



Port of Pittsburgh

Official Publication of the Navy League of the
United States, Pittsburgh Council

April, May, June 2016 Volume 20. No. 2

Edited by Katherine Kersten

Website: navyleaguepittsburgh.org

Letter from the President

Time, tide, and formation wait for no man or woman! It is hard to believe that summer is already upon us, and as a Council we continue to be engaged in many meaningful activities. A special thank you to all members who participated in **Memorial Day** activities around the region as we paused to remember those service members who have gone before us. Parades, fundraisers, host city duties, Pirates games, scholarship boards, retirement ceremonies...we have done it all this quarter!

The excitement of summer is here, and as we soon celebrate our independence and heritage as a nation, we must also keep a laser focus on current events and current activities of our sea services and members. Please ask yourself how you can support our sea services and how they can maintain relevance and dominance in a world often riddled with extremism and violence against innocent civilians. Because of our long and rich naval tradition, we must continue to support our maritime sea service men and women through outreach, education, and financial support. We must continue to stick up for our sea service members as they are faced with ever more daunting challenges abroad and more recently at home. Prominent among our recent support, our council provided a very successful visit for the Captain and crew of the **USS Pittsburgh** as well as hosted the Annual Kentucky Derby Party at **Polly Bozdech-Veater's** house. This event significantly aids in the success of the USS Pittsburgh Scholarship Fund, and **John Caspero**, CO of the **USS PITTSBURGH** Relief Crew, assembled the scholarship committee to review applicants. Navy League member **Don Elborne** once again chaired a very successful Annual Golf Tournament benefiting the USS Pittsburgh Children's Christmas Party Fund.



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

Our Council was well represented throughout the Pittsburgh area either leading or supporting activities to honor our sea service members, past and present, on Memorial Day. We have also supported a number of retirements and changes of command this quarter. I hope to see you at both the Steelers Training Camp Picnic this summer and the annual VA Picnic in September.

From hosting the Captain and crew members of the **USS Pittsburgh**, to holding fundraising events, to chairing scholarship committee meetings on behalf of our sea service members and their families who we are tasked to support, it has been an outstanding quarter. As a council we should be extremely proud of our efforts. Thank you to everyone, and I hope you enjoy another outstanding newsletter and please have a wonderful and safe summer.

In support of our sea services,

Brad

Calendar of Events-2016

Jan.	Election of Officers for 2016
Jan-Mar	30 th Anniversary of <i>USS Pittsburgh</i> . Commissioning (to be announced)
Feb. 6	Annual Council Awards Dinner, Pittsburgh Athletic Assn.
April 3-6	Visit of <i>USS Pittsburgh</i> personnel
May 7	Kentucky Derby Party-benefit for <i>USS Pittsburgh</i> Scholarship Fund
May 14	NROTC Commissioning Ceremony, Change Of Command and Retirement of CAPT Jeff Coran
May 30	Memorial Day Celebration and Parade
June 10	Golf Tournament- <i>USS Pittsburgh</i> Children's Christmas Party Benefit
August	Steeler Camp Picnic
Sept.10	VA Picnic/Cookout, Aspinwall
Oct. 7	Navy Birthday Ball, Cheswick, PA
Nov.	Veteran's Day Parade and Steel City Salute to Troops

Derby Party

Again many of the friends of the sea services (some from afar) and the *USS Pittsburgh* gathered on 7 May at **Polly Bozdech-Veater's** home for the "Running of the Roses" fund raiser for the *USS Pittsburgh* Scholarship fund.

While preparing to watch the race, the 62 guests gathered around the "bookie" **John Caspero** to "place their bets", in addition to enjoying the hamburgers and the many dishes brought to share. Nyquist won the race, as did the *USS Pittsburgh* Scholarship fund to the tune of over \$700. Thanks to all for attending and participating in this annual event.

James Drake Receives Prestigious Award

At the annual Sea Air Space (SAS) exposition our own Jim Drake, former general manager of EMD, Curtis Wright, received the Albert A. Michelson award. The award was presented by the Navy's "chief scientist", RADM Mathias Winter and Mr. Skip Witunski, President, Navy League. The

Albert A. Michelson Award is named for a Naval Academy graduate (Class of 1873) and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for his work calculating the speed of light.

This award has been presented since 1990 to a civilian scientist, technical innovator or technical organization for scientific or technical achievement that results in a significant improvement in the strength of our maritime forces or to the enhancement of our industrial technology base. In selecting the Michelson Award recipient, consideration is given to single event contributions, such as inventions and technological innovations, or long-term scientific development work.



Rear Adm. Mathias W. Winter, chief of naval research, left, and Navy League National President Skip Witunski, right, present the Albert A. Michelson Award to James A. Drake. Seapower photo by Lisa Nipp

Save the Date: Pittsburgh Navy Birthday Ball

Date:	Friday, October 7th, 2016
Location	Futule's Harmar House 1321 Freepoint Rd, Cheswick, PA 15024
Questions	Contact ETCS Eric Greenwald ericjgreenwald@gmail.com ITC Michelle Broskovich mzbite@gmail.com
Guest Speaker	RADM Andrew Lennon Commander, Submarine Force Reserve Component

Changes in Sea Service Command Leaders

'Tis the season for changes for our Sea Services Commands Leadership—Navy Recruiting Command, Steel City NROTC, Penn Hills NJROTC program, USCG Osage and the Marine Safety Unit, Pittsburgh.

We had a chance to say good-bye to Captain Jeff Coran and his wife Kim at a barbeque before his formal change of command and retirement ceremony. Jeff and Kim have moved to Connecticut. We welcome Captain Bill Breitfelder, who has assumed command of the Steel City NROTC program.

We say good-bye to CDR Jay Calvert, who retired and welcome CDR Jonathan "Slomo" Channell as Commanding Officer, Navy Recruiting Command. Master Chief Gerald Chiu has also joined the Navy Recruiting District as Command Chief. Master Chief James Reckhouse also retired. Both CDR Calvert and Master Chief Reckhouse are remaining in Pittsburgh and we look forward to them joining us at some of our activities.

CDR Patrick Burkett (promoted to Commander since our last newsletter) is leaving for Jacksonville, FL and LCDR Frances Smith will be serving as the executive officer for the Marine Safety Unit, Pittsburgh.

CDR Bob Morabito, who served as the Senior Naval Science Instructor of the NJRTOC Penn Hills High School for 15 years, has retired. Penn Hills High School is looking for a retired Sea Service Officer to take on this leadership role. If interested, contact Polly Bozdech-Veater, bozdechvpm@aol.com, who will help connect you with Bob. He has done a wonderful job beginning the NJROTC program at Penn Hills High School and leading the growth of the program to well over 100 cadets. The success of the program is really the result of Bob's superb leadership and mentoring.

We say thanks to all of these leaders for their leadership and support. Know that you always have a family to return to here in Pittsburgh. Welcome to the new leaders—our council and members are always standing

by to help you and your command in any way we can.

USS Pittsburgh Scholarships

By John Caspero

The Scholarship Committee met on June 1st. A special 'thank you' to Capt. Wm. J. Breitfelder, USN, C.O. of NROTC-CMU who served on the committee a short 17 days after assuming command.

The recipients of the scholarships are: Austin Blausser, Jessica Harrington, Gabriella Martinez and Meralina Morales. We noted with pleasure that Jessica and Meralina are spouses of sailors presently assigned to the *USS Pittsburgh*.

Memorial Day Observations

Many of the council members participated in ceremonies throughout the area. Some highlights include:

Polly Bozdech-Veater represented the Navy League at the Elizabeth Memorial Celebrations. She was able to attend the Sunday evening dinner and welcome Brigadier General Anthony J. Carrelli, Acting Adjutant General Pennsylvania National Guard. She also participated in the parade on Memorial Day. Lots of Tootsie Rolls were thrown to children during the parade.

Polly also was the Master of Ceremonies at the Sewickley Cemetery Tuskegee Airman Memorial when two additional names were added to the Memorial. One of those names, Kingsley Carey, was a close friend of Polly's. It was a glorious celebration and a superb remembrance of the sacrifices and extra efforts made by our African-American soldiers to serve.

Sea Cadets Need Uniform Items

The Sea Cadets are in need of uniforms—especially the Navy Working Uniform Type 1. They are willing to take not only this uniform but also any other functional uniforms items. Contact **LTJG Anthony Waters**, (C) 412.761.9658.

Local Teen Selected to Represent the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps in Australia

By LCDR. Paul M. Julian, USNSCC

Sea Cadet Chief Petty Officer Ian Sleigh is not your typical high school freshman. At barely 16, Chief Sleigh has already racked up a fairly impressive resume. Starting at an early age he completed his first ship board training at age 11 in Buffalo, New York at the Buffalo Naval Park. Sleigh has also trained in Tactical Medicine, attended a Navy Submarine School, been to Petty Officer Leadership Academy and nearly a dozen other training evolutions in the past five years.

Sleigh was recently selected to participate in the Sea Cadet's International Exchange Program in April. As one of only two cadets selected, he will be heading to Australia to work alongside cadets from Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, South Africa, and, of course, Australia.

The program begins with a two day adventure camp at an Australian Naval Air Station which will include sailing, canoeing and shipboard/simulator activities. Cadets will also visit the Darling Harbor Zoo, the Australian War Memorial and Sydney Maritime Museum as well as participating in the annual ANZAC Day parade.

The Pittsburgh Battalion Sea Cadet is currently the highest ranking cadet in the unit. He has over 40 cadets under his command. He was awarded the Navy League's Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal for outstanding Sea Cadet of the year for the Pittsburgh Battalion at the annual Navy League award dinner at the Pittsburgh Athletic Club on February 6th.



A student at Mars Area High School, in Mars, Pennsylvania the freshman is an active member of Mars Boy Scout Troop 400 where he currently is a Life Scout working on his Eagle Scout requirements. He is also an active member of the Big Red One Living History Organization where he helps teach the public about the life of soldiers during World War II.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps (USNSCC) is a non-profit youth development program for youth age 11 through the completion of high school. Cadets participate in weekend drills with their local unit and may attend national training events during the winter and summer vacations. Training evolutions are conducted in more than 60 different Navy and STEM career fields. The Pittsburgh Battalion serves the Western Pennsylvania general area and has cadets from Ohio and West Virginia as well. For more information on the Sea Cadet program, please visit www.seacadets.org and for information about the Pittsburgh Battalion go to www.pittsburghseacadets.com.

NJROTC Penn Hills High School

On May 5, the NJROTC, Big Red Company, Penn Hills High School held its annual Awards Ceremony and Change of Command. Cadet Christine Spieler assumed command of the Big Red Company from Cadet Hannah Stawski.

Cadet Christine Spieler was also presented the Teddy Roosevelt award from Navy League, Pittsburgh Council. Cadet Spieler and was selected to receive the Trib Total Media Outstanding Young Citizen Award. By virtue of her tremendous leadership by example, she was selected as the Cadet Commanding Officer for the 2016-17 school year.

The Company received two significant awards: Distinguished Unit with Honors (the highest designation possible). The Unit is considered among the top 20% in the nation and can nominate cadets next year to any of the three Service Academies.

The second award was for the "Most Improved Unit" for the 2015-2016 school year in Area Four Navy League of the U. S. designated by Commander, Naval Service Training Command. Only 11 NJROTCs were so recognized.

We congratulate the unit for their continued fine work and accomplishments.

Crew of USS Pittsburgh's Visit

By John Caspero

We hosted 10 visitors during the period 3-7 April. The group included 3 wives: Sophie Colson (C.O.'s wife) Teresa Verti and Paige Patterson. We were delighted to have them with us even though they couldn't attend tours of the classified facilities.

The visitors were kept very busy thru meetings with Rep. Tim Murphy, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, Mayor Bill Peduto, and CMU NROTC unit. Tours included: Heinz Field, Carnegie Science Center (USS Requin), Soldiers and Sailors, Bechtel, and Curtiss-Wright.



The night before departure, the group and a dozen or so Navy Leaguers attended a baseball game at PNC Park.

SeaPerch Regional and National Robotic Competitions

Two schools (Hopewell and Harrison) from the Pittsburgh area won the regional competition and earned the honor of competing in the National Competition.

Sponsorship was a combined effort by the Navy City Outreach Northeast, partnering with Penn State Center Pittsburgh and 4-H of Allegheny County, and influential community leaders in Pittsburgh to make the SeaPerch Program available to local schools.

The Navy League of the United States, Pittsburgh Council, coordinated part of the effort to raise funds to allow both of the local schools that won the Pittsburgh Regional Sea Perch Competition to travel to and participate in the National Competition in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The sponsor noted that the kids had an amazing time and it was a good experience. Unfortunately, they did not do as well as they would have liked, finishing about midway through the pack numerically. They did learn a lot and are looking forward to taking that learning into next year's competition.

Sponsored by the Office of Naval Research, SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). The SeaPerch Program provides students with the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, and mathematics (STEM) while building an underwater ROV as part of a science and engineering technology curriculum. Visit <http://www.seaperch.org/index> for info.

Navy League, Pittsburgh Council Annual Golf Outing a Success

by Nick Krawec

As a result of the planning and efforts of **Don Elborne**, the Navy League, Pittsburgh Council had another successful golf outing at Butler's Golf Course in Elizabeth Township, PA on June 10, 2016.

This event is held to raise funds for the annual Christmas party for the children of the crew of the *USS Pittsburgh*. A total of 44 golfers (organized into 11 foursomes) participated in the event. After the round of golf, all of the attendees assembled for lunch and the conducting of the Chinese raffle. The prizes included two sets of Pirates tickets (one set donated by former Pirates pitcher and current color commentator Steve Blass and one set donated by Curtiss-Wright), tickets to a Steelers pre-season game, gift coupons for activities at Seven Springs, and a 32-inch flat screen television. A selection of gift cards, *USS Pittsburgh* ball caps and shirts and many other donated items were available as gifts and favors to all of the participants. It was "win-win" day for all involved, as not only did the participants enjoy a round of golf, good food, and great fellowship, but also a total of \$2,051.00 was raised for the Christmas party for the children. Kudos to helpers **Nick** and **DJ Krawec** and **Don** for planning and pulling off another successful golf outing.

Honor, Knowledge, Service, Awareness, & Engagement

Sponsor of USS Pittsburgh Retires

In June, **Dr. Carol H. Sawyer** retired from teaching after a 30 year career with the last 22 years spent at the University of La Verne, in La Verne, CA as Professor of Organizational Leadership. She received two awards for excellent teaching and was designated as a Distinguished Professor.



We quote from a recent email: “I appreciate so much my forever friends in the City of Pittsburgh, and the amazing ways the Navy League there has supported SSN 710 and the good people who serve on the ship and their families.”

We hope that during retirement Carol has many more hours to enjoy her family and her hobbies, most especially reading, travel and support to the *USS Pittsburgh*. As the Navy says, “Fair winds and following seas.”

Patriotism

Pittsburgh Council Board of Directors

Gratitude

Director’s Office	Name	Contact Information	Office Expiration
President	Brad Harrison	bradley.d.harrison@gmail.com 412.518.7661	2/2017
Vice President of Outreach	Robert Conway	conway_rd@yahoo.com 412.268.1205	2/2017
Vice President of Education	Bob MacPherson	bobmac711@live.com 717.606.7047	2/2017
Secretary	Katherine Kersten	kjkersten2@verizon.net 412.367.4725	2/2017
Judge Advocate	Nick Krawec, Esq.	nkrawec@bernsteinlaw.com 412.456.8103	2/2017
Immediate Past President	Henry Rainone	nluspitt.rainone@verizon.net 412.596.6143	2/2017
Treasurer	Gus Anderson	gusarmc90@verizon.net 412.320.9554	
CO of Pittsburgh Relief Crew	John Caspero	jfcaspero@verizon.net 412.257.6141	2/2017
Outreach Committee Representative	Polly Bozdech-Veater	bozdechvpm@aol.com 412.782.2533	2/2017

Youth Programs

Naval Sea Cadets Unit Pittsburgh Battalion Commanding Officer Guy Mignogna

(W) 412-225-5469

(C) 412-373-8924

tazman1010@hotmail.com

Executive Officer

LTJG Anthony Waters

(C) 412.761.9658

anthony.waters.@pittsburghseacadets.com

Penn Hills HS NJROTC

12200 Garland Dr

Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Ambridge High School

Marine Corps JROTC

MSGt. Thomas G. Short (USMC Ret)

West Allegheny High School

Marine Corps JROTC

Commanding Officer

Maj D.G. Botizan, USMC, Ret

724-695-5201 ext 5239

dbotizan@westallegheny.K12.pa.us

Active Duty Commands

U.S. Coast Guard,

Marine Safety Unit

1041 Washington Pike, Ste. 300

Bridgeville, PA 15017

412-221-0807

Commanding Officer

CDR Leon McClain

leon.mcclain@uscg.mil

Executive Officer

LCDR Frances Smith, USCG

Frances.m.smith@uscg.mil

MST Chief

Jason M. Spence

Jason.M.Spence@uscg.mil

USCG CGC Osage

McKown Lane, Sewickley, PA

412-741-1180

OINC

BMCS Shane Yonushonis

Shane.A.Yonushonis@uscg.mil

Marine Corps Recruiting Station Pittsburgh

Federal Building, 1000 Liberty Ave

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

412 496-3616

Commanding Officer

Maj. Frank Mease, USMC

(C) 412-395-4917

frank.mease@marines.usmc.mil

Executive Officer

Capt. James Psychogis, USMC

412.395.4917

james.psychogis@marines.usmc.mil

412.395.4642

Senior Enlisted

Sgt Maj Adam Fraser, USMC

adam.fraser@marines.usmc.mil

412.395.6357

Carnegie Mellon University

Naval Science ROTC

4615 Forbes Ave

Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3796

412-268-5109

Commanding Officer

CAPT. Bill Breitfelder

wbreidfe@andrew.cmu.edu

Executive Officer

Lt Col Tom Jarman, USMC

tjarman@andrew.cmu.edu

Navy Recruiting District, Pittsburgh

713 Federal Building

1000 Liberty Ave

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

412-395-5809

Commanding Officer

CDR Jonathan Channell, USN

Jonathan.channell@navy.mil

Command Chief

Master Chief Gerald Chiu

412-395-5755

Gerald.chiu@usmc.mil

Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC)

1265 Rocky Lane

Coraopolis, PA 15108

412.776.4000

Commanding Officer

CDR Donald G. Haley, USN

donald.haley@navy.mil

412 776-4021

Senior Enlisted Advisor

PSC Chris A. Degothseir

Chris.degothseir@navy.mil

412.776.4022

Marine Units

625 E. Pittsburgh-McKeesport Blvd.,

North Versailles, PA 15137

Marines I-I, MP Co B

Capt. Claudio G. Casanova, USMC

412-672-3472 ext. 200

claudio.casanova@usmc.mil

1stSgt Mark Shawhan, USMC

mark.shawhan@usmc.mil

I & I, Surgical CO, Alpha

4th MED BN, 4th MLG

Ensign Joseph Williams, USN

Joseph.Williams@usmc.mil

Command Chief (SEL)

HMC John Watkins, USN

john.t.watkins@usmc.mil

I-I CO K, 3/25

Capt. David Borden, USMC

412-673-0801 ext 310

david.borden@usmc.mil

1st Sgt. Keith A. Sandor, USMC

Keith.Sandor@usmc.mil

412.678.0837 X311

NOSC ERIE

3938 Old French Road,

Erie, PA 16504

814-866-3073

Commanding Officer

LCDR David Q. Baughier USN

david.baughier@navy.mil

Senior Enlisted Leader

PRC (AW) Robert L. Tolbert.

NOSC_ERIE_SEL@navy.mil

Marines

I-I

Capt. Joshua Gato, USMC

(b) 814.868.0848 X 2100

Joshua.Gato@usmc.mil

1st Sgt

Erie Coast Guard Station

1 Coast Guard Station, Erie, PA 16505

814.838.2097

OINC

BMC Stephen Pickard, USCG

Stephen.A.Pickard@uscg.mil

Defense Contract Management Agency Pittsburgh

Federal Building

1000 Liberty Ave., Room 901

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4111

CDR Frederick M. Dini

Frederick.Dini@dcma.mil

412.395.4425/4441 (Blackberry)

412.576.0781

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

April, May, June 2016 Newsletter

Return Service Requested

**Changes of Sea Service Command Leaders
USS Pittsburgh Crew Visit
Sea Cadet and SeaPerch Reports**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 1250**