THE LAKE WASHINGTON - EVERETT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Voyager

Navy League of the United States

VOL. 71 DELGENE PHILLIPS - EDITOR WWW.LAKEWASHNLUS.ORG MARCH 2015

FUTURE EVENTS

4 March Board Meeting

11 March Healy Dinner

31 March Sub tour

13 May SUBGRU 9 Dinner

More at www.lakewashnlus.org

ABOUT US

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

Council Adopted Units:

USCGC Healy (WAGB 20)
USCG Base Seattle
USCGC Henry Blake (WLM 563)
USCGC Blue Shark (WPB 87360)
USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23)
Undersea R & D Detachment
Liberty HS NJROTC
U of Washington NROTC
US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, NS Everett Division
Naval Station Everett
USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730)
Navy League Cadet Corps Training Ship Henry M. Jackson

Register for the Annual USCGC Healy Dinner

USCGC Healy is an adopted unit of the council and is featured on our masthead above.

Bellevue Red Lion Hotel
Wednesday, 11 March 2015
No Host Social Hour: 6:00pm Buffet Dinner: 7:00pm
Program: 7:30pm Adjourn: 9:00pm

Special Guests
Crewmembers of the USCGC Healy

Keynote Speaker
CAPT John Reeves, USCG
Commanding Officer, USCGC Healy

Topic: ***"Arctic Science and the Opening of the Northwest Passage"***

Additional Recognition:

USCGC Healy Sailors of the Quarter and Sailor of the Year
University of Washington NROTC
Corporate Member GE Power Conversion

To register go to the Lake Washington - Everett Council website: www.lakewashnlus.org.

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

The Council is growing. Effective 1 January, the Lake Washington Council and the Everett Council received approval from our NLUS National President, James Offutt, to merge into a single council: Lake Washington-Everett Council, Navy League of the United States (LWCE). The combined organization's head count now approaches 275 members with a geographical foot print that spans from the greater eastside of Seattle to Bellingham. Welcome aboard to all! In January we also installed a new slate of six officers and twelve board members listed below. Throughout the year we will often add board members who seek the opportunity to serve and lead. As we implement strategic council endeavors, we also need member support and involvement from time to time in areas such as fund raising, ship and organization liaisons, dinner events, projects, etc. On the financial side, our council entered the new year with a budget that reflects support to adopted units' Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), recognition to active and reserve enlisted Sailors of the Quarter and Year, and publishing our quarterly *Voyager* newsletter. A summary of our 2015 budget looks like this:

Adopted Units (MWR, SOQ, SOY Recognition)	$8,850
Operating Expenses, Awards & Dinner Events	$21,090
Total Expenses	$29,940
Expected Revenue	$30,255
Net Expected Operating Budget	$315
Current Bank Account, Checking	$29,000

We are currently pursuing active corporate and special sponsorship and grant-request programs as well as a first-annual golf tournament to raise more funds to enable the council to pursue additional projects and step up our support to local sea service organizations and personnel. Success is just a few leadership and member involvement steps away. I wholeheartedly encourage each of you to lend a hand. To help put 'context' within view, here is a list of our now combined Adopted Units:

USCG Base Seattle
USCGC Healy (WAGB 20)
USCGC Henry Blake (WLM 563)
USCGC Blue Shark (WPB 87360)
USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23)
Undersea Research & Development (UR&D) Detachment
Navy League Cadet Corps – H.M. Jackson TS (Youth Ages 10-13)
Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Naval Station Everett Division
Liberty High School NJROTC
University of Washington NROTC
USCG District Thirteen (unofficially supported)
Naval Station Everett
USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730)
SUBGROUP NINE (unofficially supported)

I look forward to seeing you at our next dinner

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President……..…..…..Craig Chapman
craig.chapman@opco.com
First Vice-President…….…..*Vacant*
Second Vice-President……...Tom Lancaster
Treasurer……...…….Niles Fowler
Secretary……Sonya Bachmann
Chaplain……..……Cec Allison
Judge Advocate……..…...Bert Kinghorn
Tour Director……Jim Ardissono
j.ardissono@wfafinet.com

Other Directors:	**Jim Ardissono**	**Jim Britt**
Dan Burr	**Jay De Bellis**	**Phil Johnson**
Robert Mitchell	**Delgene Phillips**	**Jim Sketchley**
Pete Stiles	**John Thoma**	**Al Torstensen**

National Directors: **Pete Stiles** **Jim Sketchley**
Dave Visneski
Director Emeritus: **Louise Chase (NLUS)**
Niles Fowler (NLUS) **Roger Ponto (LWC) (NLUS)**
RADM John Lockwood USCG, Retired (LWC)

event on 11 March which will honor the crew of the USCGC Healy.

Regards, Craig

"Save The Dates"

Annual USCGC Healy Dinner
Bellevue Red Lion Hotel
Wednesday, 11 March 2015
Special Guests
Members of the USCGC Healy
Keynote Speaker: CAPT John Reeves, USCG
Commanding Officer, USCGC Healy
Topic: "Arctic Science and
the Opening of the NW Passage"
Recognizing the Healy Sailors of the Quarter and Sailor of the Year
Recognizing the University of Washington NROTC
Recognizing Corporate Member GE Power Conversion

Spring Dinner
Bellevue Red Lion Hotel
Wednesday, 13 May 2015
Keynote Speaker
RADM Dave Kriete, USN
Commander, SUBGRU Nine

Tours

Tour a TRIDENT Submarine - 31 March 2015
Contact for Lake Washington - Everett Council *Tours*
Jim Ardissono - 425-503-2556 (cell) – j.ardissono@wfafinet.com

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Voyager is the official newsletter of the LWC NLUS 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

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LWEC BUSINESS AFFILIATES

Corporate Members

- GE Energy Power Conversion
- Honeywell, Inc.
- Kvichak Marine Industries, Inc.
- Microsoft
- SAFE Boats International
- Schneider Electric
- USAA
- Vigor Shipyards, Inc.

Community Affiliates

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- Cadick Corporation
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- First Command Financial Planning
- Flags & Flagpoles Northwest
- Forde Financial & Tax, Inc.
- Global Construction Services, Inc.
- Gloria R. James, P.L.L.C.
- Human Resources of Auburn, Inc.
- Red Lion Hotel Bellevue
- US Family Health Plan at Pacific Medical Center
- Vertical Path Recruiting, Inc.

Through their financial contributions, these business affiliates demonstrate their commitment to LWC-NLUS, to the mission of the Navy League, and their desire to support young people through our programs and scholarships.

Partners

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

Naval Sea Cadet News

Article and photos by Jim Sketchley

A variety of basic and advanced training evolutions was completed by Everett Sea Cadets as well as by Navy League (NL) Cadets in 2014. During the Winter school break after Christmas last year, two sea cadets graduated from RT, two NL Cadets graduated from NL Orientation and one sea cadet graduated from a radio communications advanced training course and the second sea cadet (female) graduated from a Science, Engineering, Technology & Math (STEM) related course. Petty Officer Third Class Kaiya Knight (NSE Division MAA) was selected as the STEM course Honor Cadet - her third. Cadets graduated on Saturday, 4 Jan 14 at Marine Corps Base (MCB) , Camp Pendleton, CA.

Navy League Cadets from California, Michigan & Washington attend a weeklong aviation training and pose for a picture in front of the NAS Lemoore Weapons School

During the Spring school break, NL Cadet PO2 Blake Sketchley attended a one-week STEM related SeaPerch build course aboard the SS Lane Victory, which is moored at the San Pedro harbor in Long Beach, CA. He also completed the nine-day Navy League aviation training which was held at NAS Lemoore, California. Cadet units from across the United States conduct an annual inspection during the first quarter of each year. The top unit in each region is recognized for garnering the best score on their combined training from the prior year. Naval Station Everett Division received a score of 3.66 and as a result, received the Top Unit award in the five-state Region 13 for the fourth year in a row. Last June, ten unit sea cadets graduated from different Puget Sound High Schools and were honorably discharged from Naval Station Everett Division. Of those ten graduating senior cadets, four received full-ride scholarship offers to attend various service academies:

- SN Benjamin Anderson - U.S. Naval Academy
- PO3 Michael Wanner - U.S. Military Academy
- PO2 Rameen Sahoo - NROTC scholarship to attend the University of Nebraska
- SN Kay Kim - NROTC scholarship to attend the University of Washington

Nine Naval Station Everett Division Sea Cadets graduated from a 14-day recruit training (RT) session at MCB, Camp Pendleton in July and four additional sea cadets graduated in August from the local Region 13 RT, conducted at Camp Rilea. The Oregon Army National Guard operates Camp Rilea as a National Guard and military training site, encompassing 1,886 acres of state-owned property located in northwest Oregon, in the Clatsop Plains, south of the city of Warrenton in Clatsop County. Three unit sea cadets completed Petty Officer Leadership training and one NL Cadet completed Navy League Orientation at the same time/location.

Navy League Cadet Unit Commissioned

Article and photos by Jim Sketchley

A framed Unit Commissioning Warrant was presented to Commanding Officer, LCDR Jim Sketchley (USNSCC) *(below left)* from the National Chairman, Mr. Warren Savage, Jr., Naval Sea Cadet Corps by CAPT Stan Mack *(above right),* USN, Retired for the newly commissioned Navy League Cadet unit, Training Ship Henry M. Jackson. The ceremony was witnessed by parents of Navy League Cadets as well as by Sea Cadets and adult volunteer leaders from Naval Station Everett Division at the Everett NOSC. Mr. Niles Fowler, President of the Everett Navy League Council (Plank Owner of the Lake Washington Navy League Council) and National Director Emeritus presented the new unit CO with the Unit Commissioning Letter. The unit name, Training Ship Henry M. Jackson was selected to honor the advocate of the United States military and vigilant supporter for the new Naval Station in Everett by Senator Henry M. Jackson. What is the relationship of Navy League Cadets (NLCC) and Naval Sea Cadets (NSCC)? Well, Navy League Cadets consist of young males and females between the ages of 10 and 14 and is a version of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) program developed for younger cadets, aged 11 through 14. While NLCC cadets can go into the NSCC when they are 13, they may also elect to remain in the NLCC until age 14, when they must either transfer into the NSCC, or leave the program. The new cadet unit has seven adult volunteer leaders to manage the growth and training for these young people. There are approximately 390 Navy League Cadet and Naval Sea Cadet units in the 48 states, Puerto Rico and Guam. Each of them is staffed by dedicated volunteers who are not paid for their time supporting this fine youth program. The adults assist these young people so that they can reach their goals and at the same time, have fun doing it.

Proud Training Ship Henry M. Jackson Navy League Cadets (below) hold their Plank Owner Certificates.

New Year Filled With New Faces For Liberty NJROTC Patriot Company

Article & photos by
Samantha Petersen, Liberty NJROTC PAO

In the LWEC adopted unit Liberty High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC), a new year brings new changes. 27 January 2015 was the unit's change of command, a military tradition that occurs when the unit's commanding officer is relieved and a new commanding office takes command. For NJROTC, our command terms are for one semester, therefore we have change of command in January and

Former CO Michael Lablanc pins rank of LCDR on the new CO Quinn Magendanz.

at the end of the school year. During the ceremony, there were changes in leadership roles for all NJROTC staff positions. Liberty's NJROTC Commanding Officer Michael Lablanc, Executive Officer Daniel Le Compte, and the rest of their staff were relieved after a very successful semester of leadership. These two young men have been such a great team, and worked together seamlessly with their amazing staff. During the ceremony, Commanding Officer Michael Lablanc stated, *"We have been very fortunate to have such great platoon leaders to guide and teach our cadets on a daily basis, and a great staff for our events. Speaking of that staff, I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude for all their hard work and dedication to both myself and the unit."* The amazing 2014 fall semester staff that Michael referred to included Senior Chief Petty Officer Patrick Czichas, Administrations Officer Kirsten Batchelor, Operations Officer Malindi Williams, Supply Officer Avery Southerland, and

Training Officer Jack Trinneer. In the Liberty NJROTC it is tradition to pass on the company flag *(see above)* from one Commanding officer and Executive Officer to the next. The five platoon leaders for fall 2014 were Nate Turtel (Alpha platoon), Joey Johnson (Bravo platoon), Sabrina Del Mundo (Charlie platoon), Aaron Tidwell (Delta platoon), and Robert LeCoque (Echo platoon). In addition to regular drill, training and inspections, cadets in these leadership roles planned and implemented the unit's Basic Leadership Training (BLT), the Veteran's Day school assembly, and the unit's Annual Military Inspection (AMI). During AMI the area manager, CAPT Wenceslao,

Color Guard was presented by Julia Nelson, Isabella Oliver, Avery Southerland, and Samantha Pham.

USN, was the senior inspecting officer. Of the approximately 100 cadets, thirty cadets earned a perfect score on their uniform inspections. The unit received a Bravo Zulu, an outstanding unit award. Before naming the new commanding officer, Michael Lablanc introduced him by saying, *"I hand*

over my position and the unit to the next commanding officer." Quinn Magendanz *(above)* saluted Michael Lablanc, with Alec Waters and Daniel Le Compte to the right. The new CO will face some serious challenges, namely hosting a drill meet here at Liberty, the Navy Ball, and finally the awards night. The new incoming commanding officer is Quinn Magendanz, and his right hand man is the new executive officer, Alec Waters. When asked what one tip Michael Lablanc has for the unit's new commanding officer, he stated *"Quinn, plan ahead and always have a plan B."* Former Executive Officer Daniel Le Compte reflected, *"I have learned a lot about what it means to be a leader, and what it is like to be in charge of the operation of the events and activities of around 100 teenagers. Hopefully, someday these cadets we are teaching how to drill or how to do PT properly will be in our shoes, teaching the next set of freshmen."* The cadets that will be trying to fill the staff's big shoes for the 2015 spring semester include: Senior Chief Petty Officer Joey Johnson, Operations Officer Jason Jarman, Administrations

Left to right: *CDR Joslin, Quinn Magendanz, CPO Torstenson, and Alec Waters.*

Officer Sabrina Sullivan, Supply Officer Malindi Williams, and Training Officer Patrick Czichas. All these cadets have earned these important positions in the unit and will have plenty of opportunities to improve their leadership skills throughout the remainder of the school year. Congratulations to the relieved staff for such an amazing semester and good luck to the new staff for carrying on the responsibilities and making Liberty NJROTC's school year end stronger than ever. Very few high schools in our area offer the opportunity to participate in a ROTC program prior to college; therefore, it is a great way to stand out in college admissions, scholarship applications and for anyone considering joining the military.

New Platoon Commanders l to r: *Sabrina Del Mundo (Charlie), Joey Jonson (Bravo), Nate Turtel (Alpha), Aaron Tidwell (Delta), and Robert LeCoque (Echo)*

Everett NL Council Honors Everett NOSC Sailors

Article and photos by Jim Sketchley

Prior to its merger with Lake Washington Council, the Greater Everett Navy League Council recently recognized two Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Everett active duty sailors at the Everett NOSC. The 2013 Blue Jacket of the Year HM3 (now HM2) Mathew Ethier *(below)* and the

Junior Sailor of the Year LS2 (SW) Anthony Ballard *(below)* were honored on 18 December. Each awardee was presented with a Certificate of

Appreciation, an Everett Navy League Council 'challenge coin', and a soaring eagle statuette engraved with their name by Council President, Niles Fowler *(center)*. CDR Derek Dwyer *(above left),* CO of NOSC Everett, and the entire NOSC staff were also present to honor their high-performing shipmates for their dedication, teamwork, and individual efforts.

Navy Reserve Celebrates Its Centennial

Navy Reserve Region Northwest and NOSC Everett will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Navy Reserve on 14 March at Naval Station Everett honoring Navy Reserve sailors, veterans and employers. RADM Eric Young and RADM Robert Passmore, Retired will be key speakers at the ceremony. This event will highlight the history of the Navy Reserve and the remarkable contributions sailors have made to the nation's security. With nearly one quarter of the Navy Reserve Force providing support to the active duty Navy on any given day, today's USNR is the most combat and operationally experienced Force in decades. *"We have a proud Navy history here in Everett supporting local commands and the fleet. Our 330 Reserve sailors balance the demands of family life, civilian careers, community service and the Navy,"* said CDR Derek Dwyer, CO of NOSC Everett. *"But the Navy Reserve's history is American history, and all citizens can draw strength and inspiration from its sacrifice."* The 123 NOSCs located across the country will also mark the Navy Reserve Centennial with celebrations throughout the year. *"Our Centennial commemoration is a truly once in a lifetime opportunity to highlight the Reserve sailors for their service, and that of their families, to America."* said VADM Robin Braun, Chief of Navy Reserve and Commander of Navy Reserve Force. USNR Sailors have deployed in every American conflict since WW I. By war's end, more than 250,000 Reserve Sailors, including 12,000 women, were on active duty. In WW II, the Navy Reserve contributed 84 percent of the Navy's manpower, including five future U.S. Presidents: John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, George H. W. Bush. In Korea, USNR aviators flew nearly 75 percent of the Navy's combat sorties. Since 11 September 2001, there have been more than 70,000 Reserve sailor mobilizations. The Navy Reserve celebrates 100 years of service on 3 March 2015. For information on Centennial events, as well as the history and heritage of USNR, please visit: www.navyreservecentennial.com To view the Navy Reserve history video, please go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RasZBIPmouw.

Naval Sea Cadet Training

Article and photos by Jim Sketchley

NS Everett Division Sea Cadet Petty Officer Third Class Devin Hunt *(below center)* receives his graduation certificate from OIC, LCDR Blackshear (USNSCC) and from the National Chairman, Mr. Warren Savage, Jr., Naval Sea Cadet Corps aboard

the USS Midway in San Diego last summer. PO3 Hunt passed the 150 question FAA Private Pilot examination and was awarded bronze wings at the graduation ceremony. Sea cadets who have graduated from RT may choose to attend one or two-week advanced training sessions from a variety of courses offered across the United States. The following NS Everett Division cadets graduated from the following advanced training sessions:

- Search & Rescue in Utah - SN Mathew Malone
- Field Operations in Connecticut - SA Jacob Braich
- Maritime Intradiction in Wisconsin - SN Mathew Malone
- FAA Ground School in California - PO1 Christian Hunt & brother, PO3 Devin Hunt
- Basic SCUBA in California - PO3 Kaiya Knight
- Five cadets also attended the one-week Seafair Shipboard training in Seattle.

These types of advanced training evolutions are some examples of what separate the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Navy League Cadet Corps from other youth programs such as Girl Scouts or Sea Explorers. These hands-on training evolutions are offered throughout the year, including the spring and winter school breaks, as well as during the summer. In addition to attending a variety of hands-on training sessions, Navy League Cadets (young people between the ages of 10 and 14) and Sea Cadets (young people between the ages of 14 and 18) may also complete a variety of USN Correspondence Courses and take USN advancement tests for promotion. For more information regarding what this program may have to offer your children, contact LCDR Jim Sketchley, USNSCC at 661-349-5157 or via co@enlcc.org

What is the unit logo above all about? Turn the page and learn about CG Airborne Use Of Force.

Council Learns about CG Airborne Use of Force at January Dinner

Article by Pete Stiles
Photos by Delgene Phillips

With 48 guests in attendance, the Lake Washington-Everett Council held its first dinner of 2015 at the Bellevue Red Lion Hotel on Wednesday, 14 January 2015. Following the social hour, the Liberty High School NJROTC presented the colors and President Craig led the audience with the "Pledge of Allegiance." Colors were then retired and board member CAPT Cecil Allison, USCG, Retired gave the invocation. After the winter buffet dinner was served, President Craig resumed the program by inviting RADM John Lockwood, USCG, Retired to the podium and he administered the oath of office to the 2015 slate of officers and directors which is listed on page 2 of this issue and pictured below. President Craig next introduced the keynote speaker, CAPT Dona Cottrell, USCG. She is the current CG District 13 Chief of Staff and her comments focused on her prior duties as Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron (HITRON) from 2011 to 2014 in Jacksonville, FL. As HITRON CO, CAPT Cottrell *(above)* oversaw the first Airborne Use of Force deployments aboard United Kingdom and Dutch vessels as well as the development and execution of the inaugural shore-based Airborne Use of Force deployments to Puerto Rico and Southern California.

Front row left to right: *Jim Britt, Niles Fowler, Craig Chapman, Pete Stiles.* ***Back row left to right:*** *Al Torstensen, Sonya Bachmann, Jim Ardissono, John Thoma, Cec Allison, Delgene Phillips* ***Not pictured:*** *Tom Lancaster, Bert Kinghorn, Jay De Bellis, Dan Burr, Phil Johnson, Bob Mitchell, Ken Sparks, Jim Sketchley*

Photo courtesy of HITRON

With 200 personnel and 10 helicopters, the squadron deploys armed aviation detachments of one helo, two pilots, one gunner and three mechanics to CG and USN vessels with helo landing decks, ideally two deployments to the Caribbean and two to the Pacific. The mission is to intercept suspect targets, i.e., "go-fast vessels" which basically are a hull, engines, fuel drums and illicit cargo such as drugs, weapons, money and sometimes human trafficking. Prior to 9/11, CG helos could only chase drug vessels but CG ships could use disabling fire. After 9/11, use of force tactics by CG helos was developed, first with leased helos and since 2008 the HH65D with upgraded avionics and FLIR (forward looking infrared). The concept requires a maritime patrol aircraft (CG C-130 or USN aircraft), a vessel with a helo deck and a vessel close by with a CG boarding team to apprehend the suspects. The HH65D has three primary weapons: M240 Machine Gun for firing warning shots across the bow *(top photo),* M14 sniper rifle for covering the boarding team after stopping the vessel, and the M107 .50 cal. rifle which is used to disable the engines if the vessel does not stop. Needless to say, these missions require training for the pilots (all experienced aircraft commanders), gunners and CG vessels. HITRON has its own assigned small boats and crewmembers to simulate drug runner evasive tactics using three 39 foot Midnight Interceptor boats with 350 hp engines.

HITRON has completed 200 interdictions since inception. Following CAPT Cottrell's remarks, President Craig presented an engraved "ship's prism" to retiring board member and Treasurer

Bob Renner, thanking Bob *(above)* for his exceptional performance as the council's treasurer for the past year, updating the council accounting system. The evening concluded with the presentation of the Council's 6th annual **"John and Cyndee Lockwood Lifetime Achievement Award,"** which is reported on page 12 of this issue. President Craig the made his concluding remarks and adjourned the dinner meeting.

Pete Stiles Receives Council Award

Article & photo by Delgene Phillips

At the January dinner meeting of the Lake Washington-Everett Council, Pete Stiles, CAPT, USNR, (SC) Retired *(below left)* received the

John and Cyndee Lockwood Lifetime Achievement Award for 2014 presented by John and Cyndee Lockwood *(above)*. Initiated in 2009, the award is for extraordinary support of our nation's sea services and was named for the first recipients, John and Cyndee Lockwood. Presenting the award, John remarked, *"Pete was our council president and continued to accept responsibility in the Navy League at higher levels."* John also noted that Pete's company, VerticalPath Recruiting, a council community affiliate, looks for veterans and other America's Heroes that have completed their service. Craig added, *"In my association with the council, Pete is certainly one of the most deserving people that we could recognize with this award. He is dogged and relentless in contributing his time and his resources to do things for the council and has always volunteered many times when needed."* Pete Stiles is a life long Seattle resident and has been active in the Navy League since 2004. He retired after 28 years service in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve. Pete was commissioned in 1964 and spent three years on active duty onboard the USS Catamount (LSD 17). His last 18 months were spent in Vietnam, transporting USMC and USA personnel from Subic Bay, Philippines to landing sites in Vietnam and Thailand. Following active duty, Pete joined the U.S.N. Reserve and held billets in a number of Supply Corp units. He joined the Naval Reserve Cargo Handling Force in 1975 and served as Commanding Officer of Reserve Cargo Handling Battalion FIVE from 1986 to 1988. In 1989 he was asked to join the Reserve Cargo Handling Staff in Williamsburg, VA, where he served for the next eight years. In 1990, Pete was recalled to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield/ Storm. As chief of staff for the Navy Cargo Handling Force, he was responsible for recalling and directing 1200 reservists who served in Saudi Arabia, Guam, Philippines and multiple ports located throughout the Mediterranean. Pete was employed for 20 years by Pierce County BlueShield (now Regence BlueShield) where he was Senior VP, Operations. He currently owns two small companies, both Community Affiliates of the Lake Washington-Everett Council: Human Resources of Auburn, Inc., a staffing agency which serves clients throughout South King and Pierce Counties and VerticalPath Recruiting, now eleven years old in Kent, WA marketing its services on a national basis specializing in recruiting and placing individuals voluntarily leaving the military into private sector companies throughout the continental US. Pete served as President of the LWC Board of Directors from 2009 through 2012 and focused on improving the council's ability to educate the general public by significantly improving the dinner events and tours of adopted units and also with the Community Affiliates and Corporate Sponsors. He also emphasized the enhancement of the council's website and its newsletter, ***Voyager***. Pete currently serves as a National Director, NW Region NLUS. Pete has been married to his wife Julie for 51 years and they reside in South Seattle. They have three grown children. Their oldest, Chris, is autistic and lives at home with Pete and Julie. Pete was Board President for the Greater Puget Sound Chapter of the March of Dimes, the Kiwanis Club of Tacoma, Tacoma Little Theatre and has served as Elder and Director of Personnel at John Knox Presbyterian Church.

New Lake Washington - Everett Council Adopted Units

Official USCG & USN photos

The USCGC Blue Shark (WPB 87360) *(below)* is

the 60th "Marine Protector Class" cutter built for the CG. She was commissioned on 16 August 2005 in Everett, WA and is moored at Naval Station Everett. The Blue Shark's missions include maritime law enforcement, search and rescue, fisheries enforcement, recreational boating safety, Homeland Security escorts and patrols. USCGC Henry Blake (WLM 563) *(above right)* is the 13th Keeper Class Coastal Buoy Tender consisting of 14 technically advanced and highly capable buoy tenders. Automated engineering controls and computer-based navigation and communications systems assist her small crew in servicing aids to navigation. Constructed by Marinette Marine Corporation in Marinette, WI. CGC Henry Blake arrived at Everett, WA on 14 September 2000. A land based cutter support team (CST) of eight additional personnel augments the crew of 20. CGC Henry Blake is responsible for the maintenance of 80 lighted, 39 unlighted, and 65 shore aids to navigation. CGC Henry Blake will also perform other CG missions that include search and res-

cue, maritime law enforcement and marine environmental protection. USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730) *(below),* is a USN Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine home ported in Bangor, WA and commissioned in 1984. Named for U.S. Senator, Henry M. "Scoop" Jackson (1912-1983) of Washington, she is the only Ohio-class submarine not named after a state. The contract to build Henry M. Jackson (originally named USS Rhode Island) was awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation at Groton, Connecticut, on 6 June 1977. Shortly after Senator Jackson died in office suddenly on 1 September 1983, USS Rhode Island was renamed Henry M. Jackson. USS Henry M. Jackson was launched on 15 October 1983, sponsored by Senator Jackson's daughter, Ms. Anna Marie Jackson and has two crews (Blue and Gold) consisting of 17 officers, 15 chief petty officers and 122 enlisted crewmembers. USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730) is pictured below on its commissioning date, 6 Oct 1984.

U.S. Navy Awards a Canadian Warship

U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Nathan Laird

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) ADM Jonathan Greenert *(below right)* presented the U.S. Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) on 20 Feb to CAPT Jeff Hamilton *(below left),* com-

manding officer of the Royal Canadian Navy frigate HMCS Toronto (FFH 333), in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. A non-U.S. naval force receiving a U.S. Navy unit decoration is a rarity; this event marking the fifth occurrence of such a decoration in the last 45 years. Returning from their deployment, the crew of the Toronto was selected to receive the prestigious award due to their continued support of Combined Task Force (CTF) 150. The Halifax-class frigate significantly disrupted the flow of drugs, criminal and terrorist activities in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. While deployed, Toronto responsibilities included tracking, boarding and searching maritime contacts of interest to CTF-150. Among Toronto's accomplishments during deployment which began in February of 2013, the ship's crew seized six large caches of illegal drugs to include 1,300 kilograms of heroin and six tons of hashish. Seizures of a large magnitude can significantly affect unlawful organizations' ability to fund illegal operations.

Whidbey Honors Vets with Wreaths Across America

By Kelly Pantoleon

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On the morning of 13 Dec 2014, Oak Harbor Mayor Scott Dudley quoted the 40th president of the United States, Ronald Reagan: *"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction."* The Reagan quote fits with the theme of Wreaths Across America, which is "To remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach our children the value of freedom." The Dec. 13 Wreaths Across America ceremony at Maple Leaf Cemetery was the first ever in Oak Harbor, but organizer John Burton said it won't be the last. *"This is my way of giving back, and it will continue,"* Burton said. Before Dudley spoke, Charisse Waldron sang the National Anthem. Her stepfather and father both served in the military. Wreaths Across America, which started at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, is an organization that honors veterans by placing wreaths on their headstones. The ceremonies take place on the same Saturday in December all over the country. The organization makes the wreaths, and then volunteer truck drivers drive the wreaths to their designated sites. Due to inclement weather and logistics, Burton said, 40 wreaths he was supposed to get were stuck in Kansas and didn't arrive in time for Saturday's presentation. But the nine ceremonial wreaths did make it and were laid on wreath stands, donated by the Greenhouse Nursery in Oak Harbor. One by one, family members of veterans placed wreaths in their memory. Wreaths were presented for the Army, the Marine Corps, the Navy, the Air Force, the Coast Guard, the Merchant Marines, Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action. There was also a wreath laid by a Blue Star mom, who has a child in the military, and a Gold Star mom, who has lost a child in the military. The presenters for the Merchant Marines were Linda Mistler and Gene Reitnauer. Their father, High King Williams, Jr., joined the Merchant Marines in 1945 and after a couple years served in the Army. He served as military police and met his wife in Berlin. In 1958, he was discharged because of 100 percent disability. Reitnauer, who lives in Texas, said she wanted to come to the service as

soon as her sister told her about it. *"I thought it was important to be here,"* Reitnauer said. *"I thought it was a very nice turnout."* The person announcing the wreaths was Josh Lamb, a 24-year-old veteran who started ROTC in ninth grade and served in the Navy for two years, being medically discharged during flight school in Pensacola, Fl. Lamb's father, grandfather, uncles and friends all served in the military. His mother, Laurie Crone, presented the Air Force wreath in honor of her father, Harvey Wiggins, Jr., who served in Korea. Crone said her father served as a town councilman, too. *"He was strict but loose. ... He was a great guy,"* Crone said. Burton, a friend of Crone's, said many of his family members served in the military. His mother, father, brother and two grandfathers, one of which was a Pearl Harbor survivor and passed away in 2000, all served. Burton presented the Navy wreath in remembrance of his other grandfather, who served in Naval Air and died last month. Burton, who is currently a Patriot Guard rider, wasn't always committed to honoring the military. *"I knew at a young age that the military wasn't for me,"* Burton said. He said he *"was the kid who wanted to do it on his own. I went down the wrong path."* Burton said he went through group homes and that it took him a long time to grow up. Over the past couple years, he joined the VFW Riders motorcycle group, joined the Men's Auxiliary and became a Patriot Guard rider. At the end of November, he became a Ryan's House host parent. Ryan's House is a nonprofit focused on helping Whidbey Island's homeless youth. Burton said he volunteered because he wanted to give back. *"I wanted to help someone who is going through what I went through as a kid,"* he said. *"I believe God told me it was time to start giving back."* Burton had many friends at the ceremony Saturday morning, two of whom were brothers, Corbin and Chance Kleinfelter, 15 and 16, respectively. The Kleinfelter brothers said their father served in the military, but he retired by the time they were old enough to ask questions. Their grandfather and step grandfather also served in the military. *"We've seen pictures,"* Corbin said. Their stepmother, April Kleinfelter's father served in the Coast Guard, and she presented that wreath. Corbin and Chance both go to Coupeville High School and eventually want to join the military. Corbin said he's probably going to be a tattoo artist first, because that's what he's good at, and then he might join the military. *"I'm probably gonna influence him,"* Chance said. *"Like I'm influencing him to do football."* Chance said he's one of the top five fastest players on the team. *"The football team was my family,"* Chance said. He said he wants to serve in the military to make his country and his family proud. *"I want to feel like I did something for the world,"* Chance said. *"I have a mission to know the world is at peace ... one day."* Corbin said he wanted to join the military "for exactly the same reasons he (Chance) said."

Pete Sill, who served for 20 years in the United States Navy, Vietnam and the Gulf War, presents the wreath in memory of Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Maple Leaf Cemetery in Oak Harbor. Photo by Kelly Pantoleon

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