting pickup.

Co-Chairs Kryz Maksymowicz and Eleanor Samuels were assisted by Alison Belder, Jeb DeLoach, Wanda Maksymowicz and Ivan Samuels.



Pickup was made by SSGT Chris Hargo and SGT Jerald Everett, I&I Staff Det. 5 Maintenance Co. CLB 451, 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Logistics Group, Ayer, MA, (standing in truck). (l to r) Kryz, Eleanor, Wanda and Jeb.



(more toys waiting for pickup)



# Authorization for Second Virginia-Class Submarine Approved Thanks to Your Help

If you have attended any recent Navy League’s Legislative Affairs trainings or read any of our newsletters over the past two months, you know that a top priority of the Legislative Affairs efforts has been encouraging Congress to authorize a second Virginia-class attack submarine, as well as the Tanker Security Program in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Well, the NDAA Conference Report is finally out, and guess what? We won! Now we move on to making sure appropriations are passed to fund the military without any more partial year continuing resolutions.

The bi-partisan conference report soon to be signed into law authorizes the two boats that we have been fighting for these past several months, as well as a small fleet of U.S.-flag tankers to support the Navy. Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) gave a shout out to the Navy League for our efforts, saying the chairman’s work drew “support from sea service advocacy groups and labor unions including the Navy League, the Submarine Industrial Base Coalition, the International Association of Machinists and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IAMAW), and more.” We want to thank every one of our members who called, emailed or reached out to their members of Congress to convince them to make this happen. Our sea services have benefitted greatly from your actions. Thank you!

=====

The Ship’s Whistle is published by The Massachusetts Bay Council, Navy League of the U.S., 25 Dorchester Ave., P.O. Box 51662, Boston, MA 02205. To be removed from this mailing list, contact: Editor: Ivan Samuels at [go2navy@verizon.net](mailto:go2navy@verizon.net).

## Sea Cadet News



Vicky DaSilva, 17, leading drills at Camp Edwards for the Gosnold Division, NSCC. Photos by: Kate Robinson, the Dartmouth Week newspaper.

Chosen as the student leader, DaSilva is responsible for running drills, carrying out inspections, following orders from adult officers and directing her two squad leaders. Her plans include becoming a psychologist and serving in the Marine Corps. (Unit drills are usually at Mass Maritime Academy but moved to Camp Edwards due to Covid-19.

In November, the OTIS NOTICE ran a story about the Gosnold Division completing Recruit Training requirements this past Summer. Usually conducted at Ft. Devens, Covid-19 restrictions caused a move and Joint Base Cape Cod was able to host.

Training included physical fitness, military drill, fire-fighting, first aid, honor guard, knot tying and many more skills.

+++++

### Join the New Navy League Facebook Group

The new Navy League Facebook Group is an online community where our members from around the globe can connect and share with each other the many ways they support the sea services. Just follow this link to sign-up and join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/754492162035273>

The group is public so anyone can find it, but admission is private, so members will need to request to join the group. To request access, you must provide your name, member ID number. Any request received with incomplete answers will be declined.