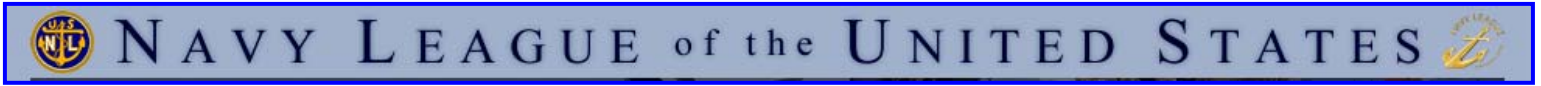


"The Sea Chant," Contra Costa Council

2015 Third Quarter Edition

Volume 39, No. 3



President's Message

Jim Harbuck

As you know our Council has had eight adopted Sea Service units for some time (4-USCG; 3-USN & 1-USMC). Well, we are pleased to announce that we are now the co-sponsor (along with the Solano County Council) of the U.S. Coast Guard Station Rio Vista. The unit is a small boat unit in the U.S. Coast Guard's 11th District, Sector San Francisco. Covering an Area of Responsibility that covers 1,500 miles of rivers and sloughs from Sacramento to Suisun Bay. Equipped with four 25ft Defender Class Boats and three landside emergency vehicles, the station conducts between 400 and 500 search and rescue and maritime law enforcement cases per year.

In August, we announced the adoption of the Station at our U.S. Coast Guard Birthday celebration dinner with the introduction of the three senior petty officers and their wives.

As the fall season begins there is much to look forward to in the way of events. As you receive this issue of the Sea Chant, we'll be days away from celebrating the birthdays of the US Navy and the US Marine Corps on Oct 22nd. Please be on the lookout for future flyers announcing the Remembrance of Pearl Harbor dinner on December 7th and Open House and Brunch on December 19th.

Above all, thank you for supporting the Navy League and your Council.

Jim

Jim Harbuck, *President*
27 Lynwood Place, Moraga
Moraga, CA 94566-1336
Tel (925) 963-1748
jharbuck118@gmail.com

***First Vice President* VACANT**

Pam Speka/Debra Cole, *Publisher/Editor*
PO Box 2876
Martinez, CA 94553
Tel. (925) 285-7080
imagebypamela@yahoo.com

Bruce Clegg, *Web Master*
Tel. (925) 698-4831
Fax (925) 634-4899
Bruce.Clegg@yahoo.com
Web site: www.cccnl.org

Youth Affairs
Bruce & Chris Clegg

Sea Chant Delivery Crew
Posting: Betty Wyrick
Courier: Pete Van Putten

Sunshine Committee Chair
Gynithe LaSalle

Vice Presidents
Communications: Bill Sharkey
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U.S. Navy—U.S. Marine Corps Birthday Dinner



Guest speaker, RADM Bonnie Potter, USN (Ret) talking about the Comfort and its



Pam getting a kick out of our member, Gladys Boomer wearing her favorite T-shirt. She served in World War II as a Corpsman in the San Diego Naval Hospital for 2 1/2 years. This stamp represents all branches of the armed forces during that time. Only 3 cents to mail a letter! She left the Navy as a Chief Pharmacist Mate!



August Anema, RADM Bonnie Potter, and guests.



RADM Bonnie Potter and CCCNL President, James Harbuck.



Steve and Marlene Cruikshank, Captain Greg and Leigh Anne Stump.



CPO Don Hewell, and Petty Officer Steven Powell, from our Navy Recruiting Station.



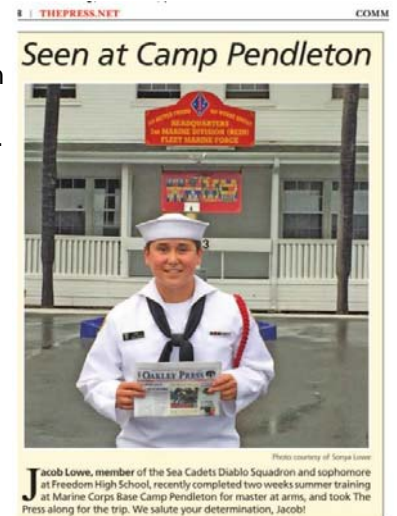
Pete and Ann Gates with 1st Sgt. Ryan Lincoln and his guest Romy Dornick.

Sea Cadets

Diablo Squadron and TS Lorraine Hughey had a very productive summer. The Squadron had 19 cadets attend summer training. Three cadets engaged in 3 and 4 advanced training courses. The local rag, ThePress, published a feature on one of our Sea Cadets.

The current annual Sea Cadet Fundraiser will yield half the proceeds to our Diablo Sea Cadet Squadron and the other half to the National Sea Cadets organization.

The quarterly National Sea Cadets report can be found on <http://www.seacadets.org/scq>.



Contra Costa TOUR of Yerba Buena Island Luncheon, and nice briefing in the Galley at Sector San Francisco Day!

On Thursday July 23rd the Board members of the Contra Costa Navy League Council were welcomed aboard Yerba Buena Island. We met at the Galley next to Building 100 at 10:45 for lunch with the Sector San Francisco staff in their award winning Galley. After lunch and the group photo by Al Romaine we proceeded to a room next to the Emergency Response Center where Senior Chief Mutchler delivered a informative power point presentation titled Sector 101 and answered numerous questions from the audience. After the presentation we visited the Vessel Traffic Center similar to Air Traffic Control where all ships in and around San Francisco Bay are monitored and followed for safety and collision avoidance. While in the Vessel Traffic Center a ship off the coast reported the siting of a large pod of Grey Whales transiting the shipping lane. Next door to the Vessel Traffic Center is the Emergency Response Center where all Bay Area Emergency Response activities would be coordinated. Senior Chief Mutchler then provided a tour of the facilities on Yerba Buena Island. We concluding about 14:00 which allowed us to avoid commuter traffic on our trip home.

Fleet Week

Some of our members enjoyed the Fleet Week activities on September 8, 9, 10 & 11 aboard the George Cobb Buoy Tender!



TOYS FOR TOTS BRUNCH SET FOR DECEMBER 19

The Contra Costa Council's annual Christmas Brunch for the Toys for Tots campaign will be held on Saturday, December 19 at the home of Jeanne and Bill Sharkey in Martinez. The event will be from Noon to 3:00 p.m. All of the Council's adopted active duty units and our sponsored Diablo Squadron Sea Cadets will be represented at which time the Council's Christmas 'gifts' will be presented. Members of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve unit in Concord will 'scoop up' the unwrapped gifts provided by our generous members at the end of the party event. The Council's adopted units include Aids to Navigation at Yerba Buena Island; Buoy Tender USCGC ASPEN; USCG Sector San Francisco; USCG Station Vallejo; USN Recruiting Station Golden Hills; USN VQ 3 Detachment at Travis AFB; Radio Communications Detachment, Travis AFB; USMC Reserve Center, Concord; USCG Station Rio Vista, the most recent adopted unit; and the Sea Cadets of Diablo Squadron.

OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION**MARINE COLONEL TO ADDRESS PEARL HARBOR DINNER**

Colonel Christopher Starling, USMC (Ret) will be the featured speaker at the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance banquet on December 7th, co-sponsored by several veterans' organizations in Contra Costa County, and organized by the Contra Costa Council of the Navy League. The public is invited to be part of the "Lest We Forget" event, now in its eighth year.

Colonel Starling is Director of Military and Veterans Affairs at the Marines' Memorial Club in San Francisco. The highly awarded warrior was a Security Affairs Fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University 2007-2008.

A flyer announcing the upcoming event, to be held at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill, will be sent to Council members.

NAVY RECRUITER SINGS NATIONAL ANTHEM

Leading Petty Officer Steven Powell, U. S. Navy, a member of the Navy Recruiting Golden Hills Zone organization, and a well-recognized vocalist in the Bay Area, sang the National Anthem to begin the Contra Costa Council's Navy/Marine Corps 'birthday' banquet on October 22nd. He also lead the 70 attendees in God Bless America to close the evening's events.

Petty Officer Powell, who has performed the nation's anthem at previous Council meetings, has been seen and heard on television during many sporting events over the past several years. He also has a very busy concert band which recently performed at Todo Santos Plaza in Concord. An imposing individual well over six feet, Powell provides his audiences with a very professional singing voice in a number of venues, civilian and military. Petty Officer Powell will retire from his Navy career in spring 2016 and rejoin his family.

First Female Two-Star Navy Physician Speaks At Council Dinner

Rear Admiral Bonnie B. Potter, MC, USN (Ret), the first female physician to be promoted to Admiral or General in U. S. military forces, told Contra Costa Council members and guests what it is like, and what it takes to organize a giant floating hospital on the way to a war. The 'tricky' part is starting by opening thousands of crates, boxes and packages of all the 'stuff' needed to provide services once on station...in this case, the Middle East Desert Storm.

Admiral Potter was Commander of Medical Services aboard the U. S. Naval Ship COMFORT during the Gulf War. She was responsible for directing some 1,200 hospital staff personnel operating the 1,000 bed medical facility. First, however, the ship had to be readied for service while underway. The COMFORT, as with her sister ship MERCY, remains in a stand-by status until needed for war time deployment, or when sent for humanitarian assignments to foreign countries to care for populations who do not have access to adequate medical or dental care, or to international disasters such as hurricanes and tsunamis

The two hospital ships are operated by civilian crews of the Military Sealift Command. The ship's Master (Commanding Officer) is a civilian. The medical staff is U.S. Navy.

When called to duty, the COMFORT sails on very short notice, usually five to seven days to get underway with a basic medical crew which is added to over a period of days or weeks.

Some personnel, like doctors and others, leave their positions ashore and catch up with the ship at a port enroute. The basic crew prepares the hospital for action opening the equipment and installing it in the assigned spaces.

Admiral Potter's distinguished career included Commander of the National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, Maryland; Chief of the Navy Medical Corps; Atlantic Fleet Surgeon; Fleet Forces Surgeon; Medical Advisor to the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, and others. She retired in 2003 and raises Alpaca in Auburn, California, with a herd of some 50 'critters', as she refers to them on occasion.

EVENTS PAGE

December 7	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner
December 19	Toys for Tots Brunch, 12 to 3pm

MEMBERSHIP ALERT

Be sure to contact Sally Andersen, Membership Chairman for all address and contact information changes and updates.

Use the enrollment form on the back page of the Sea Chant and mail directly to Sally.

Contra Costa Council of the
Navy League of the U.S.
4551 Alhambra Way
Martinez, CA 94553-4405

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Please enroll me as a Navy Leaguer Today!

I am not a U.S. Citizen *I am a U.S. Citizen*

New Member Renewal

Name(s) (Mr., Mrs., Dr. etc.) First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Name of Spouse: (Mr., Mrs., etc.) First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name

Address: Number, Street Name, (Apt., Ste., P.O. Box) Date of birth

City State Zip code (+4)

Home Phone Business Phone E-Mail

Sponsor's Last Name Sponsor's Membership # New Member in Council

MAIL APPLICATION TO: Sally Andersen

PO Box 2876, Martinez, CA 94553

<http://cccNL.org>

Type of Membership (Please Check One):

- Individual One Year Member\$65.00
- Joint Husband/Wife One Year \$117.00
- Individual Two Year Member\$117.00
- Individual three Year Member.....\$175.00
- Individual Life Membership.....\$500.00
- Joint Husband/Wife Life Membership....\$750.00
- Active Duty Military Spouse.....\$30.00
- Associate One Year (non US citizen).....\$50.00

Method of payment:

Check enclosed (Made payable to: NLUS) or
 VISA Mastercard AMEX

Card # Exp. Date

Signature