



To the  
San Francisco Bay Area  
Councils  
From your Area President

## **NLUS National Convention Report and Other Area News**

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### **2018 Convention – Portland, Oregon**

Council members from Alameda (2), Lake Merritt (3) and Santa Clara Valley (1), represented SF Bay Area at this year's convention. Both Contra Costa and Lake Merritt councils received Meritorious honors for their 2017 council achievements. Santa Clara Council President, Virginia Gibson, was elected as a National Vice President. President Kaplan assigned her to head "Individual and Corporate Membership."

Hopefully you all are making use of the Member Portal ([portal.navyleague.org](http://portal.navyleague.org)). It's recently become more reliable, and further features will continue to become available. The NLUS finances are the best they've been since I've been a national director. Membership numbers took a huge dip last year because very few of the members who joined San Diego council to qualify to join a credit union – renewed.

During the Sea Services Luncheon, one of the Coast Guard awardees, CS1 Meistersinger, was from Sector San Francisco. In addition, she was pinned with a meritorious award to CMC. Her commander, Captain Ceraolo, and her family were there to cheer her accomplishment.

There was controversial vote of the Directors. If you read the June 28<sup>th</sup> "Anchor Up!" leadership communication from HQ, you know that our leaders feel the way NLUS is governed (Steering Committee, Executive Committee, Board Members) needs to change. (See below.) There are two major concerns at the council level regarding the proposed changes. One concern is that the "drastic" reduction in Board of Directors proposed will give staff more control over the direction of NLUS management. The second concern is that directors who are eliminated may not wish to continue their level of NLUS activity.

Personally, I didn't realize that the webinar and subsequent session at the convention presented on "governance" were about the proposed changes. I wish the Governance Committee had done a better job ensuring Directors knew that "governance" meant NLUS reorganization.

I'll review the changes at the end of this newsletter in case you're interested. Councils probably won't feel much trickle-down effect. Council's biggest concern will probably be that their Region President won't be as influential as he/she is now – less able to advocate for more support at the council level.

If you have not been receiving NLUS "Anchor Up!" or "Connections", please email "services@navyleague.org" and ask to receive Navy League emails.

### Other Area News

Mark your calendars! The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Coast Guard Awards Luncheon date is Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. If you have your adopted unit's ear, please encourage them to nominate one of their staff for an award. The Region will have a brief meeting following the event.



Santa Clara Valley and Lake Merritt councils manned the dock when the STRATTON recently left. We mostly had clientele from the Child Development Center!



Coast Guard Pac Area, D11, and Base Alameda all had changes of commanders in June. Vice Admiral Linda Fagan is Commander (center), Pacific Area. Rear Admiral Peter Gautier is Commander District 11 (left), replacing Admiral Todd Sokalzuk (right).



RADM Gautier is scheduled to speak at the August 24<sup>th</sup> Awards Ceremony. NLUS President Alan Kaplan is also scheduled to attend. **Please** plan to attend as well!



Captain Jose Peña (right) replaced Captain John Hickey (left) as Base Alameda Commander.

### 2018 Fleet Week Ships Greeting

Event coordinators, Julio Blea and Michele Langford announce early training on ships greetings duties. Ship greetings will be in same format, greeters will receive a Navy League shirt, and have a gift to present to the Commanding Officer. Ship greeting requires 3 volunteers, 2 of which will board the ship. All volunteers must have active Navy League membership. If you're interested in greeting ships during the 2018 Fleet Week, contact Julio Blea for information about the training meeting(s). Telephone: 510-434-3081; email: [JulioB@Seawest.coop](mailto:JulioB@Seawest.coop).

## Governance Changes

Here are some of the proposals:

- Steering Committee and Executive Committee will merge to become the *Executive Steering Committee*.
  - Region Presidents, who currently are on the Executive Committee, will NOT be on the new Executive Steering Committee
  - Number of possible committee members is reduced from 66 total with two committees to 15 for the Executive Steering Committee
- The number of Board of Directors will be reduced from 250 to 8.
  - All 8 will be Region Presidents.
  - The process for selection of these 8 from the 17 Region Presidents is unclear to me.
- National Delegates will be elected and do much the same work as the existing Board of Directors.
  - The suggested number of Delegates is 30 (compared to 250 Directors).
  - The Region Presidents will approve the Delegates.
- For some reason there will be four "super" regions, (he governance committee doesn't call it this) 2 each in the west and east.

Since I have room, here are some more photos.



From left to right, Phelps Hobart collects the Sacramento Council's meritorious council award, Marti Lantz with Lake Merritt's meritorious council award, and Bonnie Potter with two awards – Outstanding Council and Mackie Web-site Award. In the background is NLUS President Alan Kaplan.

## Navy Sea Cadet Corps Fundraiser

This year I had the opportunity to experience the East Bay Sea Cadet unit's Fireworks Sale fundraiser in Dublin, where safe and sane fireworks are allowed. This year NSCC has two locations there. I was amazed by the amount of fireworks delivered in the **first** shipment! Nine pallets, taller than I, almost filled an entire cargo container, as you can see. During setup I worked with other helpers from Alameda Council and Sea Cadet parents/leaders to set up one of the booths.



After July 4<sup>th</sup>, the fireworks company will pay "us" a portion of the profit for what we've sold. After booth overhead costs are covered, the profit will be paid out to councils/units based on the number of hours logged by adult volunteers. This is a really good fundraiser for Navy League councils and Sea Cadets. Thanks to Marti and Gary Lantz's past experience, this effort flows. Thanks M & G! I hope next year more SF Bay Area councils will send volunteers to help.



Carrie