



Navy League
of the United States



VOL. 93 DELGENE PHILLIPS - EDITOR

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SEPTEMBER 2020

FUTURE EVENTS

Board Meeting	TBD
Dinner Meeting	TBD
Scuttlebutt Social Hour	TBD

ABOUT US

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

SUPPORTED UNITS

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
Snohomish High School MCJROTC
U. of Washington NROTC
Naval Station Everett Division USNSCC
US Naval Station Everett
Carrier Strike Group ELEVEN
Destroyer Squadron Nine
USS Kidd (DDG 100)
USS Momsen (DDG 92)
USS Gridley (DDG 101)
USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114)
USS Sampson (DDG 102)
Afloat Training Group - PACNW
Branch Health Clinic Everett
Regional Support Organization - PACNW
Naval Operational Support Center Everett
Puget Sound Naval Shipyard &
Intermediate Maintenance Facility

The 78th Douglas Munro Memorial Remembrance Ceremony in Cle Elum, WA on Sunday, 27 September consisted of a wreath laying performed by members of the Seattle Area Chief Petty Officers Association, followed by a video of the virtual ceremony that included footage from the 2019 ceremony. Douglas Munro was the U.S. Coast Guard's only Medal of Honor recipient. The medal was given to Douglas Munro's parents, Mr. & Mrs. James Munro of South Cle Elum, WA, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in a White House ceremony on 27 May 1943.

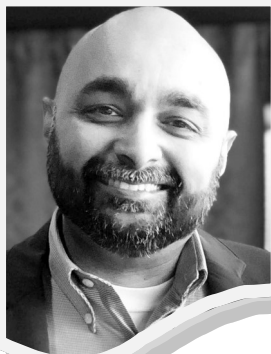


Photo by CPO Kyle Niemi, USCG

His citation reads:

For extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry in action above and beyond the call of duty as Officer in Charge of a group of 24 Higgins boats engaged in the evacuation of a battalion of Marines trapped by enemy Japanese Forces at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal on September 27, 1942. After making preliminary plans for the evacuation of nearly five hundred beleaguered Marines, Munro, under constant strafing by enemy machine guns on the island and at great risk of his life, daringly led five of his small craft toward the shore. As he closed the beach, he signaled the others to land and then in order to draw the enemy's fire and protect the heavily loaded boats, he valiantly placed his craft, with its two small guns, as a shield between the beachhead and the Japanese. When the perilous task of evacuation was nearly completed, Munro was killed by enemy fire, but his crew, two of whom were wounded, carried on until the last boat had loaded and cleared the beach. By his outstanding leadership, expert planning, and dauntless devotion to duty, he and his courageous comrades undoubtedly saved the lives of many who otherwise would have perished. He gallantly gave up his life in defense of his country.

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Welcome and greetings, members, friends and supporters of the Lake Washington & Everett Council, to another edition of the Voyager, our Mackie award winning newsletter. In this edition you will find that our supported units have been busy and a bunch of celebratory news with

achievements of some of our friends of the council:

- CAPT Megan Dean, Chief of Staff USCG D13, has been selected for promotion to RDML.
- CAPT Greg Tlapa, former skipper of the our supported unit USCGC Healy, has been selected for continuation on active duty.
- Chief Matthew Spears has been selected as the Liberty High School PTSA Educator of the year.
- MA1 Jared Hughes was selected as the Sailor of the 2nd Quarter 2020, for the Afloat Training Group, Pacific Northwest.

You will also read great articles about how Coast Guardsmen saved a town in Alaska during the

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Spanish Flu pandemic in 1919, and an article about the USCGC D13 Enlisted Person of Year 2019. The Seattle Navy League concluded a very unusual, but successful, Virtual Fleet Week from July 27 through July 31. Please find all the content from participating organizations via the [Seafair Virtual Fleet Week page](#). Navy League National President, Bill Stevenson, has published a guidance for 2020. You can read all about it [here](#). USCGC Healy is back in Seattle to evaluate the main motor that was damaged by a fire after they left Seward, AK in August. The motor will most likely need replacement in dry dock. We are currently uncertain about the situation for the crew.

I hope and pray that you and all yours manage to stay healthy through these very interesting times. Please remember that elections have consequences and vote in these upcoming elections. Stay tuned to information from us on how we plan to create engagement with you, our friends and supporters over the coming months as we go through the rest of the year. We still hope to hold our annual recognition dinner for the sailors at NAVSTA Everett sometime in December. We are unsure of the format at the moment and will announce it as soon as we have some clarity.

*Sanu Chacko
 President*

USS Kidd Completes Counternarcotics Deployment

USS Kidd (DDG 100) returned to homeport Naval Station Everett on 21 September, after deployment to the U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations. Kidd deployed in April 2020, along with an embarked detachment from Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 75 (HSM 75). During deployment, they conducted U.S. Southern Command and Joint Interagency Task Force South's enhanced counternarcotics operations missions in the Caribbean Sea and Eastern Pacific Ocean. Kidd Sailors aided the embarked USCG Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) in the recovery of 805 kilograms of suspected cocaine worth over an estimated wholesale value of \$30 million. In addition, the crew towed a fishing vessel over 200 nautical miles to safety, and participated in a passing exercise (PASSEX) with the El Salvadoran Navy.

Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal Awarded by Council

By John Deehr
Photo courtesy of NJROTC

Theodore Roosevelt, our 26th president, developed an interest in the Navy early in life and as a student at Harvard in 1882 wrote *"The Naval War of 1812"* establishing his credentials as a serious historian. Among his many roles in serving his country, he became Assistant Secretary of the Navy in 1897 and was instrumental in preparing the



Navy for the Spanish-American War. It was in 1902 that President Roosevelt established the Navy League of the United States. In his honor, the Lake Washington & Everett Council Navy League of the United States presented Cadet LTJG Daiku Wu, (left) of Liberty High School's NJROTC program, with the annual Navy League Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal Award at Liberty High

School's annual awards ceremony on 3 June 2020. The award consists of a medal, ribbon bar, certificate, and pamphlet on President Theodore Roosevelt whose visage is on the medal. Due to COVID-19 the ceremony was conducted via Zoom video teleconference with over 300 cadets, family and friends in attendance from around the world. A junior and third year student in the NJROTC, Cadet LTJG



Wu is assigned as Patriot Company's Supply Officer and was a member of the Academic and Armed Drill Teams. Additionally, he was a member of several Honor Guard Platoons that participated in memorial services throughout the Puget Sound area. On top of his NJROTC duties and responsibilities, Cadet LTJG Wu carried a full academic load that included five AP classes and he finished the school year with a 3.5 GPA.

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- ◆ Tacoma Council of the Navy League

Congratulations to two senior Coast Guard Officers!

By Phil Johnson
Official USCG photos

CAPT Megan Dean, USCG, (below) Thirteenth Coast



Guard District Chief of Staff, has been selected for promotion to Rear Admiral (lower half), abbreviated "RDML." RDML (SEL) Dean can expect to put on her new one-star rank, concurrent with transfer to

her new assignment. Dean's reaction to the news: "I am very honored to be selected, especially given the many exceptional officers considered." CAPT Dean as the Chief of Staff of the Coast Guard Thirteenth District, directs more than 2,000 Coast Guard men and women responsible for executing Coast Guard missions within the Pacific Northwest, including the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. Prior to reporting to the Coast Guard Thirteenth District, CAPT Dean served as Commander Coast Guard Sector Miami where she was responsible for directing all Coast Guard operations within Southeast Florida. She reported to Sector Miami following completion of a National Security Fellowship at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Previously she served as the Deputy Sector Commander at Sector Baltimore and oversaw the execution of Coast Guard operations within the State of Maryland and the National Capital Region. Prior to this, CAPT Dean was assigned as Military Aide to the Secretary of Homeland Security and also served at

Coast Guard Headquarters in the Office of Performance Management and Assessment (DCO-81). Before Washington, DC, CAPT Dean completed a tour as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutter WALNUT, in Honolulu, where the cutter conducted operations throughout the Hawaiian Islands, American Samoa and Central Pacific Ocean. CAPT Dean's additional assignments included a tour as Aide to the Commander U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area in Portsmouth, VA; Executive Officer of Coast Guard Cutter WILLOW, in Newport, RI; Executive Officer of Coast Guard Cutter CONIFER, in San Pedro, CA; a member of the Seventh Coast Guard District Office of Law Enforcement and a Duty Officer in the Seventh Coast Guard District Command Center. She began her Coast Guard career as First Lieutenant, Coast Guard Cutter VIGOROUS, in Cape May, NJ. CAPT Dean is a 1993 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Government. She also holds a Masters in Public Administration from The George Washington University. CAPT Dean is a designated Coast Guard Cutterman and her military awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal and Coast Guard Achievement Medal. Our council



friend CAPT Greg Tlapa (above right at a council dinner in 2019) is best known as the former Commanding Officer of USCGC Healy. He now serves in the Great Lakes area, and has been selected for continuation on active duty. This isn't a minor achievement. Coast Guard captains with about 26 years of commissioned service are considered by a continuation board, and those not selected must retire. So if he chooses, Greg can serve until he has about 30 years' service.

Port Angeles Coast Guardsman recognized as Enlisted Person of the Year for the Coast Guard

*Pacific Area News Release
Official USCG photo*

A Port Angeles-based Coast Guard petty officer was recognized Monday as the 2019 active duty Enlisted Person of the Year (EPOY) for the Coast Guard during a modified ceremony in Port Angeles. Petty Officer 1st Class Steven Schink, an independent health services technician aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Active, was recognized as the 2019 active duty Coast Guard's Enlisted Person of the Year and meritoriously advanced to Chief Petty Officer during a modified ceremony held aboard Active while in port. The 2019 Coast Guard Enlisted Persons of the Year banquet was scheduled for May, where Schink would have been formally recognized and meritoriously advanced, but the banquet was postponed until the fall due to the ongoing global coronavirus pandemic. *"Chief Schink is an all-around, top-notch role model,"* said CDR James O'Mara, Active's commanding officer. *"Seeing his selection as 2019 Enlisted Person of the Year from amongst the thousands of hard working Coasties across our nation – it is hard to capture just how unbelievably rare this moment actually is. Then you combine that unique honor along with advancement to Chief Petty Officer and stepping into the senior enlisted leadership ranks – this is something our whole unit and the entire service can be very proud of."* Designed to recognize active duty and reserve enlisted persons from pay grades E-2 through E-6, the EPOY program aims to reflect the Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty in its nominees. All submissions are released to the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, who, through a selection panel, submits recommendations to the commandant of the Coast Guard for final selection approval. Schink provided healthcare and managed medical readiness for a crew of 75 Coast Guardsmen. He became one of the first Federal Aviation Administration licensed unmanned aircraft system pilots on a medium endurance cutter. He developed best practices for flight procedures, cutter evolutions and missions, which helped establish the Coast Guard's UAS program. Maximizing training opportunities, Schink dedicated his time training shipmates in pursuit of damage control, davit operator and in-port officer-of-the-day qualifications. Schink volunteers his time with Partner-

ship in Education, coordinating medical training for students and coaching kids in a local wrestling program. He's also volunteered on behalf of the Jerusalem Baptist Mission, including spending time in Haiti. Before earning the national EPOY title, Schink was awarded a Coast Guard commendation medal and the Coast Guard District 13's nomination for EPOY. Schink competed with more than 3,000 Coast Guard members from units in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana at the District 13 dinner and awards ceremony held at Coast Guard Base Seattle in February.

"You are an ambassador for the men and women who serve our armed forces and what America expects from them," said Coast Guard

Commandant ADM Karl Schultz,

during a phone call to Schink in March informing him he was selected as the EPOY, adding *"We are proud of you, shipmate."* Deployed since early April, Active returned home to Port Angeles May 26, following a counterdrug patrol in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. The crew interdicted a suspected smuggling vessel during the patrol, seizing more than 2,000 pounds of cocaine worth an estimated \$37 million wholesale. Active is a 210-foot medium endurance cutter commissioned in 1966 and homeported in Port Angeles. Active's crew routinely operates from the Strait of Juan de Fuca down to the waters off Central America. Active conducts nine of the Coast Guard's 11 statutory missions, including search and rescue, drug interdiction, fisheries enforcement and homeland security. Schink transferred this summer to Coast Guard Air Station Detroit and is now HMC Schink.



Left to right: son Brennan, HMC Schink, wife Ashley & daughter Emilia

Chief Matthew Spears Awarded as Liberty High School PTSA Educator of the Year

Reprinted from Liberty HS E-News

Congratulations to Outstanding Educator Chief Matthew Spears! Chief Matthew Spears is one of the most welcoming, friendly and inspiring teachers at Liberty. When you meet him, the first thing you notice is his warm smile and his great sense of humor. He treats students with respect and gives them confidence in themselves. He takes time to check up on his students to make sure they are mentally and physically ok. He encourages everyone to be the best person that they can be. Chief Spears shares true life experiences to let students know that things aren't always perfect, but they have the ability to persevere and bring themselves up. Throughout these tough times, Chief made it clear that he is always open to those in need of help, from schoolwork to just needing to talk. He was ready to assist students, who didn't adjust well to online learning, to build a schedule to complete their class work in a timely manner. He puts 110% effort into Liberty ROTC, devoting additional time after regular classroom hours and on weekends chaperoning the many events that go along with the ROTC program. Chief does all of this because he cares about our students and wants them to thrive after high school. Thank you, Chief Spears for making a difference to so many students here at Liberty High School! Chief Spears was born in Riverside, CA and enlisted in the USN in August 1992. He completed Recruit Training in Orlando, FL in October 1992 and attended Intelligence Specialist "A" School in Dam Neck, VA graduating in June 1993. His first duty assignment was on board USS SARATOGA (CV-60) as an all-source analyst. In January 1994, SARATOGA deployed to the Mediterranean Sea and participated in UN and NATO operations Deny Flight and Provide Promise in the Adriatic Sea. Subsequent duty stations included Commander Amphibious Group ONE in Okinawa, Japan and Joint Intelligence Center-Pacific in Oahu, HI. In 2000, Chief



Spears was transferred to USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12) as the ship's Independent Duty Intelligence Officer. Following the attacks on 9/11, SHREVEPORT deployed with elements of the 21st Marine Expeditionary Unit to participate in operations in Afghanistan. Chief Spears provided intelligence

support to ground operations and maritime interdiction operations. Chief Spears was also stationed at Afloat Training Group Norfolk, VA; Reserve Intelligence Area Washington, D.C.; Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Joint Warfare Analysis Center and KENNEDY Irregular Warfare Center/Office of Naval Intelligence. He earned his Associates of Applied Science in Intelligence Operations in 2008 and completed his

Bachelors of Science in Management in the summer of 2018. Chief Spears is qualified Information Warfare, Expeditionary Warfare, Surface Warfare Specialist, and Master Training Specialist. His personal and unit awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine

Corps Achievement Medal (three awards), Joint Meritorious Commendation (two awards), Good Conduct Medal (seven awards), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, Sea Service Ribbon (four awards), Overseas Service Ribbon, Rifle Marksman, and Pistol Marksman. Chief Spears resides in Maple Valley, WA and is the proud father of a daughter, a son, and one granddaughter. CAPT Deehr understands he received multiple nominations from both parents and students and according to the PTSA president, he received a unanimous vote! Commented CAPT Deehr, "Believe me, this recognition is well deserved. Chief Spears is highly dedicated to the NJROTC program and the cadets of Patriot Company."



Chief Spears (center) holds Patriot Company's underwater ROV prior to the SeaPerch Challenge

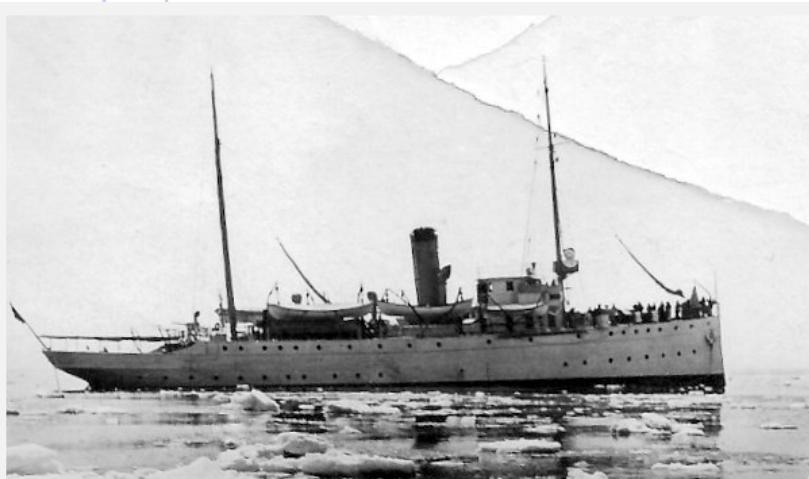
How 80 Coast Guardsmen saved an Alaskan town during the Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1919

*Reprinted from the Coast Guard Compass
Official Blog of the U.S. Coast Guard
Photos courtesy of NOAA*

Occasion sometimes arise . . . in which the officers and crews are called upon to face situations of desperate human need which put their resourcefulness and energy, and even their courage, to the severest test. "The Influenza at Unalaska and Dutch Harbor," U.S. Coast Guard Annual Report, 1920

As the testament above indicates, The Coast Guard's response to the Spanish Flu Pandemic in Alaska would prove the ultimate test of bravery and endurance. Pandemic, quarantines, social distancing and face masks—too familiar today. These terms resonated with equal disquiet for Americans 100 years ago as the Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919 affected nearly every corner of the globe. It caused the deaths of between

25 and 50 million people, more than all who died in World War I. Even in regions with the most advanced medical care, Spanish Influenza killed approximately three percent of all victims. Medical care in the remote territory of Alaska was far from advanced. When the pandemic arrived in the



spring of 1919, it wiped out entire villages. At the time, Alaska was "an American colony [which] occupied a political status somewhere between a

government protectorate and an industrial resource." The presence of Federal Government assets in this immense territory was minimal. In late May 1919, USS Unalga (above) was patrolling in Seredka Bay off Akun Island, in Alaska's Aleutian Island chain. World War I had ended just six months prior, so — like all Coast Guard-manned cutters — Unalga and its crew still served as part of the U.S. Navy. At 190 feet, the Unalga's white hull was only somewhat longer than modern Fast Response Cutters patrolling Alaska's waters today. And while Unalga's daily operations were fundamentally similar to today's FRCs, they were much broader. An Alaskan patrol in 1919 could con-



Unalga officers: *Standing:* LTJG Willie B. Huebner USNRF; CAPT Eugene Auguste Coffin USCG; CAPT Warner Keith Thompson USCG; CAPT Theodore Graham Lewton USCG; LT E. W. Scott USNRF (Dental Corps); LTJG Dr. F. H. Johnson USPHS *Sitting:* LT Carl E. Anderson USNRF; Senior CAPT Frederick Gilbert Dodge USCG; LT Gordon Whiting MacLane USCG



Crew members of Unalga burying the dead at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral

sist of law enforcement boardings of fishing and sealing vessels; inspecting canneries; transporting mail, supplies, passengers, and prisoners; rescuing shipwrecked or stranded victims; rendering medical care; acting as a floating court; and resolving labor disputes. On 26 May, Unalga was resting at anchor following a routine day of seamanship and signals training. At around 1600, an urgent radio message arrived. The settlement of Unalaska on nearby Unalaska Island was suffering from a severe outbreak of Spanish Influenza. The cutter's commanding officer, CAPT Frederick Dodge, prepared to get the Unalga underway at dawn. That night, Unalga received another radiogram—the region around Bristol Bay, on Alaska's southwestern mainland, needed urgent help to cope with its own outbreak. Dodge faced a dilemma: the Unalga could not be in two places at once. He radioed his command that he was setting a course for the closer Unalaska to assess the situation. Remote even today, in 1919 Unalaska and adjacent Dutch Harbor were tiny villages with a combined population of about 360 people, mostly of Aleut or mixed Russian-native ancestry. There was only one doctor on the entire

island. After arriving, Unalga's crew disembarked to a horrific scene. Nearly the entire settlement was infected, including the only doctor and all but one operator at Dutch Harbor's Navy radio station. The situation was critical as historian Alfred Crosby noted in *America's Forgotten Pandemic*:

... very large proportions of isolated populations tended to contract Spanish Influenza all at once. The sick outnumbered those doing the nursing. The sick, therefore, lacked fluids, food, and proper care, which caused very high death rates... effective leadership was vital to keeping death rates down. If complacency, incompetence, sickness, or bad luck crippled the ability of the leaders to react efficiently to the pandemic, then Spanish Influenza could be as deadly as the Black Death. It now fell to the men of the Unalga to provide lifesaving leadership and medical care. Out of the Unalga's crew of approximately 80 men, only three had medical training: Ship's Surgeon LTJG Dr. F.H. Johnson (U.S. Public Health Service), LT E.W. Scott (U.S. Navy Dental Corps), and Pharmacist's Mate 1/class E.S. Chase. These men began coordinating the town's medical care. Together, they assembled a group of volunteers from the crew that kept growing until it included personnel drawn from every department on board the cutter. From 26 May to 4 June, Unalga proved the difference between life and death for the inhabitants of Unalaska. CAPT Dodge initiated feeding the town using Unalga's food stores. Crew members deliv-



Unalga's crew shepherding orphan children to safety.



Orphans and a caretaker at the Unalga Orphan Home

ered 350 prepared meals on the first day and, by the height of the pandemic, they were delivering more than 1,000 meals per day. Villagers ranked the ship's emergency rations somewhere between awful and lousy, but they ate them. Every crew member engaged in some aspect of relief work. Nicknamed "gobs," those not caring for the sick provided logistical support, such as keeping fires for incapacitated villagers or helping prepare or deliver food. Other crewmen took over operation of the Navy radio station in Dutch Harbor. The men even built a temporary hospital outfitted with plumbing and electrified by the cutter's generator. Caring for the sick and burying the dead was an exhausting and emotionally challenging job. Death by "The Spanish Lady" (the disease's elegantly macabre nickname) was often horrific. Victims frequently suffered from double pneumonia and drowned when their lungs filled with fluid, some of it oozing out of their noses and mouths when they died. The crew members nursed the sick with no protective equipment except cloth face masks, exposing themselves to infection. Several men became ill, including Dodge. He determined he was well enough to remain in command and later recovered. While Unalga's crew did their best to save lives, they ultimately had to inter 45 victims beneath white Russian Orthodox crosses in Unalaska's cemetery. Unalga's crew also cared for the children of the deceased or inca-

pacitated. Unlike seasonal flu, Spanish Influenza acutely affected young adults, probably because it provoked an overreaction in the victims' immune system. This had the tragic effect of creating a number of orphans. Even if not infected, these children were vulnerable to starvation, freezing, or attack by feral dogs, described by Unalga's men as similar to ravenous wolves. Unalaska had its own orphanage, the Jesse Lee Home, but when that filled up, a vacant house was requisitioned and named the "USS UNALGA Orphan Home." When that also

filled, Dodge started housing children in the town jail under the care of the town marshal. Among these orphans was Benny Benson, who later designed the state flag of Alaska. Unalga's Master-at-Arms, Peter "Big Pete" Bugaras volunteered to care for the orphans. An enlisted man responsible for enforcing ship's discipline and handling



A building commandeered by Unalga's commanding officer, CAPT Frederick Dodge, and named "USS UNALGA ORPHAN HOME."

prisoners, Bugaras had a reputation as "the strongest man in the Coast Guard Service," and was described as "Greek by birth, a born fighter of men, and protector of all things helpless and small." Burly and big-hearted, Bugaras took responsibility for running the UNALGA Orphan Home. He had his men fashion clothes for the



Unalga's crew wearing "Flu" masks. All the cutter's crew members involved in the humanitarian effort volunteered to help.

membered them as saviors. In July 1919, Unalaska's Russian Orthodox priest, Dimitri Hotovitzky, and Aleut Chief, Alexei Yatchmeneff, co-wrote a letter to Dodge stating *"We feel had it not been for the prompt and efficient work of the Unalga, when everyone willingly and readily exposed himself to succor the sick, Unalaska's population might have been reduced to a very small number if not entirely wiped out."* While Unalga's performance at Unalaska drew universal acclaim, the cutter and USS Marblehead were criticized for arriving in the

Bristol Bay region too late to make a difference. As the disease had largely run its course, Unalga's crew worked with the Marblehead's Navy personnel to provide for the remaining medical care and relief work in the community. When the pandemic finally released Alaska from its grip, nearly 3,000 inhabitants had died. Nearly all of the dead were Native Alaskans, an irreparable loss to the indigenous community and its culture. Every pandemic and its tragedies are unique, but in the Coast Guard's response today we can hear echoes of 1919, when the crew of Coast Guard Cutter Unalga quarantined and rendered pandemic relief to the remote Alaskan settlement of Unalaska. Cutter Unalga and the men who sailed aboard it made history as part of the lore of Alaska and the long blue line.

Unalga men burying the dead at the Russian Orthodox Cemetery in Unalaska

children by tracing outlines of their bodies on bolts of cloth and cutting them out. Several women in the village were appalled to see Bugaras enthusiastically scrubbing children clean with the same vigor he used on dogs, but by all accounts the little ones loved him. Outside help finally arrived on 3 June, when Coast Guard Cutter Bear dropped anchor. Under the combined effort of the two cutter crews, many of the surviving victims began to recover and the pandemic subsided. Navy vessels also arrived. In the words of Unalga officer Eugene Coffin: *"Navy ships and nurses were sent to Unalaska after we yelled for them."* With the arrival of warships USS Vicksburg and USS Marblehead in mid-June, Dodge resupplied the Unalga to set sail for Bristol Bay. Unalaska's last death occurred 13 June and with its departure on 17 June, the Unalga's relief of Unalaska officially ended. The Unalga's care of Unalaska's inhabitants had been somewhat rough-hewn but effective. During the cutter's relief effort, the local mortality rate had hovered around 12 percent, while other areas in Alaska experienced up to 90 percent. The Coast Guardsmen of the Unalga were far from saints, but for years later the inhabitants of Unalaska re-



Coast Guard Cutter Healy suffers fire, propulsion failure en route to Arctic

USCG Pacific Area News Release

The USCG Cutter Healy (WAGB-20) suffered a fire in one of the ship's main propulsion motors 18 August while underway for operations in the Arctic. No injuries were reported. The Healy was 60 nautical miles off of Seward, AK, en route to the Arctic when an electrical fire was reported at 2130. A fire team disconnected the affected motor, and the fire was confirmed extinguished by 2156. The cause of the fire is currently unknown. The propulsion motors are critical equipment that use the power generated by the ship's main diesel engines to spin the shaft and propeller. This design protects the engines from variations in shaft speeds inherent to ice operations. Due to the fire, Healy's starboard propulsion motor and shaft are no longer operational, and the ship is transiting back to its homeport in Seattle for further inspection and repairs. Prior to the fire, the Healy completed a 26-day patrol in support of Operation Arctic Shield, demonstrating U.S. presence and influence in the Bering Sea, along the U.S.-Russian Maritime Boundary Line, and in the Arctic. On 15 August, the Healy was in Seward and embarked 11 scientists before departing on Aug. 18 to ensure national security and conduct science operations in the Arctic. As a result of the fire, all Arctic operations have been cancelled. *"I commend the crew of the Healy for their quick actions*

to safely combat the fire," said VADM Linda Fagan, the Pacific Area commander. *"This casualty, however, means that the United States is limited in icebreaking capability until the Healy can be repaired, and it highlights the nation's critical need for Polar Security Cutters."* In April 2019, the Navy and Coast Guard awarded a contract to VT Halter Marine, of Pascagoula, MS, for the detail design and construction of the Polar Security Cutter. The initial award includes non-recurring engineering, detail design and construction of the first Polar Security Cutter and has options for the construction of two additional hulls. Construction of the first Polar Security Cutter is scheduled to begin in early 2021 with delivery in 2024. The fiscal year 2021 President's Budget requests full funding for the construction of the second Polar Security Cutter.

USCGC Healy Sailors Honored

By ENS Trevor Layman, USCG, Healy PAO

Photo by ENS Trevor Layman

In September 2019 at a ceremony on board Base Seattle, BM2 Andrew Lavallee (*left*) was honored as Healy Enlisted Person of the 4th Quarter 2019 and EM1 James Davis (*center*) recognized as Healy Enlisted Person of 2019. Below CAPT Durley, Healy Commanding Officer, holds aloft one of the Lake Washington & Everett Council coffee mugs also awarded to both sailors.



LAKE WASHINGTON & EVERETT COUNCIL
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
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CITIZENS IN SUPPORT OF THE SEA SERVICES

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, USS Kidd, USS Momsen, USS Gridley, USS Ralph Johnson, USS Sampson, Destroyer Squadron Nine, Carrier Strike Group ELEVEN, Regional Support Organization – Pacific Northwest, Afloat Training Group – Pacific Northwest, Naval Operational Support Center Everett, Branch Health Clinic Everett and Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility

Supports local Naval Reserve Officers Training Units and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps:

- Liberty High School NJROTC and Snohomish High School MCJROTC
- University of Washington NROTC and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Naval Station Everett Division
- 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.

<https://www.navy.mil/>
<https://www.marines.com>
<https://www.uscg.mil/>
<https://www.maritime.dot.gov/>