



NAVY LEAGUE | **NEW MEXICO**
of the United States
"Citizens in Support of the Sea Services."
Council



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USS Santa Fe Skipper Promoted to Captain

Summer 2015 Issue

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Did you know that you can get the latest issues of Sea Power magazine in an App? Go to your mobile device App Store and search on "Navy League".



CDR Timothy Poe, on the bridge of USS Santa Fe (Photo courtesy of Rick Carver)

The New Mexico Council congratulates Commander Timothy Poe and his wife, Elena, on a job well done on the USS Santa Fe (SSN-763). We found out in late April that Commander Poe has been selected to the rank of Captain and will be "slated to be the senior inspector on the tactical readiness team in Norfolk".

The crew of the Santa Fe conducted Commander Poe's last Distinguished Visitor (DV) cruise out of Point Loma Naval Base in San Diego, CA. The New Mexico council was pleased to secure a ride slot for Santa Fe Fire Chief Erik Litzenberg and joined 22 others on the DV cruise.

Thank You! When you keep your dues up to date with the Navy League national office, our council receives a small stipend for each active member. This makes a big difference in our ability to support our namesake ships, our youth, and the local active and reserve.

Outstanding Council

How many times has the NM Council been awarded the National Navy League "Outstanding Council" award since 2008?

(see answers on page 2)

Nautical Quiz!

For you engineers out there... What kind of lights were used on Noah's Ark?

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Public Affairs

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NAVY LEAGUE
NEW MEXICO COUNCIL

*P.O. Box 91554
Albuquerque, NM 87199*

Mark Schaefer
Newsletter Editor

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To get yours, contact:
Mark Schaefer by email at
usnam@comcast.net.



President's Message



Chuck Vaughan
President, New Mexico Council
(Photo courtesy of Rick Carver)

Hello to all.... First, thank you all for being members of the New Mexico Council of the Navy League. Our Council actively supports three submarines, just gave out twenty-one Navy and Marine Corps Junior ROTC awards and presented a sword to a graduating senior at UNM NROTC's awards ceremony, plans to celebrate the Naval Reserve centennial with the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Albuquerque in early June, will host a presentation by **RADM Chris "Tree" Sadler on July 1st**, and will co-host the Albuquerque Navy Birthday Ball on October 17th.

RADM Sadler is the Reserve Deputy Director, Maritime Operations, U. S. Fleet Forces Command; he will be in Albuquerque July 1st for a presentation; we will send you additional information on his visit but reserve July 1st for his presentation.

Please also **reserve October 17th for this year's Navy Birthday Ball**; we plan to salute the crew members of the USS Albuquerque which is currently on its

Quiz answers from page 1 →

Outstanding Council

The NM Council been awarded the National Navy League "Outstanding Council" award 5 times so far... 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, & 2013.

Nautical Quiz!

Of course, the lights used on Noah's Ark were "flood lights".

final deployment and will be inactivated and decommissioned after completing its final deployment this summer.

I am excited to tell you that several members of the Council (Rick Carver did most of the work; thanks Rick!) successfully lobbied the New Mexico Legislature this winter for funds to support our efforts.

The Council has the funds and now I am looking for several volunteers to help the Council support active duty personnel and their families, Naval Reserve personnel and their families, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Navy and Marine Corps Junior ROTC programs and the ROTC program at the University of New Mexico.

We need your help! I am looking for volunteers for the following positions:

- 1) local active duty personnel support
- 2) Navy Birthday Ball chairman (myself and two other personnel will serve on your committee)
- 3) community affiliates coordinator (reach out to local businesses to recruit them as community affiliates)
- 4) membership
- 5) youth awards (most of the work occurs between February and May)
- 6) chaplain

Please consider volunteering and getting involved; the work can be very rewarding and you support the United States Navy to maintain, train and equip combat-ready Naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas.

Contact me at
chuck.vaughan@comcast.net
or by mail at the New Mexico Council's P.O. box address.

Namesake Submarines



USS Albuquerque Midway in Final Deployment

Albuquerque's namesake submarine is at her midway point on her CENTCOM deployment. Under the command of CDR Trent Hesslink, she departed her homeport of San Diego in early February.

About two weeks later, on Military and Veterans Day at the New Mexico State Legislature, the House and Senate recognized USS Albuquerque's 33 years of service to our Navy and our Nation. Attending the celebration was CDR Donald Tenney, Deputy Commander, Submarine Squadron 11. CDR Tenney accepted a certificate from House Speaker Don Tripp on behalf of the Commanding Officer, officially expressing the State's pride in the submarine's outstanding achievements over the years. On the Senate Floor, State Senator and retired Rear Admiral Bill Payne sponsored Senate Memorial 12 which salutes the officers and crew of USS Albuquerque. The Memorial, which passed the Senate unanimously, listed the many accomplishments of USS Albuquerque, including her becoming one of our very first nuclear submarines to experience combat. Lieutenant Governor John Sanchez also expressed his gratitude to the many submariners who have served with pride and distinction aboard USS Albuquerque.

On the way to her operating area, Albuquerque made a port call at Perth, Australia. There she partnered with the Royal Australian Navy in a joint tactical exercise which focused on the tracking of nuclear and diesel submarines. The exercise allowed our Navy to gain valuable experience in operating with a top-of-the-line diesel submarine, HMAS Rankin, while strengthening ties between the two navies.

When the boat returns to port at Naval Station Point Loma in San Diego, CDR Tenney is scheduled to relieve CDR Hesslink as the Inactivation Commanding Officer. CDR Tenney will be USS Albuquerque's 14th and final skipper. The Change of Command ceremony will be within two or three days of homecoming. Then in mid-October there will be a farewell ceremony in San Diego. CDR Tenney will have the honor of commanding the submarine on her final voyage to Bremerton, Washington late this year where the combat veteran will be decommissioned and eventually dismantled.

Our New Mexico Council has contacted NAVSEA and has first dibs on the 50-ton sail which should become available in the 2018-2020 period. There is a move underfoot to establish a USS Albuquerque Memorial in her namesake city. Such a memorial would be a huge community undertaking involving the City, County, State, Chamber of Commerce, civic and veteran organizations, and local business enterprises. The above artist concept for USS Cincinnati is one idea for a memorial.

Meantime our pride runs deep in USS Albuquerque as we await the safe return of her undersea warriors. *(article and photos provided by Dick Brown)*



HMAS Rankin (SSG-78) cruises alongside USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) off Western Australia.



Possible USS Albuquerque Memorial.

Since her commissioning on May 21, 1983, USS Albuquerque has steamed over 500,000 miles, visited over 18 countries, dived over 1,000 times, and completed over 15 deployments.



Albuquerque Mayor Berry on the bridge with wife Maria and son Jacob in the Fall of 2014.

USS Santa Fe on Deployment

Just prior to leaving on deployment in late January, the USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) Distinguished Visitor (DV) cruise left Point Loma Naval Base. To help the crew make it through deployment, the Navy League's USS Santa Fe committee contributed 50 pounds of pinon coffee, a fine selection of some local chili powders (for Taco Tuesdays), several jars of local honey, and three cook books!



USS SANTA FE Distinguished Visitors at Point Loma submarine base

(Photo courtesy of Rick Carver)

(The Santa Fe crew sent us the photos at right from Sasebo, Japan) →



USS Santa Fe in Sasebo, Japan



Sasebo, Japan

USS New Mexico on Deployment

While the USS New Mexico (SSN-779) is underway, the committee continues to be busy with support activities.

Committee member Dick Brown, during a visit to the East Coast, made a stop in Jacksonville, FL, to honor the former Commanding Officer of SSN-779. CAPT George Perez will assume command of the massive Trident Training Facility in Kings Bay, GA this summer and will proudly display a New Mexico state flag at his ceremony. This flag is significant in that it was flown by the submarine's crew at the North Pole during USS NEW MEXICO's participation in ICEX in 2014. Shown at right is CAPT Perez and his wife, Liz, with Dick Brown at their home with the flag and a certificate signed by the current Commanding Officer, CDR Todd Moore, verifying the flag had been flown at the North Pole.

The famous restaurant, La Posta De La Mesilla, outside Las Cruces is owned by retired Navy CAPT Tom Hutchinson and his wife Jerean. Tom very proudly displays items from the USS NEW MEXICO (SSN-779) and welcomes Culinary Specialists from the submarine to his restaurant to learn the art of preparing and cooking fine Mexican food. Dick Brown honored Tom and Jerean for their support to make the public more aware of our state namesake submarine, by giving them a flag flown at the North Pole.

(Flag presentation photos courtesy of Dick Brown)



Mrs. Perez, Mr. Dick Brown, and CAPT George Perez



Jerean Hutchinson, Dick Brown, and Tom Hutchinson at La Posta



CAPT Bill Verzino presented U.S. Naval Academy Annapolis bound student, David Murphy, with the Navy League Teddy Roosevelt Youth Award at Los Alamos High School NJROTC Ceremony.
(Photo courtesy of Rick Carver)

USNA Midshipmen from NM Prepare for Plebe Summer



Blue & Gold Officers have been busy throughout the year conducting interviews for prospective new USNA Midshipmen, and this year we have a bumper crop! Congratulations to the new Class of 2019 who will report for duty in Annapolis on July 1st.

USNA Parent's Club Presidents Jim and Sheri Wible will host a send-off reception and BBQ pot luck for the 10 new Midshipmen who will enter USNA this year from New Mexico. The reception will be in their home on June 12th with refreshments compliments of the USNA Parent Club.

Applications are now open for.... Get this.... The USNA Class of 2020.... at web site www.usna.edu.



Patrick Dick presented Rio Rancho High School's award to Hailey S. Barela.
(All awards photos courtesy of Rick Carver)

Navy League New Mexico Council fans out across NM to present Youth Awards to NJROTC and MCJROTC Units

What is a Teddy Roosevelt Youth Award?
The Navy League has established a Youth Medal that is awarded to **outstanding Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) cadets and Naval Sea Cadets**. The award consists of a medal, ribbon bar, certificate, and pamphlet on President Theodore Roosevelt whose visage is on the medal.



Navy League NM Council supports 20 JROTC units throughout New Mexico.



CAPT Bill Verzino presents to Cadet Ensign Marissa McCullough of Santa Fe High School.



Frances Fernandes presents to Albuquerque High School's Cadet C/MSG Thomas Jeff.



Chelsea Perea received the Teddy Roosevelt Medal Friday night 15 May at Cibola High School's MCJROTC awards program.

Top New Mexico Students and Cadets

Here are your NJROTC and MCJROTC Teddy Roosevelt Youth Award winners from around the State of New Mexico. The Navy League New Mexico Council presents these awards each year. We can use your help! If you have a free couple of hours and live near one of these schools, or if you are willing to travel to present an award, please contact Chuck Vaughan at chuck.Vaughan@comcast.net. You will be blessed by seeing the talents and skills of these top students.

Date	School	Awardee	Presenter	City	POC	N/MC/A
15-Apr	Eldorado H. S.	Cadet Parker Drexler	John Jones	Albuquerque, NM	First Sgt John P. Archuleta	MCJROTC
22-Apr	Albuquerque H. S.	C/MSG Thomas Jeff	Rick Carver & Frances Fernandes	Albuquerque, NM	Gary Gomez	AJROTC
22-Apr	Laguna-Acoma H. S.	Rhianna F. Gonzales	Chuck Vaughan	Casa Blanca, NM	MGySgt Chino, USMC, retired	MCJROTC
23-Apr	La Cueva H. S.	Cadet Lcpl Calliesta Pariseau	Damon Runyan	Albuquerque, NM	1stSgt Alberto Griego, USMC,	MCJROTC
25-Apr	Manzano H. S.	Cadet SCPO Jeremy Alire	Chuck Vaughan	Albuquerque, NM	CDR Michael Beno, USN, retired	NJROTC
30-Apr	Los Alamos H. S.	Cadet CDR David Murphy	Rick Carver & Bill Verzino	Los Alamos, NM		NJROTC
30-Apr	Santa Teresa H. S.	Cadet Chief Petty Officer Ruby Torres	Chuck Vaughan	Santa Teresa, NM	CDR Nick Rangel, USN, retired	NJROTC
30-Apr	Shiprock H. S.	Staff Sergeant Omar Sparks	none	Shiprock, NM	SgtMaj Maldonado, USMC, retired	MCJROTC
1-May	Rio Grande H. S.	Cadet Sgt Rhiannon Martinez	none	Albuquerque, NM	SgtMaj Fiaseu	MCJROTC
4-May	Ocate H. S.	Dannel Elizade	none	Las Cruces, NM	Michael Dixon	NJROTC
5-May	Highland H. S.	Cadet David Arnot	Chuck Vaughan	Albuquerque, NM	LT Scott Thrasher, USN, retired	NJROTC
7-May	Atrisco Academy	Alisia Montoya and Jessica Sanchez	Chuck Vaughan	Albuquerque, NM	Scott Ukeiley	MCJROTC
7-May	Grants H. S.	Cadet Gunnery Sgt Alexis M. Venable	Tom Gutierrez & Rebecca Vigil	Grants, NM	SgtMaj Emilio E. Barela	MCJROTC
7-May	Santa Fe H. S.	Cadet Ensign Marissa McCullough	Rick Carver & Frances Fernandes	Santa Fe, NM	ITC Patricia Schipp, USN, retired	NJROTC
8-May	Rio Rancho H. S.	Cadet Lance Corporal Hailey S. Barela	Rick Carver and Patrick Dick	Rio Rancho, NM	Capt Freddy Morales, USMC, retired	MCJROTC
12-May	West Mesa H. S.	Cadet CDR Samantha Chavez	Damon Runyan	Albuquerque, NM	Major Hendricks	NJROTC
13-May	Belen H. S.	Joshua Haralson	none	Belen, NM		NJROTC
14-May	Cibola H. S.	Chelsea Perea	Rick Carver and Patrick Dick	Albuquerque, NM		MCJROTC
4-Jul	USNSCC Triton Battalion	PO2 Yvonne Varela	Damon Runyan	Albuquerque, NM	Lisa Gonzales	Sea Cadets
TBD	Gadsden H. S.	Cindy Vazquez	Mark Morrell	Anthony, NM	LCDR Mark Morrell	NJROTC

New Mexico Students Appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD

Here are the students appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy from the State of New Mexico. These prospective Midshipmen have been nominated by a U.S. Congressman or Senator to attend the Academy and have successfully completed their application to USNA, a medical screening, and athletic screening, and an in-depth interview from a Navy Blue & Gold admissions officer. The academy's admissions board makes the final selections. Here is the Class of 2019:

Prospective Midshipman	School	City	Blue & Gold Officer
Jared Antonio	La Cueva	Albuquerque, NM	Mark Schaefer
Jordan Cabarrus	Albuquerque Academy	Albuquerque, NM	Tom Gutierrez
Earl Crosby	NMMI	Roswell, NM	Joe Epstein
Margaret Guetersloh	La Cueva	Albuquerque, NM	Mark Schaefer
Cristian Marquez	Carlsbad	Carlsbad, NM	Joe Epstein
David Murphy	Los Alamos	Los Alamos, NM	Dave Swingle
Samuel Richard	Santa Fe Prep	Santa Fe, NM	Dave Swingle
Luke Shereston	NMMI	Roswell, NM	Chuck Scott
Cassandra Suter	La Cueva	Albuquerque, NM	Mark Schaefer
Jesse Wylie	Monzano	Albuquerque, NM	Mike Beno



Sea Cadet News – Triton Battalion



- Congratulations to those cadets that completed the Bataan Memorial Death March on March 21 and 22
- The Triton Battalion will provide the color guard on June 6 for the Navy Reserve Centennial event at the NOSC
- The Battalion will offer Memorial Day salutes to service members interred at Sunset Memorial Park on May 25th
- The one year anniversary of the Triton Battalion will be celebrated at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on July 4th at 0900

Rocky Mountain Region News

Albuquerque's Angie McKinstry, member of the Navy League, New Mexico Council, was elected President of the Rocky Mountain Region of the Navy League of the United States, and she shares good news from Colorado. The USS Colorado (SSN-788) keel laying ceremony was completed on March 7, 2015. The USS Colorado will join the USS New Mexico (SSN-779) as a sister Virginia-class fast attack submarine protecting our country, ships, and sea lanes in early 2017.



USS Colorado crew members meet Peyton Manning at Denver Broncos training facility.



CAPT Bernard Patton Burial at Sea by USS Santa Fe (SSN-763)

Leaving Pearl Harbor in late April, the USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) buried at sea Captain Bernard Patton.

Captain Patton spent 37 years in the U.S. Navy. He started his career as a cook on the USS Nautilus. He went on to command the USS Barbel (SS-580).

The crew of the Santa Fe was pleased to be able to help bury a fellow submariner.

(Photos courtesy of Matthew Innis, USS Santa Fe)

Kitchen Angels
of Santa Fe
provides meals
to home-bound
individuals, ill
and elderly.



The **USS Santa Fe (SSN-763)** crew held a raffle while on deployment to raise \$1500 for Kitchen Angels. This brings the boat's total contributions to the Kitchen Angels to nearly \$5000! www.kitchenangels.org

**SAVE THE DATE:
OCTOBER 17, 2015
FOR THE NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL!**

USS New Mexico Model on Display at the Bataan Building in Santa Fe

This model of the USS New Mexico (SSN-779) found a home next to a display of artifacts from the Bataan March.



Secretary of Veteran's Services, Jack Fox, unveils the model along with Lt. Governor John Sanchez, and Navy League New Mexico Council Vice President Greg Scargall.

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 NEW MEXICO COUNCIL
 P.O. BOX 91554
 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87199

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The New Mexico Council is one of six Councils in the four-state Rocky Mountain Region of the Navy League of the United States. In our region, we serve alongside other Navy League Councils from Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah.

2015 Summer and Fall Events for Navy League, New Mexico Council

June 5	NOSC Albuquerque Boss Lift
June 6,7	NOSC Albuquerque Centennial celebration with Navy League
June 16-21	Navy League National Convention – Tampa, FL
July 1	RADM Sadler meeting with Navy League members
Sep (tbd)	USS Albuquerque homecoming celebration and Change of Command
Oct 3	Air Force @ Navy football – Annapolis, MD – 1:30 pm Mountain time
Oct 16	USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) Inactivation
Oct 17	Navy Birthday Ball in Albuquerque
Oct (tbd)	USS Santa Fe homecoming celebration and Change of Command
Oct 29	USS Santa Fe committee meet and greet
Dec 12	Army-Navy football – Philadelphia, PA – 1 pm Mountain time