



# MASTHEAD

Navy League of the  
United States  
Palm Springs Council

February 2007



Colonel Tom Henry U.S. Army (Ret()) presented us with a vast amount of information at our January luncheon, ranging from WWII, special forces units, to assassination attempt on he and his wife. Pictured with Henry are Honored Guests Kahil Hopkins, Joshua Turner and Michael Basen from John Paul Jones JONES

## Membership Survey

The membership survey we conducted a couple months has been reviewed and we intend to use the information gleaned from the survey to improve our council. We will continue to have luncheons, a greeter at the door, good speakers, military honorees at every luncheon, a summer party and possibly an evening Christmas party. Our ship cruises will continue but, of course, they are dependent on our adopted ships deployment schedules. Our Sea Cadet unit is strong and growing and sponsorship of the unit will continue. Any further information from our members is certainly appreciated and will be taken into consideration.

## Sea Cadet of the Year

Veterans have a young friend in the Sea Cadets. His name is POI Cody Blackshear. Cody has volunteered over five hundred hours to the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans Administration Hospital in Loma Linda, Ca. The Sea Cadet feels an obligation to serve those who defend our way of life. For this service and other service, Cody has become the 2006 recipient of the NLUS Youth Medal awarded by the Palm Springs Council NLUS. POI Blackshear received the medal and plaque at a ceremony at the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Moreno Valley Jan 07. His Sea Cadet Division, Point Divide, drills there monthly alongside Active and Reserve Navy. Cody is Leading Petty Officer for Point Divide. John Easton, President of the Palm Springs Navy League council made the presentation.

Cody takes every opportunity to speak about Honor, Courage, and Commitment, as well as duty and volunteerism. He was featured at the Veterans Administration Riverside National Cemetery's 2006 Memorial Day service. Speaking to an estimated 4,000 veterans and families about the meaning of Duty to Country, he garnered newspaper and letters to the editor coverage for this stirring speech. He assisted the Palm Springs Navy League adoption of the USGCG HAMILTON. Cody spoke before captain, crew, and guests of the goals Sea Cadets hold in shaping young lives. He also presented remarks on the common goal of Navy/Sea Cadets during Change of Command at the NOSC where he drills. Since becoming a U.S. Naval Sea Cadet, Blackshear has attended national trainings such as Strategies for National Defense and Naval History at the Naval War College, Newport, RI, FAA Ground School aboard USS MIDWAY, San Diego, CA, Hospital Corpsman Medical Training, NBVC Port Hueneme, CA as well as Recruit Training aboard USS DENVER (LPD-9). Cadet Blackshear also assists Navy Recruiters by training Delayed Entry Program recruits to march and learn close-order-drills Cody plans a career as a Naval Officer following college.





John Easton

**Please RSVP for luncheons to Frank Hagen at 202-7267 or robbi3399@yahoo.com**

Navy League History Book first publication now on sale for \$25.00. Find out What is the Navy League and What does the Navy League do. Contact John.

**Letter to the Editor**

Your opinion and views are welcomed. Please adhere to the Navy Leagues four goals, don't get too political and editor reserves the right to publish your letter. Please mail you letters to John Easton, 78138 Calle Norte, La Quinta, CA 92253 or email to: [Jeaston@dc.rr.com](mailto:Jeaston@dc.rr.com)

**President's Message**

Someone left a USCGC Hamilton cap on the bus and I am sure you want it back. Please attend the February lunch to retrieve it. I also have a bunch of new membership certificates that must be picked up at a luncheon, so if want your certificate please attend a luncheon. Good news from the Palm Springs USO. The first month 600 guests were hosted by the USO. Donations have generous and volunteers plentiful but not enough. The Spa Hotel is donating a 60" plasma TV and they also provide rooms for sailors and marines that are stuck at the airport overnight. A big thank you Spa Hotel and Casino. I attended a Sea Cadet meeting this month and met Ens. Frank Agcaoli, former Sea Cadet, enlisted man and now a navy officer on board the USS Nimitz. He volunteers his time to the unit when they are in port and provides the cadets with many words of wisdom. I also met with member Maria St. Charles who has moved to Monrovia to live with her daughter. Her health is not 100% but her mind is. She is still working on our history scrapbook and assured me it will get completed. Thanks Maria. I heard through the grapevine that Captain Branch (NIMITZ) would be holding a change of command ceremony out to sea in March. This probable scuttlebutt but the Captain reads this I am sure he will inform me what's really happening. I encourage all members to forward any articles they would like published in the Masthead to me via email or mail. The only way we can maintain a active council is through member participation. I have sorted through the results of our membership survey and will publish the results.

**Fooooooooore!**

We don't expect you will have to yell 'Fore' too often but be prepared to play some golf at the National Convention this fall. Tuesday,

October 30 has been set aside for a day of golf with our adopted sailors, marines and coastguardsman at the Marriott Desert Springs golf resort. Our adopted units will be invited to play and members will team-up with the military and have a great day of golf followed by a dinner, prizes and fellowship.

Put this date on your calendar, come a day early for the convention and play golf with the troops.

**◆ From HAMILTON**

“While plying the deep blue sea off the coast of Central America, HAMILTON chased two go-fast vessels suspected of transporting cocaine, but were unable to catch them before the vessels reached Mexican waters. HAMILTON returned to the location the go-fasts were initially sighted and located and recovered bales of cocaine (over 10,000 lbs). The street value of the recovered contraband is estimated at more that \$500 million dollars. Stay tuned ...

Bob Kolbicka SCPO



## Calendar of Events

- February 6—Board of Directors meeting 3PM Coffee Break Café, La Quinta
- February 12—Monthly Luncheon Desert Willow Golf Resort, Palm Desert, Noon
- February 17—Trip to Russian Submarine and USS Midway ,, San Diego
- Oct 30—Nov 4 Navy League National Convention, Marriott Desert Springs, Palm Desert

## Scheduled speakers

- February 12—Bill Densmore, Veterans Association Director
- March 12—COL Dean Hunter USAF (Ret) , Published Author and Speaker
- April 9—CAPTAIN Jeffrey Lee, CO USCGC HAMILTON
- May 14—CDR Steve Hartsel, CO Naval & Marine Corp Reserve Center, Moreno Valley

## USS MIDWAY and RUSSIAN Submarine trip scheduled for February 17

If you forgot to register for the Russian Submarine and USS Midway trip you still have time. We will tour the submarine in groups of 5 conducted by a very knowledgeable tour guide. After the tour we will meet at the USS MIDWAY where we can go onboard with a tour guide or be issued headphones that verbally guide you through any part of the ship with narration. Contact Bob Schlick at 760-777-8987.

Bus leaves at 8 AM from La Quinta Costco lot. Cost \$60.00 members, \$85.00 non-members. **The real deal for the day is to have non-members pay \$90.00 and there first year membership will paid for. Never pass up a good deal, we don't offer them too often.**



## Mary Bono Award

Marc Troast representing Congresswomen Mary Bono, presents a Congressional Recognition Award to Tom Henry for his many years of dedication and service to the United States. Congratulations Tom.

**Newspaper Editorial** “The world is too big for us. Too much going on, too many crimes, too much violence and excitement. Try as you will, you get behind in the race in spite of yourself. It’s an incessant strain, to keep pace...And still, you lose ground. Science empties its discoveries on you so fast that you stagger beneath them in hopeless bewilderment. The Political world is news seen so rapidly you’re out of breath trying to keep pace with who’s in and who’s out. Everything is high pressure. Human nature can’t endure much more” *Atlantic Journal—June 1833*



POIMichael and family



FN Josh Turner, pretty friend and Tom



Jimmie Martin and PO2 Kahil Hopkins



78138 Calle Norte  
La Quinta, CA 92253

**Officers, Board of Directors**

- President                 John Easton   272-8449
- Ist VP                    Bill Kaucher
- VP Sea Services        Ray Garra
- VP Programs            John Easton
- VP Membership         Bill Tearney
- VP Youth Activities    Dave Wong
- VP Development        Trig Magelssen
- VP Communication     Dave Whitson
- VP Scholarships       Steve Terrill
- VP Military Support    Bob Schlick
- VP Legislative Affairs  Jimmie Martin
- VP Retention           Gary Young
- VP Public Relations   Rank Hagen
- Judge Advocate        Bob Fisher
- Secretary               Carol Young
- Treasurer              Bernadette Eaton



**Corporate Members**

- Esterline Defense Group
- BYCO INC.

**Business Associate Member**

- Shilo Inn Suites

**Community Affiliate Member**

- Westin Hotel & Villas

**Honor the Military Sponsors**

- Westin Hotel & Villas
- Shilo Inn Suites, Palm Springs
- Flemings Steakhouse, Rancho Mirage
- Dale's Lost Highway, Palm Springs
- Home Town Buffet, Palm Desert
- Hawaiian Bills, Palm Springs
- The Beer Hunter, La Quinta

**Council Membership**

- |               |         |             |
|---------------|---------|-------------|
| New Members   | January | Sponsor     |
| Donald Oleski |         | Bob Schlick |
| Tom Harrison  |         | Bob Schlick |

Total active membership 230

**PALMSPRINGS.NAVYLEAGUE.US**  
**Visit our Web Site for news and info**  
**on upcoming events**