

The Ship's Whistle



June 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.

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PLANNED EVENTS:



HAVE A SAFE AND SANE DAY!

- Aug 4 Coast Guard Birthday
 - Aug 26 Board Meeting
 - Sept 30 Board Meeting
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JOB OPPORTUNITY – GET INVOLVED WITH OUR COUNCIL –

Join the Board of Directors. Help plan programs and activities. Job opening: Editor, The Ship's Whistle. For more information and/or to attend a meeting. Contact 1smschnitzer@gmail.com

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NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

[Complete news provided by Navy League via several different media.]

The Massachusetts Bay Council received an **Honorable Mention Award for year 2018** in competition with the other 128 Navy League councils for their overall performance. Ivan Samuels received it on behalf of the Council and it was presented to Past President Tom Hennessey and President Steve Schnitzer. Elected as **National Directors** from our New England Region were David Samuels, William Kelley, Jr., Eleanor Samuels, and Thomas Hennessey, Jr. David Samuels was re-elected as **New England Region President**.



Pictured receiving the Award plaque are NL Exec Dir Mike Stevens, new Nat'l Pres Bill Stevenson, Ivan Samuels and Immediate Past Pres Alan Kaplan. Also, Past Council Pres. Tom Hennessey and Pres. Steve Schnitzer hold the plaque.

Supporting the Coast Guard



As part of our Navy League mission to educate the public and Congress on the importance of our Sea Services to our nation's defense, well-being and economic prosperity, **Massachusetts Bay Council** participated in hosting a full capacity C130 transport plane of Congressional Staffers at an all-day **Congressional Missions Day** event on 21 June at CG Base Boston. Staffers, responsible for advising

legislators on CG issues were put through their paces visiting every ship, patrol boat, shore side facility, being briefed by CG crew members, observing CG demonstrations including Search-Area-Rescue (SAR), Port Security, counterterrorism, environmental, fisheries, drug interdiction and more. Highlights of the day included MSST Cape Cod demonstrating underwater robots, a harbor tour on a 45' fast response boat-medium on the Mystic River (in torrential rain)) and finally a demonstration of a helicopter rescue pick up with a CG swimmer dropped in the harbor. Observers learned about the eleven CG missions & Boston provided the perfect example of how the CG protects our country's economic interests, well-being, and national security. The council provided lunch for the visitors.

Awards



The Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal may be awarded to outstanding cadets in Navy and Marine Corps JROTC units, Naval Sea Cadet divisions and Navy National Defense Cadet Corps schools. (Photo: Al Prudhomme (since deceased) presents Youth Medal to Beverly H.S. MCJROTC Cadet Sgt Viana Kotchian. Hidden is Senior Instructor CWO3 Tom Smith, USMC(Ret).

Council VP Genevieve Guimond made similar presentations to Sea Cadets in several units.



Tom Hennessey and Steve Schnitzer presented awards to outstanding Boston Naval ROTC Consortium Midshipmen. Awards consisted of a sword and the book "Devotion"(about Medal of Honor recipient Captain Thomas Hudner, USN(Ret)). Swords were also presented at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the Consortium at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester.

Origin of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

The British Navy League considered a sea cadet corps one of its most important programs (founded in 1854). In the U.S., the Navy League supported various youth programs but it was not a major priority until after WWII. By the early 1950s, Navy leadership recognized that a civilian sponsored youth program would help Navy recruiting. At the request of SECNAV Robert Anderson, the Navy League created the Buddy Program. In 1956, Navy League was concerned about the long-term prospects for the Buddy Program and its focus on recruiting and it was renamed "Shipmate" and shifted from Reserve officer management to Navy League councils. Working with the Navy, agreement was reached on several principles, most important being that it be federally chartered. Although supported by Navy League, it would be a separate entity. In 1958, the first USNSCC Division was formed at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center and 1959 was the Sea Cadets' first full year of operation. (Source: **Navy League of the United States** by Richard L. Wright)