

The Ship's Whistle



Nov 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.

PLANNED EVENTS:

- Nov 28 Board Meeting & Annual Meeting
- Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance and USS Constitution Holiday Tree Lighting
- Dec 7 USS Massachusetts (SSN 798) Tree Planting (invitation below)

- Dec 8  Brunch (Invitation attached)



USS Nantucket (LCS 27) construction started. (Photo similar)

LCS 27 is the first U.S. Navy ship to be named after Nantucket, Massachusetts, in more than a century. Nantucket is full of sailing and maritime traditions, serving as a whaling hub in the 1800s and as the home of generations of American Sailors since the town's founding.

The Mass Bay Council is looking ahead to commissioning the ship somewhere in Massachusetts. A Committee is being formed with an Acting Chairman, Tom Hennessey, who very successfully Chaired the USS Thomas Hudner (DDG 116) Commissioning Committee. The ship is Freedom Class, mono-hull, 378 ft. long and is being built in Marinette, WI, with commissioning expected in 2021.

The focused-mission LCS is designed to support mine countermeasures, anti-submarine and surface warfare missions today and is easily adapted to serve future and evolving missions tomorrow.



USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79)

On Oct. 29, the aircraft carrier Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) reached another construction milestone, as its dry dock area was flooded three months ahead of its production schedule leading up to the christening of the second Ford-class aircraft carrier, scheduled for Dec. 7, 2019. The flooding of the dry dock follows other milestones, including the laying USS JFK (cont'd next page)

NEWS FROM NL DIRECTORS'S 11/16 MEETING

1. A new logo was approved, replacing the slashed anchor we have been using, and it will be phased in over the next year. It brings us back to the original design, the legal seal, a circle containing the American Eagle perched on a fouled anchor encircled by the words NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES. The current and previous lapel pins and other usage will continue as the replacement is phased in.
2. NEXT CONVENTION will be in Phoenix, AZ, in June 2020, at which time the new governance structure will become effective.
3. NEW GOVERNANCE for Navy League. As previously enacted, governance of Navy League will become more efficient and able to better handle time sensitive issues. The current very large body (over 200) of National Directors, nominated by their Regions, which were elected by the Members and who then elected the national officers will be replaced by "Delegates" nominated by the regions and elected by the Members, who will then elect the new Officers and Directors totaling about thirty-nine (39).

HOW TO GET A MEMBER: ASK HIM OR HER

(USS JFK cont'd)

of the ship's keel on Aug. 22, 2015, the placement of the 588-metric ton island superstructure on May 29, 2019, and the arrival of the crew on Oct. 1, 2019. Kennedy is currently under construction at Huntington Ingalls Industries-Newport News Shipbuilding. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Adam Ferrero/Released)



Also coming up for commissioning are several Coast Guard 154 ft Sentinel-Class Fast Response Cutters (FRC).

AMAZON users: Shop at [Smile@amazon.com](https://www.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.

SEA CADETS

Reported is that, in 2018, there were 12, 218 Naval Sea Cadets. A survey of the H.S. seniors:

U.S. Naval Academy	128
NROTC	62
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	9
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy	1
U.S. Air Force Academy	5
U.S. Military Academy	4
Other ROTC	51
Intend to enlist Navy	209
Intend to enlist other services	151

Further data mining discovered that, over the past ten years, an average of 110/year went NROTC, another 110/yr went USNA and some 250/yr enlisted in the Navy.

Annual All-Region Swim Meet

Held November 3. The Meet has been held annually since 1981 at Mass. Maritime Academy.

Overall standings were as follows:

Sea Cadets:

- 1st Place:** Michael Murphy Division;
- 2nd Place:** Theodore Roosevelt Division;
- 3rd Place:** Gosnold Division.

- League Cadets: **1st Place:** T/S Michael Murphy;
- 2nd Place:** T/S Patriot State; **3rd Place:** T/S MacIntyre



USS Massachusetts (SSN 798)

TREE PLANTING

USS MASSACHUSETTS (SSN 798) Commissioning Committee invites you to tree planting. Phone(860) 759-8610 to RSVP. **Saturday, December 7 at 11:00 AM** Fall River Heritage State Park and Battleship Cove 5 Water Street Fall River, MA 02721

The United States Navy is building a submarine, USS MASSACHUSETTS (SSN 798) to be completed in 2023.

To begin the commemoration of this return to active service for a USS MASSACHUSETTS, we invite you to a tree planting in Fall River facing the battleship. The American Elm grows to a stately stature and is the official tree of the Bay State! This tree will symbolize the continued presence of MASSACHUSETTS Sailors for decades to come.

Please join us as this tree takes root, stands proudly, and connects the great Sailors of historic Battleship with the Submarine Sailors who will carry forward naval maritime traditions in the name of Massachusetts.

The Ship's Whistle is published by The Massachusetts Bay Council, Navy League of the U.S., P.O. Box 265, Chelmsford, MA 01824.

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