



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

BOSUN'S LOCKER

EDITOR: LEE FIGLIUOLO, LEEFIG@AOL.COM, (386) 447-3640

2Q2019
Volume 2019 Number 2



Happy Summer Navy Leaguers!

Our spring went well with many highlights including a briefing at the St. Johns County Emergency Management Center by Director Linda Stoughton and her professional staff. A review of the 2016 (Matthew) and 2017 (Irma) Hurricane disaster relief efforts were given. As we are now in 2019 hurricane season, council members should review hurricane readiness steps available at <https://www.sjcemergencymanagement.com/hurrprep.html>.

For our July 8 Council meeting, we have planned a senior citizen legal preparation presentation to be given by Megan Wall, the director of the St. Augustine branch of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid. Ms. Wall, in addition to providing area legal aid services, frequently provides presentations of interest of older Americans. It will be all information and no sales.

Our Council Board of Directors is reviewing the practicality of a Paypal or other online mechanism to facilitate Council member payment of our local annual fees.

Enjoy these lovely summer days, be safe, and we are looking forward to seeing you soon.

Patrick McCormack
President
SA-PC Council
Navy League of the United States



I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
TO THE **FLAG** OF THE
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA
AND TO THE | FOR WHICH
REPUBLIC | IT STANDS
ONE NATION
UNDER
GOD **INDIVISIBLE**
WITH **LIBERTY & JUSTICE**
***** **FOR ALL**

USS THE SULLIVANS (DDG 68):



On March 25th, FC1(SW) Zakary Briggs of the USS THE SULLIVANS was recognized and proudly presented with the 2018 SOY Award. The awards presentation took place at port side NS Mayport. FC1(SW) Briggs was presented with an honorary SOY plaque and a gift packet, including a \$100 bill as a gift recognizing him for his achievement, dedication, and service.

The photo on the right includes Gary Cohn, Council Liaison to the USS The Sullivans; FC1(SW) Zakary Briggs, USS The Sullivans Sailor of the Year for 2018; and CDR Pat Eliason, Commanding Officer of the Sullivans.



In addition to the SOY award, the council also presented SOQ awards for 2018 and the first quarter of 2019 to the following sailors:

DS3(SW) Nathan Washington,	2018 SOQ
IT1(SW) Ladale Fitzgerald,	2018 SOQ
HM3(SW) Marci Seymore,	2018 SOQ
EN1(SW) Loren Callis,	2018 SOQ
OS1(SW) Demarcus Lewis,	2019 SOQ

Those in attendance at the ceremony were: Jackie Smith, Representative for Congressman John Rutherford, Matthew Dews, Representative for Senator Marco Rubio. Navy League member's included, liaison Garry Cohn, Sally Watson, Israel Reppolle, George Costa and Jose Marrero. All the photos from this award ceremony are available for viewing on our web site photo gallery.

Gary Cohn - USS THE SULLIVANS Liaison

NAVY JROTC:



The St. Augustine-Palm Coast council supports four local High School JROTC Organizations. Air Force at the Flagler/Palm Coast, High School, Army at the Matanzas and St. Augustine High Schools and Navy at the Allen D. Nease High School in St. Augustine.

Each year we award a graduating senior with a plaque and a \$500 scholarship.

Cadet Erin Sass the Nease High School recipient of that award this year sent the attached thank you note to our Past President Bill Dudley.

NOTE: The Nease High School JROTC unit always excels in their annual drill meet competitions.



The Navy League of the United States,

I just wanted to say it was an honor to receive your scholarship for Outstanding Leadership. It has been an absolute privilege over the past four years to be in my NJROTC unit and have the opportunity to step up and lead by example. I can honestly say that NJROTC has changed my life and I am so grateful for everything the Navy League does to support our unit. I am looking forward to serving as an officer in the Coast Guard one day. Thank you, Erin Sass

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT:



Our 23rd annual fund raising golf tournament will again be held at the Grand Haven Golf Club on Monday, October 28, 2019. This will be the 10th Anniversary of this event being held at Grand Haven. This year will also be the 10th Anniversary of Genesis of St. Augustine sponsoring our Hole-in-One contest on the Par 3 hole #17.

As you know the proceeds from this tournament is our primary source of funds to support our Council's activities. Mark your calendars and make an effort to support our tournament this year. This can be done by helping to secure sponsor donations, assist on the day of the tournament, or playing in the tournament yourself.



Lee Figliuolo - VP Communications, Golf Tournament Chairman



The Coast Guard Foundation, a non-profit organization committed to the education and welfare of all Coast Guard members and their families, recently recognized Crowley Maritime Corporation chairman and CEO Tom Crowley Jr. and his company for more than 30 years of support. The award ceremony occurred at the foundation's 25th Tribute to the Coast Guard Seventh District event in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The event, originally scheduled for late January but postponed due to the partial government shutdown, was held April 18.



Tom Crowley (left) with Will Jenkins, Coast Guard Foundation Board Chairman

The rescheduled date did nothing to dampen spirits, as the function was one of the most successful in recent memory, with more than 400 people in the crowded ballroom at the Pier Sixty-Six Hotel and Marina. Approximately \$380,000 was raised that evening to support Coast Guard Foundation programs and initiatives that provide education, morale and relief support for Coast Guard members and families.

"In addition to supporting events like this one in Fort Lauderdale, Crowley has contributed to our scholarship program, Fallen Heroes Fund and morale programs all across the country," said Will Jenkins, Coast Guard Foundation board chairman. "For all of this and so much more, we would like to offer Tom and the entire Crowley Maritime organization this well-deserved recognition and our deepest thanks."

In honoring Crowley, the foundation noted the company's large-scale response to Puerto Rico after its devastation by Hurricane Maria. Within two hours of the Coast Guard reopening the island's main port in San Juan, a Crowley vessel arrived and began discharging critical commercial and relief cargoes. Over the next 182 days, Crowley unloaded more than 200 vessels with cargo consisting of nearly 40,000 commercial loads and 8,000 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) loads, including food, water and humanitarian supplies as well as thousands of electrical transformers and poles; and 10 million miles of power line. That mission was accomplished by 300 Puerto Rico employees, themselves reeling from the hurricane.

"The men and women of our entire company and I are honored to receive this recognition from the Foundation," Crowley said. "We also appreciated the organization's constant support of the men and women serving our nation in the U.S. Coast Guard. The U.S. Merchant Marine can depend on the Coast Guard every day, and we applaud the great support by the Foundation to those who ensure safety and security on our nation's waters and ports."

Crowley has led the company since 1994, succeeding as CEO his father and grandfather in leadership dating back to the company's founding in 1892. The company is a U.S.-based, \$2 billion-a-year marine solutions, energy and logistics services company with operations around the world.

At the event, the Foundation also presented an award to the Rescue Coordination Center Miami and an aircrew from Air Station Clearwater. The brave individuals were recognized for their rescue of 28 fishermen who were forced to abandon their 131-foot commercial fishing vessel when it became fully engulfed in a destructive onboard fire.

THE GREATEST GENERATION:

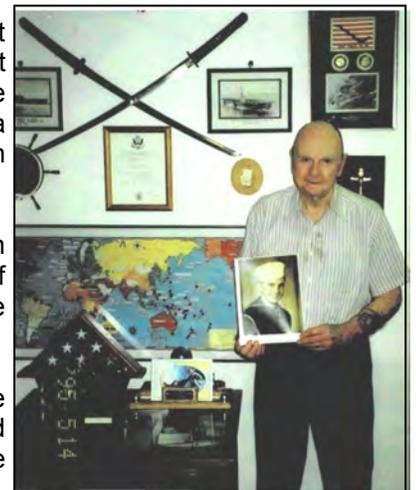
J. D. Powell, a deceased member of America's Greatest Generation was a Navy Combat Aircrewman (emphasis on Combat) and Navy Leaguer. He was aboard the USS Hornet and observed Doolittle's Raiders launch for their "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo". He experienced two aircraft carriers being sunk out from under him, crew-ditched a damaged plane in the open ocean and twice successfully parachuted from stricken aircraft.

Toward WW-II's end, J.D. was ordered to the US to participate in a War Bond Tour. On one occasion after relating his combat experiences, a member of the audience asked if he was ever 'afraid during all that' . . . J.D. answered, "yes ma'am, I was scared that one time . . . and it lasted 34-months".



The SA-PC NL's surviving members of the Greatest Generation are Joe McDonald (D-Day, Iwo Jima and Okinawa) and Boyd Guttery. For his D-Day action, Joe McDonald was awarded the French government's Legion of Honor.

Claude Caviness - VP Membership & USCG ANT Liaison



J.D. with his memorabilia

USCGC VALIANT (WMEC 621):



USCGC Valiant returned to Mayport on Memorial Day following a successful nine-week drug patrol in the Eastern Pacific. The ship was greeted by excited family and friends, as well as liaison Sally Watson and new member Luc Lausier. The crew seized 2,718 pounds of cocaine, worth over \$41 million. They also apprehended three suspected drug smugglers. The crew patrolled over 14,000 nautical miles on their mission.

"The noteworthy results of Valiant's patrol underscore what a well-trained crew can accomplish with a still highly-capable 51-year-old Coast Guard cutter," said Cmdr. Matthew Waldron, Valiant's commanding officer. "Transiting through the Panama Canal and patrolling well out into the Eastern Pacific Ocean, at one point we were closer to Kodiak, Alaska than we were to Mayport. We overcame multiple engineering casualties to remain fully mission capable in the most highly trafficked maritime drug smuggling vector in the world for two months, all with no lost operational days. In doing so, we supported the nation's counterdrug mission by apprehending illicit drug smugglers on the high seas, leading to the disruption and dismantling of transnational criminal organizations. I am so incredibly proud of what this crew overcame and accomplished. Now back home we will refit, repair, and recharge - all so Valiant can go right back out and do it all again."



Sally Watson - USCGC Valiant Liaison

MEMORIAL DAY 2019:



A Memorial Day celebration was held at the Florida National Guard Cemetery in St. Augustine this year. The first of the two photos, which were scanned from the newspaper, show the Color Guard being led by Council member Jana Teehan. The second shows three members of our Sea Cadet battalion, they are PO3 Jonathan Clark, Seaman Isabella Giammanco and Seaman Recruit Julianne Hunter. Cadet Giammanco is the daughter of Joe & Shannon Giammanco, our Council's Liaison to the St. Augustine Sea Cadet Battalion.



MILITARY HISTORY:

75th ANNIVERSARY

D-DAY AND BATTLE OF NORMANDY

Having just celebrated the 75th anniversary of the D-Day Invasion, this article about a genuine war hero had to be included in our newsletter for all members to read.

Brigadier General Theodore Roosevelt Jr. the son of President “Teddy” Roosevelt, was the oldest man to hit the beach on the D-day invasion. He was also the highest ranking person to directly participate in the beach landing invasion. He was supposed to be with the other command staff in England. Gen. Roosevelt knew the importance of the mission, he knew much of the invasion force were new, untried soldiers who had never seen combat. His requests to join his men were repeatedly denied, but he persisted, even when his superiors told him he faced near certain death.

He was granted permission after explaining how his presence would inspire confidence in the invasion plan. The Commander of the Allied Forces, General Eisenhower wrote Roosevelt’s eulogy before the invasion.

On the morning of the attack, as he requested, Gen. Roosevelt was in one of the lead landing craft. He led his men across the beach to a rally point under heavy fire. Being pinned down, it appeared they were going to be wiped out. Roosevelt took charge and led a move over the sea wall.

At that time, he realized other troops were trapped back on the beach, and cut off. He returned to the beach and led these men to join the attacking force. He repeated this action several times, under heavy fire.



For these actions, he received the Congressional Medal of Honor. The official citation is below:

“For gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on 6 June 1944, in France. After 2 verbal requests to accompany the leading assault elements in the Normandy invasion had been denied, Brig. Gen. Roosevelt’s written request for this mission was approved and he landed with the first wave of the forces assaulting the enemy-held beaches. He repeatedly led groups from the beach, over the seawall and established them inland. His valor, courage, and presence in the very front of the attack and his complete unconcern at being under heavy fire inspired the troops to heights of enthusiasm and self-sacrifice. Although the enemy had the beach under constant direct fire, Brig. Gen. Roosevelt moved from one locality to another, rallying men around him, directed and personally led them against the enemy. Under his seasoned, precise, calm, and unfaltering leadership, assault troops reduced beach strong points and rapidly moved inland with minimum casualties. He thus contributed substantially to the successful establishment of the beachhead in France.”

What the citation does not say, is that Gen. Roosevelt was a combat veteran of WWI, where he was disabled by being shot through the knee. He required a cane to walk due to his injury. Gen. Roosevelt was 56 years old at the time of the invasion. He literally stormed the beach at Normandy with a cane in one hand and a pistol in the other!

When the beach was secured, later that day, command staff began to arrive. They were met on the beach by Gen. Roosevelt who gave a full report on the invasion operation.

Six days later, Roosevelt died of a heart attack. He is buried in France. He has been called “the toughest man on the longest day.”

