

# The Ship's Whistle



July 2021

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. (Note: There was no June issue.)

---

## Coming Events: (contingent upon Covid-19)

October: Navy Birthday and Annual Meeting

December: Toys for Tots fundraiser

---

## USS *Thomas Hudner* (DDG-116) News



USS THOMAS HUDNER deployed from Mayport, Fla., on January 2, 2021, and has since operated in the Atlantic, Mediterranean, Black Sea, Arabian Sea and the Baltic Sea. It was the ship's first visit to Naval Base Kiel, Germany, on June 20, 2021, after participating in BALTOPS 50.

---

## AWARDS



On Friday May 21, a warm and beautiful evening on board USS Constitution, members of the MBC and CDR John Benda CO of USS Constitution presented the council's sword award for outstanding leadership performance to Worcester Polytechnic Institute MIDN Victoria Kahler. Her aim is to be a helo pilot. The presentation was unique in that CDR Benda is also a graduate of WPI. In addition, the awardee's grandfather, Mr. Andrew Card, Chief of Staff to President George W. Bush (43), addressed attendees with positively heartwarming and patriotic remarks as to the significance to "all those that serve" in the defense and well-being of America!



On the evening of May 25 on board USS Constitution in the company of fellow Midshipmen, family and friends, MIDN Nicholas Waggoner of the **Boston NROTC Consortium BU Battalion** was commissioned a USN Ensign and was presented a Navy sword by the Boston NROTC Consortium CO CAPT Michael Savageaux, who represented the Mass. Bay Council. He will receive flight training in Pensacola, FL. Previously reported in the May "Whistle" issue under MBC AWARDS, Tom Hennessey gave the MBC honor graduate sword award presentation speech virtually on May 5 to the Boston NROTC Consortium.



**Massachusetts Maritime Academy** graduate, Ales j. Celestin, upon commissioning as Ensign, USN, received a US Navy Officers' sword on behalf of the Council. The sword was presented by William C. Kelley Jr, Past National President and member of the council. ENS Celestin, of Randolph, MA, was selected for his leadership and academic achievements for the Navy League Award. His orders are to USS Chosin (CG 65).

## Navy and Marine Corps JROTC AWARDS

At Oxford H.S. MCJROTC, the Youth Medal recipient was Cadet Samuel Zostant

## SEA CADETS

At the National Convention on 12 June, the National Chairman, Tim Moon, reported that there were about 4750 Sea Cadets, 1400 League Cadets and 2700 volunteer leaders in 350 units national and world-wide. He also reported (incomplete results) that 250+ cadets enlisted in the Navy, 100+ obtained NROTC scholarships, 120+ enlisted in the Marine Corps and 200+ went into the other services. RADM Andy Lennon, USN(Ret) is the Executive Director.

## Coast Guard News

CGC Campbell arrived early July in Boston for Change of Command to be followed by her relocation to Portsmouth, VA. Her former CO, CAPT Thomas D. Crane will be Chief of Response for the First District. CGC Escanaba is also scheduled to depart Boston in July for Portsmouth, VA. Cutters Campbell and Tahoma will continue to use Base Boston for periodic support.

Sector Boston, Captain of Port, CAPT Eric J. Doucette was relieved by CAPT Kaile J. Benson on 2 July 2021. Base Boston Change of Command ceremony is scheduled for 23 July when CAPT Andrew S. Brown will be relieved by CAPT Amy B. Grable. CAPT Brown will become CO of D-1 External Affairs.

-----  
*You can generate donations to the Massachusetts Bay Council AT NO COST while shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2783171](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2783171) to confirm "Navy League of the United States Massachusetts Bay".*

**Active Duty Military** are now welcome as Members of Navy League. They may join or you may give a gift membership at [NAVYLEAGUE.ORG/BECOME-A-MEMBER/](https://NAVYLEAGUE.ORG/BECOME-A-MEMBER/).

## Coast Guard history



**Coast Guard News 1945.** "Salty," mascot of the San Diego Coast Guard Air Station, introduced her kittens to the dramatic side of the sea-serve life early. When they were a month old, "Salty" stowed away with them on a PBX before it took off to rescue a flyer down at sea off San Diego. Chief O. W. Dybedel, shown here, found the additions to the crew when the plane returned to port with the rescued flyer. "Salty", believed to be the first cat to participate in a Coast Guard offshore plane rescue, was the black, gray, and white pet of Katherine Martin, SK3C, at the Coast Guard San Diego Base.

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).