



APR-MAY 2020

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 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.



Please observe the ordered and recommended actions for avoiding contact and spread of this terrible virus.

COUNCIL PLANS- All events pending

May	Special event postponed
May 8	V-E Day Commemoration
June	NLUS Convention postponed
July	Possible ship visit (??)
Aug	Coast Guard Birthday
Oct	Navy Birthday event TBD
Dec	Toys for Tots event TBD

V-E Day Commemoration May 8th

Live stream starting at 11 AM. Go to:

www.defense.gov/wwii75

On this day, 75 years ago, Nazi Germany surrendered to the Allied Forces. Victory in Europe, or V-E Day is the day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allied nations of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces. We remain thankful for the selfless sacrifices made by WWII veterans – the Greatest Generation. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, among commemorative activities in Washington D.C. the planned Historic Aerial Parade is now scheduled for Sept 24-25th.

OUR MISSION CAN NOT STOP

Despite the Coro-19 epidemic, Congress still has work to do. There are bills and proposals pending which are vital to the security of our nation. Emails will be sent to Members encouraging communications to congress when specific support is needed. Currently needed is

Maritime Security Program COVID Support

Without assistance during this COVID-19 pandemic U.S.-flag vessel operators participating in the Maritime Security Program (MSP) will not be able to maintain laid-up vessels in the readiness status needed by the Department of Defense, and the licensed and unlicensed American merchant mariners will be facing protracted unemployment. Ask congress to help!

[Speak up to support our merchant mariners today!](#)

Copy and paste:

<http://www.votervoice.net/Shares/BkwGZA7yACnESAHW2PW7FAA>



THE NEW ENGLAND REGION

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MET ON 21 MARCH

and will submit the following nominations to represent our Region: [Note: To be elected, candidates MUST attend the Convention/election.]

- For Region President: Eleanor Samuels
- For Area Pres. South: Ivan Samuels
- National Delegates: William Kelley, Jr., James McLoughlin, Eleanor Samuels and Ivan Samuels. (Delegates will be elected by the NL Membership and the Delegates will elect the National Officers.)



NOTE: Council Board meetings will be held by tele-conference until further notice.

AWARDS

Awards are being presented to outstanding Navy and Coast Guard personnel within their commands based on COVID-19 restrictions. These include USS Constitution Sailor of the Year, swords to Midshipmen at Mass Maritime and Holy Cross Brown U.), and Coast Guard Base Cape Cod, MSST Cape Cod, Sector Boston, USCGC Spencer, and several N&MCJROTCs. Several other awards are pending.

Virtual SEA-AIR-SPACE

One day's presentation addressed the worldwide responsibilities and presence of the **Coast Guard** and we learned that among the many tasks for which the Coast Guard is responsible is its enforcement of fisheries agreements, much of which affects the economic and security of nations dependent upon the sea.

Illegal, Unreported and Unregistered (IUU) fishing represents up to 26 million tons of fish annually, valued at 10 to 23 BILLION U.S. DOLLARS. It occurs on the high seas and within national jurisdiction affecting coastal populations in vulnerable areas. It is sometimes associated with other crimes. IUU threatens sustainable species by overfishing certain areas, catching undersized and protected species, which will limit those populations available for future harvesting.

NEW FFG CONTRACT AWARDED



An artist rendering of the guided-missile frigate FFG(X). (U.S. Navy graphic)

The Navy awarded a contract to design and produce the next generation small surface combatant, the Guided Missile Frigate (FFG(X)) today. The contract calls for detail design and construction (DD&C) of up to 10 Guided Missile Frigates (consisting of one base ship and nine option ships) was awarded to Marinette Marine Corporation (MMC) of Marinette, Wisconsin (A subsidiary of Italian Fincantieri).

Based on a Franco-Italian design, European Multi-Mission Frigate variants of which are in service with the Italian, French, Egyptian, and Moroccan navies, it will include U.S. Navy specific hardware enabling multi-mission capability to conduct air warfare, anti-submarine warfare, surface warfare, electronic warfare, and information operations.

The new ship is designed to both integrate with, and complement, the carrier strike group and operate as a distributed node in a sensor network; and survivability while keeping the ship affordable and as a part of a 'high-low' mix of surface ships."



Former Sq. 7 Zulu Sea Cadet, Ensign Peter Gelsthorpe received his Surface Warfare Officer insignia from Commanding Officer CDR Chris Norris, during a ceremony held onboard USS James E. Williams (CG 95), a guided missile destroyer, currently deployed in the Persian Gulf.

USS James E. Williams (DDG 95) is an Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer named in honor of Chief Boatswain's Mate James E. Williams, one of the Navy's most highly decorated enlisted sailors. Guided-missile destroyers are multi-mission surface combatants capable of conducting anti-air warfare, anti-submarine warfare, and anti-surface warfare.



We are saddened to report that CAPT William (Bill) O. Glass, USNR (Ret.), passed away at the age of 95 from complications of melanoma. He was President of the Council 1978-1980. On active duty, he served in USS Salem (CA 139) and then several Reserve units as XO and CO.

When possible, a Celebration of Bill's rich Life will be planned. To share a memory or offer a condolence, visit: www.concordfuneral.com.



HOW TO GET A MEMBER:
ASK HIM OR HER



Shop at [Smile@amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and elect your charity as **Navy League of the United States Massachusetts Bay Council**. At NO cost to you, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to the council.

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