



# UPDATE

**NAVY LEAGUE  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
ALAMEDA COUNCIL**  
PO BOX 1056 ALAMEDA, CA 94501  
(510) 749-9175

Newsletter of the NLUS  
Alameda Council  
August/September  
2018



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## *Inquiries:*

AlamedaNLUS@gmail.com

## **“View From The Bridge”**

**Michele Langford, President**

### **Message from the Navy League Alameda Council President**

Hello Navy Leaguers!

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer holidays and got some vacation time in!

In this addition of Update you will see some of our summer activities . Valor Games at Coast Guard Island as well as Coast Guard Day, a celebration of the birth date of the Coast Guard!

We participated in Sailor of the Quarter for a few of our Adopted Units as well as a couple of Change of Commands!

On Coast Guard Island we welcomed a new PAC AREA Commander Vice Admiral Fagan, the new D11 Commander Rear Admiral Gautier as well as a new CO of the base Captain Pena.

Look through the rest of your newsletter to find out what your Alameda Council has been up to and mark your calendars for future events! Happy reading!

Michele Langford  
Alameda Council President

Michelemlangford  
[michelemlangford@aol.com](mailto:michelemlangford@aol.com)

## **Website**

For more information or to join the Alameda Council of the Navy League of the United States

**[www.alamedanavyleague.org](http://www.alamedanavyleague.org)**

## Membership

### Much excitement has been generated with a new, lower dues structure.

The Navy League of the United States is offering a new, fully digital **E-Membership**, an electronic membership for individuals who want to take their membership on-the-go for **only \$25 per year**. Spouses, parents, students and other partnerships can mix and match multiple memberships to best suit the subscription/electronic access preferences of the family.



A **one-year Premium Membership is now offered at \$55**, which includes the print edition of our acclaimed *Seapower* magazine and the annual *Seapower* Almanac delivered to your home. Even greater savings are available through multiple-year memberships, up to five years or life, based on age..

**Many of our members are up for renewal, the new options make it fast, easy and affordable to continue to make a difference. A membership form is included with this edition of the Update for your convenience.**

You can join online or print out a downloadable Membership Application at :  
<https://join.navyleague.org/wordpress/membership-form/>

### Coast Guard Icebreaker Program in Jeopardy



The United States only has  
one operational heavy polar icebreaker  
— the Polar Star —  
an aging vessel which came online in the  
1970s.

National Defense Magazine [reports](#) that the after a good start to 2018 the Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Karl Schultz was caught off guard by the House putting the Icebreaker program in jeopardy. The year began with a \$750 million budget request from the Administration for a new heavy icebreaker and the same amount funded by the Senate, yet when the House released its Homeland Security Appropriations bill it included \$5 billion for the border wall and no icebreaker funding. Deputy Commandant for Mission Support Vice Adm. Michael McCallister told Congress recently that this puts the programs schedule at risk.

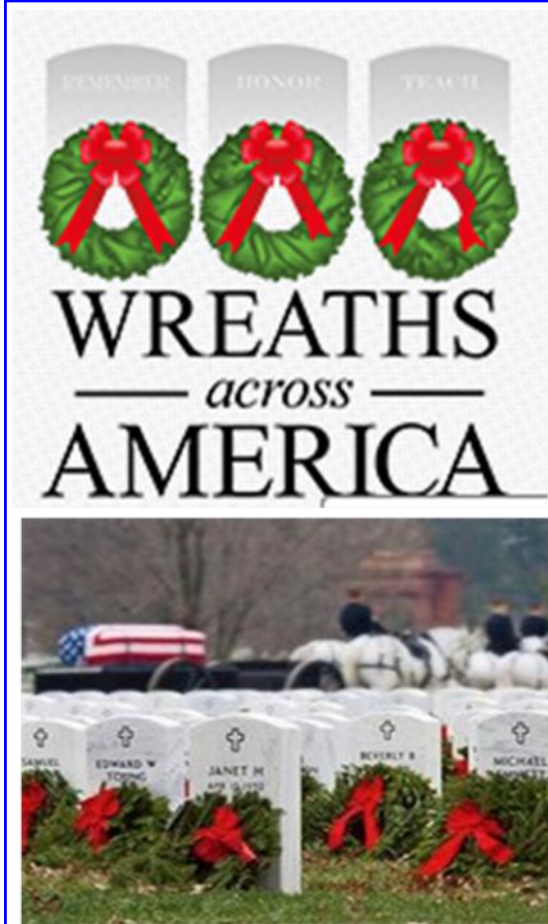
To read the full article visit:

<http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2018/8/20/coast-guard-icebreaker-program-in-jeopardy>

We need your voice to insist House members reinsert the funding before the bill goes to the president, **take action at:**

<https://www.votervoice.net/NavyLeague/Campaigns/60071/Respond>

## Upcoming Events



**Wreaths Across America**  
**Saturday, December 15, 2018**  
**Alameda Council will sponsor Wreaths at the**  
**San Francisco National Cemetery**  
**Presidio of San Francisco**

**To Support this effort you can click on our link and Donate at:**  
<https://donate.wreathsacrossamerica.org/?pageId=22663&relatedIds=15539>  
**Or**

**Send your check for \$15 per Wreath to**  
**NLUS Alameda Council PO Box 1056, Alameda, CA 94501**

**Thanks for supporting this effort**  
**Michele Langford**  
**President, NLUS Alameda Council**  
**[Michelemlangford@aol.com](mailto:Michelemlangford@aol.com)**

### **Why Give?**

**It's simple.**

**Your gift of \$15 honors a fallen hero by**  
**placing a wreath on his or her grave.**



### **SAVE THE DATE**

**Navy League CRAB and PASTA FEED**

**Friday, Feb 22, 2019**  
**6:00 pm Social Hour 7:00pm Dinner**  
**Alameda Elk's Lodge Rathskellar**  
**2255 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, CA**

**Donations**  
**for the Silent and Live Auction are needed**

**If you know a business or individual willing to**  
**contribute, please contact**  
**Barbara Day at [alamedanlus@gmail.com](mailto:alamedanlus@gmail.com) or**  
**[barb.day.ca@gmail.com](mailto:barb.day.ca@gmail.com)**  
**or call 510-427-0072**



## Pacific Area Change of Command



Vice Adm. Linda L. Fagan assumes command of Coast Guard Pacific Area from Vice Adm. Fred M. Midgett (retired) during a change-of-command ceremony on Coast Guard Base Alameda, in Alameda, Calif., June, 8, 2018. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz presided over the change of command ceremony. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Matthew S. Masaschi

## S.F. Bay Area Celebrates US Coast Guard's 228<sup>th</sup> Birthday August 4th @ Base Alameda

On August 4, 2018, Bay Area Coasties and friends celebrated Coast Guard's 228<sup>th</sup> birthday on Coast Guard Island, Alameda. Members from Navy League's Alameda and Lake Merritt councils were celebrants, and promoted membership in the Navy League of the United States. In the spirit of inclusion, we also displayed Oakland's Council banner.



Pictured are Carrie Barnecut and Barb Day, Alameda Council members. Lake Merritt council had games and prizes for the kids, and Alameda Council had *Coastie* fortune cookies. Tom's Bakery Fortune Cookies, Oakland, California, provided the 125 custom message fortune cookies in Red "White" and Blue with a custom printed fortune.

### Valor Games Far West 2018

**The NLUS Alameda Council was once again a sponsor as well as having many members as volunteers.**

In partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Northern California Regional Paralympic Sport Program, Far West Wheelchair Athletic Association hosted the Valor Games Far West, May 31 – June 3, 2018 on Coast Guard Island in Alameda, CA. This event is for any Veteran or active duty service member with a disability who is eligible for VA healthcare, and lives in the Western Region of the United States. The goal of the Valor Games is to introduce adapted sports to attendees in order to promote ongoing adapted sport participation in their community.



CAPT Jon Hickey, Base Alameda CO, presented Valor Games Medals to the qualifying athletes



The Valor Games Far West veteran athletes celebrate a great games at the closing ceremonies.

To view more pictures from the 2018 Valor Games Far West go to: <https://taskforceiso.client.photos/gallery/valor-games-far-west-18>

## Adopted Units

### MIFC PAC

#### Maritime Intelligence Fusion Center Pacific

##### MIFC PAC All Hands and Awards Ceremony

Barb Day attended the MIFC PAC All Hands and Awards Ceremony on August 2, 2018 and was thrilled to be able to present recognitions of a Certificate of Recognition an Alameda Council Coin and a cash award to the EPOQ awardees



August 2: Congratulations to IS2 Elena Barton (right) on being chosen as our Enlisted Person of the Quarter for the first quarter of this year. She is shown here with CAPT Pailliotet (left) and Barb Day of the Navy League Alameda Council (center).



August 2: Congratulations to YN1 Joshua Lee (right) on being chosen as our Enlisted Person of the Quarter for the second quarter of this year. He is shown here with CAPT Pailliotet (left) and Barb Day of the Navy League Alameda Council (center).



## Adopted Units



### USCGC Waesche (WMSL 751)

#### USCGC WAESCHE (WMSL-751) Sea Trials Summary

At 1030 on August 20th, USCGC WAESCHE (WMSL-751) got underway from Vigor shipyard in Seattle, Washington for the first time since she began her Structural Enhancement Dry-dock Availability (SEDA) in September, 2017. Despite a large personnel turnover and long period away from the underway routine, the crew quickly reacquainted themselves with their shipboard roles and put WAESCHE through her paces. The Pacific Northwest vistas along the Puget Sound transit provided a scenic backdrop for the two days of "sea trials," a key milestone in returning the cutter to full operational capability.

Purpose of SEDA is to enhance the structural resilience of the Coast Guard's most capable cutter class, thereby increasing its service life.

During Sea Trials, WAESCHE conducted cross training and platform familiarization with crew members of the USS Sampson (DDG-102), also in Vigor undergoing drydock repairs.

On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, WAESCHE conducted the second day of Sea Trials.

After transiting out of Elliot Bay, WAESCHE conducted full power trials in the Puget Sound.

WAESCHE successfully achieved maximum speed and operated all propulsion modes. The propulsion test also included an emergency stop maneuver, consisting of applying maximum astern thrust to stop the forward momentum of the cutter as quickly as possible.

WAESCHE conducted a full test of the Counter Measure Wash Down system. The system consists of a series of sprinklers in vital areas, designed to decontaminate the ship in the event of nuclear, biological, chemical weapons attacks.

Launched a small boat in the vicinity of Elliot Bay to conduct small boat training.

CGC WAESCHE departed Vigor Shipyard for the last time on the morning of August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Upon completing her final day of sea trials, she moored at Coast Guard Base Seattle. The successful execution of sea trials and delivery back to the USCG was the culmination of a Herculean effort on the part of the crew, the Coast Guard's Resident Inspection Office (RIO), who managed and oversaw the SEDA project, and Vigor Shipyard personnel

Below are some photos that highlight the two days of Sea Trials (taken by SK3 Orozco Alba and BM3 Smith)



## Adopted Units



### **District Eleven Held a Change of Command June 24th in which RADM Todd Sokalzuk was relieved by RADM Peter Gautier.**



Rear Admiral Peter W. Gautier assumed his duties as Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District in June of 2018 relieving Rear Admiral Todd Sokalzuk. As such, he oversees the Coast Guard's safety, security, law enforcement and environmental stewardship operations from the California-Oregon border to Peru including Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. He also serves as a Deputy Director for the Department of Homeland Security's Joint Task Force West, conducting integrated joint investigations and operations along the Southern border and approaches from Texas to California. He previously served as the Director of Governmental and Public Affairs for the Coast Guard beginning in August 2014, where he was responsible for external engagement with Congress, the media and other intergovernmental entities. From May 2015 to July 2017 he served as the Senior Director for Response Policy on the National Security Council Staff, where he coordinated policy for all-hazards domestic incident management, national preparedness exercises, and continuity of government.

From June 2011 to July 2014 he commanded Sector New Orleans, directing all Coast Guard operations in southeast Louisiana, including the lower 300 miles of the Mississippi River. Prior to this, he served as the Chief of the Deepwater Horizon Action Office, which oversaw policy resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, where he served for five months as the National Incident Command Chief of Staff. His other assignments include Chief of Operations for the Deployable Operations Group; Chief, Cargo and Facilities Division at Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington DC; and Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team, Mobile, AL, where he responded in key roles in a number of major responses including the World Trade Center attacks, the Shuttle Colombia Disaster, and Hurricane Katrina.

Rear Admiral Gautier has also served as Chief, Port Operations and Marine Environmental Response at Coast Guard Marine Safety Office San Francisco and as a U.S. Delegate to United Nations and International Maritime Organization committees governing transportation of hazardous materials. He has also served aboard two Coast Guard cutters and as Commanding Officer of Loran Station Gesashi, Japan.

Rear Admiral Gautier graduated from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor's of Science in Marine Engineering in 1987. He holds a Masters of Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Michigan and a Masters of National Security Strategy from the National War College. His military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (three awards), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Coast Guard Commendation Medal (three awards), DOT 9/11 Medal, and Coast Guard Achievement Medal (two award

### **D11 Quarterly Award Winners**

**Public Affairs Specialist, Petty Officer Third Class Sarah M. Wilson** was selected as the D11 Enlisted Person of the Quarter for period ending June 2018. Recognized for providing critical public affairs support to field commands, she also spearheaded a comprehensive safety campaign designed to reduce the incidents of accidents and death from paddle craft mishaps. PA3 Wilson conceived and executed the "Be Safe, Be Seen" paddle sports outreach initiative using a 7-step strategic campaign planning process to identify key audiences that needed to receive the safety information. She worked with the District 11 Prevention and Safe Boating coordinator and field units and identified strategic themes and trends and then partnered with fellow staff members on graphic design concepts for campaign materials, and ensured safety messages were formatted for delivery to the news media, via social media, at point-of-sale retail outlets, and face-to-face presentations. Petty Officer Wilson routinely handled requests for information from local, national, and international news media on emergent Coast Guard operations providing accurate, timely reports to the public and taking pressure off of the field units conducting the operations. Always on the alert for feature stories and events of interest to the public, she quickly recognized a unique opportunity to highlight a female surfer receiving her pin at Station Golden Gate. To promote this achievement, she coordinated a media event, wrote a news release with accompanying photos, and published a feature story for the Coast Guard Compass Blog. Additionally, she followed up with media outlets in the member's hometown of Long Island, NY to ensure the story received maximum traction. These efforts resulted in coverage from 21 media outlets and reached more than 1.6 million viewers in the Bay Area alone. She also provided essential public affairs and social media training to field unit Public Affairs Officers and unit crews to help them take an active role in public affairs and represent the Coast Guard. Petty Officer Wilson continued to take classes in pursuit of her Masters Degree and recently achieved a graduate certificate in Communications Management.

**Mr. Kris Robertson** was selected as the **D11 Civilian of the Quarter** ending June 2018. Mr. Robertson is an Operations Unit Controller (OU) in the PAC/D11 Command Center. His primary duty is to plan search and rescue (SAR) missions within the Alameda Search and Rescue Region. In addition, Mr. Robertson is responsible for providing oversight and support of Sector SAR missions. Mr. Robertson is also responsible for assisting foreign Rescue Coordination Centers when requested and to ensure U.S. Citizens in distress in foreign SAR regions are being provided the same level of service we expect of our own resources. When not directly contributing to saving lives in his SAR mission planning or support roles, Mr. Robertson, a former OS "A" school instructor, puts his expert instructor skills to use by educating watchstanders during their qualification

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**TIME – DATED MATERIAL  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**The Navy League of the United States Alameda Council supports the following units and organization:**

**Adopted Units:**

USCG District 11  
USCGC Waesche  
USCGC Munro (in Partnership with Lake Merritt Council)  
USCG Maritime Intelligence Fusion Center Pacific (MIFC PAC)  
USN Naval Operations Support Center Alameda (NOSC)  
USMC 4th Force Reconnaissance Company Alameda

**Sponsored Units:**

US Naval Sea Cadet Corps Grey Ghost Division  
US Naval Sea Cadet Corps Training Ship Kearsarge

**Partnerships:**

Alameda Naval Air Museum  
East Bay coast Guard Spouses Club

The Navy League of the United States was founded in 1902 with the encouragement of President Theodore Roosevelt. The Navy League is unique among military-oriented associations in that it is a civilian organization dedicated to the education of our citizens, including our elected officials, and the support of the men and women of the sea services and their families. You need not have served in the military to be a member of the Navy League.

Information contained in this newsletter is intended only to convey information to the members of the Alameda Council, and does not reflect opinions nor official positions of the Council officers, Board of Directors, nor the National organization.