

Voyager



Navy League
of the United States



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SEPTEMBER 2018

FUTURE EVENTS

12 Sep Board Meeting
18 Sep Everett Social Hour
19 Sep Dinner Meeting

ABOUT US

The Lake Washington & Everett Council (LW&EC) is part of the Navy League of the United States, www.navyleague.org

Council Adopted Units:

US Naval Station Everett
USCG Base Seattle
USCGC Healy (WAGB 20)
USCGC Henry Blake (WLM 563)
USCGC Blue Shark (WPB 87360)
USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23)
Undersea R & D Detachment
Liberty High School NJROTC
U. of Washington NROTC
NavSta Everett Sea Cadet Div USNSCC
USNLCC TS Henry M Jackson

Voyager is the official newsletter of the LW&EC NL-US and is published quarterly in March, June, September and December and printed by American Publishing & Printing, Inc. in Kent, WA and provided to all members. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to: *Voyager* Editor, P.O. Box 547 Bellevue WA 98009-0547 or email to: etpefp@comcast.net

KEEP YOUR ADDRESS UPDATED!

First Annual Captain's Cup Competition

By Pete Stiles

Photo by LTJG Mikaela Robbins, USS Shoup PAO

In early 2018, CAPT Kyle Colton USN, Commodore, Destroyer Squadron NINE, initiated planning for the first Captain's Cup Competition to be held annually among the six Aegis Guided-Missile Destroyers stationed at Naval Station Everett including USS Shoup (DDG 86), USS Momsen (DDG 92), USS Kidd (DDG 100), USS Gridley (DDG 101), USS Samson (DDG 102) and USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114). As plans for the competition between ships was being finalized, CAPT Colton asked LW&E Council President Sanu Chacko if the LW&E Council would be interested in providing the Captain's Cup Trophy and awarding it to the winner of the competition. Sanu readily agreed. The initial competition was held pier-side at Naval Station Everett on Monday, 11 June through Wednesday, 13 June 2018. Competition was based on shipboard skills and team training. After three days of competition, President Sanu awarded the first Captain's Cup to USS Shoup, (*accepted by CDR Weiderholt, CO below*) which won the initial competition by just the slightest of margins.

USS Shoup will retain the Captain's Cup, which is a "rotating trophy" for one year or until the second competition is held. USS Shoup also received an engraved plaque which the ship will retain permanently.



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Welcome to another fine issue of the Voyager. As always, the Lake Washington & Everett Council has been busy these past few months. Here are some highlights:

- ◆ Our council sponsored a "Captain's Cup," a trophy all Naval Station Everett Destroyer Squadron NINE destroyers competed for during Surface Line Week in June. USS Shoup won the competition. A group photo of all CO's is below.
- ◆ The Council has been holding monthly social get-togethers at the Scuttlebutt Brewery on the Everett waterfront. Featured units the last few months have been USS Shoup, the Afloat Training Group and USS Kidd. We hope to host NAVSTA Everett NOSC, Strike Group ELEVEN, Destroyer Squadron NINE and USS Momsen in a few months.
- ◆ The council was honored to present the Navy League's Mission and council's plans to the Economic Alliance of Snohomish County and Everett Rotary. We were also able to talk to many potential new members about the Council and are actively signing up new and active new members in Snohomish County.

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President..... Sanu Chacko
 First Vice-President..... Vacant
 Treasurer..... Jeff Garret
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 Judge Advocate..... Bert Kinghorn
 Chaplain..... Jim Ardissono

Other Directors: Cec Allison Dan Burr
 John Deehr Kevin Isherwood Phil Johnson
 Bob Lockyer Delgene Phillips Pete Stiles
 John Thoma

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National Director Emeritus:
 Louise Chase (LWC) (NLUS)
 Roger Ponto (LWC) (NLUS) / Past LWC President
 RADM John Lockwood, USCG, Retired

- ◆ I was honored to attend Fleet Week celebrations as part of Sea Fair and talk to a lot of people about our council and our activities.
- ◆ The University of Washington NROTC unit commissioned 2ndLt Samuel Stewart, a graduate of Kamiak High School in Mukilteo, WA on 24 August. Bravo Zulu 2ndLt Stewart!
- ◆ The Naval Station Everett Division of the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps "pinned" its newest Chief, CPO Jessica Chacko, NSCC, (*below*) on 25 August. Bravo Zulu CPO Chacko!



Our next event is the monthly Scuttlebutt event on Tuesday, 18 September when the featured unit will be the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC), NAVSTA Everett. Please come and raise



a toast to some fine sailors who support the fleet from Naval Station Everett. Our next dinner is on Wednesday, 19 September when RADM David Throop, Commander CG District 13, will be our guest speaker. We will also be awarding the Sailors of the Quarter/Year to Coast Guard sailors from District Thirteen and CG Base Seattle. Please attend and congratulate some fine examples of service to our nation. As always, our council is looking to add more members wanting to support our sea services. If interested in joining the council, please contact CMC Kevin Isherwood, our Membership Director at (240) 786-2775 or email membership.lwe@gmail.com or contact any board member. Thank you to all our current members and friends and we look forward to seeing you at our future events.

Sanu Chacko
President

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Daniel Lang Scott West Andrew Sevald
Geoffrey Surprenant Ashish Tripathi

Below left to right: Sanu Chacko, CDR Elaine Brunelle (CO – USS Momsen), CDR Jeremiah Jackson (CO – USS Sampson), CDR James M. Williams (then CO – USS Kidd), CDR Ted Weiderholt (CO – USS Shoup), CDR Michael Mortensen (then CO – USS Gridley), Geoffrey Surprenant (Veteran Awards & council member) & CAPT Pete Stiles, USNR, Retired (council member).



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- ◆ Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council of the Navy League
- ◆ Hire America's Heroes
- ◆ Tacoma Council of the Navy League

USCG Base Seattle Change of Command

*By Coast Guard PA Detachment Astoria
Photos courtesy of USCG*

The Coast Guard assigned a new commanding officer to Lake Washington & Everett Council adopted unit Base Seattle during a ceremony held at its base on 13 July. CAPT Jed Boba (*at right*) took command of Base Seattle from CAPT Stanley Romanowicz (*left below*) in a formal change of



command ceremony held under the direction of RADM James M. Heinz, (*center below*) Director of Coast Guard Operational Logistics. Boba, an Arizona native, is a 1996 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, and prior



to this assignment, Boba served as the executive officer for Base Seattle and Civil Engineering Unit Cleveland, OH. His other career assignments include facilities engineering division chief

at Training Center Yorktown, VA, project and program manager at Facilities Design and Construction Center Pacific, project manager at CEU Oakland, CA, and deck watch officer aboard the USCGC Laurel (WLB 291). Romanowicz, a Vernon, NJ native, has been in command since July 2015, and retired after a 25 year career. He and his family will remain in Washington State. His personal military awards include four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, a Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and two Commandant's Letters of Commendation. A unit's change of command is a time-honored military tradition that formally transfers total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another. Base Seattle provides regional mission support to units assigned to the Coast Guard's 13th District in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. It is the only military installation in Seattle and is home to the Coast Guard's polar ice-breaking fleet, which deploys to the furthest regions of the Arctic and Antarctic. It also delivers essential mission support services including personnel administration, naval engineering, electronics systems support, facilities engineering, health, safety, work life, port operations, procurement and contracting. Council members attending the ceremony included President Sanu Chacko and daughter Jessica, Phil Johnson, John Lockwood, Jeff Garrett and Pete Stiles.

Healy Burger Cruise

*By Jim Ardisson
Photo by ENS Samuel Wood, Healy PAO*

On 7 July Lake Washington & Everett Council brought 32 guests (*below*) aboard council adopted unit USCGC Healey (WAGB 20) for the Friends



& Family Burger Cruise. The Burger Cruise is a fun day for family and friends before Healy heads north on its summer mission to the Arctic. It was a beautiful day with smooth seas on Puget Sound. Guests arrived at 0715. Healy crewmembers provided exceptional courtesy and respect for the guests. The food was plentiful and also delicious. Two tugboats maneuvered Healy away from the

USS Kentucky (SSBN-737) Tour

By Jim Ardissono

Photo by MC1 Gray, USN

Twenty-six Lake Washington & Everett Council guests (*below*) met at 0900 at the Naval Undersea Museum on 26 June to bus to the Trident Training Facilities and USS Kentucky (SSBN-737), a



dock for our day of sailing in the sound. The two tugs also met us to return us to the dock at 1500, concluding our day of touring and cruising Puget Sound with the crew of the Healy, which departed 24 July for a four-month Arctic Ocean deployment to carry out multiple scientific research missions.

USN Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine which has been in commission since 1991. She is the third Navy ship to be named for Kentucky. She was launched 11 August 1990, sponsored by Carolyn Pennebaker Hopkins, who used a custom blend of Kentucky bourbon whiskey, mixed for the occasion, rather than the traditional bottle of champagne to christen the 560 foot Kentucky. USS Kentucky tour was one of the best tours in the last few years. The training facility has a new submarine bridge trainer, a near life-size mockup of a generic submarine sail, surrounded by a 360-degree horizontal and 70-degree vertical dynamic environment that includes 18 channels of visual imagery and 16 channels of 3D sound. The tour also used the shooting range where gas discharge is used for the weapons: 9mm pistol, M4 carbine and 12 gauge shotgun. The range is computerized to score individual results. We had a great lunch on base and returned to the Naval Undersea Museum where several guests toured the museum.



University of Washington NROTC Spring Commissioning Ceremony

By Pete Stiles

Photos courtesy NROTC

Council adopted unit University of Washington NROTC held its Spring commissioning ceremony at Kane Hall on the UW campus on 8 June. Lake Washington & Everett Council Board members Jim Ardissono and Pete Stiles attended along with 250 guests and family members. UW NROTC Commanding Officer CAPT Mike Lockwood, USN was presiding officer and RADM Brett Heimbigner, USN was the keynote speaker. Twenty-one midshipmen and officer candidates were commissioned including:

ENS Brendan Bristow, ENS Rowan Hobson, ENS Theodore Hung, ENS Julie Jennings, ENS Michaela Grobbelar, ENS Christopher Marquis, ENS Andrew Quam, and ENS Brian Cullinan will be reporting to flight school at NAS Pensacola as Student Naval Aviators.

ENS Elliot Kim reporting to NAS Pensacola as a Student Naval Flight Officer.

ENS Audrie Cottle reporting to Naval Station Everett as a Surface Warfare Officer aboard USS Gridley (DDG-101).

2ndLt John Vley and 2ndLt Benjamin Hicks reporting to The Basic School, Quantico, VA.

ENS Benjamin Rizzardi reporting to Pearl Harbor, HI, aboard USS William P. Lawrence (DDG-110).

ENS Chancellor Adams reporting to USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19) as a Surface Warfare Officer (Nuclear Option).

ENS Shannon Maroney reporting to San Diego, CA, aboard USS Comstock (LSD-45) as a Surface Warfare Officer.

ENS Megumi Serdan reporting to Yokosuka, Japan, as a Surface Warfare Officer aboard USS An-tietam (CG-54).

ENS Keith Fife, ENS Andrew Thornberry, ENS Benjamin Gardner, ENS Ryan McMullin and ENS Spencer Pruitt reporting to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, SC.



(Above) Newly commissioned 2ndLt Samuel Stewart, USMC poses with his parents and family. The Summer NROTC Commissioning Ceremony was held Friday, 24 August at eleven o'clock, in Grieg Gardens on the University of Washington campus, with a reception following.



Santa to Salvation Army

Article & photo By Bobette Scheid



Christmas was going to be in a homeless shelter for one little eight-year-old girl. What was bothering her was an unanswered question. When she saw Santa in the office of the Salvation Army homeless shelter, she had her opportunity and

went for it. *"Did my elf tell you what I wanted for Christmas?"* the little girl asked Santa. Santa said he always listened to his elves. This was verified when Santa handed the young girl her stocking. *"This is an answer to prayer!"* cried the eight-year-old as she pointed out contents in the stocking. *"He even knew what my favorite colors are. My elf did report to Santa."* How does one become a Santa and perform miracles like this? Terry Murphy, USCG, Retired, became Santa in the usual way—Mrs. Clause (Ginny) got him into it. When Ginny Murphy first volunteered to stuff stockings before 2005, neither she nor Terry thought it would turn into a family tradition that included their children, their children's spouses and in-laws and their grand-kids along with close family friends. One year when they were delivering stockings to the Salvation Army shelter, Ginny proudly pointed out Terry's impressive Santa beard and generously offered to donate his time to the cause. *"You're an answer to prayer; our Santa is sick!"* responded Picola Davis, the Salvation Army officer. This was the beginning of a chain of events that led to another family tradition and miracles for hundreds of homeless children. Terry, Ginny and extended family manage the delivery of over 400 stockings each year to five different shelters in the Tacoma area. *"Christmas has never been the same since. It is so much better and so much more meaningful. It's as if Christmas Stockings has given us a great gift to our entire family"* said Ginny. Yes, but is it a miracle? *"I know you are not Santa, but I want to thank you for the Christmas Stocking anyway,"* said the older teenage boy. Maybe not a miracle, or maybe a different kind of miracle? You decide. Every year, Coast Guard Holiday Stockings for Homeless Children identifies around 4,000 homeless children by age, gender and shelter. Items are purchased with the goal of helping children feel

"normal" in the midst of the turmoil of their lives and to let them know someone cares about the details that are easily overlooked. As an all-volunteer organization with 97% of donations going directly to the children, there are several ways people can help out: Make a donation to Holiday Stockings and mail to PO Box 6392, Bellevue, WA 98008. Each stocking is worth \$25. You can volunteer to sort the toys or stuff stockings at USCG Base Seattle gym in December (as CO CAPT Romanowicz & USCG D13 Chaplain William Stewart, Jr. are below) or de-



liver stockings to shelters. You must register to volunteer between 1 September and 1 December in order to participate. Register with Bobette Scheid, (206) 232-9854 or email bobette@holidaystockings.org and it is recommended you register early as spaces fill by mid October. If you sew, knit or crochet, we have projects you can do such as stockings, hats, bibs and more. Go to our website for more details. Finally, you can have 4 to 5% of your everyday purchases go to Holiday Stockings by registering with:

- Amazon.com-go to smile.amazon.com.
- Bartell Drugs-sign up for eScrip.
- Fred Meyer-link card CG Holiday Stockings.

For 23 years, holidaystockings.org has created and distributed over 52,000 stockings, providing a much-needed burst of holiday cheer to children struggling in shelters or on the streets. We look forward to partnering with the Navy League on this endeavor to bring a smile to a homeless child on Christmas morning with a stocking tailored just for them.

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Lake Washington & Everett Council

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Lake Washington & Everett Council is your community organization that:

- Supports our Puget Sound Sea Services: USCGC Healy, USCGC Henry Blake, USCGC Blue Shark, USCG Base Seattle, USS Jimmy Carter, Naval Station Everett and Undersea R & D Detachment.
- Supports local Naval Reserve Officers Training Units and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps: Liberty High School NJROTC, University of Washington NROTC, US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Naval Station Everett Division & Navy League Sea Cadet Corps Training Ship Henry M. Jackson
- Increases awareness of the diversity of maritime units in Puget Sound.
- Conveys the pivotal role of Puget Sound sea services in national and regional security.
- Furthers understanding that maritime commerce is the cornerstone of our region's economy.

Navy League of the United States Mission Statement

A civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that its national defense and economic well being are dependent upon strong sea services – United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard and United States Merchant Marine.