

The Ship's Whistle



Dec 2019



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.

COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD NOV. 16TH

Highlights of the Annual Meeting included reports on activities, finances, possible events; and the election of 2020 Officers and Directors (See next page.) Also heard status of construction and commissioning USS Massachusetts (SSN 798), USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) and, more immediate, USS Nantucket (LCS 27) and commissioning of several Coast Guard cutters.

USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) Christened



On December 7th, Caroline Bouvier Kennedy, President John F. Kennedy's daughter, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan and the ship's sponsor, christened the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79), at Huntington Ingalls Industries' Newport News Shipbuilding, in Newport News, Virginia. Kennedy is the second ship in the next-generation USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78)-class of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. The aircraft carrier is named after John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the 35th president of the United States, who served in office from January 1961 to November 1963. This is the second U.S. aircraft carrier named for President Kennedy. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Cory J. Daut/Released)



The council's 43rd Annual Toys for Tots benefit was held 8 December in the Commandant's House, Boston Navy Yard.



Naval Sea Cadets with toys at the Commandant's House



In addition to members, some seventy-five Naval Sea Cadets, their parents and leaders were present to enjoy the friendship and good cheer. Also, presented to the outstanding Cadet in each unit was the Navy League's Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal. In addition to cash contributions, approximately 250 toys and games were collected. Distribution through the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program is earmarked for needy families in Essex and Middlesex Counties.

HOW TO GET A MEMBER: ASK HIM OR HER

Officers and Directors for 2020 (with assignments):

- President: Stephen Schnitzer
- Clerk: Stephen Schnitzer (Note: Clerk position vacant; election for legal reasons)
- Treasurer: Krystyna Maksymowicz
- VP Lauren Beagan (Special Events)
- VP Harold Learson (External Relations)
- VP John Learson (Co-Education)
- VP Bob Powers (Co-Education)
- VP Paul Mahoney (Legislation)
- VP James McLoughlin (Youth)
- VP Reid Oslin (Cape Cod)
- VP (Eleanor Samuels (Events, NLUS Liaison)
- VP Ivan Samuels (Membership, Newsletter, Corp)
- VP Chris Donohue (Sea Cadets)

BOARD: All officers and the below:

- Jeffrey Ahlin, Larry Allen, Stephen Boodakian, Tom Hennessey, Harriett Learson, Mary Jo Majors, George Ripsom, John Tata and Paul Keane.
- Elected as a **Director Emeritus:** Genevieve Guimond

Navy and Marine Corps Junior ROTC



In addition to our sponsored Sea Cadet divisions, the Navy League Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal was presented to outstanding cadets in Junior ROTC units at **Oxford, Quabbin, N. Worcester, Beverly, Lynn English, B.M.C. Durfee and John D. O'Bryant High Schools.**

SEA CADETS



Oullette Div. visited USS Cassin Young following the Toys for Tots event. **Squadron Seven Zulu** assisted at the Quincy event Honoring Veterans of WWII on December 7th.



Gosnold Division participated in the "Cape Cod Cares for the Troops" project by filling boxes with items to be sent to troops overseas. The packages contain socks, snack items, health and bathing articles such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, lip balm, etc. All items were donated by local businesses.



AMAZON users: Shop at 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.



U.S. Lightship Museum awarded 'Save America's Treasures' grant. For story, go to: www.nantucketlightshiplv-112.org



Norman Dobson 1929 -2019

With deep regret we have lost a long-time member and former council Vice President for Awards. Norm was instrumental in initiating our first Toys for Tots benefit Brunch in the Commandant's House. He served in the Navy during the Korean War and later in the Marine Corps Reserve.



NOTE: Council Board meetings are open to all members. However, due to building security, your name is needed in advance. If coming, contact President Steve Schnitzer at 1smschnitzer@gmail.com.

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