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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".



New Mexico Supports our Troops and Submarines

Story and Photos by Damon Runyan and Mark Schaefer

Citizens, young and old, from the State of New Mexico came together on June 26th in support of the efforts of the Rio Grande Chapter of the Blue Star Mothers. Over thirty care package mailings are on their way to USS New Mexico (SSN-779) from this quarter's event. Many more are on the



way to Army, Marine and Navy units around the world, including to the Middle East in support of the deployment of the 210th Red Horse Squadron of the New Mexico Air National Guard. All in all, 300 care packages were put together stuffed with Girl Scout Cookies, socks, Monroe's salsa, tuna packets, Vienna sausages, Hatch green chile, candy, microwave popcorn, and small, folded American flags, Slim Jims, Beef Jerky, and other small items.



Shown here (left to right) are Blue Star Mothers Rio Grande Chapter President Stacy Trottman, Lisa Childress, Navy League NM Chapter President John Jones and Navy League NM Chapter members Damon Runyan, Deborah Schaefer, and Mark Schaefer. See more photos on page 7.



Many thanks to all the citizens of New Mexico for your patriotism and support!

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. Join or renew at*

<https://www.navyleague.org/membership>

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tbd

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Mark Schaefer
Newsletter Editor

Did you know that there was a Liberty Ship named after the Archbishop of Santa Fe?

The SS Archbishop Lamy was named for the first Archbishop. See more about New Mexico namesake ships in our feature of the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts starting on page 3.

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



President's Message



John Jones
President, New Mexico Council

AHOY!

The Council Board continues to meet via Zoom on the 2nd Monday of each month at 530 PM. If you'd like to participate, let us know via the contact information in this newsletter.

The JROTC programs are slowly coming back, and we were able to make eight Theodore Roosevelt Awards for programs in Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Las Cruces and El Paso. We'll continue to support the units as they come back on line.

Several board members recently helped the Rio Grande Valley Blue Star Mothers to pack 'care packages' for active duty New Mexicans and crewmembers on New Mexico namesake submarines. You can find out more about them at www.rgvnmbsm.org.

Our 763 (SANTA FE) and 779 (NEW MEXICO) committees remain active with each of our namesake boats, in the yards and at sea. We've started working with the Navy Outreach Office, assisting in their plans for a LIVE Navy Week in Santa Fe, towards the end of this year, with hopes of having crew from one our subs participate.

The Navy League recently announced awards for Councils based on their 2020 activities – and New Mexico received the Best Small Council Award, largely due to our namesake submarine sponsorships, working on Navy Week in Santa Fe last year, and our support of Junior ROTC programs.

The Scholarship Committee will be issuing a call for applications for our scholarship in July – you'll be able to find information on our web site.

A goal of the Council this year is to increase our membership – if you have friend interested in the maritime support mission of the League, or is a former sea service member, please refer them to the Council or the National web site ... there is PLENTY to do! Bill Baker, President of Baker Utility Supply, provided us a generous donation that will be helpful in fulfilling our scholarship goals.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the New Mexico Council in support of our educational efforts with the Sea Services, our scholarship program for men and women on active duty and in the reserves, our work with crews on our namesake New Mexico ships, and our recognition programs with the Navy ROTC and Junior Navy and Marine Corps ROTC programs around the State and El Paso.

Stay in touch, tell us what you think.

Contact me any time at

JohnLJonesNM@gmail.com
or by mail at the Council's P.O. box.

Not for Self, but Country.
Semper Fortis.

John L Jones, CDR SC USN (ret)

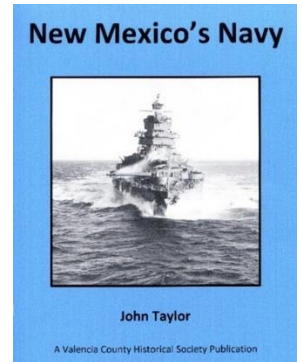
Visit Los Lunas Museum's Navy Exhibit

Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts Celebrates New Mexico's Navy

story and photos by Greg Trapp and Damon Runyan, New Mexico Council



The Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts is opening an exhibit entitled "New Mexico's Navy," based on information in John Taylor's 2019 book by the same name. This book describes 95 ships that have been named for one or another aspect of our land-locked state. These ships range from two Civil War vessels to three modern nuclear attack submarines with everything in between. Ships from "New Mexico's Navy" have participated in all our "hot" and "cold" wars since the 1860s.



The exhibit consists of four galleries: one devoted to fighting ships (battleships, cruisers, submarines, amphibious landing craft, and patrol craft); one devoted to supply and support vessels (Liberty and Victory ships, tugboats, supply ships, tankers, and floating drydocks); one devoted to the ships that have been lost and men who have lost their lives, including 29 New Mexicans from the submarine force who died during the war and on the USS *Thresher* (SSN-593) and the USS *Scorpion* (SSN-589); and one devoted to individuals for whom ships have been named, including three Medal of Honor winners with New Mexico roots and seven New Mexico governors.



The exhibit includes over 25 panels, each with descriptive text, more than 50 photographs, and 13 models, one of which is an eight-foot model of the USS *New Mexico* (BB-40) which is on loan from the Museum of New Mexico.



Other models, which have been obtained from all over the state, include a seven-foot model of the USS *Santa Fe* (SSN-763) from the New Mexico Military Museum and a model of the USS *Santa Fe* (CL-60) from the City of Santa Fe.



NM Navy League members Mark Schaefer and Damon Runyan are shown with seven-foot model of the USS *Santa Fe* (SSN-763)

The display also includes the USS *Raton* (SS-270) from the Raton Museum, two models from a special collection at the Comfort Inn Suites in Gallup, two models from Clovis Community College, two models from the UNM NROTC unit, and several models by Albuquerque wood carver (and retired submarine Chief Quartermaster) Dan Moss.

There is also a full-scale replica of the 14-inch shell fired by the battleship *New Mexico*.

(feature story continues on page 4)

On Saturday, 25 June, members of the New Mexico Council attended the grand opening of the exhibit at the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts. President of the Council John Jones (CDR USN Ret.), Mark Schaefer (CDR USN Ret.), his wife Deborah, and Damon Runyan (LCDR USN Ret.), joined many members of the community at this event. The New Mexico Council of the United States Navy League is one of several sponsors of this event.



Mark & Deborah Schaefer meet Mr. John Taylor at New Mexico's Navy exhibit.

During the course of the exhibit, there will also be lectures on a variety of related subjects and screening of films that portray naval warfare during World War II.

The "New Mexico Navy" exhibit will run through the end of August. No charge for admission.



Author and museum curator Mr. John Taylor shows visitors a model of a 14-inch shell from BB-40.



Photo on display of BB-40 New Mexico passing through Pedro Miguel lock at Panama

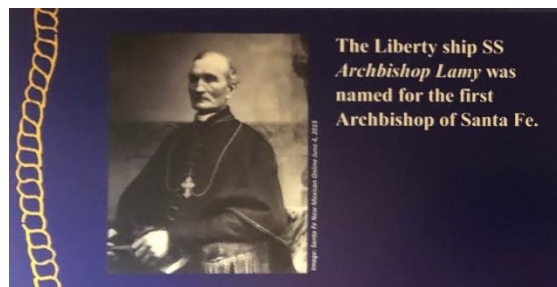


Photo of Archbishop Lamy for whom the Liberty Ship SS Archbishop Lamy was launched in 1942 and scrapped in 1964

For more information about the exhibit or the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts, contact Andrea Chavez (chaveza@loslunasnm.gov), Cynthia Shetter (shetterc@loslunasnm.gov), or John Taylor (jtlymtnest@aol.com).

Local New Mexico News

Remembering Donald Rumsfeld *by Mark Schaefer*

Fellow New Mexican and former two-time Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld died on June 29th at the age of 88, surrounded by family at his home in Taos, New Mexico. His lifetime of public service began as a Naval Aviator, and he always supported the Navy in a big way. We are thankful for his service!

Secretary Rumsfeld and his wife, Joyce, supported the USS New Mexico commissioning in 2010. He is shown in the photo at right in Norfolk, VA at the commissioning dinner with one of our Naval Academy Midshipmen from Eldorado High School (Albuquerque, NM), Kyle Milden, who is now Weapons Officer on USS Florida Blue. Note the USS New Mexico lapel pin! The Rumsfeld Foundation was a direct financial contributor to the USS New Mexico committee and the Navy League New Mexico council for several years.





Navy League New Mexico Council Presents 2021 Teddy Roosevelt Youth Awards



Here are the High Schools that were awarded Teddy Roosevelt Youth Awards in 2021. One in-person award was presented at Atrisco Heritage High School to Alyssa B, pictured with Navy League presenter Ron Olexsak and Alyssa's father.

JROTC Teddy Roosevelt Award Presentations

- Santa Fe High School – Navy
- Manzano High School – Navy
- Atrisco Heritage High School – Marine Corps
- Americas High School, El Paso – Navy
- Ocate High School – Navy
- Gadsden High School – Navy
- Pebble Hills High School, El Paso – Navy
- San Elizario High School, El Paso - Navy

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.

2021 Navy League New Mexico Council Scholarship Award

The New Mexico Council Scholarship committee, led by Ms. Marilyn Smith, is pleased to announce that this year's scholarship award of \$1500 has gone to officer candidate Emilio Montano. We wish the best to this enlisted submariner who is now at UNM.

Thank you for selecting me for your educational scholarship. It is truly an honor to be recognized by the council, and I'm so very grateful for the financial assistance you have provided me. I can't describe how much your kind words meant to me, and I loved having the opportunity to meet with you on Zoom.

I was unaware of your newsletter before our meeting. I have since then had the chance to read some of them. From bringing a taste of New Mexico to the sailors aboard the USS New Mexico and USS Santa Fe to your efforts in creating a USS Albuquerque Memorial, the New Mexico Council of the Navy League shows steadfast commitment to improving sailor morale and encouraging community engagement. Your accomplishments and various involvements are too numerous to list here, but as a fellow New Mexican and sailor, I want to give you a sincere thanks for all that you have done for New Mexico and the World's Finest Navy.

I would very much enjoy one day joining your efforts after a long and rewarding Naval Career. I look forward to getting to meet with you in person one day, and I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

OC Emilio Montano
UNM NROTC



2021 NM Council Scholarship Award
Officer Candidate Emilio Montano

2021 United States Naval Academy Appointees from New Mexico



Appointee	School	City	STATUS
Robert A Montoya	NAPS/Cobre HS	Bayard, NM	USNA
Andre T Saiz	NAPS/Los Lunas HS	Los Lunas, NM	USNA
Savanna Lewis	Hope Christian HS	Albuquerque, NM	USNA
Harrison Morrow	Sandia HS	Albuquerque, NM	USNA
Elija Myers	Arrowhead Park Early College	Las Cruces, NM	USNA
Cruz Kaufman	Las Cruces HS	Las Cruces, NM	USNA



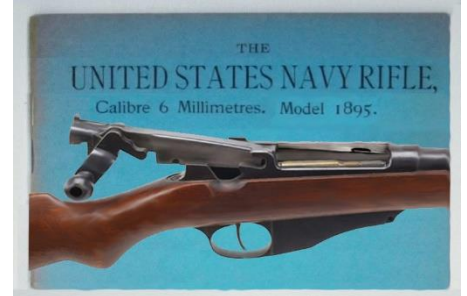


From the Sea Chest — by Chapter Historian, Greg Trapp

This feature column takes a look at lesser-known and often more unusual historical facts related to our sea services.

America's First Metric Military Rifle: The 6mm Lee Navy

America's first metric-caliber rifle was not the 5.56 mm M16, or even the 7.62 mm M14, but rather the far older M1895 Lee Navy. Officially designated the "Lee Rifle, Model of 1895, caliber 6-mm," the Lee Navy was in service with the Navy and Marine Corps between 1895 and 1907. The Lee Navy was made by Winchester, and it replaced the obsolete single shot black powder 45-70 "Trapdoor" Springfield. The Lee Navy had a five-round magazine and a 28-inch barrel. The Lee Navy also used a faster straight-pull bolt instead of the turning-bolt designs used in most contemporary rifles such as the M1892 Springfield "Krag" rifle that had been adopted by the U.S. Army. However, the most innovative feature of the Lee Navy was the use of a semi-rimmed 6 mm round, which employed a small .236 caliber bullet. By adopting the 6 mm round, the Navy was attempting to leapfrog European countries which had adopted 6.5 mm and 7 mm rifles. These small-bore rifles had numerous advantages, including flat trajectories, less recoil, reduced weight, and decreased material costs. The Lee Navy saw service in the Spanish-American War, the Philippine-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, and the Moro Rebellion. The most famous use of the Lee Navy came in 1900 during the Boxer Rebellion when the Marine Legation Guard used it in defense of diplomatic facilities in Peking.



Shown Here is the action of an M1895 Lee Navy, showing the straight-pull bolt. Wikipedia contributors. (2021, June 13). M1895 Lee Navy. In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved 00:27, June 28, 2021.

The Navy was ahead of its time in selecting the 6mm Navy, but the round was ultimately too advanced for the smokeless powder technology of the time. The rifle experienced excessive barrel wear, and only 15,000 Lee Navy rifles were procured. The Navy and Marines were forced to supplement the M1895 Lee Navy with Krag rifles chambered in .30-40 Krag. The M1895 Lee Navy and Krag rifles were soon replaced by the M1903 Springfield which fired the more powerful and rimless .30-06 round. The M1895 Navy had several innovative features that would eventually be found in other military rifles, such as a short bayonet, an internal clip similar to the M1 Garand, and the use of small-bore ammunition. Today, the battlefield is dominated by small-bore weapons such as the American M4 Carbine in 5.56 mm and the Russian AK-74M in 5.45 mm.



Shown here are sailors onboard USS New Mexico circa 1943-1945. They are drilling with M1903 Springfield rifles. The M1903 Springfield replaced the M1895 Lee Navy. Although the M1 Garand had been adopted in 1936, the M1903 remained in service throughout World War II. Official U.S. Navy Photograph

USS New Mexico (BB-40) Items to be Donated to the New Mexico History Museum



Chapter Historian and Chair of the BB-40 Memorial Bell committee, Greg Trapp, is at work to enhance and improve the ship's bell exhibit at the New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe. Greg is an avid collector of newspaper clippings and memorabilia from the BB-40, and he is working with the museum to make donations of a few of his pieces. They include fascinating articles from the ship's own printed newsletter, *the Queen's Daily News*, and a few of the items will be featured in our next newsletter.

Also in process of donation to the New Mexico History Museum is a ceremonial sword that was owned by



CDR John T. Warren. The sword was originally presented to the New Mexico Council of the Navy League by Lisa Cummings, Commander Warren's step-granddaughter.

The sword measures 35 inches long and has its original scabbard. The sword is engraved "John T. Warren." CDR Warren was the Executive Officer on USS New Mexico, and he assumed command after Commanding Officer, CAPT Fleming, was killed in a kamikaze attack on January 6, 1945. This is an amazing artifact with great history.

A Lesson in Organization from the Blue Star Mothers

Comments and Photos by Deborah Schaefer



If an award were given for the Most Organized Event, the Blue Star Mothers would win it for their box packing morning.

We were absolutely amazed at not only the efficiency and great use of even first-time volunteers, but also at how much work had gone into getting the items ready to be packed and labeling the boxes prior to this Saturday morning. Hats off to a terrific group who must have put in many hours ahead of time. Our deployed New Mexicans will know how much we love and respect them thanks to this dedicated group.



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2021 Upcoming Events for Navy League, New Mexico Council

July 4th	Independence Day
July 12 th	NM Chapter board meeting by Zoom - 5:30 Mountain time
August 9 th	NM Chapter board meeting by Zoom - 5:30 Mountain time
August 14 th	Navajo Code Talkers Day
September 6 th	Labor Day

To attend a NM Chapter board meeting via Zoom, please contact Ron Olexsak at Ron.O.NMNLUS@outlook.com