



Port of Pittsburgh
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Edited by Katherine Kersten
Website: navyleaguepittsburgh.org
<https://www.facebook.com/NavyLeaguePittsburgh/>

Letter from the President

The Home Front

Greetings to all of the Navy League Members and those who have yet to join. I am always grateful for the membership we have and a bit curious why there aren't more of us. The Pittsburgh Council of the Navy League of the United States is an active group that supports the sea services in many ways. More about that in a bit.

This year marks the Diamond Anniversary of some of the pivotal events in the life of the nation as well as the sea services. In the Pacific, the combined forces of the Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard stopped the Japanese expansion during the Battle of Midway. Against very large odds, this combined force stopped a previously unbeaten Japanese Naval Force and turned the tide of the conflict. In the Atlantic, precious few resources were called upon to defend vital shipping in the face of a ferocious submarine onslaught that would be called the Battle for the Atlantic. U boats were challenging our ability to supply our surviving allies and the Navy scarcely had enough ships to stem the loss of ships to their attacks.

None of the services were prepared for the Global Conflicts that they would be called upon to fight. The courage of the men who filled the gap until America's war machine could be fully engaged saved countless millions from death and destruction. On the Home Front here in Pittsburgh, the mills and mines were mobilized as never before and businesses of every kind were converted into suppliers of the materials and equipment that would be needed to fight the enemy on every front. Their contributions led to ultimate victory but there were many sacrifices along the way.

The current situation the nation finds itself in is similar in many ways. All around the globe, nations and terror groups are challenging the notion that people should be able to live in



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

freedom. Freedom from oppression and freedom to live their lives in a way they chose has always been both a goal and a target. The goal is shared by most thinking people and the target is shared by all tyrants and oppressive groups based on flawed ideologies. Technology and the ability to easily cross state lines has radically increased the ability of the evil doers to impact people who may have previously felt safe and secure in their homes.

Once again, the men and women of the sea services are on the front lines of this battle. Whether it's in one of the three Battle Groups in the Sea of Japan or the Black Sea, we have people in harm's way every single day. Our allies are learning that the enemy can reach them in the streets of London and Paris and we have lost citizens in the crossfire. The need for a smart, mobile and flexible defense has never been stronger. Just as planners at the beginning of World War 2 found themselves challenged to meet the existing and new threats, we are finding some of the same challenges.

For many years, the sea services have been increasingly challenged to meet the growing missions because of budget restrictions. Training, new equipment and other costs have all suffered at exactly the same time that new threats emerge. Competing social programs and agendas have

made it more and more difficult to keep our people fully prepared and supplied for this new conflict.

That is exactly where the Navy League and groups like ours comes in. We are the independent voice that Theodore Roosevelt envisioned over a century ago when he encouraged the nation's civilian and business leadership to join together and support the sea services. I love reading his speeches and writings from a historical perspective, but many of them ring so true today. Preparedness is the key word for the survival of any democracy in the face of tyranny. Preparedness is not an option if we wish to survive.

All of the activities we do in the Pittsburgh Council are geared towards supporting those who continue protecting us. Whether it's one of our fundraisers that support scholarship programs or our direct support of the Coast Guard and Navy, we are focused in making sure the people on the front lines know that we on the Home Front have not forgotten them. Our efforts through our National organization in identifying budget needs are critical. Being a part of the Navy League makes sure your voice can be heard and we can truly help the sea services to meet their daily challenges.

The call to action is this: support your Pittsburgh Council by participating in the various events listed in this newsletter. Encourage others to join with us and help us to show a strong unified Home Front in this new conflict. Stay informed and encourage your representatives in government to see the value and need for strong and vital sea services on all fronts.

Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz once wrote: "It is the function of the Navy to carry the war to the enemy so that it will not be fought on U.S. soil." I would only add that the Navy and all of the sea services do their job best when we at the Home Front have done ours just as well.

Bob MacPherson

Derby Party

Thanks to all who participated in the **Bozdech-Veater** Annual Kentucky Derby Party. **Jon Minor** and **Dave Erdodi** did a great job on the grill and **Michelle Broskovich** and her son David did a wonderful job managing the bar! Thanks to **Deb Krall** and **Mike Sabatasse** for manning the kitchen and dining room. Despite the cold and rain, all had a great time sharing past

Derby memories, eating great food and guessing who the winner would be (Always Dreaming).

Thanks to all the attendees and their donations. **John Caspero** did a fine job as the "bookie" helping to raise \$650 for the USS Pittsburgh Scholarship Fund.

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 USS Pittsburgh Scholarship Fund
- May 30 Memorial Day Celebration and Parade
- June 2 Golf Tournament-USS Pittsburgh Children's Christmas Party Benefit
- June 18-25 Navy Fleet Week, Pittsburgh
- July 28 Steeler Picnic
- Sept. 9 VA Picnic, Aspinwall (tentative)
- Oct. 20 Navy Birthday Ball
- Nov. 11 Veteran's Day, Steel City Salute, Joint Military Ball

Local Student to Attend the Coast Guard Academy

By LT Shawn Simeral

On May 25, Thomas Klawinski, a graduate of St. Joseph High School in Natrona Heights, PA, was presented with an appointment to the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT.



LT Simeral with Thomas Klawinski

Founded in 1876, the Coast Guard Academy is the smallest of the nation's federal service academies. Approximately 300 cadets will be appointed and sworn in this summer to the Class of 2021.

Golf Tournament

Submitted by **Don Elborne**

On Friday, June 2, the Pittsburgh Council of the Navy League held its 23rd annual golf outing to benefit the children of the USS Pittsburgh SSN#720 crew. The \$2,500.00 raised will go toward a Christmas party and gifts for the children. With 69 golfers participating at Butler Golf Course in Elizabeth, PA for a 10:30 shotgun start, it was a beautiful day in the low 70's with plenty of sunshine.



Don Elborne, Golf Outing Chairman

Besides the skill prizes, every one enjoyed a door prize and a wonderful picnic lunch in the pavilion. Many thanks to **Polly Bozdech-Veater**, **Michelle Broskovich** and **John Caspero** for helping with the registration and selling Chinese Raffle tickets for high-end items donated by individuals and businesses in the Pittsburgh area.

Many thanks to our Donors:

- Frank Casilli – Casper Colosimo & Son, Inc.
- Steve Blass – Pittsburgh Pirates
- Curtiss-Wright for Pirate Baseball Tickets
- South Hills Country Club
- Ray Boyer for Gift Cards
- Rick Polens for Steeler Game Tickets
- Seven Springs Mountain Resort Golf
- Seven Springs Spa
- Seven Springs Sport Clay
- The Old Place Inn for Dinner Gift Card
- Butler Golf Course

Next year's outing is tentatively scheduled for June 1st.

Marine Safety Unit (MSU) Pittsburgh Honors Coast Guard SPARs

By LT Shawn Simeral

On May 25, Coast Guard MSU Pittsburgh participated in Oak Glen Middle School's recognition program held in New Cumberland, West Virginia. The ceremony honored two Coast Guard members, Ships Cook Second Class Virginia Jackson Conklin and Yeoman Third Class Marie Youst Graham, who served during World War II from 1944 to 1946 in the Coast Guard Women's Reserve.

Legislation was passed on November 23, 1942 which created the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, also known as the SPARs. They were formed to allow additional Coast Guard men to be sent overseas while the SPARs assumed their counterparts' duties on the home front. The name SPARs is an acronym which stands for Semper Paratus – Always Ready that comes from the Latin and English translations of the Coast Guard's motto. CDR Leon McClain, Jr., Commanding Officer of Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh, presented Ship's Cook Second Class Conklin and Yeoman Third Class Graham with both Eighth Coast Guard District and MSU Pittsburgh challenge coins, along with Letters of Appreciation signed by Rear Admiral David Callahan; the Eighth Coast Guard District Commander.



CDR McClain with Ms. Conklin and Ms. Graham

“We hail them as Coast Guard heroes, and we will always respect them for their honorable actions so many years ago. To have participated as part of their recognition was truly a privilege, and it felt just right,” said CDR Leon McClain, Jr. “You see the legacy of SPARs is a history that makes Coast Guard members proud. They served our nation with honor and blazed trails for not only women, but all military service members.”

Over 10,000 women volunteered to become SPARs throughout World War II.

Council Member Honored

The Pittsburgh Council of the Navy League is pleased to have one of its own, **Polly Bozdech-Veater**, honored by Governor Tom Wolf, First Lady Frances Wolf and the Pennsylvania Commission for Women. She was one of the 28 women from across the Commonwealth, representing every branch of the armed services, recognized at a ceremony at the Governor’s Mansion, on 29 March.

The women veterans and service members were recognized for their brave service and selfless contributions to Pennsylvania and to the nation. There are over 71,000 women veterans and service members in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The press release from the Governor's office stated it well:

“Frances and I are humbled and privileged to join these 28 remarkable women today, who have made countless sacrifices so the rest of us can enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted,” said Governor Wolf. “These women and the thousands of others who have served and are currently serving in the military have broken boundaries and stereotypes while setting a new standard for what leadership looks like in the armed services, and in our society.”



Mrs. Wolf, Polly, and Governor Wolf

Pauline “Polly” Bozdech-Veater was recognized for her 30 years of service in the U.S. Navy. She was the first female to command the Navy Reserve Center in McKeesport, the first female to command a service element of the Joint Transportation Reserve Unit and one of the first female U.S. Transportation Command Liaison Officers to Joint Commands. Congratulations on a well-deserved honor!

RELIEF CREW

By **John Caspero**

The Scholarship Selection Committee of the Relief Crew received five (5) applications for the 2017-2018 school year. We were pleased that we had three (3) applications from wives of sailors (marked with an *) currently attached to the boat. The other applicants are children of former crew members. The recipients of the scholarships are:

Austin Blausler-Clarion University
 Emily Cliber*-New England Inst. of Tech.
 Allison Daboval-Rensselaer Poly. Institute
 Sabrina Melendez*-Sacred Heart Univ.
 Gina Moraca*-Univ. of New Haven.

Congratulations one and all!

What's in a Name?

By **Bob MacPherson**

The world around us is filled with iconic brands that are easily recognizable simply by their names: the Red Cross, Nike, Google, Subway, Coke, IKEA, and so on. Depending on what kind of experience you have had with any of these brands, the words will cause you to automatically associate the brand both positively and negatively. The same can be said for brand logos. They are powerful visual images that are used to routinely market the products and services they represent. The world was changed forever the day Nike introduced its "Swoosh". There are very few places in the civilized world where that symbol is not recognized.

Companies are very protective of their names and brands for a reason. A negative experience or story can quickly influence the public's perception of the brand. You don't need to look any farther than the Subway brand for a powerful message on brand equity. A former spokesperson drove them to the heights with his influential story and his meteoric fall to earth caused an equally dramatic shift in the fortunes of the company.

The Navy League name and brand are also affected by this phenomenon. The brand is meant to convey our duty and loyalty to the sea services and the men and women we seek to support. When someone sees our brand, they hopefully will see integrity and patriotism aligned with service. Our volunteer group in the Pittsburgh area donates countless hours and personal resources to make the organization strong. But they all share one thing in common. They all share an understanding of the importance of protecting the brand.

The Navy League of the United States Pittsburgh Council Bylaws clearly spells out how this is done. In Article III (Prohibitions) the use of the logo and name are outlined. Section 3.4 (Use of Indicia) states that the name and logos may not be used for anything other than the direct fulfillment of the Navy League's mission. That use is determined locally by the local Board of Directors.

We work with a number of organizations that have similar missions. It is a great joy to have helped sponsor scholarships, youth programs, community events and other service opportunities. In many cases, that includes fundraising efforts and events that help generate funds. But the same bylaws which protect our brand also govern our methods and abilities to support the groups we partner with. The bylaws specifically spell out the process and Board approval needed to protect the League, the Council, the Board and ultimately the membership.

Not following the bylaws has an implication on our status as a tax free educational 501 C3 organization. It could also impact our reputation and ability to fulfill our mission in the future. The board is committed to making sure we follow our oaths of faithfulness in following the rules set in place.

Our brand is important and so is our service to the organizations we affect. Protecting one is the same thing as protecting the other.

Steel City Navy Reserve Officer Training Corp--Outstanding Midshipmen Honored

CAPT Jon Minor, USCG, ret, represented the Navy League, Pittsburgh Council at the presentation of a Navy sword to the outstanding graduating midshipmen on April 21. Midshipman Jacob Klein was selected as this year's awardee.

CAPT Minor also presented a clock to MIDN Brendan Barnes, USN, as the outstanding midshipman for this year.

Memorial Day, Elizabeth, PA

Rick Elster again did an outstanding job organizing another super Memorial Day celebration in Elizabeth. The celebration included a dinner at Butler Golf Course, with Lt. Col Justin Riddle, USAF, and Command Pilot for AF 2 (VP/Secretaries of the services plane). Commander Tim Murphy attended the dinner. It was a special honor to have Sue MacPherson, along with her son Paul attend the dinner. Another son of Sue's, **Bob MacPherson**, is Council President. Her

husband and Bob's father John, was one of the original veterans who started the celebration.

The parade stepped off at 9:30 AM with 35 units and was followed by Memorial Day services. Thanks to all who participated, including the VFW and the American Legion.

Lunch for Sea Services Commanding Officers, Executive Officers, Senior Enlisted Advisors

The Pittsburgh Council was privileged to host 10 local commanding officers, executive officers and senior enlisted advisors for lunch on 5 April at a Pittsburgh landmark, Tessaro's, Bloomfield. A spirited discussion

on resources available to support the military as well as fun things to do in Pittsburgh was held throughout the lunch. Thanks to all for participating.

New Pittsburgh Council Treasurer

At the May 8 Board of Directors Meeting, the resignation of **Gus Anderson** was regretfully accepted.

Anita Sleigh was unanimously appointed to fulfill the remaining term as Treasurer. The Oath of Office was administered by **Polly Bozdech-Veater**, Liberty Region President. We welcome Ms. Sleigh and look forward to her participation.

Partial List of Resources for Military (active and reserve) and families in the Pittsburgh Area

Commissary at 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

Location: 89 Soldiers Lane, Coraopolis, PA 15108 (next to the Army 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command)

Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 0900-1800, and Saturday, 0900-1900

Phone Number: 412-375-6310

Website; <http://www.commissaries.com/stores/html/store.cfm?dodaac=HQCENFA>

Exchange at 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

Location: 89 Soldiers Lane, Coraopolis, PA 15108 (next to the Army 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command)

Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 0830-1830, Saturday 0900-1700 Phone Number: 412-329-7979

Website: <https://www.shopmyexchange.com/exchange-stores/United%20States/PA/Coraopolis/Coraopolis-Moon-Express-1072104?searched=true&state=Pennsylvania>

Barber Shop at 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

Location: In the entrance to exchange

Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 0900-1830, Saturday 0900-1700

Phone Number: Same as exchange, 412-329-7979

Barber Shop at 911th Airlift Wing

Location: 911th Airlift Wing, business 376, Building 300,

Hours: Mon-Fri-0900-1630 drill weekend, Sat. 0630-1230

Phone number: call for appt. 412-474-8328

ID Cards/Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS)- Strongly urge to call each site to confirm machines are working, staff available and to make appointments.

To make appointments on line: <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/> Click "Make Appointment"; Drop Down Menu from Select a State to "PA"; Drop Down Menu from Pick a City to "Coraopolis"; Select any of the locations which come up; Select the dates available (in green) you wish to schedule for; Select the time available you wish to schedule for; Enter your personal data and click "Submit"

Additional locations for obtaining I.D. cards can be found at:

<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site?execution=e1s1>

Patriotism

Pittsburgh Council Board of Directors

Gratitude

Director's Office	Name	Contact Information	Office Expiration
President	Bob MacPherson	bobmac711@live.com 717.606.7047	2/2018
Vice President of Outreach	Robert Conway	conway_rd@yahoo.com 412.268.1205	2/2018
Vice President of Education	Don Beynon	drbeynon@hotmail.com 412.680.3200	2/2018
Secretary	Katherine Kersten	kjkersten2@verizon.net 412.367.4725	2/2018
Judge Advocate	Nick Krawec, Esq.	nkrawec@bernsteinlaw.com 412.456.8103	2/2018
Immediate Past President	Brad Harrison	bradley.d.harrison@gmail.com 412.518.7661	
Treasurer	Anita Sleigh	anitasleigh@gmail.com 570.387.6532	2/2018
CO of Pittsburgh Relief Crew	John Caspero	jfcaspero@verizon.net 412.257.6141	2/2018
Outreach Committee Representative	Polly Bozdech-Veater	bozdechvpm@aol.com 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 & Liberty Region President

Bill Braund

Dick Halleran

Richard Kennedy

Judy Halleran

Polly Bozdech-Veater



The Union Mission in cooperation
with the **NLUS, Pittsburgh Council**
cordially invite you to



*Steelers Training Camp at the
Winnie Palmer Reserve, Saint Vincent College
Event: July 28, 2017 / Register by July 21st*

The Union Mission, the only men's shelter in Westmoreland County, and the NLUS, Pittsburgh Council invite you to a picnic and opportunity to watch the Steelers opening public practice session.

**Saint Vincent College
Steelers Training Camp
14:55-16:55 (2:55-4:55pm) Steeler Practice Session**

There will be a picnic lunch beforehand at the *Winnie Palmer Reserve*. Casual picnic dress.

- **12:30 (12:30pm) Arrival / Check-in at registration desk near Red Barn**
- **12:45-14:15 (12:45-2:15pm) Picnic lunch served**
- **Cost: Adults \$15.00 Kids: \$9.00**

Directions:

- Proceed via Route 30 to the intersection at Route 981
- Go North on Route 981 ½ mile, turn left at the Dairy Queen; go another 500 yards and turn right into the *Winnie Palmer Reserve*; continue on that road about ½ mile to a "Red Barn"

Register with The Union Mission no later than July 21st:

- Send an email with names and number of attendees (adult and children) to:
cridilla@theunionmission.org

The setting at the Winnie Palmer Reserve is perfect for a summer picnic for all ages. Its proximity to the Steeler training site makes it easily accessible for family and friends. There might even be a chance to secure autographs from the players as they enter the field.

As you would expect, the summer picnic will have the usual fare of hot dogs and hamburgers, with supporting veggies and fruit. Soft drinks and water available (NO alcohol permitted).

The residents at The Union Mission will be your hosts for the picnic. Greet them warmly; some are veterans who have experienced challenges at this point in their lives.

If you have any questions, give me a call: 724-244-4805.

Sincerely Yours,
Jim Bendel, Board President, Union Mission/Navy Veteran

Steelers Training Camp Picnic Payment Form

_____ (# of adults) X \$15.00 + _____ (# of children) X \$9.00 = \$_____ Total Enclosed

I/We cannot attend. Please accept my/our donation of \$_____ to support the event.

Please mail this form with accompanying check or money order, **payable to Union Mission**, to:

The Union Mission, P.O. Box 271, Latrobe, PA 15650

Youth Programs

Naval Sea Cadets Unit Pittsburgh Battalion Commanding Officer

LCDR 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

309 Collins Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15235-3839
1st SGT. Martin Kender
mkender@phsd.k12.pa.us
412.793.7000 x 5319

Ambridge High School

Marine Corps JROTC

MSgt. Thomas G. Short (USMC Ret)

TShort@ambridge.k12.pa.us

724.266.2833 x 2221

C: 724.799.1948

West Allegheny High School

Marine Corps JROTC

Commanding Officer

Maj D.G. Botizan, USMC, Ret

724-695-520.5239

dbotizan@westasd.org

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. Andrew Hornfeck USMC

(C) 412-395-4917

andrew.hornfeck@marines.usmc.mil

Executive Officer

Capt. Michael Kelly, USMC

412.395.4917

Michael.Kelly@marines.usmc.mil

412.395.4642

Senior Enlisted

Sgt Maj Clifford Fincham, USMC

clifford.fincham@marines.usmc.mil

[.mil](mailto:clifford.fincham@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

wbreitfe@cmu.edu

Executive Officer

Maj, Kelly Johnson, USMC

kelly1@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

XO CDR Peter Hoegel, Jr.

Peter.Hoegel@navy.mil

Command Chief

Master Chief Gerald Chiu

412-395-5755

gerard.c.chiu@navy.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

LTJG Joseph Williams, USN

Joseph.Williams1@usmc.mil

Command Chief (SEL)

HMC John Watkins, USN

john.t.watkins@usmc.mil

I-I CO K, 3/25

MAJ David Borden, USMC

412-678-0837

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

2790 Mossidae Blvd., Ste 510

Monroeville, PA 15146

CDR Robert James

Robert.James@dcma.mil

412.702.9376

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

April, May, June 2017 Newsletter

Return Service Requested

**Veterans Honored
Scholarship Awards
Steeler Picnic Flier**

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