



Aug 2022

# 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).

## Coming Events:

**October: Navy Birthday event (TBA)**

**November: Devotion: The Movie\* release**

## Mass Bay Council visits Coast Guard Sector Boston



On July 16, we toured the Coast Guard Boston Command Center and later were privileged to ride a 45 ft. Rescue Boat in Boston Harbor.

## USCGC Eagle tour



Eagle port visit to Boston 29-31 July. The Mass Bay Council arranged tours on Saturday for Sea Cadets and on Sunday for Members, prospective members and guests.

## Accountant - CPA Help Wanted

With the forthcoming commissioning of USS Nantucket (LCS 27) we expect to be in the range which requires financial statements be reviewed by an independent CPA. We need a Certified Auditor willing to work pro bono on the Council's books.

Contact Tom Hennessey at [tomhjr@gmail.com](mailto:tomhjr@gmail.com).

**How to get a Member? Ask him or her!**

## SEA CADETS



### Squadron Seven Zulu

Provided the Color Guard at the Red Sox-Blue Jays Game, Fenway Park, 24 July. After presenting colors, they were treated to stay in John Henry's owner's suite!



### Gosnold Division

For the past 16 years, it has been the custom of Gosnold Division and LCDR McLoughlin, unit Commanding Officer, to provide a tour of the nation's capital as part of the recognition for the Sea Cadet and League Cadet-of-the-Year for the Division. The 2021 selectees, Aliyah Jesus of Falmouth and Damian Bebbler of Brewster, were escorted by Mrs. Sandy Anderson of Falmouth and LCDR McLoughlin. They spent 4 days touring such sites as the Capital, Museum of Natural History, The National Archives, the American History Museum, the Botanical Gardens, Museum of Art and Holocaust Museum. The tour also included Arlington National Cemetery as well as a Drill Team performance by the Marine Corps Band and Silent Drill Platoon.

## SEA CADETS (CONT'D)



**Worcester (CL-144) Division** hosted an Open House at the Oakham Fire Department on August 13th. On August 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Sudbury Police Association Second Annual Public Safety Day manned a tent recruiting for the Division.

### Gosnold Division

Thanks to Cape Media, Gosnold C.O. LCDR Jim McLoughlin with a Sea Cadet and a League Cadet appeared on Cape Media's talk show with host Kate McMahan and discussed the Sea Cadet program and what it has meant to the cadets.

Available on YouTube: Copy and paste:

<https://youtu.be/ad3ndqL00KA>

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**\*Devotion**, the movie, is scheduled to be released on November 23, 2022, in theaters.

**Based on:** Based on Adam Makos' bestselling book, "[Devotion: An Epic Story of Heroism, Friendship, and Sacrifice](#)," the movie is about Brown and Hudner's friendship, the December 1950 battle at Korea's Chosin Reservoir when Brown's plane was shot down on Dec. 4, and Hudner then crashing his own plane in an attempt to rescue his friend. Brown, the first Afro-American Navy aviator didn't survive that day. Hudner was later awarded the [Medal of Honor](#) for his attempts to save his friend and fellow aviator.

Named in their memory were **USS Jesse L. Brown** (DE/FF/FFT-1089) and **USS Thomas Hudner** (DDG 116).



## A bit of unpublished

### Commandant's House history

[Excerpt from a 8 July 1989 letter written by RADM J.C. 'Bill' Wylie, USN (Ret), who, following a very distinguished Navy career, was Commandant, First Naval District 1969-1972. He and his wife, 'Bonnie' resided in The Commandant's House", Boston Navy Yard during that time.]

*"I digress again with one more private anecdote. On one occasion when Bonnie and I were living there, she had a letter from the chairwoman of a doctors' wives' group. It seems the doctors were having a convention in Boston and the busy chairwoman was arranging a program for the ladies. The letter stated that they would visit the Commandant's House at ten in the morning of such and such a date. And they would like to be served coffee and cookies during the visit. Bonnie was annoyed: "Who is this woman who announces that she is going to visit this house and tells me what to serve my guests?" Finally, she simmered down and sent a polite letter welcoming the delegation and asking how many guests she would have. But she was privately adamant, there would be no coffee. So, she broke out Fanny Farmer\* and got a standard recipe for rum punch. and doubled the rum. The stewards duly served the ladies when they arrived. And when the party was over, many of the ladies asked for the recipe. Bonnie's answer to each was "That is the Commandant Punch, a recipe handed down Since 1803 and known only to those who live here" So the doctors' ladies tootled off, and more than a little happy at having partaken of a secret.*

*Bonnie's later private comment: "That will fix that officious woman. She'll never get through her day's schedule with a group of half-drunk women on her hands". "*

*\*cookbook*

## USS Constitution Museum has opened an

**'on-line' store.** Enjoy perusing and purchasing one-of-a-kind items, such as pens made from wood removed from "Old Ironsides" and limited-edition medallions created with copper sheathing from USS *Constitution's* wooden hull. Also offered are unique jewelry items, books, *Constitution*-themed apparel, and more. Go to:  
<https://www.muzemerch.com/partner/uss-constitution-museum>

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## Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm Mike Gilday's Navigation Plan 2022 is pushing for a fleet of over 350 crewed ships and submarines and around 150 large USVs and UUVs and an estimated 3000 aircraft in the 2040s.

In the document, Gilday writes that the USN would require 3 to 5% **budget growth** above actual inflation to modernise and grow the fleet.

Failing this, Gilday wrote that the service would prioritise modernisation 'over preserving force structure'.

The fleet described in the document would comprise some 12 **Columbia-class** SSBNs, 12 aircraft carriers, 66 attack submarines including **Virginia-class** and future SSN(X) boats, 96 large surface combatants such as the **DDG(X)**, 56 small surface combatants like the *Constellation*-class frigate, 31 amphibious assault ships, 18 Light Amphibious Warships, and 82 combat logistics and auxiliary vessels. Topping this off would be around 150 large USVs and UUVs, which would increase the fleet's capacity for distribution, ISR advantage and missile magazine depth, among other benefits. In the near term, the Navy is retiring ships faster than it is building them, so the fleet is actually getting smaller. Further, the plan notes that its highest priority is modernisation rather than fleet size, which signals that expansion will be a lower priority.

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[Artist's rendering of the Constellation-class guided missile e. U.S. NAVY]  
**NEW FFGs started.** Construction of the U.S. Navy's next-generation guided-missile frigate (FFG 62) Constellation class is to begin soon. The Navy has a requirement for 20 frigates

This frigate is going to bring DDG-like capability with three Constellation-class FFGs—Constellation (FFG 62), Congress (FFG 63), and Chesapeake (FFG 64). currently are on order and the shipyard has options for seven more.

The Constellation class FFG is based largely on the Italian FREMM frigate, but with a longer hull and features modified to meet U.S. Navy standards on reliability, survivability, maintainability, habitability and lethality. The 496-foot-long steel ship will displace 7,300 tons and have a beam of 64.6 feet and a draft of 18 feet. It will be powered by a combination diesel electric and gas turbine propulsion system.

The FFG will feature a Mk41 Vertical Launching System, canister-launched Naval Strike Missiles, Mk110 57 mm gun, RAM Mk49 launcher, CAPTAS-4 variable-depth sonar, TB-37 Multi-Function Towed Array, SQQ-89(V)16 undersea combat system, SLQ-25E Nixie, SLQ-32(V)6 SEWIP Block 2, SPY-6(V)3 FFG Radar, Aegis Baseline 10 combat system, one MH-60R helicopter, one MQ-8C, and two 7-meter rigid-hull inflatable boats. Delivery of Constellation is anticipated for 2026.



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