



NAVY LEAGUE

of the United States
"Citizens in Support of the Sea Services"



Vol. IX, No. 31

Colorado Springs Council
PO Box 2035, Colorado Springs, CO, 80901

Winter 2015

~~~~~**HALYARDS**~~~~~

2014 #1 NLUS Small Council Newsletter

<http://www.navyleague-coloradosprings.org/>

Jan - No Board Meeting
Feb 3 - Council Dinner Meeting, 5:30 pm, Falcon Club
Feb 6 - Board Meeting, 0900, Mimi's, N. Academy
Mar - Board Meeting TBA

WHAT'S NEW

Council Dinner/Meeting – February 3

Installation of 2016 Council Board of Directors, 2015 Treasurer's Report

Location: Falcon Club, USAFA

Social hour: 5:30 pm. Dinner: 6:30 pm.

Price: about \$30

Meal Options: TBA

Speaker: COL Hunter Hobson, USMC

Please RSVP by 31 January to Steve Bethke at stbethk@aol.com or (719) 359-3710.

Anyone interested in Navy League, the sea services, or our speakers/topics is welcome at any of our events. You don't have to be a member of NLUS!

2016 Board of Directors

The election of the 2016 Board was conducted by email in December. The following slate was approved.

President – D. A. "Roy" Rogers

VP Programs – Steve Bethke

VP Finance – Art Cyphers

VP Youth Programs – Art Cyphers

VP Legislative Affairs – Bill Lockwood

VP Public Relations – Deb Zeller

VP Membership – No Candidate

Secretary – Bunny Blaha

The 2016 President will appoint a Webmaster, Chaplain, *Halyards* Editor, and Judge Advocate for his term.

RECENT EVENTS

Navy Birthday Ball 2015

As usual, the Navy Birthday Ball was a grand success! Over 200 guests attended the festive, fun-filled event at the Antlers Hilton hotel, celebrating the Navy's 240th birthday and the Navy Reserve's 100th anniversary. ADM Bill Gortney, NORAD/USNORTHCOM, was the featured speaker. Financial sponsors included: Boeing, Lockheed Martin, USAA and ENT. NLCSC organized

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this edition of our award winning "Halyards" finds everyone surviving the winter weather and the holidays (the more "mature" I get, the more I can't decide which is tougher). A quick reminder:

1. Our next Membership Meeting will be at the USAFA Falcon Club at 1730 on Wed, 3 February. We will install 2016 Officers and hear from some of our USMC friends on what the Marine Corps is up to. Expect more details in an email in mid-January.

2. 2016 promises to be a challenging year for the Sea Services. The President's Budget further reduces their ability to properly train and equip what are arguably the nation's most important capabilities. Your Navy League continues to emphasize that message through Congressional liaison, audiences with key Leadership and various publications.

3. You'll be happy to note that the Colorado Springs Council finished 2015 in the "black" financially. We continue to "move out" in our primary missions of supporting/educating Youth Programs; supporting Active Duty Sea Service warriors and educating the public.

4. In an effort to further entice new Members to join, Navy League National recently decided to create a "Digital Membership" at only \$25 annually. Digital Members will have the same rights as normal Members, but will receive their copies of "SeaPower" via email vice hard copy. Please get involved and make "recruit a new member" one of your goals in 2016.

5. All of the above topics and more are available on our website, www.navyleague-coloradosprings.org.

DA "Roy" Rogers

this gala affair with assistance from NORTHCOM Navy Element, RMNCPOA, Navy Recruiters, NOSC Fort Carson, Mile High Tailhook Association and O'Donnell & O'Donnell, event organizers. Candid photos are provided compliments of Dream Quest Photography.



D.A. "Roy" Rogers, Sherry Gortney, ADM Bill Gortney



Birthday Ball attendees included Jodie Silverlock (2nd from R) and RADM Dwight Shepherd, N/NC J-6.



Widefield High School NJROTC Color Guard



Jim Downing, HA Hia Van Esseltine, and ADM Gortney cut the birthday cake.

Winter 2015 Halyards





Membership Update

Our council currently has 80+ members. James Bacchus is our newest member. We are looking for a volunteer for VP for Membership for 2016. If interested, please contact Bill Lockwood for information on duties.

Youth Programs

Widefield High School NJROTC provided the color guard for the Navy Birthday Ball on October 10. Doherty High School NJROTC conducted a Veterans Day Assembly, including an armed drill team presentation and a Missing Comrade ceremony, which was well appreciated by the dozens of local veterans who attended.

Mesa Ridge High School NJROTC provided the color guard for the El Paso County Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremony on December 7.

Well done, Cadets!

USS Colorado Ships' Bells Both Now in Colorado

In a ceremony on Veteran's Day, the University Memorial Center at CU Boulder unveiled the ship's bell used on the 1st and 2nd USS Colorado ships. The 832 pound bell is on loan from the Navy History and Heritage Command in Virginia and joins the ship's bell and helm from the 3rd USS Colorado – thanks in large part to the efforts of our members, Julio and Cecile Gutierrez and Dick Cooper. See the rest of the story at www.coloradocommittee.org.

November 2015 Council Meeting

CAPT Greg Fuller, USCG Liaison to NORAD/USNORTHCOM, gave an informative and entertaining update on U.S. Coast Guard missions and capabilities at our November dinner. Rivet Diagre, CDR, USN (Ret), also gave an update on the USS Colorado and Commissioning Committee activities.



CAPT Fuller addresses Council dinner attendees

Pearl Harbor Day Remembered

Pearl Harbor Day in El Paso County was officially recognized by a County Commissioners Proclamation in November, and commemorated with a well-attended ceremony at the Pikes Peak Regional Development Center on December 7. The event was organized by NLCSC and O'Donnell & O'Donnell, event organizers. Personnel from NORAD/USNORTHCOM performed as color guard and wreath-layers. Music was provided by the Fort Carson 4th ID Band. Six local Pearl Harbor survivors were honored as well as a WWII veteran who was in attendance.



Attendees included WWII vet, Bob Snyder, center front

Navy Beats Army – Again!

The game-watching party at Fox & Hound Pub on December 12, hosted by the Mile High Tailhook Association, was well attended by local Navy folks and supporters who immensely enjoyed watching Navy beat Army – for the 14th year in a row! GO NAVY!



IN OTHER NEWS

USS Colorado (SSN-788) Update

The latest news on USS Colorado progress and activities is available on the USS Colorado Commissioning Committee website, www.coloradocommittee.org, including the following events.

Crew member STSSN (Sonar Technician Submarines Seaman) Brayden Kane of Brighton, Colorado, was awarded his Dolphins Submarine Warfare Insignia in a ceremony at the State Capitol in December.

Four USS Colorado Submarine Crew members visited Colorado in December and were honored as “Broncos Country Heroes” at the Broncos-Raiders game on December 17.



2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
Elected Officers		
President	Roy Rogers	roykimrogers@gmail.com
VP Programs	Steve Bethke	stbethk@aol.com
VP Finance/Treasurer	Art Cyphers	cypherspace65@msn.com
VP Youth Programs	Art Cyphers	cypherspace65@msn.com
VP Legislative Affairs	Bill Lockwood	bklockwood@earthlink.net
VP Membership		
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Secretary	Bunny Blaha	bunny_blaha@msn.com
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Editor Bunny Blaha