



APRIL 2023

The Lucky Bag

RICHMOND, VA COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

JOIN US FOR A HARBOR BOAT TOUR & PARADE OF SAILING SHIPS NORFOLK HARBORFEST - FRIDAY JUNE 9, 2023

Join the Richmond Navy League for a special trip onboard the harbor cruise ship *Victory Rover*. This 3-hour cruise of the Norfolk waterfront includes viewing from the water the Naval Station and ships, Nauticus and the Tall Sailing Ships that we have all heard so much about. Following the cruise, participants may stroll the quay and docks for food and on-deck visits on some of the tall ships.

Come see the Tall Ships by land and by sea, but you better hurry and sign up now or the Harbor Cruise Boat may leave the dock without you! Act now and join us! **You MUST RESERVE your seat IN ADVANCE!** **SIGN UP NOW!**



One of the tall ships that participated in 2022: Kalmar Nyckel; Wilmington, DE (LOA: 93'; Beam: 12'11"; Draft: 12'5"; Rig Height: 105')

(note: 2023 participating vessels TBA)

Reservation Deadline: Friday June 2, 2023

REMINDER: You must RESERVE your seat IN ADVANCE !!

Cost: \$ 75.00 NL members & family \$ 85.00: Non-members
(Includes: snacks, drinks, driver tip)

Make reservations for the HARBOR BOAT TOUR on Friday June 9, 2023

Name: _____ Tel: _____

email: _____

Name: _____ Tel: _____

email: _____

___ people at \$ 75.00 + ___ people at \$ 85.00 = total enclosed \$ _____

PRINT CLEARLY, cut out, mail form + check to: **Richmond Council NLUS**
N L Office 804-355-7557 **PO Box 11201 Richmond, VA 23230**

DAY'S SCHEDULE

***6:30 AM – BUS DEPARTS**

James River Transportation
915 N. Allen Ave
Richmond, VA 23220

9:00 AM – Arrive at dock

9:15 AM – Board *Victory Rover*

9:30-12:30 – Boat tour harbor
+Tall Ships

12:30-3:00 – Lunch on your own
Vendors at Harborfest
Board Tall Ships

3:00 PM – Leave Norfolk

6:00 PM – ETA Richmond

***complimentary coffee and doughnuts will be available prior to departure from Richmond**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Adam J. "Jay" Fiedler, M.D.



TO THE BOARD AND ALL MEMBERS: PLEASE HELP!

We need volunteers! Positions include: manning the office phone, running events, recruiting new members, submitting articles of interest for *The Lucky Bag*, contacts for speakers, etc. You volunteer and we'll find you a job.

Our Spring Luncheon, recently held on March 29, had Guest Speaker CDR Brad A. Fancher, Commanding Officer of **USS CARTER HALL**.

Upcoming events include Harborfest, Summer Luncheon, Summer Picnic, Tangier Island Cruise, Blue Angels Air Show in Oceana, our Annual Golf Fundraising Event and Sea Services Luncheon.

Special thanks to the behind the scenes guys: Pat Harris, John Harler, Vaughan Dize, and Pat Robson. ✍

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The Lucky Bag is published monthly, except Jan. & Feb. issues, which are combined.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chaplain John A. Harler, M.D.

Is Your Anchor Secure?



A sailing friend, with whom I feel safe, anchors his sailboat for an overnight sleep. He knows the proper technique of securing the anchor – for you sailors – including the correct anchor for the river bottom, the rode length, and the proper scope ratio, etc. I go to sleep with faith & confidence in the one who secured the boat from drifting while asleep even though I am unable to see the secured anchor well below the boat.

Similarly, *Now faith is the substance (anchor) of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.* (Hebrews 11:1).

We do not put our faith and hope in things for which there is no assurance or confidence. Rather our faith is based on the Source of our hope. Hope is not wishful thinking; it is confident assurance.

As we approach this holy season of Passover and Easter, let us consider how they point us toward the One on whom our faith and hope depend.

Passover commemorates the exodus of the Israelites through their leader, Moses, from slavery in Egypt by the intervention of the Lord God, granting freedom to God's people. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from death, granting freedom from the burden of sin to those who believe in Him.

In Passover, the Israelites had faith

that God told Moses to instruct them to apply the blood of a lamb to the doorposts of their houses and the angel of death would "pass over" their house and God would save their firstborn sons from death. They had hopeful assurance and faith in God through Moses.

At Easter, Christians believe that God sent his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and resurrect from the dead, saving all sons and daughters and granting us eternal life with Almighty God. Christians have hopeful assurance and faith in God through Jesus Christ.

Now, *believe* and rest well knowing that your life is secure. Your faith is anchored in the God of mercy and love! ✍

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBER - TOM JENNINGS



Tom Jennings joins the Board to continue volunteer activities including front desk volunteer and assistant ship liaison. After a 40-year career with the Federal Highway Administration (U.S.DOT), Tom retired and has become involved in numerous volunteer efforts. He is married with two adult daughters and has lived in Richmond for over 40 years. Tom is the son-in-law of Andy Buccini, a former Richmond Navy League Board member. ✍

WELCOME ABOARD !

The Richmond Council Navy League is proud to welcome you as a member. In the weeks ahead, when you attend one of our Navy League events, please let the person at the registration desk know that you are a new member attending your first function.

NEW MEMBERS

Michael R. Anderson

Susan L. King

SPONSOR

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr.

Bob Priddy

MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY TOUR – FEBRUARY 23, 2023



Thirty-four Richmond Navy League members and friends traveled by bus on February 23 to Fort Belvoir, in Fairfax County, to visit the new National Museum of the United States Army Museum.

The Museum is the first comprehensive and truly national museum to capture, display and interpret over 245 years of U.S. Army history. The Museum brings to life history in times of war and peace as told through the eyes of Soldiers. The Museum also offers educational experiences, illustrating the Army's role in building and defending our nation, humanitarian missions, technological and medical breakthroughs built on Army ingenuity.

The Museum is a joint effort between the U.S. Army and the nonprofit Army Historical Foundation. The U.S. Army owns and operates the Museum. The Foundation serves in a fundraising role, in support of Museum programs and manages all retail, catering and special event services.

National Museum of the United States Army is open to the public. Free, timed-entry tickets are required for entry. Tickets are available through the Museum's website: theNMUSA.org.

Group Tickets for ten people or more are available and can be requested online.

The Museum has an on-site café and museum store. There is also ample free parking. The Museum is located at 7745 Liberty Drive at Fort Belvoir and is open seven days a week. The operating hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Museum entrance is located outside the gates of Fort Belvoir and Photo ID's are not required. 🗑️



The Changing World Gallery chronicles one of the most dynamic and global periods in U.S. Army history, from the fall of the Soviet Union through our nation's current conflicts.



The Global War Gallery portrays the Army's role in the Allied victory during WWII. Tens of thousands of American Soldiers made the "run to the beach" in a Higgins boat.

AMERICA DIVISION SEA CADETS

On March 4, 2023, AMERICA Division Sea Cadets held their Awards Banquet. Many well-deserved awards were presented.

Congratulations to:

Abell & Burns-promoted to PO3

Physical Fitness Award: PO3 Hoke

Academic Award: SN Oliver

Executive Officer's Award:

PO2 Schrogie

C.O. Military Excellence Award:

PO3 Burns

Shipmate of the Year Award:

PO3 Carson

Veteran's of Foreign Wars Award:

PO2 Edwards

American Legion Award: SA Gagnon

Daughters of the American Revolution Award: PO3 Carson

AMERICA Division League Cadet of the Year: PO3 Burns

AMERICA Division Sea Cadet of the Year: PO1 Clements.

Congratulations to all!! 🚩



Vaughan Dize presents PO3 Burns with the AMERICA Division League Cadet of the Year Award.



Vaughan Dize presents PO1 Clements with the Roosevelt Medal & Ribbon for AMERICA Division Sea Cadet of the Year Award.



Graduating Seniors (L to R): CPO Joseph Colizzi; SN Jackson Abel; PO1 Madison Dryden; PO1 Zachary Clements and PO2 Caroline Schrogie.

NEW SHIP'S BRIDGE DISPLAY COMING SOON TO THE VA WAR MEMORIAL

In late spring or early summer, pending a successful fundraising effort, visitors to the Virginia War Memorial will be able to view a new educational naval exhibit. Plans are to construct a full-size bridge mockup of a small U.S. Navy ship with the actual equipment that would be located on the ship.

The VA War Memorial is prioritizing educational opportunities for school aged children and this exhibit is a gift to them from a Navy-related "Bridge Builder's Team".

However, nothing is free. The team is asking for donations for the project through the VA War Memorial.

Donations can be made to: The Ship Bridge Project c/o VA War Memorial, Inc.; 621 S. Belvidere Street; Richmond, VA 23220-6504.

The VA War Memorial is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible. The estimated cost is about \$16,000. All of the bridge equipment and design services are being donated. 🚩



(Photo & article submitted by: Navy League member, Harry A. Jaeger, Bridge Ship Project Designer).

ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

(Note: these reports may be edited to fit space available)



USS NORMANDY (CG-60)
CO: CAPT Errol A. Robinson
XO: CDR Anthony T. Bryant
CMC: CMDCM William Palmer

George L. Feitig, Jr., Liaison
Dennis Biggs, Ass't Liaison

USS NORMANDY started February 2023 with her pre-deployment training and continued ship's readiness assessment. EACH Warfare area of the ship rigorously tested their systems during operations with Carrier Strike Group 12. Specifically, the ship made a safe voyage to Yorktown Naval Weapons Station for a full weapons load in support of the pending deployment with Gerald R. Ford Strike Group.

The crew worked extensively to prepare for the ship's pre-Board of Inspection and Survey (READE-7) Inspection. During READE-7 inspection, **NORMANDY** demonstrated proficiency in multiple areas, such as combat systems, operations, weapons, habitability, and engineering.

On February 28th, **NORMANDY** celebrated a bittersweet farewell, as Captain Gary Chase turned over command to Captain Errol Robinson. Captain Chase will assume command of the Maine Maritime Academy Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps in April this year. **NORMANDY**, under the command of Captain Errol Robinson, will set sail in March, in support of Carrier Strike Group 12's comprehensive training exercise, as she continues her deployment training certifications. ✍



USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50)
CO: CDR Brad A. Fancher
XO: CDR Steven E. Grey
CMC: CMDCM Adam Singleton

Pat Robson, Liaison

Report pending.



USS GRAVELY (DDG-107)
CO: CDR Hunter D. Washburn
XO: CDR Brian C. Sanchez
CMC: CMDCM Dion C. Dupree

Patrick D. Harris, Liaison

GRAVELY had a great underway this past month and successfully accomplished all the tasks that were set before her. During the underway, the crew was assessed by Afloat Training Group (ATG) on two warfare areas, Mobility Navigation (MOB-N) and Mobility Seamanship (MOB-S). During these assessments, the crew was evaluated on their ability to perform special evolutions, such as anchoring, underway replenishment (UNREP), and man overboard (MOB) drills. **GRAVELY** also assisted with numerous deck landing qualifications (DLQS) out at sea.

Additionally, the crew was afforded the opportunity to strengthen their relationship with the Bahamian military. During **GRAVELY's** stop in the Bahamas, members of the Royal Bahamian Defense Force Enlisted Corps paid the crew a visit and were given a tour of the ship. It was a great occasion for both

parties to learn more about the similarities and differences that they share as members of their respective militaries.

GRAVELY also recently had the opportunity to host the change of command ceremony for Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) Commodore Twenty-Two, where CAPT David P. Wroe relieved CAPT Milciades "Tony" Then as the Commodore.

GRAVELY is preparing to go underway for Surface Warfare Advanced Tactical Training (SWATT) at the end of the month. During SWATT, **GRAVELY** will hone her tactical skills and perform exercises in critical mission areas, such as Anti-submarine Warfare (ASW), Surface Warfare (SUW), and Electronic Warfare (EW).

As **GRAVELY** prepares to redeploy, there will be other integrated exercises to perform, such as Group Sail and Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX), ahead of deployment with Carrier Strike Group (CSG) TWO.

As the weather improves, **GRAVELY** will be spending more time out at sea and we will have many exciting experiences to share along the way! Thank you for your continuous support. We will be sure to keep you updated with all the upcoming events. ✍

Very Respectfully,
Alexis Harrell-Parada, ENS, USN



On March 14, members of the Joint Forces Staff College had the opportunity to take a tour of USS GRAVELY.



USCGC NORTHLAND (WMEC 904)
CO: CDR Andrew Dannelly
XO: LCDR Elizabeth Tufts
COB: MKC Alan Kinney

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Liaison
Vaughan F. Dize, Assistant Liaison

Greetings from **USCGC NORTHLAND!**

We have been busy since our last update, as we remain ready to respond to concerns of irregular migration by sea here in the Coast Guard's Seventh District. **NORTHLAND** was called upon to respond to two suspected migration ventures. We worked closely with Coast Guard helicopters in both cases, to intercept the suspected migrant ventures. Although **NORTHLAND** did not directly interdict either case, we did gather valuable information and imagery, that enabled Coast Guard assets patrolling further north to stop the vessels before they arrived on American shores.

During breaks in the action, **NORTHLAND** crew have been busy conducting training and drills for our new crewmembers. **NORTHLAND's** Damage Controlmen (DCs) led the crew through "Damage Control Olympics," a multi-event training where teams competed against one another and put their damage control knowledge to the test, by plugging and patching pipes on the wet trainer, practicing fire hose handling, and rigging and running ventilation to remove fumes from a space. Despite



Northland crewmembers practice fire hose operations during Northland's damage control Olympics

the hard work, a good time was had by all!

In between the high-octane operations, Northland crew have still enjoyed some rest and relaxation both afloat and ashore. We have had two port port calls in Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, locally known as "GTMO" by frequent visitors of the Naval installation. During our first visit to GTMO, members of the crew took part in a morale "fun run", a friendly flag football tournament and more! Additionally, our four newly minted Lieutenant Junior Grades hosted their wetting-down, a time-honored tradition where newly promoted officers spend the difference between their pay at their old rank to host a party for the crew.

NORTHLAND's 'JG's" hosted the entire crew for hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, yard games and a tremendous amount of camaraderie! Our second visit was just as eventful, as the crew enjoyed a cookout sponsored by **NORTHLAND's** Chief's mess. Thanks to our brilliant Electronic Technicians (ETs) and Information Systems Technicians (ITs), we were also able to watch Superbowl LVII.

As we continue operations in the Seventh District, we would like to thank the Richmond Navy League for your continued support. Until next time, *fair winds and following seas!* 🚩

Very Respectfully,
XO LCDR Elizabeth Tufts

POSTAL PROBLEMS

The office has been experiencing delays with mail delivery. Specifically, reservations that have been timely mailed have not been received until after the event. As a result, we have initiated a process by which an acknowledgement email will be sent out upon receipt of a reservation. If you have mailed a reservation and have not received our acknowledgement email within ten business days, please call the office at 804-355-7557 to confirm your mailing has been received. Thank You. 🚩

HOUSTON-HOLICKY-SITTER LUNCHEON

DATE: Tuesday April 11, 2023

PLACE: Publix / 2nd Floor

Community Meeting Room

2250 John Rolfe Pkwy

Henrico, VA 23233

TIME: 11:50 AM Program begins

Concluding 1:00 PM

SPEAKER:

MajGen Jason Bohm, USMC,

Inspector General.

Topic: Continental Marines

NOTE: All attendees must be "FULLY" vaccinated for COVID-19.

Thank You Sponsors!


Your Financial contribution to the Richmond Navy League provides Funds for programs supporting those serving in the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Council's Youth Programs; The Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Local Navy and Marine JROTC Units.



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Thanks for jumping on board !!!

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