



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

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

**CALENDAR**

|                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jul 9 - Navy Birthday Planning Meeting, 0830, La Baguette, 4440 N. Chestnut St.           |
| Jul 11 - Board meeting, 0830, IHOP, Voyager at N. Academy                                 |
| Jul 12 – Rocky Mountain Navy CPO Assn/First Class PO Assn Picnic and NLCS Council Meeting |
| Aug 1 - Board meeting, IHOP, 0830, Voyager at N. Academy                                  |
| Sep 5 - Board meeting, IHOP, 0830, Voyager/N. Acad                                        |
| Sep 24 - Council Dinner Meeting/Hail & Farewell                                           |



Dick and grandkids Camille and Nicolas placed a wreath on the Navy memorial at the Memorial Day ceremony.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

From the bridge –

We are not in the Summer Doldrums here in the Colorado Springs Council – lots of exciting things are going on. The only problem you may experience is keeping your calendar synched up to the scheduled events! Here is a summary brief of what is on the horizon.

**USS Colorado SSN-788** commissioning committee activities are coming along very well, under the leadership of John "JJ" Mackin (CAPT, USN, Ret.). The PCO of the boat, CDR Ken Franklin, USN, and his wife, Toni, visited the namesake state for the USS Colorado in late May/early June. The unofficial visit was financed by the USS Colorado Commissioning Committee and the Colorado Submarine Vets Organization. (Editor: See article below for details of the visit.)

Governor John Hickenlooper signed a bill into law, authorizing a **USS Colorado SSN-788 license plate**, which will probably be available in early 2015. The bill was authored by State Senator Bernie Herpin, a submarine veteran.

Planning is underway for the **Navy Birthday dinner celebration**, to be held **October 3**, the night before Navy beats Air Force (again.) We are pleased to be working with other Colorado sea service organizations to host the event. We will keep you posted as details are firmed up.

Have a great and safe Summer!

**RECENT EVENTS**

**Honorary Members Inducted**

Pearl Harbor survivor Doug Huggins was inducted as an Honorary Member of the council at the 27 March Council dinner meeting. He provided a sobering presentation on the events on December 7, 1941. Pearl Harbor survivor Jim Downing was housebound due to an injury and was inducted in absentia. Welcome aboard!



Doug Huggins (2<sup>nd</sup> from R) was awarded Honorary Membership in the Navy League Colorado Springs Council, and received a copy of *Seapower* with a photo of him and an article on the El Paso County Commission ceremony declaring December 7 to be Pearl Harbor Day.

### **Bylaws Revision 2014 Adopted**

At the 27 March meeting, the updated Bylaws were voted on and accepted. Major revisions included clarification of: "Council Member," eligibility to hold office, board positions and job descriptions, and the advisory council. The Bylaws may be viewed on our website <http://www.navyleague-coloradosprings.org/> under Documents.

### **PCO USS Colorado SSN-788 Visit**

CDR Ken Franklin, USN, has been named the PCO of the USS Colorado SSN-788, which is under construction in Groton, CT; the keel signing ceremony will be performed in 2015, with christening in 2016, and commissioning to follow. CDR Franklin put a week's visit to Colorado to good use: briefing MG Mike Edwards, Colorado State Adjutant General, on the progress of the USS Colorado; speaking at the Submarine Veterans of Colorado 114<sup>th</sup> Submarine Birthday Banquet in May; and participating in Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper's 4 June signing of a bill authorizing the issuance of USS Colorado SSN-788 license plates.



Colorado Springs Council President Dick Cooper, Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper, PCO USS Colorado CDR Ken Franklin USN, USS Colorado Commissioning Committee Chairman John "JJ" Mackin, Denver Council President Dan Puleio

### **WHAT'S NEW**

#### **Sea Services Picnic – 12 July**

The Rock Mountain Navy Chief Petty Officers Association has invited us to join the family picnic fun, Saturday afternoon, 12 July, 1200-1700, at the USAFA Family Park Site #2. That's east of Stadium Blvd, across from Academy Dr. This event is always a lot of fun, and open to all in the sea services family. No charge, donations welcome. Bring a side dish. There will be fun activities, door prizes and a 50/50 raffle!

Summer 2014 *Halyards*

#### **Council Meeting – 12 July**

In lieu of the usual bi-monthly council dinner meeting, we'll be joining the RMNCPOA picnic. See you there!

#### **Council Meeting - 24 September**

**For our September council event we plan a Hail & Farewell for RDML Dwight Shepherd (arriving) and RDML Hank Bond (departing).** Our council and the Mile High Tailhook Association will co-host an informal get-together at the Fox & Hound Pub & Grill, 3101 New Center Point, 5-8 pm. We'll be ordering from a short menu for \$25 per person. Excess proceeds benefit our council's sea services support funds and the Tailhook Scholarship Fund. Anyone interested in Navy League and the sea services is welcome! You don't have to be a member. Come say hello and good-bye to the admirals! **RSVP to [bunny\\_blah@msn.com](mailto:bunny_blah@msn.com) or 719-471-8527.**

#### **What Are Your Council Dues Used For?**

Your council membership dues provide funds for operating expenses at 4 NJROTC units in southern Colorado (3 in town), subscriptions to *Seapower* for Naval Operations Support Center and NJROTC units, holiday gift cards for local sea service personnel and their families, SOQ and SOY recognition awards for local sea service personnel, dinners for guest speakers at council meetings, the USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee's support of the USS Colorado and other local sea service unit support. If you would like to suggest a worthy cause within our mission, please contact one of our board members.

#### **Navy Birthday Party – 3 October**

The 2014 Navy Ball was, sadly, canceled. In its place, to uphold the tradition of celebrating the Navy's birthday, the Navy League Colorado Springs Council is organizing a semi-formal dinner with the help of other local Navy organizations. It will be held at the Antlers Hilton on Friday, 3 October, to take advantage of the Navy fans coming to town for the Navy-Air Force football game on Saturday, 4 October. Details TBA. If you would like to participate on the planning committee or offer ideas, please contact a board member!



## Membership

Welcome aboard to new Council member Elizabeth Boardman! We now have 28 Council members and 94 local NLUS members.

## Navy Recruiter-Navy League Liaison

The Board heartily welcomes HM2 Deborah Fisher of local Navy Recruiting Division 5 who volunteered to be Navy Recruiting's liaison to our Council and to help plan the Navy Birthday party! Bravo Zulu, Deborah!

## Youth Programs

At NJROTC awards ceremonies in April and May, Bunny and Wayne presented Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medals to outstanding cadets at Mesa Ridge, Widefield, Doherty and Montrose High Schools. Well done, cadets!

## Board Vacancies

We're still looking for volunteers for some council board positions for the rest of the year: VP for Public Affairs, Judge Advocate (legal advisor), and Chaplain. We'll also be looking for nominees for the 2015 Board soon.

## IN OTHER NEWS

### Colorado International Tattoo

A star-spangled spectacle to celebrate heroes is coming to Colorado Springs on 26 & 27 September. This new event featuring hundreds of local, national, and international performers will be held at the World Arena. The Colorado International Tattoo is a patriotic, reverent, and inspiring show that will feature military bands, bagpipe bands, choirs, and other unique performance groups from the world over in a 2-hour fast-paced show.

International tattoos are based on a centuries-old military tradition and are produced all over the world. The largest

in the United States – so far - is held in Norfolk, VA. The Colorado International Tattoo is a non-profit component fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation with support from the City of Colorado Springs. Indiegogo, at [igg.me/at/CIT](http://igg.me/at/CIT), is being used to help with funding. Information is available on facebook and at <http://youtube/FhVGhxrwhV0>. Questions can be directed to Joe Poch at (719) 635-8803 or by email to [j.poch@innomoments.com](mailto:j.poch@innomoments.com).



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Elected Officers

|                            |               |                                                                        |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President                  | Dick Cooper   | <a href="mailto:rcooper101@gmail.com">rcooper101@gmail.com</a>         |
| VP Programs                | Bunny Blaha   | <a href="mailto:bunny_blaha@msn.com">bunny_blaha@msn.com</a>           |
| VP Membership              | Bill Lockwood | <a href="mailto:bklockwood@earthlink.net">bklockwood@earthlink.net</a> |
| VP Finance/Treasurer       | Art Cyphers   | <a href="mailto:cypherspace65@msn.com">cypherspace65@msn.com</a>       |
| VP Legislative Affairs     | Bill Lockwood | <a href="mailto:bklockwood@earthlink.net">bklockwood@earthlink.net</a> |
| VP Youth Programs          | Art Cyphers   | <a href="mailto:cypherspace65@msn.com">cypherspace65@msn.com</a>       |
| VP Public Affairs          | vacant        |                                                                        |
| Judge Advocate             | vacant        |                                                                        |
| Secretary                  | Bunny Blaha   | <a href="mailto:bunny_blaha@msn.com">bunny_blaha@msn.com</a>           |
| Immed Past President       | Rod Gardner   | <a href="mailto:gardnerr173@gmail.com">gardnerr173@gmail.com</a>       |
| <b>Appointed Officials</b> |               |                                                                        |
| Webmaster                  | Wayne Wolfe   | <a href="mailto:wayne.wolfe@gmail.com">wayne.wolfe@gmail.com</a>       |
| Chaplain                   | vacant        |                                                                        |
| <i>Halyards</i> Editor     | Bunny Blaha   | <a href="mailto:bunny_blaha@msn.com">bunny_blaha@msn.com</a>           |

**In support of the NLUS mission, the Navy League Colorado Springs Council's mission is to:**

- \* **Inform Congress and the American public on the importance of strong sea services;**
- \* **Support sea service organizations, men and women of the sea services, and their families.**
- \* **Support youth through programs that expose young people to the values of our sea services.**

