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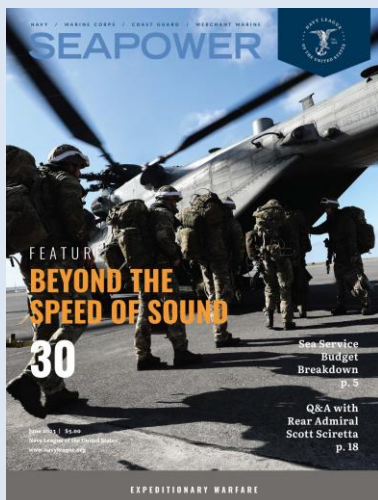
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<https://seapowermagazine.org/>



University of New Mexico NROTC Gets New Home

story by Mark Schaefer, editor; photos courtesy of UNM Newsroom, May 15, 2023

Navy ROTC was well represented at the grand opening ceremony of the new University of New Mexico (UNM) ROTC Education Complex on May 11, 2023.

University officials, regents, retired Rear Admiral William Payne, and the New Mexico Council of the Navy League of the United States were there in support of our Midshipmen and future officers in the Navy and Marine Corps. The new education complex features over 20,000 square feet of classrooms, offices, and student areas that will house space for all three service ROTC programs that include Army, Navy, and Air Force students shown in the photo below.

Referencing the three services all together in one building, Brig. Gen. Amanda Azubuike said, "This beautiful new state-of-the-art building also represents one of the core tenets of military service teamwork and the value of building cohesive teams that work together to meet a common goal."



Army, Navy, and Air Force are housed in one building; more grand opening photos on page 5.

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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New Mexico Council

Navy Quiz of the Issue:

*What happens if you eat more
than your fair share of Navy
Beans in the mess hall?
(answer on page 4)*



President's Message



John Jones
President, New Mexico Council

Here comes summer!

Our Council is proud to announce that it received two awards at the recent Navy League Annual Convention in Dallas – the Platinum Mackie Award for THE best newsletter in the League (congratulations to our editor, Mark Schaefer, and all our contributors) and an Honorable Mention Small Council Award.

Our Summer newsletter covers the grand opening of the Joint ROTC facility at UNM this past May; the JROTC Roosevelt Awards to 15 programs in NM and Texas and Naval Academy appointees; Homecoming for USS NEW MEXICO; work by the Bullhead Base on their 706 large scale model and, from the Sea Chest – an article on Navy Hydrofoils and the USS TUCUMCARI (PGH 2). Lastly – fair winds and following seas to Army Colonel Joe Loisel – past president of the NM Council and ardent supporter of our mission and the USS NEW MEXICO – he passed away in May. Godspeed.

Congratulations to the ten Naval Academy and Foundation appointees. There is another excellent educational and commissioning program at the NROTC Unit (the Lobo Battalion) at the University of NM. Scholarship opportunities are available particularly for candidates

seeking an engineering degree with an interest in nuclear power.

Save the Date – October 14th – Navy Birthday Ball at Sheraton Uptown, hosted by the NOSC Albuquerque and supported by the New Mexico Council. Details to be posted on our website (www.nmnavyleague.com), our Facebook page and we'll send information to our email list and newsletter distro list.

Our membership is rising, with renewals and new members increasing our ranks. The Council depends on passionate individuals, like you, and corporate sponsors to support our mission – please tell your friends about us! The NM Council has adopted ships, honored and rewarded local enlisted personnel, and supported families of deployed sea service personnel. Prior military service is NOT required for membership. The Council offers a one year, no cost, membership to the spouses of those on active duty - our way to say "thank you" for all you do.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Council in support 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.

The Council Board continues to meet via Zoom on the 2nd Monday of each month. Ask for the link!

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)

Local New Mexico News



Navy League New Mexico Council Presents 2023 Teddy Roosevelt Youth Awards

Here are your 2023 NJROTC and MCJROTC Teddy Roosevelt Youth Award winners from around the State of New Mexico and nearby Texas. 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.

Unit	Albuquerque/ North NM	City	Cadet Recipient
MC	La Cueva High School	Albuquerque, NM	C/Cpl Nicholas Munoz
MC	Rio Rancho HS	Rio Rancho, NM	C/GySgt Delilah Villarael
MC	Atrisco Heritage High School	Albuquerque, NM	C/Anastasia Gamez
MC	Eldorado High School	Albuquerque, NM	C/Cpl Hunter Douglas
Navy	Los Alamos High School	Los Alamos, NM	C/CPO Sofia West
Navy	Manzano High School	Albuquerque, NM	C/Diego Jaramillo
Navy	Santa Fe High School	Santa Fe, NM	C/Niven Horvath
Navy	Belen High School	Belen, NM	C/LTJG Victoria Lopez
MC	Highland High School	Albuquerque, NM	C/Nevaeh Lujan
MC	Rio Grande High School	Albuquerque, NM	C/LCpl Jayden L Cruz
Unit	Las Cruces/ South NM/Texas	City	Cadet Recipient
Navy	Gadsden H.S.	Anthony, NM	C/CPO Jacqueline Navar
Navy	Fabens HS Fabens TX	Fabens, TX	C/MCPO Jessica Gallo
Navy	Santa Teresa High School	Santa Teresa, NM	C/Seaman Daniel Wolf
Navy	Organ Mountain High School	Las Cruces, NM	C/Aidan Aguirre
Navy	San Elizario HS	San Elizario, TX	C/CDR Miguel Schneider

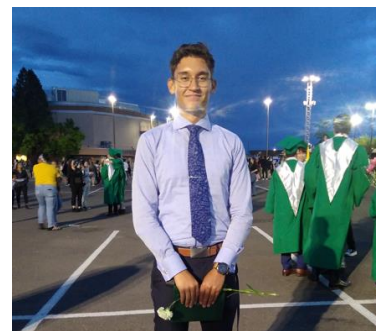


2023 Teddy Roosevelt Leadership Award presented to Cadet GySgt Delilah Villarael, Rio Rancho HS MCJROTC, by CDR Dave Williams, Vice President, NM Council

2023 United States Naval Academy Appointees - New Mexico



Appointee	School	Status
Dylan Mamwal	Home School	USNA
Robert Pule	NM Military Institute	USNA
William Lechman	Albuquerque Institute of Math	USNA
Diego Aragon	Mora High School	USNA
Sean Avilucea	Las Cruces High School	USNA
Nicholas Tenorio	Eldorado High School	USNA
Sebastian Chavez	Albuquerque High School	USNA
Ahava Goldfein	Moriarty High School	USNA
Natalia Sabal	Rehoboth Christian School	Foundation
Kaden Nguyen	Volcano Vista High School	Foundation



United States Naval Academy appointee Sebastian Chavez from Albuquerque High School

In Memory of Joseph E. Loisel *by Dick Brown*

On May 13, 2023, Col. Joseph E. Loisel, USA (Ret) passed away. Joe was past president of the New Mexico Council and a very strong supporter and sponsor of USS New Mexico, especially in the early days of our SSN-779 committee. He was involved in every construction ceremony, a VIP cruise, and many crew visits, including a special welcome for our undersea warriors in his home. May the Colonel rest in peace for he served our Navy League, our state namesake submarine, our Army, and our Nation so very well.



(Photo at right shows Joe Loisel with CDR George Perez, USS New Mexico Commanding Officer, and Mrs Liz Perez in the boat's wardroom in Sept 2013)



Namesake Ships



USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Returns to Homeport after Nearly 7 Months at Sea

story by Damon Runyan; photos from Ombudsman USS New Mexico (SSN-779)

In an email to the New Mexico Council Committee Chairman on 24 May 2023, **CDR Carlos Otero, USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Commanding Officer** reported that our state's namesake submarine was about to surface and begin its inbound transit to Naval Station Norfolk, VA after a fabulous and hugely successful deployment.



CDR Otero listed some highlights of the deployment that stretched from before last Thanksgiving, through Christmas, missing the Super Bowl, missing a ton of kids birthday parties, wedding anniversaries, and family milestones.

1. Six officers received their **Gold Dolphins** (U.S. Navy warfare qualification) and 42 enlisted personnel received their **Silver Dolphins**. This highly prized and proudly displayed award is only achieved after extensive training and testing in 5 major qualification blocks. For those of you not familiar with the submarine qualification process, it is comprised of 5 major phases: Indoc/Damage Control Phase, Propulsion Phase, Auxiliary Systems Phase, Electronic Equipment/Navigation Phase, and Combat Systems Phase. And then each must pass intense questioning by the command "Qual Board" before being recommended to receive their Dolphins.
2. Several missions vital to Theater and U.S. National security
3. Two port calls at His Majesty's Naval Base Clyde, Faslane, Scotland
4. One port call at Grot Sund Fort, Tromsø, Norway



Commander Otero went to say he was extremely proud of the USS New Mexico team as they accomplished many events that he is unable to talk about. He expects to send many photos of the deployment very soon.

Commander Otero also was proud to remind us of the assignment of **LCDR Kristin Shaw** as the Executive Officer of the USS NEW MEXICO. LCDR Shaw's biography was highlighted in last quarter's Nautical News. Not only is she the FIRST woman to be assigned as Executive Officer of a fast-attack submarine, she has completed tours on the USS Georgia (SSGN-729) as Electrical Officer/Communications Officer, then USS John Warner (SSN-785), also a Virginia-class fast-attack) as the submarine's Engineering Officer. LCDR Shaw has also been an instructor at the Submarine Training Facility in Norfolk, VA running training courses and the tactical simulator, and completed a tour with the U.S. Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board, Atlantic (NPEBLANT). LCDR Shaw relieved **LCDR Doug McKenzie**, who is now working for Commander, Submarine Forces Atlantic, as the Director of Special Operations.

CDR Otero said that the crew was taking Memorial Day weekend off, and then putting in some intense post-deployment maintenance before splitting the crew into two chunks to give everyone a few weeks of leave. They expect to all be back in Norfolk around the 4th of July weekend.

Answer to Navy Quiz question from page 2:
It may result in a "dishonorable discharge"!!

USS New Mexico (BB-40)'s Helm is an Honored Piece of New UNM NROTC Space

story by Damon Runyan; photos courtesy of UNM Newsroom (May 15, 2023 ribbon cutting) and Damon Runyan (ship's wheel photo)



RADM Bill Payne, UNM President Garnett Stokes and BGEN Amand Azubuike cut the ribbon on new ROTC center

On Friday, June 16, three members of New Mexico Council had the pleasure of touring the newly renovated Joint ROTC building on the University of New Mexico campus on the corner of University and Mesa Vista. John Jones, Dave Williams, and Damon Runyan were greeted by UNM NROTC Commanding Officer, CAPT Gary Cave. The group went up to the third floor and were immediately impressed by the all-new construction and design. The midshipmen have a nice lounge that faces north affording a beautiful view of the Sandia Mountains. Classrooms, offices, and a large supply room make up the unit. Navy memorabilia and photos of Navy life adorn the entire space.

CAPT Cave gave us a briefing of the priorities the Navy has set for NROTC

units across the nation, to include an increasing demand for STEM majors and an emphasis on encouraging midshipmen to consider the Nuclear Power career path. With Virginia-class and Columbia-class submarines coming on-line and slowly replacing the Nimitz-class aircraft carriers, nuclear-power trained officers will be in high demand for many years to come.

CAPT Cave also shared with us his recent experiences as the Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of the USS Zumwalt (DDG-1000). USS Zumwalt is the Navy's stealth guided missile destroyer. She is the lead ship of the Zumwalt class and the first ship to be named after Admiral Elmo Zumwalt. Per the Navy's own description of this class, Zumwalt has stealth capabilities, having a radar cross-section similar to a fishing boat despite her large size. On 7 December 2015, Zumwalt began her sea trial preparatory to joining the Pacific Fleet. The ship was commissioned in Baltimore on 15 October 2016. Her home port is San Diego, California.

CAPT Cave served as XO and CO from October 2018 to November 2021. He has been the Commanding Officer of the UNM NROTC unit since April of 2022. The photo shows New Mexico Council 779 Committee Chairman Damon Runyan presenting CAPT Cave with a USS NEW MEXICO (SSN-779) ball cap in front of the ship's wheel of the original battleship USS NEW MEXICO (BB-40).



USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) Model visits Albuquerque Isotopes Park

story by Mark Schaefer with inputs from Dan Rose, Bullhead base Commander, United States Submarine Veterans

Members of the Bullhead base of the United States Submarine Veterans, located here in Albuquerque, attended the Albuquerque Isotopes "Salute to Military" night on May 27th and enjoyed it tremendously. The Bullhead base is named for USS Bullhead (SS-332), the last U.S. Navy ship sunk by enemy action during World War II, thought to have been lost on the day an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

The Bullhead base will display their large model of the USS Albuquerque at an upcoming Isotopes game. This will help bring awareness to the community about the future memorial to be built in Albuquerque using the actual USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) submarine sail. The City of Albuquerque, the Navy League, and the Bullhead Base are partnering on the effort. The sail is currently being stored at Kirtland Air Force Base.





From the Sea Chest — by Greg Trapp, JD, Chapter Historian

The Gunboat that “Flew:” The One-Of-A-Kind Hydrofoil USS Tucumcari by Greg Trapp, JD

The humble gunboat has for centuries been the vessel of choice when navies need to operate in brown waters, or when nations with small navies were faced with the prospect of asymmetric warfare against a superior naval power. Small navies find gunboats appealing because they are relatively inexpensive, but capable of being armed with torpedoes and missiles able to sink much larger warships. For instance, the Soviet Union lagged behind the much larger United States Navy in the 1950s and 1960s and attempted to compensate by building hundreds of small and inexpensive Komar-class and Osa-class missile boats. These “fast attack craft” were armed with Styx missiles that were capable of sinking or severely damaging the bigger warships of the United States and allied nations. The West countered this threat by designing and building their own fast attack craft. This included a handful of gunboats built with experimental hydrofoil designs. One of those hydrofoils was USS Tucumcari (PGH-2).



USS Tucumcari (PGH-2) in “flight.” The hydrofoil’s sailors used aviation terminology, including “take off,” “land,” and “fly.” (Boeing Company Photo).



USS Tucumcari (PGH-2) in “flight.” Near Seattle, Washington. (Boeing Company Photo).

Hydrofoils travel on “foils” that operate on the same principles as the wing of an airplane. Hydrofoil designers face numerous technological and engineering hurdles, but hydrofoils offer the potential advantages of high speed, shallow draft, stability, protection from underwater explosions, and fuel economy. Alexander Graham Bell was an early proponent of hydrofoils, and his HD-4 hydrofoil set a world record of 72 mph on September 9, 1919. By the 1960s, advances in engines, metallurgy, and computers meant that hydrofoils were becoming more practical. However, hydrofoils in the 1960s were still very much akin to the futuristic gadgets of James Bond. During the climatic chase scene of the 1965 movie *Thunderball*, Bond and villain Emilio Largo fought on the fleeing *Disco Volante*, an Italian-made hydrofoil (Trivia: the vessels chasing the *Disco Volante* were USCG *Cape Horn*, USCG *Cape Knox*, and HMS *Rothsay*).

The United States Navy took a major step towards the adoption of hydrofoil technology when it launched the experimental hydrofoils USS *High Point* (PCH-1) on August 17, 1962, and USS *Plain View* (AGEH-1) on June 28, 1965. These hydrofoils were followed by the launch of two competing experimental hydrofoil gunboats, which were given the classification of “Patrol Gunboat Hydrofoil.” The first of these experimental hydrofoil gunboats was USS *Flagstaff* (PGH-1), which was launched on July 15, 1966. USS *Flagstaff* was built by Grumman and used a propeller for foilborne propulsion. The second hydrofoil gunboat was USS *Tucumcari* (PGH-2), which was launched exactly one year later. USS *Tucumcari* was built by Boeing and featured a waterjet system of propulsion and a canard strut design. The Boeing-built hydrofoil was ultimately the more successful of the two designs.

USS *Tucumcari* had a crew that consisted of twelve enlisted men and one officer. The gunboat was armed with a 40 mm gun, an 81 mm mortar, and two twin .50 inch caliber machine guns. The hydrofoil was 57 tons, had a beam of 19 feet, and had a length of 71 feet. The gunboat had fully submerged foils that were on struts that retracted into the hull when the gunboat was not in “flight.” USS *Tucumcari* was propelled by two waterjet systems, one for “hullborne” operations, and a second for “foilborne” operations. The hydrofoil’s gas turbine drove waterjets capable of expelling 120 tons of

water a minute, enabling the craft to “fly” in excess of 40 knots. The hydrofoil was stabilized while in “flight” by a system of gyroscopes, accelerometers, and computers.

USS Tucumcari was homeported at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado starting in July of 1968. The next year saw the hydrofoil deployed for a six-month tour to South Vietnam, where she participated in Operation Market Time, the effort to block the flow of troops and supplies from North Vietnam to South Vietnam. While in Vietnamese waters the hydrofoil accumulated a total of 200 hours of foilborne operations and helped with replenishments and medical evacuations.

USS Tucumcari was next transferred to the East Coast in August of 1970. The Navy wanted to demonstrate the benefits of the hydrofoil design to NATO allies, and USS Tucumcari was transported on the deck of USS Wood County (LST-1178) to European waters in March of 1971. The hydrofoil spent the ensuing six months engaged in naval exercises and port visits to demonstrate the capability of her design.

USS Tucumcari left European waters to return to the East Coast on October 1, 1972, where she spent the next year demonstrating the effectiveness of her hydrofoil design. The successful career of USS Tucumcari was brought to a premature end on November 16, 1972. On that day the gunboat was participating in combat exercises near Puerto Rico, and while traveling at over 40 knots struck a coral reef. Five crewmen were injured, with two being transported by helicopter for emergency treatment. The damage to the gunboat was extensive, and as a result USS Tucumcari was scrapped in 1973.

The success of the USS Tucumcari design led to the U.S. Navy building the larger and much more powerful Pegasus-class of hydrofoil missile boats. Six Pegasus hydrofoils were built, each of which was armed with eight Harpoon missiles and one 76 mm Oto Melara gun. The Pegasus-class hydrofoils were in service from July of 1977 to July of 1993. Although theoretically more fuel-efficient, hydrofoils still consume massive amounts of fuel while foilborne. The Pegasus-class hydrofoils used 1,000 gallons of fuel per hour when foilborne, compared to 100 gallons per hour while hull borne.

Ultimately, the disadvantages of hydrofoils led to their decline in military use. Today only a handful of hydrofoils remain in active military service, primarily with Russia and a handful of former Soviet client states. However, hydrofoils have found a niche in commercial transportation, where their high speed allows for profitable ferry routes over short distances. The advent of modern lightweight composite materials and high-efficiency batteries and electric motors is also increasing interest in civilian hydrofoils.

Although her career was sadly cut short, USS Tucumcari successfully demonstrated the effectiveness of her hydrofoil design and waterjet system of propulsion. USS Tucumcari was also instrumental in demonstrating the benefits of hydrofoil gunboats, leading to the Pegasus-class of missile hydrofoils. USS Tucumcari remains a fascinating part of U.S. Navy history.

Epilogue: For a fascinating look at USS Tucumcari and other Navy hydrofoils in “flight,” take a look at the 1972 Navy documentary “Foilborne” at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBJOvAinRn8>

USS Tucumcari is a very small craft, and the sources of information are sparse, vague, and sometimes inconsistent. Her length is variously reported as 71 feet, 72, or 80 feet, and her beam is reported at either 19, 22, or 35 feet 4 inches. Some of the difference in the beam may be due to whether the beam was measured with her struts deployed or retracted. This article used the measurements contained in the “Foilborne” documentary.



Next Issue:

A story on USS Gallup (PG-85), a 164 foot Asheville-class gunboat. will be featured in the Fall issue of the NM Nautical News. (Official U.S. Navy Photo).



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2023 Upcoming Events for Navy League, New Mexico Council

July 10	Navy League, New Mexico Council board meeting
August 14	Navy League, New Mexico Council board meeting
September 8	USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Change of Command, Norfolk VA
September 11	Navy League, New Mexico Council board meeting
October 14	2023 Navy Ball with NOSC

You are reading the Platinum Mackie Award Winning New Mexico Council NM Nautical News!