



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

New Mexico
Council



JUNE 1, 2017

www.nmnavyleague.com

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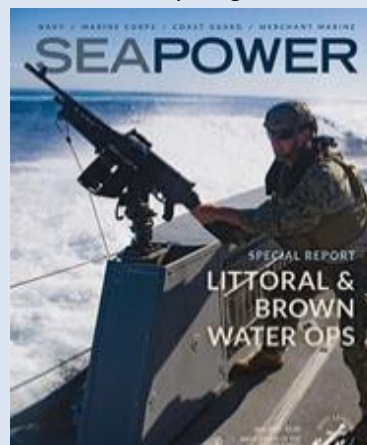
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Did you know that you can get the latest issues of Sea Power magazine in an App? Go to your mobile device App Store and search on "Navy League".



USS New Mexico Homecoming!

Story by Damon Runyan

Submarine Squadron 12 and about 400 family members welcomed home the USS NEW MEXICO (SSN-779) from six months of overseas deployment on 26 April 2017. This crew left before Thanksgiving, missing Christmas, New Years, and tons of kids' birthdays during this deployment. The NEW MEXICO made

its way up the Thames River to Groton, Connecticut and Naval Submarine Base New London. The Commanding Officer, Commander Dan Reiss, welcomed New Mexico Navy League USS New Mexico Committee Chair Damon Runyan (yellow life vest) aboard for the ride up the river atop the submarine's sail as a small reward for all the support provided his crew during their time overseas. The C.O. mentioned that the submarine put 37,000 miles on the odometer during this mission, and maneuvered past the shoreline of 17 countries. The crew consumed



Philip Medbery

just under 150,000 lbs. of meals during those six months. The families of the crewmen received amazing support from the USSNMX Family Readiness Group during their time waiting for loved ones to return.



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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USS Albuquerque SSN-706

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NAVY LEAGUE
NEW MEXICO COUNCIL

P.O. Box 91554

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Mark Schaefer

Newsletter Editor

NM Nautical Quiz!

Q1: Why don't pirates shower before they walk the plank?

Q2: What has 8 legs, 8 arms, and 8 eyes?

(see page 7 for answers)



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



President's Message



Tom Gutierrez
President, New Mexico Council
(Photo courtesy of Rebecca Vigil)

Greetings Navy League members and friends!

We had a great three-month period (March, April and May) as a Council.

- 7 Navy Leaguers presented 19 JROTC "Teddy Roosevelt Awards" to the Most Outstanding Cadet at each of our 19 New Mexico Naval and Marine Corps Jr ROTC High School Programs.
- 1 Navy Leaguer presented a Navy Officer's Sword to UNM's Naval ROTC Outstanding Graduate, Midshipman 1/C Simpson. Mr. Simpson subsequently entered SEAL Training at Coronado Island.
- 1 Navy Leaguer donated \$1,000 to be used in our renewed Scholarship Fund. Details on that competition will be forthcoming. Just know that we are shifting the awardees to be "Naval Service Active Duty or Reserve personnel and/or their immediate family members."

The USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Committee Chairman, Damon Runyan, traveled to Groton, CT to observe USS New Mexico's homecoming from their past "At-Sea Deployment."

The USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) Chairman, Chuck Vaughan, traveled to

Keyport, WA to observe the hauling down of the Commissioning Pennant and the Decommissioning of our oldest submarine that we have sponsored. USS Albuquerque was commissioned May 21, 1983, and was decommissioned February 27, 2017.

The USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) Chairman, Ron Oleksak, is planning on the following activities:

- Homecoming of the USS Santa Fe in Pearl Harbor, HI
- DV Cruise on board in the fall
- Some fundraising days for the committee and the state council

And our newest Committee, the USS Los Alamos, has been busy in their quest to name a submarine in honor of their fair County.

Sea Cadet Program: One of Sea Cadet Liaison Dave Adair's challenges is to increase enrollment to a minimum of 25 cadets. The Memorial Day Salute occurred on 27 May; it is one of the major event for the Sea Cadets. Dave noted that he is looking for a reservist from the Navy Operational Support Center to be a staff member of the Sea Cadet battalion; he is looking for someone with prior military experience. A reservist serving with the Sea Cadets will earn drill points.

We want YOU to be active in our Council and in our Committees. Our new webmaster, Ed Nava, will be putting up a list of activities that you can help us produce. We will also invite each and every one of you to our events as they are listed in our refreshed Home Page.

www.nmnavyleague.com.

Contact me any time at
tomgutierrez1970@gmail.com
or by mail at the Council's P.O. box.

Namesake Ships



USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Homecoming (continued from front page) by Damon Runyan

The New Mexico Council is honored to support the crew of the USS New Mexico at sea, in port, and during special events. Enjoy these additional photos of the USS New Mexico homecoming. Welcome home!



GROTON, Conn. — A U.S. Navy submarine has returned to its home port following a six-month deployment. The USS New Mexico arrived at the Naval Submarine Base in Groton on Wednesday.

The submarine's commanding officer, Cmdr. Dan Reiss, said they traveled more than 37,000 miles in the North Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea, about 6,000 miles more than usual in a deployment.

He says it was a proof-of-concept for extended operations and showed that the submarine can cover a large area quickly and operate anywhere.

Family and friends rushed down the pier at the base to greet their loved ones. The arrival was delayed slightly by low visibility. Reiss says the crew of 155 men did an excellent job, adding that it's awesome to be home.



Welcome Home Hug!



Damon Runyan on the Bridge

USS New Mexico Sports Bolo Ties at Submarine Ball

The USS New Mexico Committee of the New Mexico Council of the Navy League provided Bolo ties to the crew for the Submarine Ball. They came out pretty well!



USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) Serving the Nation in the Western Pacific



Article courtesy of Stars and Stripes, March 3, 2017 (by LTJG Tajudeen Ismail) (sent by Angie McKinstry)

YOKOSUKA, Japan – Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) arrived at Fleet Activities Yokosuka March 2 for a visit as part of its Indo-Asia-Pacific patrol. The visit strengthens the already positive alliance between the U.S. and Japan through the crew's interaction with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force. It also demonstrates the U.S. Navy's commitment to regional stability and maritime security in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

Santa Fe is optimistic about the opportunity for a port visit in Yokosuka and looks forward to strengthening the ties shared with close allies. "Our crew has had the opportunity to meet our partner Japanese submarine crews that visit Pearl Harbor and are excited to visit their homeport," said Cmdr. Jacob A. Foret, commanding officer.

This submarine is capable of executing anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions. "The crew has worked tirelessly at training and preparing for the western Pacific deployment and are eager to explore the many sights and sounds of Yokosuka," said Master Chief Electronics Technician (Navigation) Jorge Perez, chief of the boat. "The crew has many first-timers who have heard so many interesting stories about Japan and look forward to experiencing the Japanese culture firsthand during this port visit. They joined the Navy to see the world, and this is their first foreign port visit." Many crew members are excited to experience the rich culture of Japan.

Measuring more than 360 feet long and weighing more than 6,000 tons when submerged, Santa Fe is among the world's stealthiest platforms. Santa Fe is homeported in Pearl Harbor and is assigned to Commander, Submarine Squadron 7. It is named after the great city of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



USS Santa Fe at Sea



A bit of home in the form of Rio Grande Roasters Pinon Coffee!

A Note from the Skipper, USS Santa Fe (SSN-763), CDR Jake Foret

(as sent via email to Ron Oleksak in early March)

Good Morning Ron,

Warship SANTA FE is out here on the front lines of the Western Pacific, executing our orders.

We had an unscheduled port call in Yokosuka, Japan for the last few days to repair one of our towed arrays. Repairs are complete and we're getting back out there.

I continue to be amazed by the dedication and professionalism of our crew. They are working hard and their drive to continue to get better will keep us on the right trajectory for deployment.

I've attached some photos of our few days in port. Admiral Correll (Submarine Group Seven) welcomed us to Yokosuka along with our host submarine JS Takashio and their Captain, CDR Seto. We also hosted a group from your partner chapter in Japan (Navy League Japan) for a DV tour. Our crew really enjoyed the engagement with our Japanese supporters and look forward to staying in touch.

Hope all is well on the homefront. Our new Culinary Specialist Chief Abollo is making great use of our SANTA FE spices and ground chilis underway. Those sauces are amazing. Thanks for all of your support, USS SANTA FE Committee, and we'll keep you posted.

Strike Silent, Strike First!

Jake Foret

Commanding Officer
USS SANTA FE (SSN 763)



Local New Mexico News



Navy League New Mexico Council Presents 2017 Teddy Roosevelt Youth Awards

Here are your 2017 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	Jacob Roughsurface	MCJROTC
La Cueva H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Geoffrey Suter	MCJROTC
Manzano H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Eric Howe	NJROTC
Los Alamos H. S.	Los Alamos, NM	Andre Vigil	NJROTC
Sea Cadets Triton Battalion	Albuquerque, NM	Michael J. Giorano	NSCC
Santa Teresa H. S.	Santa Teresa, NM	Lily Loya	NJROTC
Shiprock H. S.	Shiprock, NM	Noah Hastings	MCJROTC
Rio Grande H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Brianna Saavedra	MCJROTC
Onate H. S.	Las Cruces, NM	Rocio Valadez	NJROTC
Highland H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Saul Rodelas	NJROTC
Atrisco Heritage Academy H.S.	Albuquerque, NM	Jon Bednorz	MCJROTC
Grants H. S.	Grants, NM	Brianna Nuslein	MCJROTC
Santa Fe H. S.	Santa Fe, NM	Jason Martinez	NJROTC
Rio Rancho H. S.	Rio Rancho, NM	Christopher Shuey	MCJROTC
West Mesa H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Roxanne Cortez	NJROTC
Belen H. S.	Belen, NM	Patrick Purnell	NJROTC
Cibola H. S.	Albuquerque, NM	Brandon Moore	MCJROTC
Eldorado H.S.	Albuquerque, NM	Daniel Aguilar	MCJROTC
Gadsden H. S.	Anthony, NM	Graciela Aguilar	NJROTC



Brianna Nuslein is presented the 2017 Teddy Roosevelt Youth Award at Grants High School by Tom Gutierrez and Rebecca Vigil.

2017 United States Naval Academy Appointees from New Mexico



Appointee	School	City	BGO	STATUS
Shea Auge	Hope Christian	Albuquerque, NM	Gutierrez	USNA
Joseph Greer	Albuquerque Academy	Albuquerque, NM	Gutierrez	USNA
Jason Watlington	Albuquerque Academy	Albuquerque, NM	Gutierrez	USNA
Nathaniel Huff	NMMI	Colorado	Scott	USNA
Matthew Burris	Sandia Prep School	Albuquerque, NM	Romero	USNA
Mark Amdahl	Eldorado High School	Albuquerque, NM	Johnson	Foundation
Brittany Holden-Rhodes	Sandia Prep School	Albuquerque, NM	Gutierrez	Foundation
Brannon Purvis	Cottonwood Christian	Albuquerque, NM	Gutierrez	NAPS



New Mexico Sea Cadets Triton Battalion at Trinity Site

Members of the Sea Cadets Triton Battalion attended the Trinity Site open house on White Sands Missile Range. The site is open twice a year for visitors to see the initial test site for the nation's nuclear weapons. The first blasts were tested here for the weapons that brought a swift closure to World War II.

The Sea Cadets are looking to increase both cadet and adult enrollment. Contact Dave Adair at aec3535@comcast.net for more information.



Nautical Items of Interest

NEW MEXICO
Council



Ways We Raise Funds to Support Our Active Duty and Our Navy Community



(photos courtesy of Ron Oleksak)

The USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) Committee receives donations from the community for the fundraising support of the submarine. In exchange for t-shirts or ballcaps, their efforts result in a generous outpouring from the community to support our crew. Let us know if you want to join in!

Featured Veteran, Radioman 2nd Class (SS) J.B. Conley (story from Damon Runyan as told by his daughter, retired Navy Corpsman Karen Conley)



"It was March of 1956, and my mom was pregnant with my brother and my dad was on board the Carbonero (SS-337) undergoing sea trials after overhaul at Mare Island Naval Shipyard. The sub did a deep-dive maneuver (the first time for my dad) and the engine room flooded - very similar situation to the USS Squalus (SS-192) disaster in 1939. A block of wood had jammed the main induction hatch. As the Radioman, my dad was in the process

of sending the dive message when he was hit with water. The crewmen evacuated to the forward torpedo room and the sub sat on the bottom of the ocean until the water could be pumped out (several hours) - while rescue boats circled on the surface. They made it back to port and my mom went into labor that night and had my brother the next morning. I guess the drama of my brother's arrival pushed the sub near-disaster to the back burner!"

Karen also commented that being an Albuquerque native, her Dad was pleased to have a sub named after the state, so he was thrilled with the hat. She says, "I think he kept this story to himself mostly because of the timing of my brother's arrival, but also because he loved being on the sub and my mom wasn't such a fan - ha. I enjoy getting him to tell sea stories. His brother was also in the Navy and when the two of them would get together it was hours and hours of sea stories and laughter."

You and Your Friends are Cordially Invited to the
Military Coalition's June 2017 Luncheon

Sponsored by Local Chapters of the:

Navy League of the United States
Air Force Association
Association of the U.S. Army, MG John S. Lekson Chapter
Reserve Officers Association
Military Officers Association of America
United Veterans Council of New Mexico
Tuskegee Airman, Inc.
General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton Chapter

Saturday 17 June 2017
Albuquerque Marriott
Louisiana & I-40
Albuquerque, NM

SPEAKER:
Wayne Johnson
Bernalillo County Commissioner

Social Hour: 11:00 - Lunch: 12:00
Cost: \$23.00 per person (pay at the door)

Menu:
Chicken Salad Sandwich
or
Roasted Pork Loaf

Dinner rolls with butter, tea, coffee, appetizer and dessert.
For reservations please contact:
Frances or Marvin Spallina, 822-9642 Email: francespal@aol.com
Joe Loisel, 839-0969 Email: joeloisel@aol.com
Reservations accepted thru Wednesday 14 June 2017
(No Shows Will Be Billed)

Answers to NM Nautical Quiz (from questions on page 2)

A1: Because they will wash up on shore later!

A2: 8 pirates.

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
NEW MEXICO COUNCIL
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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.

2017 Upcoming Events for Navy League, New Mexico Council

Jun 6	D-Day
Jun 14	Flag Day
Jun 17	Military Coalition Luncheon hosted by Navy League – Speaker Wayne Johnson, Bernalillo County Commissioner, Albuquerque Marriott
Jul 4	Independence Day
Sep 1	Navy Football opening day vs. Florida Atlantic Owls in Boca Raton, FL (FAU Stadium)
Oct 7	Navy – Air Force football, Annapolis
Nov 18	Navy – Notre Dame football, Notre Dame stadium
Dec 9	Army - Navy football, Philadelphia, PA