



Navy League of the United States St. Augustine - Palm Coast Council

BOSUN'S LOCKER

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Fellow Navy Leaguers,

Our recent social event at the National Guard Officers Club was a huge success. Those who were unable to join us for the evening missed a great opportunity to fellowship with your fellow Navy League members and our guests. We had several guests decide the Navy League was an organization they would like to belong to including the quintessential Marian Barnett, USCG SPAR, WW II and our Mayor, Nancy Shaver. Marian's daughter Kathleen and son Jack decided they best sign-up as well so as not to let Mom have all the fun. Event sponsor Claude Caviness did a yeoman's job along with his tem. We look forward to our quarterly Friday evening outing for Happy Hour at the O Club.

Our events committee chaired by Mike Zollar has laid out some fun events for the year. If you haven't done so already, please visit our website at www.sapcnavyleague.org. There are special events and trips planned for every month and I think you will find them enjoyable and a great opportunity to fellowship with your fellow Navy Leaguers. The committee's purposes is to find fun things for our members to do as opposed to just attending a meeting each month. The monthly meetings are important and we encourage our members to come out and join us at **5:30 PM** on the **second Monday** of each month at **Christ The King Anglican Church, 6900 US 1 South**. We plan to have some of our social events replace the monthly meetings so be sure to visit our website or check your emails from Lee Figliuolo for each months Council's activities.

Saturday, Feb. 24 was the Florida Region Navy League meeting held this year in St. Augustine at the Renaissance Resort Hotel, World Golf Village. Dave Sullivan, Jerry Cameron, and I attended to represent the SA-PC NL Council. The nomination of National Officers was conducted at the beginning of the program. Dave Sullivan has elected to seek emeritus status as a National Director after serving for many years as a National Director. The event was very informative with our new National Executive Director Jim Bruns attending from Headquarters. Jim gave an informative overview of the health of our Navy League at the National level.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, was the annual Active Boomers and Seniors Expo in the St. Augustine Outlet Mall. There was a reserved section for all Veterans organization. The Navy League and Sea Cadets had a reserved table for display. The event was opened with the presentation of colors carried by 4 members of our Sea Cadet Battalion. They looked sharp as they carried the colors and stood at attention during the playing of the National Anthem.

One of the goals for our Council this year is to grow the membership to a 150 members by the end of the year. Our membership committee has taken on that challenge and are putting forth a lot of energy in making this a reality. Every member has an opportunity to assist by attending one of our meetings or special events and bringing a new member with you.

Thank you for being a member.

Bill Dudley

**President
SA-PC Council
Navy League of the United States**

Editors Note:

On February 3rd our local Knights of Columbus chapter celebrated the **4 Immortal Chaplains** from WWII. Not really knowing the story, I looked it up on both Wikipedia and the Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation, at www.fourchaplains.org/.

I have summarized their amazing story of selfless devotion to their fellow man on page 7 of this issue. Much more can be found on the Memorial Foundation page.



Council Meeting

At our January 9, 2018 council meeting, Council President Bill Dudley swore in several of our Board of Directors for 2018. Bill also presented a plaque of appreciation to Ltjg Eric Johnson for his helping establish and maintain our fast growing Sea Cadet Battalion. Lastly, Bill presented the Scroll of Honor, the council's highest award, to Bill Hamm for his outstanding efforts in developing and supporting the council's Youth Activities (JROTC and Sea Cadets).



USS FARRAGUT (DDG 99)



On 18 January five members of the St Augustine-Palm Coast Navy League council travelled to NS Mayport to present SOQ and SOY honors to deserving FARRAGUT Sailors. The ship has just completed a demanding industrial period and the basic phase of their unit-level training, and is preparing to embark on a comprehensive multi-ship training event with the JOHN C. STENNIS Carrier Strike Group. "The ship looks terrific!" SAPCNL Liaison and former FARRAGUT Command Master Chief Gene Finck told the crew during remarks at the event. Members enjoyed touring the ship, and participating in the presentation followed by a luncheon in the ship's Wardroom. "Every opportunity to go aboard ship and interact with Sailors is time well spent," noted SAPCNL member, Ian Pollitt. "More of our members need to get out to the waterfront and really get an appreciation for the amazing work these young men and women perform in support of our national interests."



USCG HITRON:



On 5 February, sixteen members of St Augustine Navy League and three Congressional representatives from Senator Rubio, Senator Nelson and Congressman Rutherford's office descended on Cecil Field to present HITRON personnel with awards. AMT1 Joel Edwards was presented with the Perchard Award for aviation excellence, while AMT2 Hugh Dailey was awarded Enlisted Person of the Year recognition for his significant contributions to unit readiness, morale, and strong community volunteer spirit.



While aboard HITRON, the group was treated to a short command mission brief, followed by a tour of one of their 39-foot "Midnight Express" go-fast training craft and then a static display of one of the MH-65 Dolphin helicopters. Aircrew were on standby to demonstrate how the Airborne Use of Force (AUF) mission is carried out and to answer questions about HITRON missions and USCG life. All who attended walked away with a vastly improved understanding of how this unique command operates, and the impressive contributions it makes to the War on Drugs.

Following the completion of the formal program, many in the party adjourned to Tremendous BBQ, a local rib shack popular with HITRON

personnel, for a late lunch. Sea stories were shared over plates of ribs, brisket and all the fixin's.

Stay tuned in the spring as the weather warms for announcements on opportunities to get underway with HITRON on the St Johns river on board the go-fast boats while they conduct interdiction training. This is a fantastic opportunity to see how our USCG trains up close and personal: yanking and banking at 50 knots, with a helo hovering 40 feet overhead, it feels like you're starring in a James Bond movie! (Not an experience for the feint of heart, but also not an experienced to be missed, if you're up for it!) More information to follow...

Ian Pollitt - VP Military Affairs



VR-58 "Sunseekers":



The St. Augustine-Palm Cost Navy League (SANL) presented Sailor of the Quarter (SOQ) and Sailor of the Year (SOY) awards for FY 2017 to 12 members of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Five Eight (VR-58) at NAS Jacksonville. The event was in conjunction with the quarterly presentation of personal awards and decorations.

The senior winners of the SOY awards were AME1 Matthew James (Full Time Service) and AWF1 Elizabeth Lee (Selected Reservist). The award package include a plaque, a recognition certificate for the sailor's permanent service record, letters of appreciation from area congressional members, dinner at one of St. Augustine's participating restaurants, passes to the local area attractions, the tourist trolleys, a City parking pass, \$100 cash and two-night courtesy lodging.



AME1 Matthew James

Those receiving SOY plaques were Juniors AT2 Kyle Minturn and Bluejackets PR2 Hai Nguyen and IT2 Alan Garcia. SOQ winners receiving plaques were A WF3 Nicole Taus, AMI Randell Rocheleau, A WF2 Joshua, Brown and AM2 Michaela Leyba. (all shown L to R below)

The ceremony was presided over by Command Executive Officer, Cdr. J. P. Landry and Command Master Chief Jeffery Combs USN. Representing the SA-PC NL were Asst. Liaison Officer Claude Caviness (who presented the Navy League plaques), Garry Cohn and Sally Watson.



AWF1 Elizabeth Lee



The VR-58 "Sunseekers" are a Naval Air Reserve Force Squadron that is comprised of over 250 professionals, both active duty and selected reservists. They provide 24/7 worldwide logistics support to all Department of Defense agencies. VR-58 operates the Boeing C-40A Clipper that can carry 121 passengers, 30,000 lbs. of cargo, or a combination of both. Squadron missions are flown throughout the United States, the Caribbean, Central and South America, the Middle East, Europe, the Mediterranean and the Western Pacific. They supported Northern Watch, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. VR-58 also provided logistical humanitarian relief for the US Hurricane, Haiti Earthquake, Japan Tsunami and Pakistan Earthquake, among other events.

Claude Caviness - VP Membership

USCGC MARIA BRAY (WLM 562):

On Tuesday, February 20th St. Augustine-Palm Coast Council members Jerry Cameron, Ian Pollitt, Bill Dudley and Garry Cohn were joined by Congressional representatives Michelle Barth (Nelson), Matthew Dews (Rubio) and Ryan Bass (Rutherford) onboard USCGC MARIA BRAY for a SOQ and SOY presentation.

During the ceremony, BM3 Andrew Scruggs was acknowledged as the 2017 Sailor of the Year and BM2 Erin Welch was recognized as Sailor of the Quarter. This marks the first time that SAPCNL has recognized a SOQ for MARIA BRAY, a sure sign that this relationship is maturing and growing even stronger than before!

After the presentations, Congressional leaders and Navy Leaguers were treated to a tour of the ship, followed by lunch with the crew. "Those T-bone steaks and creamed spinach souffle were something else!" enthused Garry Cohn - who as a former Navy cook is certainly in a position to judge.



ALL Navy Leaguers are invited to come out to future SOQ and SOY presentations, to enjoy good food, good camaraderie, and to get a better appreciation of what the Navy League is really all about... rewarding 'deckplate' Sailors for their hard work.

Stay plugged in to the new-and-improved web-based SAPCNL calendar for reminders of upcoming events, and let the respective liaisons know if you want to go!

Ian Pollitt - VP Military Affairs

Happy Hour:



Our 2018 inaugural Happy Hour at the National Guard Officers Club on Friday 23 February is in the books. Chairman Mike Zollar and assistants Claude Caviness, Patrick McCormack, Bob Price, Harlan Trofholz and Sally Watson stated clearly that the event objective was membership.

Boy ! . . . did the troops respond: President Bill Dudley signed-up Mayor Nancy Shaver. Secretary Sally Watson inked WW-II USCG SPAR Marion Barnett and her son Jack Barnett as well as daughter Kathleen Barnett. Youth Affairs VP Joe Giammanco welcomed Bob and Marci Quinney. Membership guy Claude Caviness reports three very likely prospects who enjoyed meeting our Steve Switzer and his service dog Dudley. Dudley (the sight-impaired labrador retriever) was the only attendee who slept through it all . . . and didn't have a headache Saturday morning. Retired Navy Corpsman Steve spent the last ten years of his career-20 with Seal Team Six.

The Board plans to have a quarterly Happy Hour and looks forward to *every member getting a new member*.

Claude Caviness - VP Membership

USCGC VALIANT (WMEC 621):



The VALIANT left March 6th for her last patrol before going into dry dock on May 3rd. Their primary patrol mission is counter-drug operations which is critical to keeping drugs out of our country. That is only part of their mission. Illicit drug trafficking in Central America, the Caribbean, and Puerto Rico breeds tremendous violence in those countries which affects the security of our borders. VALIANT's presence alters the way drug traffickers do business. They will undoubtedly encounter those that think they can out run the Coast Guard, so they will be sure to nab some of them.

This is the last patrol for Commanding Officer, CDR Tim Cronin and Executive Officer, CDR Chris Davis. Tim Cronin is headed to War College, and Chris Davis expects to take a position with the USCG in Finance in the DC area. They have been an amazing team and so easy to work with. Change of Command is expected to be around July 19th.

VALIANT will be returning to port on April 16th. This is a great opportunity to have a "Homecoming" as they return to Mayport. Mark your calendars and plan to come. Sally Watson will send an e-mail out as soon as the time is set. As a group, we meet at the dock and wave to the crew as they come into the pier. It is a great time to mingle with the families and let them know we support them too. There is always food. We hope to have a good turnout.

Sally Watson - USCGC Valiant Liaison

Council Meeting:

On Monday, March 12, we had a very well attended council meeting. President Bill Dudley was pleased to welcome new member, Jim Golomb to the council. Like Bill, Jim also served in the U.S. Air Force, many, many years ago. We also had a surprise visit from our former Recording Secretary, Anita Proffitt, who now lives with family in Columbus, Ohio.



At the end of our regular meeting schedule, Bill introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Capt. Todd Wiemers, USCG Sector Jacksonville Commanding Officer. Todd gave a thumbnail description of his current assignment. The Sector is responsible for all Coast Guard Missions in the Jacksonville Captain of the Port (COTP) zone and Area of Responsibility (AOR), including Search and Rescue; Ports Waterways and Coastal Security; Waterways Management; Maritime Homeland Security; Marine Science Activities; Aids to Navigation; and finally Command and Logistical Support. In his previous assignment, Capt. Wiemers served as the Coast Guard's Presidential Transition Component Action Officer where he developed briefing materials and content to inform the incoming administration about the Coast Guard's Missions, Programs and activities.



Qualified Submarines:

As the only former Submarine sailor in the council, I have taken the liberty to include this well written description of how a sailor earns the right to wear his prized Dolphins. **Lee Figliuolo**



A submarine crew is much like a family. Everyone knows each other by first name, formality is largely thrown aside, and there are no secrets. When a new man first arrives he is looked at like an in-law, he is a "non-qual." The Navy has assigned him to the crew but everyone wants to know if he is really going to fit in. He must prove his worth through qualification. During this process he must learn all of the major ships systems and their components, how to draw them, show how they work,

and learn how to fight any possible casualty from fire, to flooding, to poison in the air, on every level of the boat. This is done in order to ensure that when the boat is submerged every crew member can be relied upon to know what to do in case of an emergency. If the "non-qual" accomplishes this task he will be then become qualified, will be awarded the Navy's submarine warfare pin, known as dolphins, and will become a full member of the crew.

A non-qual's first day onboard any Navy sub is intimidating to say the least. Upon a new man's arrival he becomes the most junior and most inexperienced member of a very highly trained crew. When he first arrives he is given his qualification card and is assigned his "sea dad." This person is a qualified member of the crew that will help guide the "non-qual" through the qual process. The qual card has all the systems the he must learn listed in it with a signature block next to it. When he is done studying a particular system he must go to a crew member that works directly with or on that system and get a "check out." This is a verbal quiz designed to test knowledge of a particular part of the boat and once that crew member feels you have all the knowledge required he will sign your card. This process will be repeated over 70 times on the road to qualification. Each non-qual is given only nine months to complete this task and he is expected to complete at least three to four check outs per week.

The qualification process is not only a mental challenge, but a physical one as well. Qualification can only be done on a non-qual's "own time," meaning after he has completed all of his regular work. The submarine, while at sea, works on an eighteen hour schedule that rotates through three six hour watches. Six hours are spent on watch, the other twelve are "off time." This is a very general term though. There are ship drills scheduled during this time that are designed to test the crew on their abilities to fight casualties. There are also long lists of maintenance that each crew member is assigned in order to keep the boat running. This means that the six hour period normally used for sleep by most qualified crew members must be used for "doing quals" by non-qualified members. The small amounts of entertainment that are available to the crew, such as movies or card games, are off limits to non-quals. All of a non-qual's free time is to be dedicated toward qualification. If a non-qual is unable to keep up with the minimum amount of signatures that are required each week, he will then be designated as delinquent, or "dink" in his quals. In this case, a non-qual will be required to muster for an extra two hours of supervised study time after he has completed all of his other tasks. He must continue to do this until he catches up on his minimums. For extra motivation through these slips, the non-qual's sea dad is also made to muster with him during this period. Suffice to say, most men stay dink for very short periods of time.

As a non-qual nears the end of his qualifications he is then required to do a "walk through" of every level of the ship. This is a process where a senior member of the crew walks with you through each level of the boat and asks you to identify and explain the uses for all the equipment on that level. Once this is completed, the non-qual is then given one to two weeks to study for his final board. This is the final step before becoming qualified and it is by far the most difficult. In the oral board, three senior enlisted men, each experts in different parts of the boat, and one of the boat's officers will give the non-qual essentially, one large check out. Every major system is reviewed in depth in order to see if the individual can put all of his knowledge together at the same time. This process can last anywhere from three to six hours, on average, and is the culmination of many long months of work. It can be a moment of joy and relief for those who pass, or a time of disappointment for those who do not. Each non-qual is given three chances to pass a final board.

Once the final board is completed it is now time to be recognized. The crew that has pushed this man, sleep deprived him, and treated him like an outsider is now all lined up at attention to honor and welcome him into their ranks. The Captain of the boat pins the submarine dolphins to his uniform and presents him with the submarine qualification certificate. This is truly a moment of enormous pride and satisfaction for those who get there. It is the culmination of a not only a process of learning, but also of acceptance into an organization that is larger than yourself. He will from this moment on always be able to call himself a submariner, even long after he hangs up his Navy uniforms.

Qualification in submarines is a daunting task. However, once finished you become part of a fellowship that can only be understood by those who have done it themselves. That can only be truly recognized by the very small and special group of men that have the pride and honor of calling themselves SUBMARINERS. (by: CS2/SS Kevin T. Flatley, USN, Qualified on board USS Dallas (SSN700) 26 April, 1998)

In Memorium:



Long time council member and past president Daniel Allen Suttelle, age 96, of St. Augustine, passed away on Wednesday, Feb.14, 2018 at Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home.

Dan was born on Sept. 27, 1921 in Ambridge, Pa. to Frank and Margaret Griffin Suttelle. After graduating from high school, Dan joined the US Navy in Oct of 1939 serving as a Chief Pharmacist Mate specializing in Aviation Medicine. He served aboard the USS Seiverling, DE441 in most all of the major battles in the Pacific in WW II. His ship was tied up alongside the USS Missouri during the signing of the Japanese surrender in Japan at the end of the war and he witnessed along with many of his shipmates the signing of the surrender. He retired from the U.S. Navy in June of 1960 after 20 years of service.

After his retirement, Dan was employed as a Director at the Red Cross in Long Island, N.Y and United Way in Long Island. He later moved to St. Augustine in the early 70's and was employed by Deltona Real Estate and was heavily involved in development of St. Augustine Shores. He served as a docent at World Golf Hall of Fame giving tours, was a former President of the St. Augustine Navy League Council, a National Director and a member of the US Navy Fleet Reserve. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Exchange Club, and Lions Club. Dan will be best remembered as a caring and giving person who was always ready to help a friend or family member in need.

USS THE SULLIVANS (DDG 68), SOY/SOQ:

On a cold and extremely windy Wednesday, March 21st, seven council members and three Congressional representatives stood on the flight deck of the USS The Sullivans (DDG 68), to present SOQ and SOY awards. Council members present were, President - Bill Dudley, The Sullivans Liaison - Gary Cohn, VP Military Affairs - Ian Pollitt, VP Communications - Lee Figliuolo, Recording Secretary & USCGC Valiant Liaison - Sally Watson, Bill Hamm & Ken Moffa.

FCA1(SW) Dustin Hoeckelberg was presented with the 4Q2017 Senior SOQ award and the 2017 Senior SOY award. In addition to the two plaques and St. Augustine weekend package awarded to Dustin by our council, he also received letters of congratulations from US Senators Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson, and US Congressman John Rutherford. Ms. Ashley Cook represented Senator Rubio, Mr. Thoren Perego represented Senator Nelson and Mr. Ryan Bass represented Congressman Rutherford.



The other awardees who are pictured from L to R below, were, SH3(SW) Krystal Diezcanseco - 2017 Blue Jacket SOY; STG3(SW) Garrett Brake - 4Q2017 Blue Jacket SOQ; FCA2(SW) Neoshia Johnson - 1Q2018 Junior SOQ; GMSN Cassidy Hough - 1Q2018 Blue Jacket SOQ



After the awards ceremony, FCA1(SW) Hoeckelberg escorted us on an extremely informative walking tour of the ship. We climbed up and down ladders and walked through crowded passageways, before he deposited us back on the quarterdeck. After enduring the cold, the wind and the many ladders, and earlier watching crew members eating Corn Dogs and French Fries at a time I would consider suitable for breakfast, the realization set in that this is a game for people much younger than us.

VR-58 Change of Command:



On March 15, 2018, the council was represented by assistant Liaison Claude Caviness at the Change of Command ceremony for Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Five Eight (VR-58) at NAS Jacksonville. Commander Mac Kahle USN was relieved of command by Commander Jody Landry USN in an informal ceremony at the squadron spaces in Hangar 1000.

In a break with tradition, the usual "white Gloves and Swords" were dispensed with and instead flight suits were worn by the platform guests as well as the flight officers. An informal "happy hour" type reception followed the ceremony in the T-Bar located in Bldg. 844, Navy Gateway Inn and Suites. Pictured are AWF1 Matthew James (I) and Claude Caviness. PO James has been of special assistance to members of the SA-PC NL in populating our functions.



The Four Chaplains:

On the evening of Feb. 2, 1943, the U.S. Army Transport Ship (USAT) *Dorchester* was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen and civilian workers. Once a luxury coastal liner, the converted 5,649-ton vessel was one of three ships in a convoy moving steadily across the icy waters from Newfoundland toward an American base in Greenland. The convoy was escorted by Coast Guard Cutters *Tampa*, *Escanaba* and *Comanche*.

On Feb. 3, at 12:55 a.m., a periscope broke the chilly Atlantic waters. Through the cross hairs, an officer aboard the German submarine U-223 spotted the *Dorchester*. The sub approached the convoy on the surface, and after identifying and targeting the ship, orders were given to fire a fan of three torpedoes. One torpedo hit, striking the starboard side, amid ship, far below the water line. As a result, the *Dorchester* was taking water rapidly and sinking and the Captain gave the order to abandon ship. In less than 20 minutes, the *Dorchester* would slip beneath the Atlantic's icy waters.

The blast had killed scores of men, and many more were seriously wounded. Others, stunned by the explosion were groping in the darkness. Those sleeping without clothing rushed topside where they were confronted first by a blast of icy Arctic air and then by the knowledge that death awaited. Men jumped from the ship into lifeboats, over-crowding them to the point of capsizing, according to eyewitnesses. Other rafts, tossed into the Atlantic, drifted away before soldiers could get in them.

Through the pandemonium, according to those present, four Army chaplains brought hope in despair and light in darkness. Those chaplains (shown from L to R) were Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic Priest; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish Rabbi; Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed Minister; and Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist Minister. Quickly and quietly, the four chaplains spread out among the soldiers. There they tried to calm the frightened, tend the wounded and guide the disoriented toward safety.



"Witnesses of that terrible night remember hearing the four men offer prayers for the dying and encouragement for those who would live," says Wyatt R. Fox, son of Reverend Fox. One witness, Private William B. Bednar, found himself floating in oil-smeared water surrounded by dead bodies and debris. "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying," Bednar recalls. "I could also hear the chaplains preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Another sailor, Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, tried to reenter his cabin but Rabbi Goode stopped him. Mahoney, concerned about the cold Arctic air, explained he had forgotten his gloves. "Never mind," Goode responded. "I have two pairs." The rabbi then gave the petty officer his own gloves. In retrospect, Mahoney realized that Rabbi Goode was not conveniently carrying two pairs of gloves, and that the rabbi had decided not to leave the *Dorchester*.

By this time, most of the men were topside, and the chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight. When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven," said John Ladd, another survivor who saw the chaplains' selfless act. Ladd's response is understandable. The altruistic action of the four chaplains constitutes one of the purest spiritual and ethical acts a person can make. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did the Reverends Fox and Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line.

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains—arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers. Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. *Dorchester*, 672 died, leaving 230 survivors. When the news reached American shores, the nation was stunned by the magnitude of the tragedy and heroic conduct of the four chaplains.

"Valor is a gift," Carl Sandburg once said. "Those having it never know for sure whether they have it until the test comes." That night Reverend Fox, Rabbi Goode, Reverend Poling and Father Washington passed life's ultimate test. In doing so, they became an enduring example of extraordinary faith, courage and selflessness.

Though the four chaplains came from different backgrounds, each was motivated by profound love of God, country and neighbor. The tragedy of Pearl Harbor moved them to volunteer as military chaplains, and that call brought the four men together for the first time in 1942 at the Army Chaplains School at Harvard University. The chaplains, disappointed at being sent to serve in a rear guard capacity in Greenland rather than on the front lines, did not hesitate to sacrifice their lives for their brothers in arms when the opportunity arose.

The Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were awarded posthumously on December 19, 1944, to the next of kin by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, in a ceremony at the post chapel at Fort Myer, VA.

A one-time only posthumous Special Medal for Heroism was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President Eisenhower on January 18, 1961. Congress attempted to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements that required heroism performed under fire. The special medal was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor.

Today, a host of monuments, chapels and works of art, including stained-glass windows at the Pentagon and West Point, also memorialize the Four Chaplains' faith in action.





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MISSION STATEMENT

The St. Augustine - Palm Coast Council of the Navy League of the of the United States is a civilian organization whose mission is to: Support the objectives of the National Navy League of the United States and selected active duty Maritime Military units within our reach in the St. Augustine area and to support local High School JROTC programs

