



Winter 2023

The Ship's Whistle

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 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.

Belated Happy New Year!

Coming Events:

Underway Please Don't Come Luncheon (fundraiser for Youth programs)

March 30 Commissioning of USCGC Warren Deyampert (WPC-11510) in Boston (For an invitation, email TOMHJR@GMAIL.COM)

April 29 Sea Cadets Flagship Competition

May 6 Sea Cadet Awards event

November planned commissioning USS Nantucket (LCS 27) in Boston



[some of the 416 toys and games collected. Picked up by USMC SGTs Riviera and Castillo with Council VP Ivan Samuels assisting]

The Council's Fiftieth year of supporting the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program resulted in donating some 418 items to be distributed amongst needy families in Middlesex and Essex Counties. Thanks go to our Members who contributed over \$3600 for purchases and Chairs Eleanor Samuels and Krystyna Maksymowicz; with large numbers of toys from Jeb DeLoach' daughter, Tom Hennessey's wife; and purchased by super-shopper Alison (nee Samuels) Beader.

Annual Meeting

The council's Annual Meeting was held via ZOOM and the following officers and Board of Directors were elected for 2023:

President: Thomas Hennessey

Treasurer: Bob Powers

Clerk: John Tata

V.Ps.: Lauren Beagan, Harold Learson, John Learson, James McLoughlin, Paul Mahoney, Eleanor Samuels and Ivan Samuels

Board of Directors: All the above officers and Larry Allen, Stephen Boodakian, Paul Keane, Mary Jo Majors, Krystyna Maksymowicz, Reid Oslin, Stephen Schnitzer and Robert Shaughnessy.

SEA CADETS

CADET SWIM MEET A SUCCESS

In a return after a two-year hiatus, area Naval Sea Cadets and League Cadets from Gosnold Division on Cape Cod, Michael Murphy Division of Long Island and Naval Construction Battalion Center Division (NCBC) of Quonset, R I, competed in the Annual "All Regional Swim Meet" at Mass. Maritime Academy.

SEA CADETS



David G. Ouellet Division

Members leading the parade. The Division participated in Veterans Day events at Gloucester High school and at the American Legion post. The next day some cadets helped prepare meals for families in need at the Food Pantry.

CPA. We need a Certified Auditor willing to work pro bono on the Council's books.

Contact Tom Hennessey at tomhjr@gmail.com.

**Former Sea Cadet writes:
Stop Holding Recruits to One-Size-Fits-All
Standards. Yesterday’s approach won’t solve
today’s recruiting crisis—or win tomorrow’s
wars.**

By **LT. CMDR. STEWART LATWIN**, USN and **LT. COL. ERNEST CAGE**, USAF. Latwin is a former Sea Cadet Chief Petty Officer, Dealey Division, Naval Academy graduate 2008, a helo pilot and served on the CNO Staff.

“If the U.S. military is to attract highly tech-skilled recruits for modern warfare, its recruiting philosophies must evolve. “We need data scientists, coders and engineers as much as we need pilots, submariners and infantry,” the secretaries of the Army, Air Force, and Navy wrote in a *Wall Street Journal* [op-ed](#). But they are still recruiting under the old vision that every soldier needs to have the physical abilities of a frontline infantryman. The services need to let go of this antiquated requirement; they must also consider what billets can be better filled by Defense Department civilians.”

[The full article appears in DEFENSE ONE, Feb. 8, 2023, <https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2023/02/stop-holding-recruits-one-size-fits-all-standards/382719/>]

AWARDS



Brian Miskell presented the Sailor of the Year Award to BM1 (SW) Nicholas Geisler aboard **USS Thomas Hudner (DDG 116)** in Mayport, FL. [Photo by Quartermaster Seaman Kody Kneip, USN]



Council President Tom Hennessey presented the Enlisted Person of the Year to BM1 Allan Rondina, USCG, at **Station Pt. Allerton**, Hull, MA. Looking on are Station C.O. CWO3 Young and XO BMC Irish.

Gosnold Division News

Former Sea Cadet Zachary Dias was selected for a full-time faculty position at Mass. Maritime Academy. A 2008 graduate of Sandwich High School and 2012 graduate of the Maritime Academy, he was employed by the U.S. Military Sealift Command (MSC). He holds the Master of Unlimited Tonnage and Master of Towing maritime licenses.



Cadet Zach Dias at the helm of the Mass. Maritime Academy training vessel RANGER and learning at the chart table with Cadet Willima Mark, during the "Seamanship Academy" advanced training which was held annually at MMA for nearly a decade.

March 10, 2023 NEWS

The President’s Budget has been released. However, it is likely dead on arrival in Congress. DoD comes in at \$842 billion. An increase of \$26 billion over last year’s request but it is only 3.2%, well below the >6% rate of inflation meaning **IT IS ACTUALLY A SPENDING CUT FOR THE MILITARY.** In contrast, China’s defense budget is growing at the rate of 7%. Listed priorities include a 5.2% pay raise for servicemembers, \$9.1 billion for the Pacific Initiative and \$37.7 billion for modernization of the nuclear arsenal. Without details or any urgency, mention is made of increasing shipyard optimization with focus on the submarine industrial base.

HOW TO GET A MEMBER? ASK HIM OR HER.

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