

OCT 2019



The Lucky Bag

RICHMOND COUNCIL, NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

TOUR THE NAVY'S PREMIER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER. THE SITE FOR WEAPON SYSTEM INTEGRATION AT:

NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER DAHLGREN

On FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER, the Navy League tour of this Naval Warfare Center promises to be both a memorable and an educational outing. The Warfare Center capabilities are focused on both the present and future operational needs of the U.S. Navy. Teams of highly-motivated military and civilian employees are meeting the operational needs of today and are reshaping the way our Navy will fight and defend our country in the future.

The Public Affairs Officer has put together an exciting tour for our group. We will have a two-hour docent led tour of the Centennial tour that will take us around eight historic station stops around the base, the Dahlgren Museum and the range. Lunch will be on your own on the base at "Gray's Landing" facility.





The new Railgun above and picture of Council's 2015 trip to Dahlgren (at left), with group posed in front of 16 Inch Naval Gun of the WWII, Korea War & Vietnam War eras.

DAY'S SCHEDULE

DATE: Friday November 15

TIME: 8:00 AM Leave James River Bus Co

915 N. Allen Ave Richmond, VA 23220

10:00 AM Arrive Dahlgren 2:00 PM Leave Dahlgren 4:00 PM ETA Richmond

\$60.00 / Non N.L. Members

COST: \$50.00 / N.L. Members

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RESERVATION DEADLINE: Friday November 8, 2019 (Payment must be received with reservation form) Payment Policy: Checks cashed AFTER the event. Cancellations accepted & checks returned up to the deadline date					
Make the following reservations for "DAH	LGREN TRIP",	Friday November 15, 2019			
Name	_Tel	email			
Name	_Tel	email			
COST: \$ 50.00 Navy League Members \$ 60.00 Non Navy League Members	Total #	Reservations @ \$50.00 Reservations @ \$60.00 Enclosed: \$			
Total Enclosed: \$	Navy League Office: 804-355-7557				
Write CLEARLY, mail form & check to: Richmo	nd Council NLUS	PO Box 11201 Richmond, VA 23230	1		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Harvey V. Lankford, M.D.



NOW HEAR THIS

Our September issue of The Lucky Bag announced Council's annual Sea Services Luncheon on October 23 saluting the Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. This event is always scheduled around the time of the U.S. Navy birthday. Commander Matthew Shellock, USN from one of our adopted ships, USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50), will be our featured speaker. Personnel in uniform representing the Sea Services will use a Navy sword to cut the cake specially decorated with the crests of the four branches. Don't miss it! Be sure to sign up using the form on page 1 of the September Lucky Bag, either the paper version or the one on our website. Bring a friend! Recruit a new member!

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

Once again, we are proud to announce the first-ever Richmond Council Challenge Coin. The instructions for purchase were printed in the September Lucky Bag and are repeated in this issue. PS: they make great stocking stuffers in addition to their usual purpose.

We need your help. One of the unsung duties in the office is provided by the front desk volunteers who answer the phone and take messages. Give the office a call so we can tell you more about the days and schedule when help is needed. We need you.

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OCTOBER NAUTICAL WORDS OF WISDOM - 1962

The events of October 1962 indicated, as they had all through history, that control of the sea means security. Control of the seas can mean peace. Control of the seas can mean victory. The United States must control the seas if it is to protect your security.

President John F. Kennedy, 1963, onboard USS Kitty Hawk (CVA-63)

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Lewis W. Brandt

Once I saw a sight I had seen many times before, but on that occasion it stuck in my mind. This rather small squirrel was crossing with what appeared to be a walnut held tightly in his mouth. The nut, when compared to the size of his head, makes me think of the old saying about one who has eaten too much, "His eyes were bigger than his stomach". On the other hand, he was a perfect example of what prevents a nation from becoming a welfare state. Il Thess. 3:10 states, "If a man will not work, neither shall he eat". Sometimes when people criticize a fellow traveler they say, "he's nutty as a squirrel." That's a poor

analogy! That little squirrel was taking on a job that seemed too big for him to protect his future. Our nation freely gives able-bodied sluggards a good stipend of doing nothing. friends... It ain't the squirrel that's nuts! to



FRONT DESK VOLUNTEER JOHN DEAL

John Deal has provided front desk volunteer duty for over 10 years, but will now be stepping down. We appreciate the great service that he has provided. John and his wife Mary are both from the Buggs Island Lake area of Virginia. John served in the U.S. Navy between 1958 and 1962 as a Petty Officer Third Class. He was deploved several times on the aircraft carrier USS INTREPID (CV-11) also known as The Fighting "I." John worked in the Supply Department and was responsible for making ice cream. In the days before nuclear power the ice cream fueled the ship, or at least the crew!

John recalled that many years ago his good friend Earl McKnight had asked him to be a volunteer at the Earl continues to hold front desk. down the fort on Tuesday mornings. John had the Thursday morning slot. Anyone reading this - we need you to fill his big shoes. Please call.

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

Robert E. Lusk, Jr. Fred A. Williams, Jr.

Sponsors

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr. Charles W. Rayfield









Come and Celebrate our Sea Services Luncheon October 23, 2019

Richmond Council's Annual Sea Services Luncheon will feature an address by Commander Matthew Shellock, USN of the USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50). CDR Shellock earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Ocean Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned there in 2001. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School. He has been deployed in the Arabian Gulf, the Horn of Africa, the Pacific and served ashore at the Pentagon and Norfolk. In 2018 he assumed duties as Executive aboard CARTER HALL. In Sept CARTER HALL is expecting to celebrate a change of command ceremony, during which, CDR Shellock will become the ships Commanding Officer.

As one of Richmond Council's adopted ships, CARTER HALL is home ported at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story in Virginia Beach. The ship's official motto is "Working for Peace, Ready for War!" Council knows CARTER HALL by its nickname, the "Fightin' Five-O."



CO MATTHEW SHELLOCK, USN CARTER HALL (LSD-50)

DAY'S SCHEDULE

DATE: October 23, 2019 TIME: 11:30 AM - Social

12:00 PM - Call to Order 12:15 PM - Luncheon 12:45 PM - Speaker 1:30 PM - Adjourn

COST: \$25.00 Members / Guests

PLACE: Willow Oaks Country Club

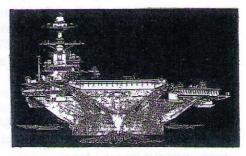
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Reservation Deadline for SEA SERV	VICES LUNCHEON: Friday Octobe	r 18
Payment Policy: Checks cashed AF	TER the event. Cancellations accept	pt-
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PO Box 11201

IS THE ERA OF THE FLAT-TOP FADING?



Pearl Harbor transformed_the U.S. Navy from a battleship dominated force to one led by aircraft carriers.

Fast forward to 2019 and now the use and viability of the carrier is being questioned.

Navy Times has interviewed several officials, including a naval think-tank leader and a former Deputy Secretary of Defense, both of whom express concern about the future of the flattop as it is currently employed.

Increasingly sophisticated anti-ship missiles have been developed by China and Russia. They pose an unacceptable threat level to the carrier which requires it to be operated hundreds of miles from intended targets and beyond the strike range of Navy jet fighters.

Another problem is the enormous cost of the Ford-class carrier (\$65 billion) which limits the Navy from being able to develop smaller, relatively inexpensive, unmanned warships which could constitute our first line of attack. The risk of loss of such drone vessels would be significantly lower in terms of cost and without loss of human life.

Without question there is political pressure to continue the maintenance and construction of the carrier. Even those who question their current utilization agree that they have a future. Politics was clearly involved when the Navy announced that it was going to decommission USS TRUMAN rather than incur the expense of mid-life overhaul. The political outcry caused a complete reversal of the decision.

The development of carrier-based drone refueling tankers (MQ-25 project with Boeing) will give the fighter aircraft a much greater range and thus allow the carrier to remain out of range of hostile missiles. Carrier proponents see this as an assurance of their continued utility. Currently, it is "wait and see".

Richmond, VA 23230

ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

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



USS NORMANDY (CG-60)
CO: CAPT Christopher Stone
XO: CDR Theresa L. Kaylor
CMC: CMDCM Douglas Newman

Adam J. Fiedler, M.D., Liaison AHOY Richmond Navy League!

NORMANDY had a great month of August! First and foremost we would like to extend our appreciation to you! It was an absolute treat to welcome Richmond Navy League back onboard NORMANDY and to receive your most generous donation to the crew. It is always a great day to show off NORMANDY and the Sailors that make it the best team on the waterfront. I strongly believe that building these types of relationships is integral to the success of our mission, our ship, and our Navy. Having a strong bond with those at home, and organizations such as yours, make us a more resilient fighting force.

Furthermore, NORMANDY spent the month preparing for our upcoming deployment as part of the HARRY S. TRUMAN CARRIER STRIKE GROUP (HSTCSG). This was accomplished in two major ways, one a large scale maintenance period to ensure our readiness for any and all tasking and a phased leave period, allowing our crew to get some needed time with their family and friends. It is important that our crew is well-rested and personally ready to complete the mission set forth for NORMANDY and the HSTCSG.

Finally, we wrapped the month by bidding a bittersweet farewell to our exceptional Executive Officer, CDR Jeremy Petersen. After 18 months of devoted service to NORMANDY and her crew, it is time for him to move on and begin the Command pipeline. He turned over the duties and responsibilities to CDR Theresa Kaylor, who comes to NORMANDY with a phenomenal record of success and we look forward to her continuing the NORMANDY tradition of excellence.

Thank you for your continued support and outreach.

Warm regards, CO CAPT Chris D. Stone



USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50) CO: CDR Bruce W. Golden XO: CDR Matthew R. Shellock CMC: CMDCM Donavon Gray

Pat Robson, Liaison

Greetings from the FIGHTIN 5-0!

As summer draws to a close, the CARTER HALL has been extremely busy, especially during the last month as we supported Exercise UNITAS LX (60) off the coast of Brazil. UNITAS is a multinational exercise and this year we partnered with 10 South and Central American nations to practice and conduct amphibious operations to enhance our ability to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to those in need. Our Sailors and Marines worked hard supporting the exercise and were rewarded with liberty in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Beyond the amazing food, a highlight for many sailors was visiting the Christ the Redeemer statue that overlooks the city.

We are so thankful for the support of Richmond Navy League. With this extended underway period, our Sailors and Marines have used the Gator Chapel continuously, whether it was reading a book, grabbing a cup of coffee, watching a movie, talking with friends, or participating in a worship service. This space would not be available for our crew without your support and we thank you!!!

Our Sailors and Marines will continue to train and work hard as we continue to train for future operations and deployments! We are: Working for Peace, Ready for War!

Very Respectfully, LCDR, CHC, Chaplain Williams, USN



USS GRAVELY (DDG-107)
CO: CDR Michael O'Reilly
XO: CDR Corey Odom

CMC: MCPO (SW/AW) Larae Baker

Alan Palmer, Liaison

Greetings from USS GRAVELY! August was a very eventful month for GRAVELY as we completed our final mission of deployment and returned home to reunite with our families. The month began with gloomy news. Leaving Rota and driving a course to arrive in Norfolk on August 10th, we learned that our deployment would be extended by three weeks. The Second Fleet Commander required a ship to fulfill national tasking and operate north of Arctic Circle in Baffin Bay, west of Greenland. Several ships were nominated for the tasking, but GRAVELY's reputation for mission accomplishment made us the preferred ship! The crew took a day to absorb the news, but quickly recovered, ready to tackle any and all challenges involved with this mission. From Rota we traveled to Ponta Delgada, Azores to top-off on fuel and then traveled to Halifax, Nova Scotia to prepare for our Arctic Operations. While in Halifax, Commander Michael O'Reilly relieved Commander Justin Hodges as Commanding Officer of USS GRAVELY. The change of command ceremony was simple based on our operational tasking, but still steeped in naval tradition. The crew bid farewell and following seas to Commander Hodges, the Captain who led us through a challenging year and a half, 395 days underway and some forty-five thousand nautical miles traveled. Assuming the reins, Commander O'Reilly led GRAVELY into uncharted territory, areas where US navy ships have never operated. We maintained constant communications with the Fleet Weather Center during our transit north, driving to avoid icebergs that became more and more present the farther north we travelled. GRAVELY operated north of the Arctic Circle before turning the ship south and charting a course for home. We stopped in Halifax to refuel and returned home days later, meeting our children and families on the pier, loved ones whom we last held 245 days ago. As August ends and as we catch up on lost time with friends and family, we reflect proudly on the last eight months. The crew served well, professionally representing the US Navy and the United States of America during our deployment to Sixth and Second Fleets as part of the Standing NATO Maritime Group.

Very Respectfully, XO CDR Corey D. Odom



USCGC NORTHLAND (WMEC-904)

CO: CDR Charles L. Banks XO: LCDR Joshua DiPietro COB: ETC Joseph W. Leu

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Liaison

NORTHLAND has successfully been underway for almost three weeks and the crew has filled the time with training, qualifications, and even some excitement! The first two weeks of the patrol consisted heavily of flight operations, with our embarked helicopter, to practice techniques and procedures necessary for interdicting high-speed narcotics smuggling vessels at sea. We have also taken advantage of having the helicopter on board to assist our newest members in earning their flight deck qualifications.

While transiting to the Eastern Pacific, we received direction to intercept a potential target of interest. After a full day of diligently searching, NORTHLAND inter-

USCGC NORTHLAND cont. on page 5

Front



Back



THE FIRST-EVER RICHMOND COUNCIL CHALLENGE COIN

These custom-designed large 1.75 inch metal coins show Who We Are and What We Do. They are now in the Council office and available for \$10 each. Call 355-7557 to purchase your Challenge Coins and to arrange a time for pick up.

A Challenge Coin has traditionally been given to someone to confirm membership in an organization or group, to award special service, to enhance morale, to exchange during visits, or even for identification behind enemy lines. All of these uses are more important than legends about slapping the coin on the bar to decide who buys the next drink.

Putting your Challenge Coin in someone's hand means that you're giving it to them. However, there is no need for this secret handshake maneuver. Instead, showcase the coin by holding it out in front of you in the palm of your hand. The idea is to prominently and proudly display the coin as you speak about it - The Richmond Council Navy League Challenge Coin.

USCG NORTHLAND cont. from page 4

cepted the vessel and began what turned into a grueling, four-day law enforcement boarding. The boarding teams worked thoroughly and tirelessly, searching the massive vessel in deteriorating weather conditions until, on the third day, they discovered bales of contraband. The next challenge we faced was how to safely transfer the contraband from the vessel to NORTHLAND. Many ideas later, we settled on utilizing our small boat to transport as many bales as we could to NORTH-LAND, tossing a line with a clip to the small boat to attach to the bale, and using sheer manpower to pull each, individual bale onto the ship. After weighing all of the contraband, we calculated its total weight to be approximately 4,200 kilograms, making this interdiction the largest Caribbean Sea/Atlantic Ocean, non-semi-submersible drug interdiction in more than seven years. Every single member of the crew, from the galley staff to the boarding team members to the Bridge, Engineering, and Combat watchstanders, played an integral role in making this drug interdiction possible. This was the first major contraband interdiction for the majority of the crew, and it will definitely be a moment that they will remember long after their Coast Guard careers are completed.

This has been an exceptionally strong start to the patrol and we hope to have more cases that are equally as successful in the coming months.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to updating you with events from our patrol.

Very Respectfully, XO LCDR Joshua DiPietro

USS NORMANDY

Richmond Council Liaison, Jay Fiedler, presented Deployment Dollars to CAPT Christopher Stone, USN, Commanding Officer of USS NOR-MANDY on August 20. Fiedler, accompanied by Tom Hassell, went aboard prior to the ship's scheduled September deployment and made the presentation at an All-Hands call on NORMANDY's flight deck.





NATIONAL MARINE CORPS MUSEUM TRIP

Twenty Navy Leaguers and their guests visited the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA on August 22. They were treated to a rewarding guide to the expansive displays by a masterful presentation by docents' Joe Wadle and Ron Echols, retired Marines from Richmond.

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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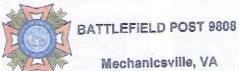
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SEA CADETS SUMMER TRAININGS

AMERICA Division Adults and Cadets attended a total of 376 days of training over the summer. Various trainings attended were in the following states/countries: ALABAMA, VIRGINIA (Chesapeake, Norfolk and Virginia Beach), FLORIDA, IOWA, MARYLAND, MICHIGAN, RHODE ISLAND, CANADA (International Exchange), JAPAN (International Exchange).

Subjects trained in: Basic Medical, Field Medical, Seamanship on the SS BROWN, NSCC Petty Officer Leadership Academy, SeaGlide Robotics, Master at Arms, Recruit Training, NLCC Petty Officer Leadership Academy, NLCC Orientation, USA Goodwill ambassador to Japan and Canada, International Exchange (Inbound) in Rhode Island.



RICHMOND, VIRGINIA COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

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The Lucky Bag Stanley Bielfeld - Navy Memorial Foundation

2019 ANCHOR CLUB MISSION:

Thanks for jumping on board!!!

YOUR DONATION OF \$100 (OR MORE) WILL PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR SEA SERVICES AND THEIR RE-LATED YOUTH PROGRAMS.

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