



Jan. & Feb. 2025



# The Lucky Bag

**RICHMOND, VA COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**

## Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. Spring Luncheon at Willow Oaks Country Club

Come join us at our Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at Willow Oaks Country Club. Our guest speaker is the Commanding Officer of one of our adopted ships, Brian C. Gismervik, **USCGC Northland**.

CDR Gismervik, a native of Lindenhurst, NY, received his commission in the Coast Guard in 2006 after graduating from the Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine and Environmental Sciences. He reported to **Northland** from Honolulu, Hawaii where he conducted national defense, international relations, and fisheries enforcement operations across the Pacific and Indian Oceans while serving as the Executive Officer of **USCGC Midgett (WMSL-757)**.

CDR Gismervik's previous afloat assignments include Executive Officer of **USCGC Campbell (WMEC-909)** in Portsmouth, NH, Assistant Operations Officer of **USCGC Waesche (WMSL-751)** in Alameda, CA, and Deck Watch Officer on board **USCGC Oak (WLB-211)** in Charleston, SC. CDR Gismervik's previous shore assignments include



### GUEST SPEAKER

**CDR Brian C. Gismervik**  
Commanding Officer  
**USCGC Northland**  
(WMEC-904)

Policy and Competency Division Chief for the Office of Cutter Forces at USCG Headquarters where he was responsible for the development, promulgation, and implementation of cutter policies and training programs for over 8,000 seagoing Coast Guardsmen. Commander Gismervik also served as a Chemistry Instructor at the Coast Guard Academy, after earning a Master's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Connecticut in 2012.

His personal awards include two Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, and a Coast Guard Achievement Medal. ([www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil](http://www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil)).

### SPRING LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

**DATE:** Wednesday 26 March  
**TIME:** 11:30 AM Registration  
12:00 PM Luncheon  
12:45 PM Program  
**PLACE:** Willow Oaks Country Club  
6228 Forest Hill Ave  
Richmond, VA 23225  
**COST:** \$ 30.00 per person

**Reservation Deadline for SPRING LUNCHEON: To be received by Wednesday March 19, 2025**

**\*\*Refund Policy 2025: Cancellations will be accepted & checks returned  
UP TO and INCLUDING the "deadline date."**

**RESERVATIONS FOR ADMIRAL GRAVELY SPRING LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY MARCH 26, 2025**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular meal served **unless** special meal is requested (please circle): 1 or 2 Veggie Meal(s) / Fish Meal(s)

Total # of Res. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 30.00 per person Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable (and mail) to: Richmond Council NLUS P.O. Box 11201 Richmond, VA 23230 Tel #: (804) 355-7557

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Vaughan F. Dize



Greetings Fellow Richmond Council Navy League Members and Friends.

Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

## 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

### JANUARY

- New Officers and Board of Directors Installed

### FEBRUARY

- Naval Reserve Center Richmond had their Change of Command: CDR Amy Thomas relieved CDR Eric Z. Wynn

### MARCH

- Admiral Gravely Spring Luncheon: Guest Speaker Captain John Paul Jones USN (Ret.)

### APRIL

- **USS Carter Hall** had their Change of Command: CDR Steven E. Grey relieved CDR Brad A. Fancher
- NTAG (Navy Talent Acquisition Group) had their Change of Command: CDR

Seth L. Harbin relieved CDR Shany W. Fowler

### MAY

- Navy League Members and Guests toured the Military Sealift Command Ship **USNS Harvey Milk**
- **USCGC Northland** had their Change of Command. CDR Andrew Dennelly was relieved by CDR Brian C. Gismervik
- **USCGC Legare** had their Change of Command at Sea: CDR Jeremy M. Greenwood was relieved by CDR Justin Strock

### JUNE

- Navy League Members and Guests visited the Fighting Blacklions (VFA-213) at Naval Air Station Oceana
- Two members of the RCNL visited Normandy, France on the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. The guided-missile cruiser **Normandy (CG-60)** was the U.S. Navy representative ship
- CDR Theodore G. Ellyson Summer Luncheon: Guest Speaker was Vice Admiral John B. Mustin, Commander of the U.S. Navy Reserve

### JULY

**USS Gravely** returned home from deployment after a nine-month deployment. Several Navy League Members greeted the ship with a Welcome Home Sign

- **USS Normandy** had their Change of Command: Captain Errol Robinson was relieved by CDR Nathan P. Diaz

### AUGUST

- AMERICA Division Sea Cadets had their Change of Command: CDR Riffle was relieved by Inst. Steve Donahue
- Navy League Members and Guests toured the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Air Center in Chantilly, VA

### SEPTEMBER

- Rear Admiral Mike Curran, USN (Ret.) embarked on a three-day cruise aboard the **USNS Supply (T-AOE-6)**; the lead ship of the Supply-class fast combat support ships
- The AMERICA Division Sea Cadets had weapons qualifications at Cavalier Gun and Rifle Club in Montpelier, VA.,
- RCNL held their Annual Golf Tournament at the Hollows Golf Club

### OCTOBER

- Sea Services Luncheon: Guest Speaker was Rear Admiral Phillip E. Sobeck Commander of the Military Sea Lift Command of the U.S. Navy

### NOVEMBER

- Navy League Members and Guests visited the **USS Normandy (CG-60)**

### DECEMBER

- Pearl Harbor's 83rd Anniversary with a remembrance ceremony held at the Virginia War Memorial with Rear Admiral Mike Curran as our Guest Speaker
- The Blacklions (VFA-213), members of Air Wing 8, had a Change of Command: CDR Justin A. Nixon was relieved by CDR Kevin A. Swift

In closing, I would like to remember RCNL members who passed on and who played a significant role in Council's success:

- Eward S. Gibbons, USMC, WWII Vet (Past President and member for over 50 years)
- R. Milton Owen, USNR (Past President and member for over 30 years)
- Dr. Gilbert "Gill" F. Debiasi (assisted with our front desk duties)
- Col. Morton C. Mumma III, USAF (Ret.); RCNL sponsor and member for 17 years)
- CAPT William S Manning, USN (Ret.); RCNL member for 34 years

Lastly, Alma B. Gravely, wife of Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., also passed. 🕊

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chaplain John A. Harler, M.D.



### HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. (Hosea 6:3).*

Standing on the threshold of a new year, we reflect on our journey together. Each wave we've navigated has contributed to our strength, resilience, and unity. In this new year, let us embrace hope and renewal, cherishing the camaraderie that binds us.

May we carry forward the lessons learned, the victories celebrated, and the challenges overcome. Let us seek peace and understanding in our hearts and extend grace to one another. As we

Chaplain's Corner continued page 3

### *The Lucky Bag* Vol 68 Issues 1&2

Published by the Richmond, Virginia Council Navy League of the U.S. Mailing address: P.O. Box 11201, Richmond, VA 23230.

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

## Chaplain's Corner cont. from page 2

embark on new missions, may our faith guide us, our purpose inspire us, and our commitment to support those who serve empower us.

In this coming year, remember that we are not alone. Each of us plays a vital role in our collective mission. Together, we can face any storm and achieve great things. Let us support one another, uplift our spirits, and foster a community rooted in love and respect.

Wishing you and your families a blessed New Year filled with hope, joy, and purpose. May God's light shine upon you, guiding you through the challenges and triumphs that lie ahead.

As sure as the sun will rise  
And takes away the night  
His mercy will not end  
His mercy will not end.  
(By Ellie Holcomb)

## Wreaths Across America



On December 14, 2024, AMERICA Sea Cadets honored the veterans at the Richmond National Cemetery, Richmond, VA, laying wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes.



## Richmond Council NLUS Officers and Directors

At the Council's Annual Meeting, held January 22, 2025, at Willow Oaks Country Club, the following slate of Officers were installed. (note: \* indicates new Board Member).

**President:** Vaughan F. Dize  
**Acting Sr. VP & Chaplain:** John A. Harler, M.D.  
**Judge Advocate:** Thomas T. Hassell, Jr.  
**Treasurer:** Billy L. Butler  
**Asst. Treasurer:** Robert E. Lusk, Jr.  
**Editor:** William W. McCathern, Jr.  
**Co-Editor:** \* Nancy G. Butler  
**Secretary:** Carol K. Zembroski

**Directors:** \* Father William Bartz  
Dennis A. Biggs  
Billy L. Butler  
\* Nancy G. Butler

**Directors (cont.):** Vaughan F. Dize  
\* Marx (Mike) Eisenman, Jr.  
George L. Feitig, Jr.  
Adam J. (Jay) Fiedler, M.D.  
\* Philip S. Gahm  
\* Maria Gallegos  
John A. Harler, M.D.  
Patrick D. Harris  
Thomas T. Hassell, Jr.  
Melissa Hill  
Thomas Jennings  
\* Joseph M. Kelleher, Jr.  
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Gary K. Riffle, Sr.  
B. Patterson (Pat) Robson, Jr.  
\* Earl A. Williams  
Carol K. Zembroski

## AMERICA Division Sea Cadets



On December 7, 2024, PO3 Donahue pins her dad as he is promoted to the rank of Ensign. Bravo Zulu ENS Donahue, CO AMERICA Division!



At the AMERICA Division Sea Cadets Annual Christmas Party, the cadets participated in a Gingerbread House contest. The winner was chosen by Council's President, Vaughan Dize. First place winners went to: Cadet Burns, Cadet Eirich and Cadet Smith. Well done, Cadets!

### *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 Member

Robert K. Paylor

#### Sponsor

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr.

# Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Ceremony at Virginia War Memorial

On a chilly Friday, December 6, 2025, the forty Virginians who lost their lives 83 years ago, in the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, 1941, were remembered and honored at the Virginia War Memorial.

The solemn ceremony started with Varina High School NJROTC Color Guard presenting the colors, followed by Bagpiper, Jim Livingstone, playing *Amazing Grace*. Wreaths were then paraded down by the Richmond Council Navy League, Sons & Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors and the Virginia War Memorial.

Vaughan Dize, Council President, led with the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation followed by Council Chaplain, John Harler, M.D.

The names of the fallen were read aloud by Vaughan Dize, followed by the tolling of a bell and a hand salute from the Naval Reserve Sailor.

Rear Admiral Michael Curran, USN (Ret.) was the Guest Speaker. "Only a handful of survivors are still alive," Curran said. "We will soon lose our living history of that day of infamy; that is why ceremonies like today's are so important."

The ceremony concluded with the Five Gun Salute and Taps by the Slay Detachment of the U.S. Marine Corps League.

Following the ceremony, Navy League members and guests attended a chicken pot pie luncheon catered by *Homemades by Suzanne*.



After each name was read, two Sailors from Navy Reserve-Richmond tolled the bell and hand saluted the fallen.



Pictured left to right: Two Navy-Reserve-Richmond Sailors; LT Jeramie Johnson, NRC RVA XO; CDR Amy Thomas, CO Navy Reserve-Richmond; Guest Speaker Rear Admiral Michael Curran, USN (Ret.) and behind him are Council's Chaplain, John Harler, M.D. and Council President, Vaughan Dize.



The USMC Slay Detachment League performed the Five Gun Salute and Taps at the conclusion of the ceremony.



Pictured left to right: Council President, Vaughan Dize; Guest Speaker Rear Admiral Michael Curran, USN (Ret.) and Col. Joe Wadle, USMC (Ret.).



Varina High School NJROTC Color Guard presented the colors.



Pictured left to right: Two Navy Reserve Sailors; LT Jeramie Johnson, NRC RVA XO; CDR Amy Thomas CO Navy Reserve-Richmond; Clay Mountcastle, Director of the War Memorial; Council Chaplain, John A. Harler, M.D.; Council President, Vaughan Dize and Council Director, Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., parading the Navy League Wreath.



# Strike Fighter Squadron VFA-213 (Blacklions) Change of Command Ceremony



On December 18, 2024, at the Naval Air Station Oceana, Council President, Vaughan Dize and Council Blacklions Liaison, John A. Harler, M.D., attended the Change of Command Ceremony for the Strike Fighter Squadron VFA213, also known as the Blacklions.

Commander Justin A. Nixon was relieved by Commander Kevin A. Swift. 🦁



Captain David J. Dartez Commander, Carrier Air Wing Eight USN, congratulates both CDR Nixon and Swift.



John A. Harler, M.D., Blacklions Liaison and Council President, Vaughan F. Dize, share a celebratory moment with new CO Commander Kevin A. Swift.



Commander Swift gets pinned with the Commanding Officer of the Blacklions (VFA-213) pin by his wife.



CDR Swift's daughter looks on as they reveal his name on the F18E Super Hornet: CDR KEVIN "RAWDOGG" SWIFT – COMMANDING OFFICER.

# Council's 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting

Our Richmond Council NLUS held their 67th Annual Business Meeting on 1/22/25 at Willow Oaks Country Club. The attendees commenced the festivities with a wine and cheese reception after which the Council Chaplain, John Harler, did the invocation and lunch was served. After a delicious lunch, Council President called the meeting to order and shared a synopsis of the Council's 2024 activities. Council Treasurer, Billy Butler, shared financial results, stating Richmond Council had experienced another successful year. All were encouraged to continue their support of the Anchor Club and consider volunteering and were invited to attend any of our Round Table meetings every Monday morning at 10:00 AM at the office. The nominating committee report was then presented by committee chairman, John Harler, announcing eight new Board Members.

Next, Council Judge Advocate, Tom Hassell, confirmed that we had a quorum and could proceed with the election of Directors and Officers. Directors who will serve in 2025 were called forward and sworn in. Subsequently, Officers for 2025 were installed and sworn in. After closing remarks, Chaplain John Harler offered the benediction and the meeting was adjourned. (see page 3 for the complete list of 2025 Officers and Directors). 🍷



**New Board Member, Philip Gahm, and his wife, Wanda.**



**Susan Hassell, wife of Tom Hassell, reads over the program for our Annual Meeting.**



**Mike Riley, husband of Maria Gallegos, and Chuck Rayfield enjoying the reception.**



**Council President, Vaughan Dize, shows off the engraved plaque presented to Council, recognizing our 25 yrs of service with USCGC Northland.**



**Meet our eight new Board Members. From left to right: Father William J. Bartz, CAPT, CHC, USN (Ret.), Maria Gallegos, Philip S. Gahm, Nancy Gibbons Butler, Joseph M. Kelleher, Jr., Marx (Mike) Eisenman, Jr., Brian K. Miller and Earl S. Williams. Welcome aboard!**

## Navy League Board Member Experiences Three Days Aboard MSC Ship, USNS *John Lenthall* (T-AO-189)

By: Tom Jennings, RCNL Director



On September 23, **USNS John Lenthall** departed from Norfolk Naval Base to Craney Island for fuel. Then traveled through the port area to offshore in the Atlantic Ocean for simultaneous connected and vertical replenishments and for practice helicopter landings on the ship, returning to Norfolk Naval base on September 26.

I was never in the sea services or military; thus, this was a wonderful opportunity and honor to experience firsthand the operations of a Military Sealift Command (MSC) ship, **USNS John Lenthall**. Lashawn Sykes from MSC and Pat Robson of the Richmond Navy League (RNL) were instrumental in arranging this trip and providing helpful preparations to make it so meaningful.

I knew it intuitively, but not until I got on board did it really hit home that having visitors from the Navy League, like myself, is rare. **John Lenthall** is very much a working ship, with the officers and crew very busy during the day. I used my time on board as an opportunity to observe and learn, stay out of the way, and ask questions at an appropriate time.

On the first day, the Fire Marshall provided a very detailed and worthwhile safety briefing and a tour of the ship, which included many thoughts on making the trip more meaningful. Like others on the ship, he was available to answer questions throughout my time onboard.

I could go almost anywhere on the

ship alone, allowing flexibility for observing various operations. I probably spent more hours on the Bridge, or bridge-level deck, because of the view provided and my ability to understand what was going on. For me, it was even interesting to observe the role of the tugboats and the port pilots. The Captain, Chief Mate, Chief Engineer, other officers, and crew were all very open and welcoming. I was able to eat my meals with the officers and heard the challenges of being on an MSC ship.

The Chief Mate spent almost an hour with me, which was very beneficial, learning about operations on board, the life of civilian mariners, career paths in MSC, etc.

I attended various briefings, such as

morning navigation and preparation for pumping fuel.

I had the opportunity to meet with officers and tour the medical area, the engine and mechanical parts of the ship, the pumping controls, the Bridge for navigation, and the supply/cook facilities.

It was very quiet in the evening, and I spent time occasionally in the officer's lounge engaging in several informal, informative conversations.

I had not realized how little people knew about the Navy League (NL) and the support to sea services that the Richmond NL provides. I explained what we did, including our adopted ships program, liaison with MSC, day trips to military facilities, etc.

Overall, it was interesting to learn and observe what an MSC ship does, the relationship with the Navy, and the differences between Federal government civilian mariners and navy sailors.

I appreciated the honor and hospitality shown during the trip and presented several people with a Richmond Navy League Challenge Coin. 🪙



## ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

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



**USS Normandy (CG-60)**  
**CO: CAPT Nathan Diaz**  
**XO: CDR Adam J. Samson**  
**CMC: CMDCM Andrew Conover**

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

**Normandy** remains moored at Pier 2 at Naval Station Norfolk, currently undergoing a vigorous Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV) with acute detail placed on maintaining her engineering spaces and associated equipment. Furthermore, all hands have returned to the ship after a much-deserved POM/Holiday leave and the ship is now fully manned once again, operating at full capacity. Certification Validations have mostly come to an end, with the big push onboard to finish our CMAV strong. We are now in the home stretch for this period, as there has been acute focus on her engineering spaces and associated equipment.

Because **Normandy** maintains the highest standards on the waterfront, she requires a top-notch plant to support whatever tasking is provided. If you find them in the Hampton Roads area, please feel welcome to greet them! If you, a family member, or a friend have served onboard, please feel free to reach out. Although we may be on the high seas or moored pierside, they will always be welcomed onboard. Well done! ✍️

Very respectfully,  
LTJG John Barber, FCO



**USS Gravelly (DDG-107)**  
**CO: CDR Brian C. Sanchez**  
**XO: CDR Greg Piorun**  
**CMC: CMDCM LeDezman Johnson**

**Courtney Mustin, Liaison**  
**Patrick Harris, Ass't Liaison**



**Gravelly's Gunnery Division recently visited Raytheon's Close-In Weapon System (CIWS) production facility in Louisville, Kentucky. This trip allowed them to tour the manufacturing site and exchange valuable experiences related to the use of CIWS during our significant 2023-2024 Carrier Strike Group TWO combat deployment.**



**USS Carter Hall (LSD-50)**  
**CO: CDR Steven E. Grey**  
**XO: CDR Brittany N. Lynn**  
**CMC: CMDCM Benjamin Cruz**

**Pat Robson, Liaison**

Greetings Friends of the Fighting-50!

The Year 2024 was a very eventful year, from celebrating the return from an eight and a half-month deployment in March, to entering the yards in July for a time of much needed repairs, to celebrating the Ship's 29<sup>th</sup> Birthday in September, to mourning the loss of two of our own. The months of November and December brought us great heartache as we regrettably lost two of our sailors: LTJG Nahal Cuadrado and CS3 Schonborn. Their untimely deaths have left us heartbroken. Please keep these men's families, and the crew in your thoughts and prayers, as we grieve their untimely deaths.

As we have now entered 2025, we approach this new year with hope and purpose. We are looking forward to the mission ahead as we conclude our holiday stand-down, having spent the holiday season with our families and friends, and being reminded of our reasons for serving.

We continue to be grateful for your dedication and support as we serve aboard this great ship and prepare to get her back in the water and eventually out to sea. ✍️

Very Respectfully,  
Chaplain Wilesie S. Wint, LT, USN  
Command Chaplain



**USCGC Spencer (WMEC-905)**  
**CO: CDR Justin Strock**  
**XO: LCDR L.H (Hank) Deatrich**  
**COB: BMC Cody Johnson**

**USCGC Spencer cont. on page 9**



USCGC *Spencer* cont. from page 8

**Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Liaison**  
**Thomas A. Jennings, Ass't Liaison**

**USCGC *Spencer* (WMEC-905)** continues to make great strides at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland. The crew officially moved onboard, and we jumped into high gear working to "make our house a home!" We have unloaded all long-term storage Connex boxes, cleaned out the hangar, and each department is organizing their shops and common spaces. The energy is high during this exciting time!

Our Engineering Department installed new galley reefers and freezers, tested the new generators, overhauled damage control repair lockers, and continued efforts to bring additional ships systems online. The Operations Department restored our networks, giving us access to telephones, internet, and printers. Support Department inventoried parts, reopened the galley, and ordered parts and materials. The Deck Department secured lifelines, cleaned workspaces, and helped every division move tools and equipment to their designated areas.



We resumed all shipboard watches and damage control efforts. Our newly reported personnel are gaining valuable experience, participating in various training evolutions, and earning qualifications to stand watches independently. While we still have work ahead, we

are well on our way to full readiness and returning to our primary missions.

Thank you, Richmond Navy League, for your unwavering support! We look forward to sharing more about our progress in this new year! ✍

Very Respectfully,  
ENS Lea Walker  
Public Affairs Officer



**USCGC *Northland* (WMEC-904)**  
**CO: CDR Brian C. Gismervik**  
**XO: LCDR Patricia Green**  
**CSEL: MKC Ethan Stanford**

**Vaughan F. Dize, Liaison**

Greetings from **USCGC *Northland* !**

For the past month, **Northland** has been underway, patrolling the waters of the Southern Florida Straights and beyond. **Northland** left for patrol mid-December and celebrated Christmas underway. In the countdown to Christmas the Elf-on-the-Cutter made its rounds, finding its way into all the hiding spots **Northland** has to offer. On Christmas Eve, crew members embraced their creativity in an afternoon of cookie decorating. Christmas Day was met with an engaging game of White Elephant, as **Northland** crewmembers swapped and stole anonymous gifts amongst each other. Following Christmas, the **Northland** crew enjoyed some much-deserved downtime and rang in the New Year in the eclectic city of Key West. Upon setting sail, **Northland** returned to patrol the operational area.

While patrolling this area, **Northland** completed several missions, including two vital rescues of a total of 37 people off two separate deserted islands. Each member of the crew contributed to this all-hands evolution and have continuously displayed immense respect and devotion to duty. **Northland** has also collaborated with other Coast Guard Cutters and assets, conducting helo operations with Air Station Miami and training with various Florida-area cutters. **Northland** has also taken advantage of every opportunity to train and increase technical proficiency, creating a more cohesive and multi-functional unit. From damage control drills to pursuit trainings and more, the

crew has gained around 50 qualifications in just a month!

Looking towards February, **Northland's** crew continues to work towards completing the mission and preparing for AVSTAN – an inspection conducted to ensure the unit can continue to conduct helicopter operations – prior to heading back to home port.

As always, thank you for all your support! Until next time, fair winds and following seas! ✍

Very Respectfully,  
LCDR Trish Green  
Executive Officer

## **VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO FESTIVAL NORFOLK, VA**

**Tattoo Festival will honor  
250<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the  
Navy, Marines and Army**

Richmond Council is considering a bus trip to the 2025 Virginia International Tattoo Festival, which will take place at 2:30 PM on Sunday, April 27 at the Scope arena in Norfolk, VA.

Every year, the Virginia International Festival is a pageant of patriotism. The Festival will feature an incredible international cast of over 800 civilian and military performers from seven nations. Expect returning favorites, including Norway's spectacular Band and Drill Team of His Majesty the King's Guard, and new performers that will become favorites.

More information about the time of departure and cost will be announced once we know how many people are interested in attending. If you would like to attend this event, please email John Harler at [j.harler@verizon.net](mailto:j.harler@verizon.net) or call the Navy League office at 804-355-7557 and leave a message. A head count is **needed no later than Friday, February 14**, so we can purchase tickets and reserve a bus. ✍

# 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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**HOUSTON HOLICKY SITTER LUNCHEON**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025

**PLACE:** Publix / 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Community Meeting Room  
2250 John Rolfe Pkwy  
Henrico, VA 23233

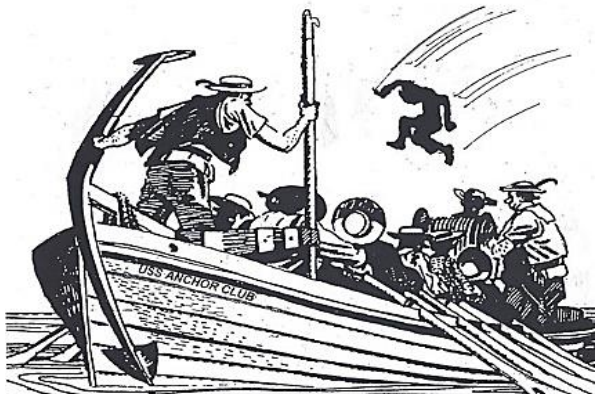
**TIME:** Doors open 11:15 AM  
Program Begins 11:50 AM

**SPEAKER:** Kyle Watts, Marine Captain



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