



P.O. Box 4213, Middletown, Rhode Island 02842

Vol 1.2015

Edward Webb – Editor

Photographers: George Wardwell & Tony Cercena

## **NAVY LEAGUERS! JOIN IN YOUR COUNCIL'S EVENTS!**

### **The New Year of 2015**

This year began with a fresh outlook on potential activities that will vie for our most precious treasure, our time. Every day becomes one of choice and decision as to what or who will be given that precious treasure. We do it almost without thinking, without deciding, without discussion. So if one reflects on this a moment, you might ask yourself what can I do differently the rest of this year to make it more interesting and more important to me. It would be wise and fruitful to consider gifting some of your time to the Navy League's Newport Council.

There are many activities that take place throughout the year supported by your Council and each event directly supports the members of the Sea Services. Events provide funding for all the other activities we host, including many family events that are most gratifying of all. You can do something positive and meaningful for someone else, as well as yourself, by participating in the events this year.

May the rest of this year be one of satisfaction and success for all our valuable members. Actively supporting the Newport Navy League Council is a big step in achieving both. We look forward to seeing you soon.

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### **Important Announcement – CHANGE IS COMING**

Change is coming to our newsletter. After considerable discussion over the past two years, beginning within the next two issues, this *newsletter will be available online only*. The reasons are numerous: allows faster turnaround of the newsletter from creation to publication, the advantage of more space for articles and photos, eliminates expense for mailings making more funds available for our events and charitable gift-giving, and the space to recognize people, places and events important to the Navy League and our Council. The success of our effort is dependent on one thing, **YOU**.

Please send us your email address now. Without it we cannot deliver your newsletter to you. Our Membership Chair, Edna Wardwell, will coordinate the addresses in our newsletter database.

**Send your email address to: [nenaroo@aol.com](mailto:nenaroo@aol.com)**

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“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails.”

- Mark Twain

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100 Years Ago - The United States Navy orders its first airship from the Connecticut Aircraft Company.

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**2014  
VETERAN OF THE YEAR**



**CAPTAIN SHIRLEY ANN HILL,  
NC, USN (RET.)**

**09 NOVEMBER 2014  
VFW POST 4487  
MIDDLETOWN, RI**

Special recognition was received by Newport County Council’s own Shirley Hill when she was honored by VFW Post 4487 of Middletown as the 2014 Veteran of the Year. Her selection for this special honor is well deserved in light of her continuous and dedicated service in support of the Sea Services. She has never wavered from her commitment to serve, aid, and honor those who serve, or have served, our Country. The Newport Council is proud and delighted Shirley received this special recognition. Well done.



Top L: Shirley cuts her ceremonial cake; Top R: Shirley is seen with Newport City Councilman Marco Camacho and CAPT Pennington, CO Naval Health Care New England; Bottom L: Shirley receives the Navy League Award Certificate from Newport Council President Tom Feeney and NLUS Regional Director George Wardwell who is also a Council member.

## **NAVAL SEA CADET NEWS**

*Written by Mark Schieldrop, North Kingstown Patch, October 6, 2014*

North Kingstown Sea Cadet Braeden Wilson Selected for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Naval Sea Cadet Medal and Ribbon on 27 September 2014.



VFW Post 152 members Robin Porter, Ron Rioux, and Post Commander David Ainslie presents the VFW Medal and Ribbon to Sea Cadet Braeden Wilson

North Kingstown High School student Braeden Wilson, a Naval Sea Cadet from NCBC Battalion, Quonset Point, was awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars Naval Sea Cadet medal and ribbon on Sept. 27. Presentation of the medal and citation was made during a recognition ceremony at the Quonset Davisville Navy Yacht Club near Allens Harbor.

From the citation: "In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands, under the official emblem of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps Citation and Medal Award presented to Petty Officer Braeden Wilson in special recognition of his outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership ability."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 152 North Kingstown, has been active in raising awareness of Veterans serving in the community, and provides assistance and fellowship with those that have served our nation. More on the VFW can be found at <http://www.vfw.org>. The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, NCBC Battalion has been providing leadership training and establishing core values for Rhode Island youth at Quonset Point/Davisville since 1986. For more information on the Naval Sea Cadets in Rhode Island, visit their web site at <http://www.riseacadets.org>.

### **Naval Sea Cadets 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Ball**

The annual event was held at the Quonset Point Officer's Club with well over 150 in attendance. The event is always well received but this one was the best ever. Even MIDN Andie Coutoulakis, former Chief Petty Officer, from NCBC Battalion, graduate of NAPS and in her second year of the Naval Academy, took time from her schedule to attend. She is an inspiration and outstanding role model to all the Sea Cadets. In addition to the individual units mentioned below, representatives from the 181<sup>st</sup> Construction Battalion, Massachusetts Bay Division attended.

Two Navy League Youth medals sponsored by the Newport County Council were presented to recipients from NCBC Quonset Battalion and a Cadet from Falcon Division. George Wardwell also presented checks to NSCC from the Newport County Council to help sustain operations in Sea Cadet Units this year. These Units support Council activities throughout the year in various ways including Color Guard duties at our Annual Military Appreciation night event.

Units represented included: Constitution, Region 1-1; Mass Bay, Region 1-1; Edson, Region 1-2; Barque Eagle, Region 1-2; Nautilus 571, Region 1-2; Harlan R. Dickson, Region 1-3; Falcon, Region 1-2; Worcester, Region 1-2; JPK, Region 1-2.

Hosts & Honored Guests included: LTJG José Taboada, NSCC, CO NCBC; LTJg Matthew Roias, NSCC, CO FALCON; LCDR Michael Campbell, NSCC, Region 1-2, Director; RMC & Mrs. George Wardwell, USNR (Ret.), US Navy League, Newport County Council; CMC Ken Senker, USN (Ret.), Fleet Reserve Association President, FRA Branch 42 Davisville RI.



G. Wardwell presents checks to NSCC



Outstanding Cadets of the evening



Traditional cutting of the cake



PO1 Z. Taboada and PO2 J. Gemma



### **VFW Post 4487 Hosts the NCBC Battalion**

Despite the 30 degree snowy/rainy day in March, the Sea Cadet crew reported at the Post Home on schedule at 0900 ready for an active day's activities. From the time everyone reported, the organization, individual conduct, teamwork and spirit was apparent from all those involved. The opening address was by William McCollum, Sergeant 1<sup>st</sup> Class, USA (Ret), who shared his experiences in Vietnam and subsequent return trips after the War.

Nearly 50 adult volunteers, league cadets and sea cadets made new potential recruits part of the experience as the Sea Cadets trained in a variety of evolution's including watch standing, emergency medical techniques, close order drills, and testing on the usage of signal flags. Lunch pizzas from Mama Leone's were provided courtesy of the Newport County Council with drinks provided courtesy of the VFW Post.

Specific training for the day included knot tying, emergency medical aid, first aid, applying wound dressings, security and sentry training, strategic planning and implementation, roundtable discussions, leadership, and war planning.

This event was intended to be a recruiting day and it was successful in that regard with one new Cadet welcomed aboard and two prospective new recruits were identified. Sea Cadet Leaders expressed their appreciation to the Navy League and the VFW for hosting the event.



## USCG Officer and Enlisted of the Year

The Newport County Council and The Rotary Club of Newport once again teamed together to host an annual event to recognize the outstanding Officer and Enlisted personnel of the USCG, Sector Southeastern New England, as selected by their Commanding Officer. This luncheon event is always a favorite of the Council and Rotary because it focuses on the exceptional performance of Coast Guard members in our area of operations. While space limits the ability to expand and present the qualifications of these individuals, the program, most fortunately, did not have that limitation. Reading the program notes of these honorees leads one to conclude they all embrace a shared value we call Leadership. Congratulations to these most worthy individuals who give of themselves to not only Family and Country but also Community.

The Honorees were LTJG Karl L. Harris, Sector Contingency Planning & Force Readiness; ME1 Lawrence W. Benson, Jr., Sector Maritime Enforcement for Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security Division; FS2 Amanda Michelle Harris, Food Service Officer Station Point Judith; FN Corinne Gail Marie Lee, Certified Boat Crew Engineer, Station Point Judith.

Zachary Benson, ten year old son of ME1 Lawrence Benson, Jr., also received a very well deserved award for his courage and commitment while his Father was deployed around the world including Iraq and Afghanistan.



L-T. Feeney, Pres. NCC-NLUS  
R- Newport Mayor Napolitano



Introduction of Honorees



L- LtCol Dennis Morgan, USA (Ret.)  
R- Col David Russell, USA (Ret)



Zachary Benson receives his award from NCC Pres Tom Feeney  
and incoming Newport Rotary Club President Mike Miller

## **The French Are Coming**

On July 8-9, a replica of the French ship L’Hermione that carried the Marquis de Lafayette to our country in 1780 will be visiting Newport. This will be the final voyage of the ship that took 17 years to build. The journey from Europe will take it to twelve individual ports including Newport. This will be an historic event as ships of this kind are slowly disappearing from the oceans of the world.

Further information will be available in the local newspapers and a request for volunteers who speak French to act as guides for the ship’s crew will be forthcoming. As of now, the ship is scheduled to berth at Fort Adams on July 8<sup>th</sup> across the pier from SSV Oliver Hazard Perry. She will arrive at 2:00 PM and commence the visitation schedule. She will depart for Boston at 0200 on July 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be a major event this summer in Newport.

## **Final Shore Leave**

Members of the Newport Council bid farewell to CAPT Al Nannini, USNR (Ret), a member of our Navy League Board of Directors, upon departure for his final shore leave. Al was a very special person and contributed much time and effort to our Council. He served with honor on active duty and reserve duty with some in our Council. Whenever possible he was there supporting our events. He will be missed in many ways.



## **The Newport County Council Navy League of the United States**

**Business Associate Member**  
Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems

**Community Affiliate Members**  
Bank Newport  
Home Port Real Estate  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
NewportFed  
Newport Harbor Hotel & Marina  
Northrop Grumman  
Rite Solutions  
USS Massachusetts Memorial Committee, Inc.  
Sea Corp  
The Atlantic Beach Club & Pavilion  
Hyundai of Newport

### **Donations**

We sincerely appreciate the donations from the following organizations, businesses and individuals who have given their time, gifts and other essentials toward the success of our programs:

Ambassador J. William Middendorf, II	International Tennis Hall of Fame
Atlantic Beach Club	Newport County Chamber of Commerce
BankNewport	Newport Vineyards
Bishops 4th Street Diner	Polo Cleaners
Cindy's Country Café	Post 18 American Legion
Firehouse Theater	Sardella's Restaurant
Greenvale Vineyards	Set the Stage with Flowers
George Wardwell - <i>Navy League History</i>	USS MASSACHUSETTS MEMORIAL
Hyundai of Newport	Viking Tours of Newport

**NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES  
NEWPORT COUNTY COUNCIL  
P.O. BOX 4213  
MIDDLETOWN, RI 02842**

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**NAVY LEAGUE**  
*of the United States*



**NEWPORT COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICERS 2014-2015**

**President: Thomas F. Feeney**

**Secretary: Shirley Hill**

**First Vice President: Suresh Ramamurthy**

**Second Vice President: Mike Slein**

**Treasurer: Patrick Burke**

**ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND OUR MONTHLY  
MEETINGS AT 4:00PM THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE  
BEST WESTERN MAINSTAY INN.**