



Navy League of the US Yuma, AZ



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY'S MARINES, SAILORS, COASTGUARDSMEN,
US MERCHANT MARINERS & THEIR FAMILIES SINCE 1963

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

JUNE 2021

The Rope Yarn Gazette

MCAS YUMA RECOGNIZED AS TOP SPONSORED COMMAND



L>R: Col Dudik (MCAS CO),
'doc' Hager (NLUS Yuma)

The Sea Service Adoption Excellence Awards are presented annually at the Navy League National Convention to councils that have demonstrated the strongest commitment to direct support of sea service units through robust adoption and youth programs.

This June, the *Yuma Navy League Council* was selected for this Excellence Award. In addition, the Yuma NL Council also recognized MCAS Yuma as a co-recipient of this honor.

Council President 'doc' Hager stated, "The Officers and membership work hard each year in preparing for our mission of service to Yuma's active duty marines and sailors. However, a productive relationship is best achieved when there is a firm commitment to succeed between partners. We are fortunate to have this in-place with MCAS Yuma leadership; and civilian staff at MC Community Services, N&MC Relief, and Installation & Logistics. This award is as much theirs as ours."

Judging Criteria: The award is judged by the NLUS Ship Commissioning and Adoption Committee, with help from two region presidents, each from opposite sides of the Mississippi. Initial scoring based on the number of adopted units, with additional weighting for:

- The size of unit (i.e.; a Navy Carrier would get more credit than a Coast Guard Patrol Cutter.
- The alignment of each adopted unit's type to NLUS priorities/goals.
- Whether the adopted unit is local to the council, domestic but not local to the council, or overseas. Frequency and depth of interaction with adopted units based on the list of suggested activities in the Sea Service Unit Adoption Guide.
- Number and type of awards presented to adopted unit members.
- Financial commitment to adopted units.
- Extent to which adopted unit activities are publicized and/or involve the local community.
- Group events, in which the council plays a significant role, that benefit multiple sea service units, such as a dinner honoring all local Sailors/Marines/Enlisted Persons of the Year.

Congratulations Everyone



MAR 2021

2021 Council Officers

President

Dean 'doc' Hager

Vice President

Nancy Ramsey

Treasurer

Marie Michael

Secretary

Rochelle Holman

Judge Advocate

Open

Membership

Open

Community Liaison Team

Dean Hager (Chair)

Mike Swift Jr.

Mike Swift Sr.

Gina Blackwell

Scholarship Committee 2021

Rochelle Holman

Rochelle Thompson

Nancy Ramsey

Questions / Comments?

Letters to the Editor?

Please contact us at:

NLUS Yuma Council

PO Box 393

Yuma, AZ 85366

U.S. NAVY LEAGUE



NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES ANNOUNCEMENT



YUMA COUNCIL RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

May 2021, WASHINGTON DC: NLUS HEADQUARTERS AWARDS COMMITTEE RESULTS

PLATINUM AWARD

TOP WEB SITE

PLATNIUM AWARD

**TOP ACTIVE DUTY
SUPPORT COUNCIL**

MACKIE AWARD

NEWSLETTER QUALITY

MERITORIOUS AWARD

MISSION PERFORMANCE

Semper Fi – Yuma!

IT IS AN HONOR

It is with great pride that our small council continues to perform to the highest standards. Once again, our national headquarters has selected Yuma for several awards. For 2021, our website and newsletter were recognized for both content and format - getting the word out is essential.

Mission performance was also recognized. Direct support of active duty, veterans and families; youth leadership programs; and robust advocacy for strong national sea services were acknowledged as excellent.

As described on page 1, of particular note was our support of active duty marines and sailors at MCAS Yuma. Council support taskings, primarily though MCCS/N+MC Relief, exemplify why NL councils go to the trouble of formal adoption. Ultimately, it helps get the job done! To all our business sponsors, volunteer members and Board officers, thank you!

Mission Accomplished Once Again!

AHOY - YUMA COUNCIL MEMBERS!

GIFT BASKETS NEEDED

We need gift baskets for our October 16th FALL CHARITY DINNER silent auction. This one of several ways to raise cash for our sponsored cadets, so please donate at least one nice basket to the cause. Contact Nancy Ramsey for details and we'll pick it up if necessary. Plan on providing a nice basket no later than the September General Meeting.

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

NEED TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP? Don't let your membership expire. Checking your date is easy. You can log in to National's web page to check - even RENEW right there! If you are more comfortable with paper, see Nancy or 'doc' at our General Meeting for a renewal form. Fill it out with a check and we'll mail it and follow up to ensure National gets it correct!

New JOINS: Email us via CONTACT US at yumanavyleague.com. Current member Renewal Question?: contact Nancy Ramsey or 'doc' Hager, we'll figure it out!



2021 DONATION EVENTS



NAVY & MC RELIEF, MCAS YUMA:	MAR 2021 - COMPLETED!
YUMA COUNCIL YOUTH TRAILER:	MAR 2021 - COMPLETED! / STAGE ONE PAINT
YUMA COUNCIL YOUTH TRAILER:	APR 2021 - COMPLETED!
YUMA NL SCHOLAR AWARDS:	MAY 2021 - COMPLETED!
MEMORIAL WALL PROJECT:	JUL 2021- ON SCHEDULE
SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM:	SEPT 2021 - ON SCHEDULE

KEY COUNCIL EVENTS

<u>4 JULY</u>	FLAG RAISING CEREMONY & MIL PERSONNEL OF YR AWARDS (0700-0800), YUMA AF PARK
<u>16 SEPT</u>	GENERAL MEETING, MCAS YUMA PUEBLO CLUB (1800-2000), WELCOME BACK & PREP FOR OCTOBER DINNER CHARITY
<u>16 OCT</u>	SATURDAY FALL DINNER EVENT, YUMA COUNTRY CLUB (1800-2100), ALL MEMBER EVENT - FUND RAISER FOR YUMA YOUTH



ADVOCACY: OUR NAVY LEAGUE OF U.S. NEEDS YOUR 2 CENTS

LOBBYING CONGRESS is so much easier! GO TO: www.navyleague.org

E-mail letters to congressmen are easier than ever before. Make your voices heard!

Key issues: Submarine Force Funding, Jones Act Strengthening, Coast Guard shortfalls,
Mare Island Veterans Cemetery Funding

GO TO: Navy League Legislative Action Center > then the Online Advocacy Platform.

Each topic has a Facebook link. Pick your officials and a letter is generated for you.

Shipmates, this is a big deal. Members that need PC assistance - just call 'doc'

MCAS Yuma Ceremonial Memorial to Marines & Sailors - May 2021



L>R: 'doc' H and Matt (MGM)

From "Living History" to making history

April's general meeting was a rousing success as we kicked off our 2021 Living History series with a wonderful presentation by Council member, Mike Swift Jr., regarding the history and evolution of Marine Corps aviation. Open to the public, we had several Naval Sea Cadets in attendance who were impressed by the presentation.

May: If you haven't been to the air station recently, there is a big change happening on the Parade Deck. Our 1960s-era monument to local Marines & Sailors is in the middle of a radical upgrade and move. Thanks to AWC's Welding Club we should shortly see a new 17ft tall Iwo Jima steel silhouette installed w/back lighting. Construction should be completed this July and ribbon cutting this fall.

In June, our general meeting turned into a backyard BBQ and social. A great way to end up the first six months of council fun. The following week Matt Molenaar, owner of MGM Design, received his NLUS Website achievement co-award from us and our thanks for his great work.

Yuma Navy League's Living History Series presents..

USMC Aviation – A Brief History



15 April 2021: Our thanks to NL member LtCol Mike Swift, USMC ret, for a wonderful brief of our Corps' aviation force history (and detailed info on the Rotary wing side). Mike joins previous subject matter experts in expanding our "NL Living History Presentation Series." Our mission is to always provide our community insight into the high value of national sea services in defense of our freedoms and economy. *Semper ji, Mike Jr.*

Source: yumanavyleague Facebook



**LtCol Mike Swift,
USMC ret**

2021: 16 OCTOBER - FALL CHARITY DINNER LOOKING GOOD!

Your Fall Charity Team has been busy even during our summer heat! As shown on this newsletters back page, our Fall Dinner is on schedule. The Yuma Country Club has again been a great help. A great choice of main course feast, background music from Yuma Orchestra's String Quartet and a stellar array of auction prizes will surely make this evening one to remember. Sponsored table or single seat tickets are available to purchase on-line via our a link within our brochure, but for those who desire - we'll take check/cash.

ALL MEMBERS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND OUR DINNER

ATTN: THERE IS NO GENERAL MEETING IN OCTOBER.

2022: 22 JANUARY-THE LEAGUE'S CRUISIN' YUMA CAR SHOW IS BACK!

Planning is also underway to make our annual car show one for the books. Hosted once again at the Fortuna de Oro RV Resort, we expect the assorted autos and show trucks to fill the parking lot and provide a great backdrop for our silent auction and T-shirt sales. We have a new vendor for our shirts - a Yuma local and we think you'll be pleasantly surprised at the image quality shirt we'll be selling.



Navy League's FALL CHARITY DINNER

**YOUR NAVAL TERM OF THE DAY: "BOKOO"**

Ever wondered where the term "BoKoo" came from? Well, read on:

Often an old salt will boast that he has had bokoo this or has done something bokoo times during his seafaring years. The picturesque sound of the word "bokoo" may cause one to wonder how it came to mean "many" or "a lot."

Actually, bokoo is a legitimate French word, "beaucoup," meaning "very many." Americanization changed the spelling and pronunciation but the meaning remains unchanged. Like many foreign terms that have crept into our nautical lingo, "bokoo" is the inevitable product of generations of American seamen meeting peoples of other nations and adopting bokoo phrases from their languages for everyday shipboard use.

Ref: <https://www.history.navy.mil/>



HONOR, COURAGE, COMMITMENT

Yuma Sea Eagle Squadron, NSCC

Looks like our local youth leadership programs are getting back in gear, post-COVID. Assisting the Yuma Sea Cadets & Navy League Cadets in recruiting efforts is their newly cleaned and wrapped utility trailer, courtesy of our council and Blue Steak Signs.

Recruiting is ongoing and appears to be on track similar to our 2015 startup. Navy Leaguer and family member volunteer numbers looking better. Numbers have doubled.

Kudos to the CO, Leading cadet CPO, and everyone who is taking the time to demonstrate the commitment necessary for success.



MC JROTC, Kofa HS

With students back attending in person classes, JROTC ranks quickly regained their numbers. New joined recruits began their basic course instruction, and the air rifle team (Left), color guard, and physical fitness teams are on board and preparing for competitions.

Leadership training was also held - and befitting our next generation of leaders - continues to help cadets find their core character. OooRah!



TERRITORIAL YOUNG MARINES

THANK YOU, everyone that has supported our efforts with the Young Marines. Those that have donated or bought raffle tickets or Julian Pies. Your support has helped the Youth in Yuma, AZ.

We have been able to do things, such as go camping and buy equipment and uniforms. Most importantly, we are able to get out in the community and participate. We work hard to make the program worthy of your support. Thank you again. At our June Recruitment Ceremony, we graduated nine new Young Marines yesterday. Your Navy League was there!

Unit Cmdr Jose Escarsega



Meet our new air station Sergeant Major.

MCAS YUMA Command SgtMaj SgtMaj Jason A. Davey, USMC

Sergeant Major Jason A. Davey enlisted into the Marine Corps on 8 July 1996 and completed Recruit Training at MCRD San Diego, California. Upon graduation from Marine Corps Recruit Training, he attended Marine Combat Training at Camp Pendleton, California. Upon graduation, he was assigned the MOS 5831, Correctional Specialist.

Private First Class Davey reported to the Naval Corrections Academy at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Following graduation Private First Class Davey reported to Joint Forces Brig, Okinawa Japan where he served on Brig Security. In December 1997, Lance Corporal Davey reported to Security Battalion, Brig Company, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton where he served as a Brig Security Squad Leader and Administration Chief. In April 2000, Sergeant Davey reported to Marine Corps Absentee Collection Unit, MCRD San Diego, California. There he served as a Cross Country Chaser. During this period, Sergeant Davey attended the Correctional Counselor Course at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He received the additional MOS of 5832, Correctional Counselor.

In January of 2004, Staff Sergeant Davey reported to Drill Instructor School, MCRD San Diego, California for duty. Upon completion of Drill Instructor School, Staff Sergeant Davey served as a Drill Instructor, Senior Drill Instructor, and Chief Drill Instructor.

In May 2007 Staff Sergeant Davey reported to Security Battalion, Brig Company, Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia where he served as Brig Operations Chief. During the summer of 2007 and 2008, Gunnery Sergeant Davey augmented Officer Candidates School where he served as a Sergeant Instructor.

In November 2008, Gunnery Sergeant Davey reported to 2nd Supply Battalion, Security Company, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina where he served as a Platoon Commander. During this time he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom where he served as Convoy Commander.

In May 2010, Gunnery Sergeant Davey reported to Officer Candidates School, Quantico, Virginia where he served as Platoon Sergeant, Company Gunnery Sergeant, Battalion Drill Master, and Company First Sergeant.

In November 2012, First Sergeant Davey reported to 2nd Battalion 8th Marines where he served as the Echo Company First Sergeant deploying in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and H&HS Company First Sergeant deploying in support of the Black Sea Rotational Force. In Jan 2016, First Sergeant Davey reported to 1st Maintenance Battalion where he served as the Engineer Maintenance Company First Sergeant.

In May 2017, Sergeant Major Davey reported to HMH-465, MAG-16, 3d MAW where he served as the "Warhorse" *Squadron Sergeant Major* deploying in support of the Unit Deployment Program 19.1 to Okinawa Japan. In June 2019, Sergeant Major Davey reported for duty to with the 4th Marine Logistic Group where he served as the Inspector-Instructor Sergeant Major. **In January 2021, Sergeant Major Davey reported to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma where he currently serves as the Station Sergeant Major.**

Sergeant Major Davey's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation medal with 4 gold stars, and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star.

**NLUS YUMA
COUNCIL**



**PO Box 393
Yuma, AZ 85366**

**nlusyuma@
nlusyumacouncil.org**

**American liberty is built on a
strong national sea service.**

**"Speak softly and carry a big stick;
you will go far"
US Pres. T. Roosevelt**

**We're on the web!
www.nlus-
yumacouncil.org**

**"LIKE US" on Face Book
www.facebook.com/
navyleagueyuma**

**MAKE PLANS! FALL CHARITY DINNER
SAT, 16 OCTOBER, 6pm**

**Yuma Council
Navy League of the United States**

*Invites you to attend an evening of
fine dining and live music provided by*

The Silver Strings



**All proceeds go to Yuma's
JROTC Youth Leadership programs
and Veterans families in-need**

**Tickets \$50.00 per person
Sponsored Tables Available
No host bar
Auction**

{Las Vegas Condo 6 Night Stay,
plus Jewelry from Yuma's own 24 Karat
Jewelers vault, plus much more!}

Yuma Golf & Country Club

**3150 So. Fortuna Ave
Yuma, AZ
October 16th, 2021
6:00 pm**



**Support a great cause with a classic evening, escorted to your
tables by Yuma's uniformed cadets and enjoy a fine meal with music
and good friends.**

Auction Fun!

**Want a 6 night Las Vegas stay – queen bedroom, kitchen, 4
person living room condo at the Grandview Resort - or does the lady
prefer beautiful jewelry from the vault of Yuma's 24 Karat
Jewelers? Silent auction items too - wow!**

EVENT BROCHURE AND TICKET INFO:



WEBSITE <https://www.yumanavyleague.com/>

GO TO: COUNCIL NEWS & HISTORY PAGE