



# THE COMMODORE



## News from the Beverly Hills Council of the Navy League

P.O. Box 338, Beverly Hills, California 90213

Issue: 101

May 2017

**President's Message:** *I hope all of our Navy League members enjoyed the holidays and had a productive and prosperous 2016. I am very honored to serve as your President of the Beverly Hills Council of the U.S. Navy League. I look forward to a great and eventful 2017 for the Navy League. For 115 years, Navy League members have worked tirelessly to support our sea service men and women, and educate our fellow citizens — particularly our elected officials and community leaders — on the importance of maintaining strong, capable and ready maritime forces.*

*And finally, as we look to the future we are firming board positions and working plans to have a thorough planning and goal setting sessions in the following months to continue to strengthen what our council does to support the sea services in our community long into the future. I am so honored to be working with our board and the entire council in these very important times in support of our sea services.*

Raphael Magaña

### 2016 – Beverly Hills Council (BHC) activities in review.

2016 was another great year for our council. We presented a number of awards to our sponsored units and commands deserving of recognition.



Photo: Courtesy of LT Brian Brustuen, UCLA

**UCLA – NROTC.** On May 3, the Beverly Hills Council presented MIDN 1/C Ryan Rodriguez (left) with the Honorary Sword. The award was presented by Shalini Magana-Dogra, wife of BHC President Raphael Magana, at the UCLA NROTC's Annual Midshipman's Ball. In addition, the Command witnessed a change in leadership from Colonel Hitesman USMC to Colonel Michelson USMC. BHC welcomes Colonel Michelson with a resounding Semper Fi!

**USCG HALIBUT – Sailor of the Half Awards.** On Thursday July 7, the Command of the USCG HALIBUT awarded its bi-annual Sailor of the Half Award at the

Coast Guard's Station in Marina del Rey to SN Joseph Crawford. This award recognizes SN Crawford's outstanding performance of his duties. Complementing this award, the BHC presented SN Crawford a Navy League of the U.S. Certificate, plus a Gift Card. Making this presentation on behalf of the council was Ron Dutton, BHC's president emeritus (center), SN Crawford (left) and HALIBUT'S Commanding Officer, LT. Matt Hurtt (right).



Photo: Courtesy of USCG Auxiliary

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**SPECIAL CEREMONY.** A subsequent ceremony was held to honor LT Matt Hurtt, SN Joseph Crawford, and MK3 Chiara Russon. Each was presented with the Coast Guard's Achievement Medal by the Sector Deputy Commander for their actions which saved the lives of two people who were involved in a highway collision. LT Hurtt and the two crewmen, while driving back to Los Angeles from a training exercise at Port Huemene, witnessed two cars on the side of the highway in need of aid. LT Hurtt immediately maneuvered his car to the site of the accident and all three rendered aid and directed traffic until first responders arrived. Holding their citations in the photo are LT Hurtt (right), SN Crawford (center) and MK3 Chiara Russon (left).



Photo: Courtesy of USCG Auxiliary

On Wednesday December 28, BHC's president emeritus Ron Dutton, joined with the HALIBUT'S Command in recognizing and awarding the Command's Sailor of the (Second) Half award to BM1 Michael Meadows (left). The Awards Ceremony took place at the Coast Guard's Station in the Marina del Rey Small Boat Harbor.



Photo: Courtesy of USCG Auxiliary

The Sailor of the Half (or in larger commands, of the Quarter) is one of the highest honors given by a ship or station's command to a crew member(s) for the outstanding performance of their duties. This honor is designed to show appreciation to the recipient and weighs heavily on performance reports.

The BHC has enjoyed a close working relationship with the USCGC HALIBUT and its predecessor the USCGC PT BRIDGE for over forty years.

## **USCG Air Station Los Angeles.** *Fair Winds and Following Seas.*

The disappointing news this year was the closing of the Coast Guard Air Station at LAX. President Emeritus Ron Dutton attended the official decommissioning ceremony held May 20<sup>th</sup> at the USCG Air Station HQ, LAX. Several distinguished guests were on hand to wish the command a fond farewell including Rear Adm. Joseph A. Servidio, 11th Coast Guard District commander, Cmdr. Thomas Cooper, commanding officer, Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles, Cmdr. Ben Maule, executive officer, Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles, the command and crew of Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles as well as active duty, reserve, retired, and auxiliary members from all over the United States. Due to airport expansion, the Coast Guard shifted helicopter operations in the area to a Forward Operating Base (FOB) at Naval Base Ventura County Wednesday, May 18, 2016. Helicopters operating from the FOB will continue to support Coast Guard missions such as search and rescue, law enforcement and port security along the California coast from Dana Point to Morro Bay until a permanent station is built.

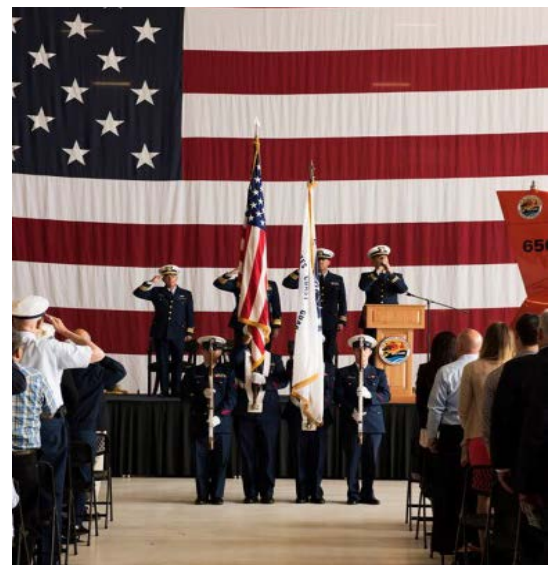


Photo: Courtesy of USCG Los Angeles Post

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On June 3, 2016 the Coast Guard Station held its final awards ceremony in Los Angeles issuing its two highest awards named after honored past crewmen: the LT Robert A. Perchard award and the YN1 Edna Renee Russell award. This year, the recipients of the awards were AMT2 Andrew Heidt (top left), presented with the LT. Robert A. Perchard Award and YN2 Ricky Wilson (bottom left), presented with the YN1 Edna Renee Russell Award. The awards were presented by the Coast Guard Air Station's commanding officer, CDR Tom Cooper and BHC president emeritus Ron Dutton.



Photos: Courtesy of the Beverly Hills Council

**Council Mission - 2017:** The Beverly Hills Council is focused on improving your membership experience and increasing overall league membership. Expect more notices and news being forwarded to you via email and posted on our website. The BHC values your input and encourages you to **“sound off”** via email and submit comments or suggestions.

Also, please keep us updated with your current contact information.

Email: [President@bevhillnavyleague.org](mailto:President@bevhillnavyleague.org)

**Thank you for your membership and support!**



## Upcoming Events 2017:

- **Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>** - Battleship IOWA presents a Memorial Day Music Festival featuring live bands; Purple Sugar, Special Blend, Murder City Roadshow & DJ Pie. The festival will include food trucks, vintage vehicles, reenactors, a Sailor's Bar, and more! The music festival is FREE and Battleship IOWA tour admission are free for all veterans, reservists, retired, and active military. All guests accompanying military personnel are eligible for discounted \$11 general admission tickets!

### **CONTACT INFO:**

Battleship IOWA, 250 S. Harbor Blvd. San Pedro, CA 90731

Phone: 877-446-9261 | Web: <http://www.pacificbattleship.com/event/detail/816>

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## Upcoming Events 2017 (continued):

- **Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>** - Once again the SS Lane Victory, the famed World War II Victory Ship, based at the Port of Los Angeles (San Pedro) at berth 49, is holding their annual on board Memorial Day Services at 2 p.m. They stage a lovely and meaningful ceremony, which includes a color and honor guard from our Council's Naval Sea Cadet Division, The Battleship IOWA Division (formally the SS Lane Victory Division). While on board, be sure to tour the Lane Victory's museum. No charge. Parking is free.

### **CONTACT INFO:**

S. S. Lane Victory

Berth 46

San Pedro, CA, 90733-0629

Phone 310-519-9545

Web: <http://www.lanevictory.org/>

- **September 1 through 4** - LA Fleet Week (Labor Day weekend) at the Port of Los Angeles. L.A.'s New End-of-Summer Tradition:

LA Fleet Week Foundation is the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports the annual Fleet Week event in Los Angeles. Held during Labor Day weekend, Fleet Week has become a national tradition honoring the US Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The event has several elements including active military activities, public events, STEM education expo, concerts, and aircraft demonstrations. Once the ships dock, its crew can enjoy the sights and sounds of our city and visit our local attractions, restaurants and shops. The public get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take guided tours of the ships, honor the service men and women, and enjoy unique entertainment.

### **CONTACT INFO:**

Web: <http://www.lafleetweek.com> | <http://www.lafleetweek.org>

- **NO DATES SET ... YET:** The Beverly Hills Council is working on arrangements for special event Sunday Brunches to be held at Duke' at The Beach, Malibu and the Wilshire Country Club, Los Angeles. These "World-Class" Sunday Brunches have historically been a tremendously successful event with guest speaker programs of current interest. Be on the lookout for future Sunday Brunch Event notices.
- **Member mixers.** The Beverly Hills Council is looking to schedule 3-4 mixers to be held in different areas of Los Angeles. Be on the lookout for future events.

EDITOR: *Chris McEntee*

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# Membership Application



The Navy League was founded in 1902 with a clear three-pronged mission: to support the members of the sea services and their families; to educate the American people and their elected leaders about the critical importance of sea power for their economic prosperity and national security; and to help build America's future through successful youth programs like the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Whether you ever served in uniform or not, we invite you to join us today. Our mission, "Citizens in Support of the Sea Services," reflects both our commitment and our broad appeal to everyone concerned with support for our men and women in uniform. Join us in supporting the men and women of our Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine.

**YES!** PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A NAVY LEAGUER.

**TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP** (PLEASE CHECK ONE)

- \$55** 1-YEAR PREMIUM INDIVIDUAL/INTERNATIONAL *includes print editions of SEAPOWER Magazine and Almanac*
- \$100** 2-YEAR PREMIUM *Save \$10\**
- \$130** 3-YEAR PREMIUM *Save \$35\**
- \$180** 4-YEAR PREMIUM *Save \$40\**
- \$225** 5-YEAR PREMIUM *Save \$50\**
- \$1,000** LIFE MEMBERSHIP *[to age 55]*
- \$750** LIFE MEMBERSHIP *[age 56 -75]*
- \$500** LIFE MEMBERSHIP *[age 76+]*
- \$25**  **e-membership** *includes electronic edition of SEAPOWER and Almanac*

\* Over 1-year rate

**DONATION** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*The Navy League is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations you make to the navy league are tax-deductible and support programs like sea cadets, youth scholarships and sea services awards.*

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS LINE 1 \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS LINE 2 \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP / POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL (REQUIRED FOR E-MEMBERSHIP) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP # \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED COUNCIL\* **BEVERLY HILLS COUNCIL**

\*IF YOU REQUEST A SPECIFIC COUNCIL, THEY WILL BE NOTIFIED OF YOUR REQUEST TO JOIN THEM, AND WILL CONTACT YOU SOON.

**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

- CHECK ENCLOSED (MAKE PAYABLE TO NLUS)
  - PLEASE CALL ME FOR PAYMENT INFORMATION
- CHARGE MY:**  VISA  MASTERCARD  AMEX  DISCOVER

BEST DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ CVV2 \_\_\_\_\_ EXP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO**

MEMBERSHIP  
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE U.S.  
P.O. Box 660122  
DALLAS, TX 75266-9782

**FAX TO**  
703-528-2333

**CALL**  
800-356-5760

**JOIN ONLINE**  
[JOIN.NAVYLEAGUE.ORG](http://JOIN.NAVYLEAGUE.ORG)

