



Massachusetts Bay Council Navy League of the United States **THE BOSUN'S PIPE**

September 2015

FROM THE BRIDGE

By Tom Rudden, President

As we head into the fall season we can take a look back at all the events the Council has been involved with this year. The biggest one being the commissioning of the US Coast Guard National Security Cutter James, in August. Reid Oslin has done a tremendous job at heading up the Commissioning Committee. Many thanks to Reid and his superb leadership. It was a lot of work and it

all went off without a hitch! Our next event will be our annual Meeting and Navy Birthday luncheon. I look forward to seeing everyone there. The Navy Birthday Luncheon is always a great event.

In September we had the opportunity to tour the USS Fort McHenry when it came to Gloucester for their Schooner Festival. On Sunday September 6th, Jeff Ahlin and I were invited to

attend a reception aboard the ship attended by the Mayor of Gloucester and her guests. It was a great opportunity for us to talk about the Navy League and our role of educating our elected officials and the American Public for the need of a strong Navy. Because the Navy and Marines do their job so far away from home that port visits like the USS Fort McHenry at Gloucester is

From The Bridge Continued on page 2

USCGC JAMES (WMSL-754) Commissioned

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The U.S. Coast Guard's newest "Legends Class" National Security Cutter was commissioned on Saturday, 8 August, at Coast Guard Base, Boston.

The Massachusetts Bay Council sponsored commissioning activities. MBC Board member Reid Oslin served as Commissioning Committee chair. Among

the guests were Coast Guard Commandant ADM Paul Zukunft, VADM William "Dean" Lee, Commander, Atlantic Area; Navy League National President Skip Witunski; and Charlene James Benoit, the great-great niece of Capt. James and ship's sponsor.

Members of the Massachusetts Bay Council were invited to take a special extended tour of the cutter on Tuesday, 4 AUG. CAPT Andrew J. Tiongson, USCG, a Boston native, is the ship's first Commanding Officer.

Continued on page 4

FIRE FOR EFFECT!



Navy Birthday Annual Meeting & Election of Officers OCTOBER 17TH

INVITATION
ENCLOSED

TOYS FOR TOTS

SAVE THE DATE
THE ANNUAL
TOYS FOR TOTS
BENEFIT BRUNCH
WILL BE
SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 13

**WE REGRET THAT
THE ANNUAL
SEA SERVICES
BALL WILL NOT BE
HELD THIS YEAR
BUT LOOK
FORWARD TO
RENEWING IT IN
DECEMBER 2016.**

Recent Awards

(From The Bridge continued from page 1)

an important way for them help the American public better understand what they are doing and how important it is to support them. The USS Fort McHenry visit, The Coast Guard Cutter commissioning and the other events are the reason why I enjoy being a member of the Navy League. But all of these take volunteers to make them happen. Please getinvolved. It is an endeavor well worth your spare time. We have an important mission and our efforts are well recognized by the Sea Services we support. I wish everyone a health and safe Autumn. I will see you all at the Navy Birthday Luncheon.

*Thank you
Tom Rudden*

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CHARITY**



At the Mass. Maritime Academy, Past Navy League National President William Kelley, Jr., presented the Navy sword to ENS John Albani who will serve in USS New Orleans (LPD 18) in San Diego as the Main Propulsion/Repair Div. Officer. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Marine Transportation and a USCG

Unlimited Third Mates License. He was selected by the Commandant as one of the top 5 Regimental Staff members within the Regiment of more than 1,400 Cadets.

At Holy Cross, RADM Chris Paul, USN, Deputy Commander, Naval Surface Forces, United States Pacific Fleet, past council President John Tata, CAPT Vernon Kemper, USN, Commanding Officer, NROTC and MIDN Bennett Rogers, who received a Navy sword from the Massachusetts Bay Council as the outstanding graduating NROTC Midshipman.



The Massachusetts Bay Council also presented a Navy sword to the outstanding NROTC graduate at Boston University. The MIT program receives a different award.

Midn Bennett Rogers graduated with a B.A. in Physics. He was the captain of the Club Rugby team and served on the executive board of "Holy Cross Goes Unified," an organization that hosts a Special Olympics event. Commissioned as an Ensign and was chosen for the Nuclear Propulsion Program and submarine duty.

The NROTC unit at the College of the Holy Cross is in its 74th year. It serves Holy Cross, Worcester Poly-technic Institute and Worcester State University and added the Holy Cross-Yale Consortium, where Yale recently restarted NROTC after a 40 year absence.



At the Quabbin Regional H.S. NJROTC Awards Ceremony, former council President John Tata presented the Navy League Youth Medal to Cadet LTJG Karl Skerry while CAPT Daniel Brennock, USN (Ret) looks on. Skerry is presently Cadet Commanding Officer of the NJROTC which is the recipient of its 10th consecutive "Distinguished Unit with Honors"

award. He is Captain of both the Football Team and Baseball Team and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is applying for a MCROTC Scholarship.



You are cordially invited to
celebrate

**Navy Birthday
and the Annual Meeting and Election of Officers**

Saturday, October 17, 2015

**Speaker: Captain Richard LaBranche, USN
Chairman Joint Military Operations and Director Maritime Advanced Warfighting School
U.S. Naval War College**

Phillips House

780 Wm. T. Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester

1130 to 1400 hours

Choice of

Baked Fresh Boston Scrod or Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast

Potato and vegetable; Dessert and coffee

Dress: Appropriate Civilian or Military Attire

Cost: \$30.00 per person. Reservations are required and must be received by Saturday, October 3rd.

Send form and check payable to MBC, NLUIS, to Krystyna Maksymowicz, 168 Hamilton Ave., Quincy, MA 02171. For questions contact Maksymowicz@verizon.net or 857-891-6671.

DIRECTIONS: From points North: Take 93 South to Exit 12. Follow signs for Morrissey Boulevard. Pass the Comfort and Ramada Inn on the right. Continue on for 450 yards for Phillips on your right. From the South: Take 95 north to 93 North to Exit 13. Take a left at the bottom of the ramp and then take your next left. Phillips is 375 yards ahead on your left. From the West: Take 90 East to 93 South to Exit 12. Follow signs for Morrissey Boulevard. Pass the Comfort and Ramada Inn on the right. Continue on for 450 yards for Phillips Banquets and Meeting on your right.



NAME _____ # in party _____
 Address _____ Phone _____ email _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ **Chicken Fish Vegetarian**
 Other Name _____ Meal Choice: _____
 Number of reservations _____ @ \$30.00 per person \$ _____ enclosed. (Gratuity included)
 I would like to donate \$ _____ to sponsor an Active Duty Service Member. No tickets will be sent.



CAPT Andrew J. Tionson, USCG, the ship's first Commanding Officer, receives Plankowner Certificate from Commissioning Committee Chairman Reid Oslin.

The 418-foot JAMES honors the service of legendary Captain Joshua James, who is credited with saving more than 600 lives during his 60-year career (1842-1902) as a crewman and station keeper at the U.S. Lifesaving Service station at Point Allerton in Hull, Mass.

The Commissioning Committee hosted a number of events celebrating the addition of JAMES to the Coast Guard fleet, including a crew party at The Point Restaurant in Boston; a cocktail reception for 200 guests at the USS Constitution Museum; a pre-commissioning VIP breakfast; and a post-commissioning reception for all guests. All 120 crew members were presented with "plank owner" artist prints of the ship and JAMES challenge coins in recognition of their assignment to the Coast Guard's newest ship.



Seated at the reception following the commissioning, Karen and Steve Boodakian, NLUS President Skip Witunski, Ivan and Eleanor Samuels. (Photo by Al Prudhomme). Other Navy Leaguers toured the ship after commissioning and during the previous week.

Write or Email Your Congressman

2015 CONGRESS CONTACTS

Senator Elizabeth Warren

Ste.2400, JFK Bldg, Boston, MA 02210

http://www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email_senator

Senator Ed Markey

5 High St, Ste. 101, Medford. MA 02169

<http://www.markey.senate.gov/contact>

Congressman Richard Neal (01)

2 Congress St., Milford, MA 01757

https://forms.house.gov/neal/webforms/Contact_Form.shtml

Congressman Jim McGovern (02)

12 E. Worcester St., Ste. 1, Worcester, MA 01604

<https://mcgovern.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Congressman Niki Tsongas (03)

11 Kearney Sq., Milford, MA 02155

<https://tsongasforms.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=117§ion-tree=116117>

Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III (04)

29 Crafts St, Ste. 375, Newton, MA 02458

<https://kennedy.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Congressman Katherine Clark (05)

5 High St., Ste 101, Medford, MA 02155

<https://katherineclark.house.gov/index.cfm/email-me>

Congressman Seth Moulton (06)

17 Peabody Sq., Peabody, MA 01960

<https://moulton.house.gov/contact/email>

Congressman Michael Capuano (07)

110 First St., Cambridge, MA 02203

<http://capuano.house.gov/contact/email.shtml>

Congressman Stephen Lynch (08)

88 Black Falcon Ave., Ste 340, Boston, MA 02114

<https://lynch.house.gov/contact-me/email-me>

Congressman William Keating (09)

1250 Hancock St., Ste 802-N, Quincy, MA 01040

<https://forms.house.gov/keating/webforms/contact.shtml>



*Investing in the
Navy-Marine Corps Team*

During times of war and peace, United States naval forces play a unique role in defending our national security and projecting American force, influence and assistance around the world. Forward-deployed naval forces play a crucial role in countering threats from our enemies, promoting regional stability and responding to humanitarian crises.

The Navy-Marine Corps team provides a sense of security to regions around the world that allows national economies, free trade practices, and democracies to flourish. In times of danger for our nation and our allies, the Navy-Marine Corps team brings swift and lethal responses to our enemies.

The Department of the Navy is able to engage in numerous and diverse missions because it is flexible and forward-deployed. The fleet can quickly go anywhere and can work from international waters, uninhibited by foreign authority. The Department of the Navy will always respond with an enthusiastic “can do” whenever asked to take on a mission.

A Breaking Point

We are concerned that if the Department of the Navy is required to continue to respond to crisis after crisis without the funding needed to build new ships, repair old equipment and provide routine maintenance to existing equipment, the nation risks permanent damage to our national defense and negative impacts on the domestic and international economies that rely on the safety and security that U.S. sea power provides. Ships, crews and equipment cannot continue the current pace of operations, and the retention of trained personnel will suffer, ultimately leading to reduced readiness for combat and other missions. By many measures, current funding levels do not meet the Navy’s needs. The Navy’s Fiscal Year 2015 30-year shipbuilding plan clearly shows the Navy needs \$10 to \$15 billion more each year than it is currently set to receive in order to sustain a fleet able to address existing security needs, much less allow any expansion of Navy missions in the future. In addition, the Navy and Marine Corps need to “reset” the fleet after more than a decade of war operations and restore weapons inventories depleted in recent conflicts. These shortfalls all point to the need for more Navy funding.

Next Steps

The Navy League of the United States, a nonprofit sea service advocacy group, is embarking on a new 16-month grassroots campaign, “America’s Strength: Investing in the Navy-Marine Corps Team.” Our goals are to increase the Navy’s top line budget to enable the Navy-Marine Corps team to: Build and maintain the 308 ships required (an increase from 289 today).

Continue to provide vital combat support to our forces wherever they may be engaged.

Update and maintain existing aircraft, invest in new designs and continue with critical modernization programs.

Restore the fleet maintenance schedule that has been badly disrupted by 13 years of war combined with severe reductions in the number of ships.

Replenish weapons inventories to required levels.

Invest in the next-generation capabilities necessary for the Navy to remain relevant in the future.

For more information, contact Sara Fuentes, Staff Vice President, Governmental Operations & Administration — sfuentes@navyleague.org.

WRITE YOUR SENATORS AND CONGRESSMAN (see page 4)



www.navyleague.org

The next National
Convention will be in

**Charleston, SC
June 14-19, 2016.**

*Remember, as a Member,
your travel may be tax
deductible.*

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A note to MBC, P.O. Box 265, Chelmsford, MA 01824

RECENT AREA CHANGES OF COMMAND

New Commanding Officer Coast Guard Base Boston:



Capt. James "Brett" Millican assumed command of Coast Guard Base Boston from Capt. Timothy Heitsch during a change of command ceremony at Historical Faneuil Hall, Tuesday, July 7, 2015. He most recently served as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Sector Field Office Galveston, Texas, where he was responsible for providing mission support for to the 1,800 Coast Guard personnel and eight operational units.

CAPT Brett Millican graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a B.S. in Management in 1992. He earned an MBA from George Mason.

USS Constitution:

A native of New Rochelle, New York, he is a 1990 graduate of Providence College in May 1994 with a bachelor's degree in history. After Naval Officer Candidate School, he was commissioned as an ensign in September 1997. Gerosa's first assignment was to USS Nassau (LHA 4) from 1998-2000. In May 2000, Gerosa transferred to USS Ramage (DDG 61) In March 2005, Gerosa reported to the USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41) and later transferred to Amphibious Squadron 2/Bataan Expeditionary Strike Group as the staff operations officer. He also served as the amphibious staff officer for Commander Task Force 51/59 at U.S. Naval Forces Central Command. Gerosa's shore assignments include director of operations and support for the Naval War College International Programs, aide-de-camp for the director of Expeditionary Warfare on the Chief of Naval Operations' staff, in-service amphibious ships resource officer, and expeditionary warfare lead instructor at Surface Warfare Officers School.



Cmdr. Robert S. Gerosa Jr. assumed the duties as 74th commanding officer of USS Constitution from Cmdr. Sean D. Kearns during a change of command ceremony aboard the ship Aug. 14.

Obituary

Edward C. Bryant, President of the Massachusetts Bay Council, 1983-1984, passed away on 9/12/2015 at the age of 89. A Life Member, for many years he was the Naval Academy Information Officer Coordinator for Eastern Massachusetts while also assisting Coast Guard Academy admissions. He also ran many college information nights for NROTC and Naval and Coast Guard Academies. He enlisted in the Navy at age 17 and served 1943-1946. Later commissioned in the U.S.C.G.(Reserve) and had command of three reserve units before retiring as a Captain, USCGR..



UPCOMING EVENTS
 MASSACHUSETTS BAY COUNCIL
 NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES



Event	Date	Time	Place
Board Meetings	28 Sept, 26 Oct, 30 Nov	1900	Boston
National Director's Meeting	4 – 6 December		Linthicum, MD
“PLAN AHEAD” The next National Convention will be in Charleston, SC, June 16–19, 2016. Remember, as a Member, your travel may be tax deductible.			
Navy Birthday event	17 October		Phillips House
Toys for Tots Brunch	13 December		Charlestown

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Craig Brauckmiller; Robert Deane, Thomas Goulding, Gary Murphy; Chandu Shah

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