



NAVY LEAGUE
of the United States
"Citizens in Support of the Sea Services."

NEW MEXICO
Council



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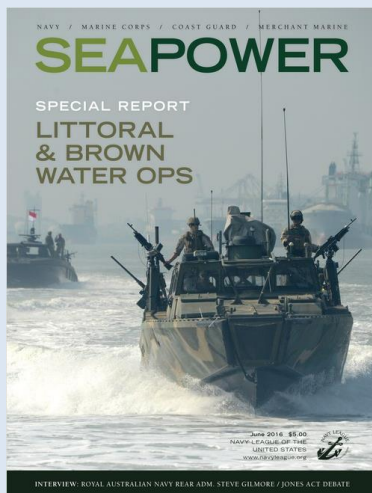
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Did you know that you can get the latest issues of Sea Power magazine in an App? Go to your mobile device App Store and search on "Navy League".



You Really Can't Beat Being Underway!



USS Albuquerque at sea (Photo courtesy of Dick Brown, Navy League, New Mexico Council)

It takes a huge amount of preparation and effort to get a submarine ready to go to sea, but it's all worthwhile when you get to "station the maneuvering watch" and head out on a mission.

Our local Navy League New Mexico Council, from time to time, gets to participate in what are called Distinguished Visitor (DV) cruises. These cruises are typically underway periods of less than a day, but they allow the crew to bring family members or citizens on board to see what our Navy does in action.

Already this year, the Navy League New Mexico Council was able to bring some of our New Mexico Sea Cadets on board the USS New Mexico for a fantastic DV cruise that departed from and returned to Port Canaveral, Florida. This was hands-on training unlike any other that a Sea Cadet can get. See some photos of a small part of their visit inside this issue. You really can't beat being underway!

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

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NAVY LEAGUE
NEW MEXICO COUNCIL

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Mark Schaefer
Newsletter Editor

NM Nautical Quiz!

Q1: What Naval ship was known as "Big Spud"?

Q2: Did you hear that NASA recently put a bunch of Holsteins into low earth orbit?

(see page 7 for answers)



To contact the editor, write to Mark Schaefer at usnanm@comcast.net.



President's Message



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

Hello Navy League members and friends!

Please join me in congratulating Mark Schaefer, editor of this newsletter, and all 2015 contributing authors for winning the Navy League's 2015 Mackie Award, third place, for a medium sized council newsletter! Bravo Zulu Mark!

Thank you Victor Mendoza, Tom Gutierrez, Rebecca Vigil and Damon Runyan for awarding a Naval Officer's sword to MIDN 1/C Richard Kittirath, a graduating midshipman at UNM's NROTC unit, and awarding twenty Theodore Roosevelt leadership awards to Navy and Marine Corps JROTC students at 20 high schools this spring. Thank you Shannon Kawanee, our treasurer, for helping the NM Council track and spend the funding provided by the State of New Mexico. And thank you to all members who joined us on April 9th when we celebrated National Submarine Day with sailors of the USS Albuquerque and USS New Mexico and VADM (retired) John 'Jay' Donnelly, USN, our guest speaker.

I continue my series of U. S. Navy attack submarine missions by briefly discussing the insertion and recovery of special operations forces. Select Los Angeles class and Virginia class submarines are capable of carrying and launching SEAL

Delivery Vehicles (SDVs) pictured below.

A SDV is a small free-flooding submersible that can transport six combat-equipped SEALs. The use of an SDV is best explained by the following quote. "Whenever it is necessary to operate near an enemy held shore in as complete secrecy as possible, the approach to the objective must be made under water. The first part of the approach can be made in a fleet-type submarine, but these 1500 ton vessels cannot operate submerged in water shallower than 60 feet, and depths less than 150 feet are considered hazardous. The final submerged approach must be made by swimming or in a small submersible."¹



SEAL Delivery Vehicle being launched from the USS Philadelphia (SSN 690)

In order to perform some of their (SEAL's) missions, an SDV is attached to an attack submarine. The submarine, staying submerged, gets as close to the objective as possible and deploys the SEALs with their SDV. The SEALs, using the SDV, carry out their mission and then make their way back to the submerged submarine and, once aboard, the submarine departs the area. That is the insertion and recovery of special operations forces mission carried out by select Los Angeles and Virginia class submarines.

1. Navy SEAL Museum: SEAL Delivery Vehicles – Manned Combatant Submersible for Maritime Special Operations. <http://www.navysealmuseum.org/home-to-artifacts-from-the-secret-world-of-naval-special-warfare/seal-delivery-vehicles-sdv-manned>. Accessed 5/25/2016.

Contact me any time at
chuck.vaughan@comcast.net
or by mail at the Council's P.O. box.

Namesake Ships



USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Updates and Distinguished Visitor Cruise

Photos by Dick Brown and Damon Runyan; story by Damon Runyan –

In late October 2015, the Commanding Officer, Commander Todd Moore and five other crew members, along with three of their wives, traveled to New Mexico for tours of the area, a meeting with Lieutenant Governor John Sanchez (Governor Martinez was in Pearl Harbor welcoming home the crew of the USS Santa Fe), visits to the UNM Naval ROTC class, North Star Elementary School 4th grade classes, and recovering veterans at the New Mexico VA hospital.

In early January 2016, CDR Moore was relieved of command after an extremely successful tour by CDR Dan Reiss. CDR Moore is now at the Naval War College in Newport, RI, conducting leadership seminars with prospective Commanding Officers of fast attack submarines.

In February and March 2016, CDR Reiss and the USS New Mexico crew conducted numerous training sessions while at sea off the U.S. East Coast. They then pulled into Port Canaveral, FL to embark 10 Senate/Congressional staffers and four citizens from the State of New Mexico, including some of our local Sea Cadet unit, for a 12-hour demonstration cruise in the Western Atlantic.

Very shortly after returning to Groton from that training session, CDR Reiss, five other crew members and wives traveled out to New Mexico, met with Governor Susanna Martinez, and attended and led the 116th anniversary celebration of the U.S. Navy's submarine force at the Airport Sheraton (National Submarine Day celebration with VADM Jay Donnelly). They also visited the VA hospital, visited with members of the 4th and 5th grade classes at Southwest Primary Learning Center, and toured the Sandia Peak Tram and the famed Santa Fe Plaza.

The Submarine and crew are now in the work-up phase of training, maintenance, and certifications/inspections leading up to another overseas deployment sometime this fall.



CDR Todd Moore , CO USS New Mexico, chats with a veteran undergoing therapy at the NM VA hospital.



USS New Mexico crew members Senior Chief Norm Clarke, Petty Officers Coates and Vine share a laugh with a recovering WWII veteran.



CDR Dan Reiss and crew at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial.

← USS New Mexico crew talks with New Mexico Governor Susanna Martinez in Santa Fe.

USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Distinguished Visitor Cruise – March 2016

Photos by Dick Brown and Damon Runyan, Navy League New Mexico Council



USS New Mexico moors pierside in Port Canaveral, FL – March 2016



LTJG Adair, RADM Richard, and Cadet PO3 Rivera on the Port Canaveral DV loading pier



LTJG Dave Adair enters the boat



Congressional staffers and 4 New Mexicans get picked up by USS New Mexico (coming pierside)



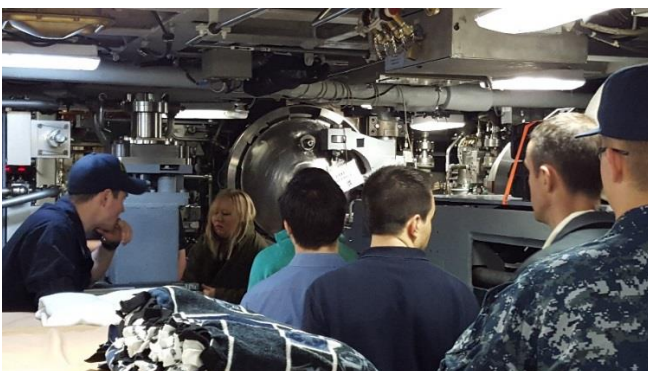
Damon Runyan, Chair of the USS New Mexico Committee of the Navy League, New Mexico Council, enters the boat



Damon Runyan gets in a game of Canasta with Chief of the Boat Norm Clarke - Chiefs Quarters



LTJG Adair and Dick Brown in the "wide" passageways with LT Plummer



New Mexico Sea Cadet Rivera and others listen to a description of torpedo operations on board the USS New Mexico (SSN-779)



Getting Underway!

Namesake Ships



USS Albuquerque Retirement Update *by Dick Brown / May 9, 2016*

USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) is now inactive, but is still a commissioned ship in the fleet, but not for long. She has been in dry-dock at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNSY) in Bremerton, WA for the past two months. There the combat veteran submarine is being defueled, decommissioned and dismantled. Official decommissioning is tentatively scheduled for December 22, 2016, however it now looks like this will slip into January.

Our Navy League New Mexico Council has requested certain shipboard artifacts, now removed from the ship and in possession of the Naval Historical & Heritage Command (NHHC) at Washington Navy Yard. These items include the ship's bell, battle flag, and a number of brass plaques. Eventually they will be available for display in our namesake city on a loan basis. NHHC's curator is fully aware of our interests.

Our council has also requested a number of larger components; namely, the 50-ton sail with fairwater planes, the upper portion of the rudder, parts of the diving station, and the two periscopes from Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA). These would be the central elements of a future USS Albuquerque Heritage Exhibit. We have since learned that the periscopes have already been removed as ready spares in case other LA-class submarines need a periscope replacement. NAVSEA reports that the sail will not be available for five or six years.



Among sites for a future exhibit is the city-owned Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum at Balloon Fiesta Park. It might look something like the artist concept at left, as is being planned for USS CINCINNATI. (Illustration courtesy of USS Cincinnati Cold War Memorial Project).

The crew, which is working out of a PSNSY barge near the dry-dock, now numbers 90, down from 134. As new members of the Puget Sound submarine community, the crew finds time to also perform services in support of local family shelters. The entire crew is now qualified in submarines.



The Commanding Officer, CDR Don Tenney; the Chief of the Boat, Sr. Chief Neal Bederson; plus Sailors of the Quarter William Espersen and Oniel Vega, visited Albuquerque on April 8th and 9th and participated in the Council's celebration of the Submarine Force's 116th birthday. Retired Vice Admiral Jay Donnelly, former Commander Submarine Force, was the honored guest speaker and was delighted to meet active duty submariners at the event. While here, the CO reported that the boat now has five hull cuts for cables, two forward, three aft, and the nuclear reactor has been shut down for the final time. The USS

Albuquerque crew was treated to dinner at El Pinto Restaurant & Cantina with Navy Leaguers and visiting USS New Mexico crew members. They were also given a private tour of the Balloon Museum, with emphasis on Navy-Ballooning connections, and rode up to snow-covered Sandia Peak on the tram for lunch at the High Finance Restaurant.

The next edition of The Submarine Review, the journal of the Naval Submarine League, will feature an article titled "Adios, Sureshooter". The title references USS ALBUQUERQUE's reputation as the Sureshooter of the Submarine Force. The story is a tribute to the officers and crew who have served aboard the submarine over the years.

(US Navy Photo: Albuquerque surfacing off Morocco, 2004)





Navy League New Mexico Council Presents 2016 Teddy Roosevelt Youth Awards

Here are your 2016 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.

The national Navy League of the United States established this 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.



School	City	Awardee	N/MC
Laguna-Acoma H. S.	Casa Blanca, NM	Katliyn Cheromiah	MCJROTC
La Cueva H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Ashleigh Namm	MCJROTC
Manzano H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Ty Williams	NJROTC
Los Alamos H. S.	Los Alamos, NM	Thomas Kwei	NJROTC
Santa Teresa H. S.	Santa Teresa, NM	Lauro Jasxo	NJROTC
Shiprock H. S.	Shiprock, NM	Kristaile Bigman	MCJROTC
Rio Grande H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Deja-Shea Maxey	MCJROTC
Ocate H. S.	Las Cruces, NM	Mitchell Smith	NJROTC
Highland H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Chris Kingswadd	NJROTC
Atrisco Academy	Albuquerque, NM	Sailer, Jacob	MCJROTC
Grants H. S.	Grants, NM	Tony Mace	MCJROTC
Santa Fe H. S.	Santa Fe, NM	Luisa Aguirre	NJROTC
Rio Rancho H. S.	Rio Rancho, NM	Jarod Leon	MCJROTC
West Mesa H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Gilbert Carrillo	NJROTC
Belen H. S.	Belen, NM	Crystal Jurado	NJROTC
Cibola H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Rhenna Granich	MCJROTC
Bataan Military Academy	Albuquerque, NM	Michael Giordano	Sea Cadets
Gadsden H. S.	Anthony, NM	Manuel Carbajal	NJROTC



Cadet Petty Officer Gilbert Carrillo and Navy League's Damon Runyan

2016 United States Naval Academy Appointees from New Mexico



Appointee	School	City	BGO	STATUS
John D. Finnegan	Rio Rancho	Rio Rancho, NM	Beno	USNA
Seung Heon Kim	Los Alamos	Los Alamos, NM	Swingle	USNA
Austin Kyung	NMMI	Roswell, NM	Dommers	USNA
Calista M. Weiss	Piedra Vista	Piedra Vista, NM	Gutierrez	USNA
Jacob A. Pinon	NMMI	Roswell, NM	Scott	Foundation
Hailey Fortin	La Cueva	Albuquerque, NM	Schaefer	NAPS



Albuquerque Chosen as Navy Week Host 12-18 September, 2016

Albuquerque's Navy Week will coincide with the New Mexico State Fair this year. Watch the newspaper for the schedule that will include Navy divers, Navy explosive ordnance disposal teams, sailors from USS Constitution, Navy band musical performances, Navy simulators and interactive displays, community service projects, visits to area schools, and visits with local veterans.

(Photo courtesy of archive.defense.gov)



UNM Student Awarded New Mexico Council Navy Sword

Each year, the New Mexico Council of the Navy League of the United States presents a sword to the outstanding Navy graduate of UNM with the highest academic and aptitude average. Retired CAPT Tom Gutierrez presented the 2016 sword to MIDN Richard Kittirah. (Photo courtesy of Rebecca Vigil)



USS Albuquerque SSN-706 crew with Balloon Museum Manager Paul Garver & museum mascot Marine Corporal Jack

Answers to NM Nautical Quiz

Q1: What Naval ship was known as "Big Spud"?

Known as Big Spud, the USS Idaho (BB-42) provided gunfire support to Army troops at Attu.

Q2: Did you hear that NASA recently put a bunch of Holsteins into low earth orbit?

They called it the "herd shot round the world".

Valentino Tzigiwhaeno Rivera – *photo and story by Rick Carver; (note: Tzigiwhaeno means lightning in the Tewa language)*



In January 2014 several of us headed to Pearl Harbor to join the families in welcoming home the USS Santa Fe, SSN 763, following a six month deployment. In our group were Pojoaque Governor George Rivera, his wife Felicia and their son, 5yr old Valentino. Among others in our group were then Santa Fe Mayor David Coss and his wife, two city councilors and former San Ildefonso Pueblo Governor, Elmer Torres. The night before Homecoming there was a "meet and greet" event attended by families and representatives of SUBRON 7. Others were there also who had heard that our committee had been doing some amazing things in support of our namesake submarine. Valentino was there to perform a Hoop Dance which he did flawlessly, with Elmer Torres providing the drum. The next day a reception was held and again Valentino performed a flawless Hoop Dance. In the audience was 6yr old Evelyn Taylor and for her it was love at first sight. Not long after the Homecoming the Taylor's transferred to Groton, CT. Evelyn was given a photo of Valentino and she took it everywhere she went.

In March 2015, Valentino was involved in a terrible car crash. His injuries were very serious and it was thanks to the efforts of EMS that he survived. He spent the next several months with specialists in Baltimore, MD. A long recovery was expected. During the year following his accident, Valentino suffered through 60 operations. He finally couldn't take it any longer. On Friday, 13 May, Valentino passed away. The impact Valentino had on the lives of so many was far reaching. Many of the crew and families of the USS Santa Fe have fond memories of what took place, January 2014.

Tuesday, 17 May, a funeral for Valentino took place at the ST. Francis Cathedral in Santa Fe. It was standing room only. Following the funeral, burial took place in the cemetery in Pojoaque Pueblo.

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Navy League of the United States New Mexico Council, P O Box 91554, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87199-1554. The Navy League is classified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax-deductible.

2016 Upcoming Events for Navy League, New Mexico Council

Jun 5	U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Picnic, Elena Gallegos Park, Albuquerque – 1300 RSVP to Scott Kraus at skraus@aquilagroup.com
Jun 24	MOAA work day at New Mexico Veteran's Memorial - 0900
Jul 4	Independence Day
Jul 22	MOAA work day at New Mexico Veteran's Memorial - 0900
Aug 19	MOAA work day at New Mexico Veteran's Memorial - 0900
Sep 12-18	Navy Week in Albuquerque
Oct 1	Navy @ Air Force football – Colorado Springs, CO
Oct 15	Navy Birthday Ball in Albuquerque – Save this date!
Nov 5	Navy / Notre Dame football – Jacksonville, FL
Nov 11	Veterans Day Celebrations
Dec (tbd)	Annual Navy League of the United States New Mexico Council Meeting
Dec 10	Army-Navy football – Baltimore, MD – 1 pm Mountain time