



**Port of Pittsburgh**  
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<https://www.facebook.com/NavyLeaguePittsburgh/>

### **Letter from the President**

It is my honor to assume the role of President of the Navy League of the United States, Pittsburgh Council. I have been learning about the Council for the past few years through my work as Vice President of Education and I am very excited about the opportunity at this point in our history. I want to thank my predecessor **Brad Harrison** for his contributions and I especially want to thank all of the officers who have agreed to continue to serve in their capacities, as well as assume new roles for the future. We are a diverse Board of individuals with experiences across the board and I am looking forward to the work ahead.

At the Annual Dinner, which was just conducted in early March, I was able to address the people present with some ideas of the vision that has been laid out for our council. We do many things well and have done so for many years. The support of the local sea services through award programs and other assistance has been solid for a number of years. The USS Pittsburgh Relief Crew has done an amazing job through the years also with direct and indirect donations and support for the crews. The fund raisers through the year rely on everyone's input and support and my hope is that we continue that support as long as we are needed.

I also stated that there are three overarching goals that I would like to lead us in pursuing as the year unfolds. Each of the goals is directly aligned with the Navy League's missions. Each of them will require support from the existing membership to be successful. All of them are aggressive, but in the view of many, needed for our future. Over the past few years, we have seen a decline in membership and participation in a number of areas. Like many volunteer organizations, the "doers" do much of the actual work and they rely on those who can afford



**The Navy League of the United States**  
**Serving the Sea Services since 1902**

various levels of support based on their circumstances. In order for any organization to sustain its activities, there has to be a careful balance of both. But the roles of the leaders require that they help develop the opportunities for all that belong and make sure those opportunities add up to meaningful outcomes.

The three focus areas or goals that I laid out at the annual meeting are:

- Build and strengthen our existing programs
- Build our membership
- Build alliances locally to support our local, regional, and national initiatives.

Working with the membership, I want to make sure we are capturing every opportunity to continue serving our long standing obligations to the USS Pittsburgh and the Sea Cadets, as well as the many other local organizations which we support through young awards and other forms of recognition. We will also look for ways to strengthen our ties with all of the local sea services. One example is the coming participation in the Navy's Fleet Week in June. We have already been communicating with the Navy leadership and the visitors that will come to the area, such as the Blue Angels and Navy Band.

As I already mentioned, membership is a key part in making any organization successful. Our

leadership team will focus on finding ways to bring people into the organization. Social media and web sites are part of a communication strategy, but face-to-face communication is equally important in driving the excitement which drives new members. Starting in June, I will be fully retired from my working life and I am committing to helping us reach out to groups and people who will benefit from a healthy Navy League in Pittsburgh. But I need your help. Think about companies and individuals who used to participate. We know for instance that sometimes companies drop off the roles because of people transferring and retiring. Who can we reach out to in some of those companies that can help us to re-engage and better serve?

Finally, building alliances is a critical success factor. We have many existing alliances and relationships, but the opportunity to grow is always at our door. I will be meeting with the board in a few weeks to discuss this in more depths, but I would ask your help in this area also. Looking internally and externally, how can we gain advantages in educating the public in Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania? It's one thing to have great programs, but if people don't understand who we are or what we do, our efforts will be challenged.

President Theodore Roosevelt helped to ignite the spark that became the Navy League 115 years ago. The country was facing great challenges and part of those challenges included a sea service that was not ready to help America fulfill her destiny on a global scale. While we are in a very different time, the sea services have been stretched to the limit during many years of a new kind of warfare. All around the globe, rogue nations are using technology to try and gain advantages over freedom loving nations. The Navy, Coast Guard, Marines and Merchant Marines are being placed in positions that will require absolute mastery of their destinies. The leadership of the nation and the public at large need to hear our call for readiness now more than at any time in our recent history. That has been a core purpose for the Navy League and all of our efforts help to ensure we can continue to support the country in this way.

I look forward to hearing from you and your ideas on how we can do better.

**Bob MacPherson**

## Calendar of Events-2017

Jan.	Election of Officers for 2017
March 4	Annual Council Awards Dinner, Pittsburgh Athletic Assn., Oakland
March 13	Navy Band Concert, Soldiers & Sailors Museum
May 6	Kentucky Derby Party-benefit for <i>USS Pittsburgh</i> Scholarship Fund
May 30	Memorial Day Celebration and Parade
June 2	Golf Tournament- <i>USS Pittsburgh</i> Children's Christmas Party Benefit
June 10	CPOA Navy Ball Golf Tournament
June 18-25	Navy Fleet Week, Pittsburgh
Sept. 9	VA Picnic, Aspinwall (tentative)
Oct.	Navy Birthday Ball
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day, Steel City Salute, Joint Military Ball

## RELIEF CREW NEWS

By John Caspero

### *Membership*

Relief Crew membership is only \$75 per year; thus far, we have 24 members that have paid dues. Don't forget the Relief Crew targets all monies received to exclusively benefit the crew of the USS Pittsburgh (SSN-720). See WEB page for more information. These scholarships are available to all personnel and families that have been assigned to the 'boat'.

### *Scholarships*

College scholarship applications for the 2017-2018 school year will be available shortly on the WEB page; additionally, last year's recipient's will receive an application by mail.

### *Children's Christmas Party*

This activity is funded by the entire council and our many participants and guests; occasionally, some Relief Crew funds are also added depending on the number of children to be hosted. At the party, each child below the age of 12 years receives a certificate to Toys R Us for a gift of their choice. A Golf Outing is held annually. The Chairman of this event for the past 22 years has been **Don Elborne**. He has solicited donations from companies, resorts, friends, etc. to provide the raffle items that generate the majority of the funds. The Pittsburgh Council and Relief Crew express sincerest gratitude to Don for over \$50,000 in funds over the years.



Children's Christmas Party 2016

### ***USS Pittsburgh (SSN-720)***

The 'boat' has recently returned from a 6-month deployment to the U.S. European Command Area. She steamed over 39,000 miles from above the Arctic Circle to the Mediterranean Sea. The Pittsburgh participated in several U.S. and International exercises and visited ports in Spain, France, UK, and Greece.



Terrible Towels on display by the Crew

During deployment, 32 enlisted and 5 officers qualified in submarines. Petty Officer advancements were: 1 to CPO; 4 to PO1; 4 to PO2; 6 to PO3; additionally, numerous personnel were qualified as watch supervisors or watch standers in diving, navigation, engineering duty, and sonar. Two little sailors were born during the deployment!

**WELCOME HOME, *PITTSBURGH!***

### **NOSC PITTSBURGH UPDATE** Submitted by YN3 Wayne McGonigal

The Navy Operational Support Center Pittsburgh is excited to be participating in the planning and execution of several major upcoming events in the Pittsburgh Area that will showcase not only our Navy presence in the region, but also the talent and tireless efforts of our military personnel, both active and reserve!

The 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing will be hosting its semi-annual Wings Over Pittsburgh Airshow, 13-14 MAY. Continuing a solid relationship with our Air Force brothers and sisters, Navy staff and reservists will be volunteering to assist with numerous aspects of the Airshow, including security, concessions, transport, logistics and admin support. Drawing 60,000+ visitors, the planning and execution of this event is no small task, but one the NOSC is ready and able to help support.

One of only a handful of cities nationwide, Pittsburgh will once again be hosting Navy Fleet Week 18-25 JUN. It has been a few years since Fleet Week came to Pittsburgh, and the NOSC is eager to make this year's events memorable. Participants include Navy bands, the Leap Frogs, The Blue Angels, The *USS Pittsburgh* and the *USS Pennsylvania*, as well as several flag officers with hometown roots; the list goes on and on. The planning committee is also working to acknowledge the 20+ NOSC sailors who are soon deploying or who have recently returned from deployment. More specific information will be provided as it becomes available.

Also:

- NOSC PITTSBURGH will be hosting the FLEET CPO TRAINING TEAM in June.
- 18 Officers completed the Reserve Intermediate Leadership Course during February Drill Weekend.
- Over 150 NOSC SELRES and STAFF attended the recent Stadium Series game between the Penguins and the Fliers, compliments of the NHL.
- NOSC SELRES and Staff marched in the ST PATRICKS DAY PARADE. It is unclear exactly how long, but Parade officials believe the NOSC has been represented every year for AT LEAST the past 15 years!

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

RADM David Hahn, USN, has assumed command of the Office of Naval Research and serves as the Chief of Naval Research, the Navy's Chief Scientist. RADM Hahn was Commanding Office of the *USS Pittsburgh* from September 2003 to January 2007.

IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN ---

***THE ANNUAL BOZDECH-VEATER KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY***

**The Honorable Kentucky Colonel  
Polly/Paula Bozdech-Veater  
cordially invites you to a**

**“KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY”**

**DATE: 6 MAY 2017**

**TIME: 4:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

**POST TIME FOR THE RUN FOR THE ROSES AT 6:24 P.M.**

**PLACE: 101 SQUAW RUN ROAD, PITTSBURGH**

**RSVP NLT 3 MAY 2017: 412-719-6432, E-MAIL: [BOZDECHVPM@AOL.COM](mailto:BOZDECHVPM@AOL.COM)**

***SPECIAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN SUPPORT OF THE USS PITTSBURGH SCHOLARSHIP FUND***

A Kentucky Tradition for celebrating the annual “Run for the Roses”. There are many different ways to celebrate this Kentucky tradition. We’ve chosen the informal way--so come casual.

**BRING A FAVORITE FOOD AND YOUR BEST GUESS ON THE WINNER AND WINNING TIME.**

SODA, MINT JULEPS, BEER, BAKED BEANS, HAMBURGERS AND STRAWBERRIES PROVIDED.

***ALL (especially the ladies) ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR THEIR "DERBY HATS"***

**DIRECTIONS TO MY HOME AND PARKING.** RT 28 to Fox Chapel Road exit. Make a left onto Fox Chapel Road. Go approximately 1 mile (through the stoplight at Delafield Rd). Make the next left (a “Y” in the road) onto Squaw Run Rd. Just past the ***Hidden Driveway*** sign and the first mailbox on the left, turn left into my driveway. If you past 2 mail boxes you have gone too far.

**PARKING DIRECTIONS:** Go .3 a mile beyond my driveway to McChail Park (a large soccer/baseball field on the left). A parking lot is located on the left at the end of the fields. A shuttle will operate to take you to and from my home and the parking area.

***FOR EASE OF PARKING --- GO TO McCHAILL PARK DIRECTLY AND UTILIZE THE SHUTTLE SERVICE I HAVE ARRANGED TO MY HOME.***

***PS: Go to <http://www.kentuckyderby.com/> for the latest info on the Derby!!***



**PITTSBURGH COUNCIL GOLF OUTING  
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**

**\*\*\*Proceeds benefit the USS Pittsburgh SSN 720\*\*\*  
\*\*\*Children's Christmas Fund\*\*\***

**FRIDAY – JUNE 2, 2017  
BUTLER'S GOLF COURSE, ELIZABETH, PA**

*The Pittsburgh Council's annual golf outing will be held again at the Butler Golf Course in Elizabeth, Pa. Shotgun start at 10:30 a.m. and starting times for 100 golfers. The fee of \$95.00 (\$60.00) includes:*

**18 Holes of Golf & Cart  
Snack at #10 Tee  
Skill & Other Prizes  
Cookout at Pavilion**

Active  
Military  
Personnel  
Only  
\$60.00

*we have reserved  
(active military*

**RESERVE EARLY!**  
*Bring a friend . . . make up a foursome*

**\*\* REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS May 25<sup>th</sup> \*\***

**Mail to:** Don Elborne  
215 Meadowfield Lane  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

**Phone:** 412-606-7676 - cell  
412-653-6062 - home  
412-921-3501 – office  
[done10@aol.com](mailto:done10@aol.com)

*Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ starting times for the NLUS Golf Outing at \$95.00 (active military \$60.00) per person. I am enclosing my check for \$95.00 (full payment is appreciated to make it easier) for each golfer to hold the number of starting times shown. Total enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (Please make check payable to Don Elborne, if possible)*

**Print Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Guest Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pittsburgh Council Annual Meeting**

The 2017 Meeting was held on March 4 at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association. After the reception hour, Colors were paraded by the Sea Cadets, CAPT Neil F. Judd Unit.

Following dinner **Bob MacPherson**, President, conducted the awards ceremony for Outstanding Sea Service Members of the Year. The following were honored:

Coast Guard: CSI John F. Backman, USCG Osage  
OINC Senior Chief Shane Yonushonis  
MST2 Anthony DeAngelo, Marine Safety  
Office, Pittsburgh

Navy: QM1 Melissa Loos, Selected Reserve

HM1 Rachel Fernandez, Active Duty Navy  
Operational Support Center, Pgh.

MIDN Brendan Barnes  
Steel City Unit, Navy Reserve Officer  
Training Corps.

NC1 Gary Peach, Navy Recruiting District  
Marines: LCPL Justin T. Middlemiss, Surgical  
CO Alpha

Sea Cadets, CAPT Neil F. Judd Units:  
PO3 Daniel Caplan, USNSCC, Pittsburgh  
PO3 Jakob Parmeter, USNSCC, Erie

Installation of Officers was conducted by **Polly**  
**Bozdech-Veater.**

*Patriotism*

**Pittsburgh Council Board of Directors**

*Gratitude*

Director's Office	Name	Contact Information	Office Expiration
<b>President</b>	Bob MacPherson	<a href="mailto:bobmac711@live.com">bobmac711@live.com</a> 717.606.7047	2/2018
<b>Vice President of Outreach</b>	Robert Conway	<a href="mailto:conway_rd@yahoo.com">conway_rd@yahoo.com</a> 412.268.1205	2/2018
<b>Vice President of Education</b>	Don Beynon	<a href="mailto:drbeynon@hotmail.com">drbeynon@hotmail.com</a> 412.680.3200	2/2018
<b>Secretary</b>	Katherine Kersten	<a href="mailto:kjkersten2@verizon.net">kjkersten2@verizon.net</a> 412.367.4725	2/2018
<b>Judge Advocate</b>	Nick Krawec, Esq.	<a href="mailto:nkrawec@bernsteinlaw.com">nkrawec@bernsteinlaw.com</a> 412.456.8103	2/2018
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Brad Harrison	<a href="mailto:bradley.d.harrison@gmail.com">bradley.d.harrison@gmail.com</a> 412.518.7661	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gus Anderson	<a href="mailto:gusarmc90@verizon.net">gusarmc90@verizon.net</a> 412.320.9554	2/2018
<b>CO of Pittsburgh Relief Crew</b>	John Caspero	<a href="mailto:jfcaspero@verizon.net">jfcaspero@verizon.net</a> 412.257.6141	2/2018
<b>Outreach Committee Representative</b>	Polly Bozdech-Veater	<a href="mailto:bozdechvpm@aol.com">bozdechvpm@aol.com</a> 412.782.2533	2/2018

Past Presidents (Active Council Members)– non-voting: **John Van Huyck** (1977), **Wallace Utley** (1978), **John Caspero** (1980, 1992), **David Erdodi** (1981), **Dick Halleran** (1984-5), **William Stein** (1988), **Richard Kennedy** (1991), **Doug Thompson** (1993), **Ray Boyer** (1996), **Karl Ludwig** (1998), **Bill Braund** (2000), **Stew Shannon** (2001-2), **James Bendel** (2004), **Paula Bozdech-Veater** (2005-7), **Judy Halleran** (2008-10), **Al Hribar** (20011-12), **Henry Rainone** (2013-2015), **Brad Harrison** (2015-2017).

**National Officers:**

NLUS Director Emeritus  
NLUS- Director Emeritus  
NLUS Director Emeritus  
NLUS Director Emeritus  
NLUS-Regional Director and Liberty Region President

**Bill Braund**  
**Dick Halleran**  
**Richard Kennedy**  
**Judy Halleran**  
**Polly Bozdech-Veater**

## **Youth Programs**

### **Naval Sea Cadets Unit Pittsburgh Battalion Commanding Officer**

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### **Executive Officer**

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### **Ambridge High School**

#### **Marine Corps JROTC**

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### **West Allegheny High School**

#### **Marine Corps JROTC**

#### **Commanding Officer**

**Maj D.G. Botizan, USMC, Ret**

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## **Active Duty Commands**

### **U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Unit**

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412-221-0807

### **Commanding Officer**

**CDR Leon McClain**

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### **Executive Officer**

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### **MST Chief**

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### **Marine Corps Recruiting Station Pittsburgh**

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### **Commanding Officer**

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### **Senior Enlisted**

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#### **Naval Science ROTC**

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### **Commanding Officer**

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### **XO CDR Peter Hoegel, Jr.**

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### **Marine Units**

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### **Marines I-I, MP Co B**

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### **1stSgt Mark Shawhan, USMC**

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### **I & I, Surgical CO, Alpha**

4<sup>th</sup> MED BN, 4<sup>th</sup> MLG

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### **Command Chief (SEL)**

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### **I-I CO K, 3/25**

**MAJ David Borden, USMC**

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### **Commanding Officer**

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### **Senior Enlisted Leader**

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### **Marines**

#### **I-I**

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**1st Sgt**

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### **OINC**

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**NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
8229 EAST VAN BUREN DRIVE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15237**

**January, February, March 2017 Newsletter**

**Return Service Requested**

**Sea Service Awards  
Derby Party Invitation  
Golf Tournament Information**

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