



Navy League of the US Yuma, AZ



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

THE ROPE YARN GAZETTE

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

JULY 2016

Scheduled Meetings & Theme:

JUL > AUG

NO MEETINGS

15 SEPT: General Mtg 6 pm

20 OCT: General Mtg 6 pm

17 NOV: General Mtg 6pm

Upcoming Events:

August 26 - 28: Yuma Navy League's
Annual West Coast Adventure:
San Diego & Del Mar Races

Oct : Navy Birthday Ball

Nov: Veterans Day Parade, YUMA

Nov: MCAS' USMC Birthday Ceremony

Nov: USMC Birthday Ball



YUMA COUNCIL AWARDED TOP HONORS FOR 2015

June 2016: Our National Awards Committee reviewed annual performance data from all councils that submitted their 2015 annual reports. Of those, 20 councils performed to Meritorious or Honorable mention levels, but only 13 of 165 councils met the criteria for top honors.

Announced at the June NLUS Convention,
Yuma earned the Navy League's
OUTSTANDING RATING for 2015!

Dear Region Presidents,
I am pleased to present to you this year's Council Awards Winners!
This year we had 165 councils submit their completed reports. We had seven judges from different levels of Navy League leadership.

There was a maximum of 30 points that any one council could be awarded. Of those 165 councils, over 40 received 15+ points and out of those 40, more than 20 received 20+ points. We would like to recognized all our councils for all their wonderful work in 2015!

Thank you,
Aimee Freeman
Senior Manager, Membership
Navy League of the United States



WELCOME ABOARD

The Navy League of US Yuma Council formally welcomes our newest USMC command to Yuma; Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron One (VMX-1)
~see pg 6



APRIL 2016

President

Bob Nidiffer

Vice President (PAO)

Valerie Millsum

VP At-large

Mike Perry

Treasurer

Rochelle Thompson

Secretary

Patti Michael

Master at Arms

Bob Maytum

Military Affairs Committee

Chair: 'doc' Hager

Barney Baraka, MAC

Larry Mallory, MCAS

Youth Programs Committee

Chair: 'doc' Hager

Gary Tomlinson, NSCC

Chuck LeDrew, JROTC

Neptune Council

Chair: Henry Chavez

Scholarship Committee

Chair: Valerie Millsum

Rope Yarn Editor: 'doc' Hager

Questions / Comments?

Letters to the Editor?

Contact us at:

NLUS Yuma Council

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Yuma, AZ 85366

nlusyuma@nlusyumacouncil.org

FROM THE COMMAND DECK

Our National HQ has just released an update to the League's Ethics Code. Due to its importance, it is provided below in its entirety.

~ Editor

Navy League of the United States

Code of Ethics

The Navy League of the United States (NLUS) is committed to ethical practices. The level of public trust NLUS members seek, as we serve the public good, means we have taken on a special obligation to operate ethically. The value of member reputation depends upon the ethical conduct of everyone affiliated with the Navy League of the United States. Each of us sets an example for each other - as well as other professionals - by our pursuit of excellence with powerful standards of performance, professionalism, and ethical conduct. This statement presents the core values of the NLUS members and employees. These values provide the foundation for the Code of Ethics and are the fundamental beliefs that guide our behaviors and decision-making process. We believe these values are vital to the integrity of the Navy League as a whole.

Personal and Professional Integrity All staff, officers, board members and volunteers of the Navy League act with honesty, integrity and openness in all their dealings as representatives of the organization. The Navy League promotes a working environment that values respect, fairness and integrity.

Professionalism The success of the Navy League of the United States is dependent on our members, the general public, and all agencies, including those of the United States government, seeing us as a professional organization. This requires all members, but especially those serving in appointed and elected positions, to demonstrate at all times, professional behavior consistent with the Code of Ethics that places ethical standards ahead of personal gain, requires members to behave in an impartial manner to all people, and to perform all duties with honest effort.

Advocacy We serve the public interest by acting as responsible advocates for those we represent. We provide a public voice of ideas, facts, and viewpoints to aid informed public debate.

Honesty We adhere to the highest standards of accuracy and truth in advancing the interests of those we represent and in communicating with our membership, other organizations, the government and the public. We will not knowingly share false information or promote those who do, nor will we knowingly omit relevant information in order to advance a favored position or person.

Loyalty Our members are first faithful to the Navy League of the United States and those we represent, while honoring our obligation to serve the public interest. Our members will always put the mission of the League above their personal ambitions.

Fairness We deal fairly with our fellow members, professional staff of the NLUS, other organizations, vendors, the media, the government, and the general public. We respect all opinions and support the right of free expression. We will not engage in negative campaigning, soliciting support with undue or inappropriate influence or encourage any other person to do so on our behalf. However, this is not meant to restrict the disclosure of new and previously unreported verifiable facts.

Contin. Pg 7

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ~ APRIL-JUNE 2016

No one can say council members “shirk the mission.”

Yuma Council Gives Back BIG!

Financial support of our active duty and youth leadership programs became the highlighted activities this spring. With both board and general membership approval, donations were presented each month to a different segment of our NL family. MCAS Yuma was first up with our annual donation to the air station's Navy + Marine Corps Relief. That was followed up with our college scholarship awards, plus cash donations to both Yuma Young Marines and our MC JROTC programs. June also saw the League refurbish the MCAS Main Gate memorial - giving her a fresh coat of paint and fixing loose tiles. Thanks to our own Bob, Barney, Mike team for coordinating this effort and a special Bravo Zulu to Mrs. Teresa Mitry for her wonderful resurfacing of the Iwo Jima Flag illustration. Our last general meeting before summer shut-down capped a great season with a final gift of free pizza for our single marines on-base summer swim nights (our consecutive 3rd yr), plus cash for Single Marine Program (SMP) off-duty classes. We were proud to have Command SgtMaj Smythe USMC present and give us a few professional words of wisdom.



MCAS YUMA N&MC Relief \$1,000



MC JROTC (KOFA HS) \$500.00



MCAS Main Gate Memorial Upgrade



Yuma Young Marines \$500.00



MCAS Single Marine Program \$500.00

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ~ APR-JUN 2016



While our general membership was busy, our Yuma naval sea cadets were also doing their bit - providing over 120 hours of community service.

In April, the units first flag retirement ceremony was held at Veterans Memorial Park with both Navy League Cadets and Navy Sea Cadets participating; supported by the Patriot Guard Riders and members of our Yuma Council and Am. Legion Post 19. Memorial Day weekend saw our cadets placing flags on veterans graves and providing color guard services at Sea-to-Sea Bridge and Desert Lawn events. Flag Day was also celebrated with cadets from both TS Sandburg and Yuma Sea Eagle Squadron providing color guard services at the BPO Elks Lodge.

At the first annual awards ceremony held this June at Yuma's West Winds RV Resort, our own 'doc' Hager was recognized as founder and official "sea daddy" of Yuma's Sea Eagle Squadron while the squadron itself was recognized as the #1 NSCC unit in our tri-state region by LCDR Terry Turner (NSCC). NLUS AZ President William Stephenson was on-hand and presented the NL's T. Roosevelt Leadership award/ribbon to Navy League Cadet (Cadet Blackwell) and Navy Sea Cadet (AN Phillip) as Yuma's "Cadets of the Year."

FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY,
YUMA VETS MEMORIAL PARK



Memorial Day

Weekend 2016

Saturday Flag Placements
on Veterans Grave Sites



SEA CADETS 1st ANNUAL AWARDS
CEREMONY

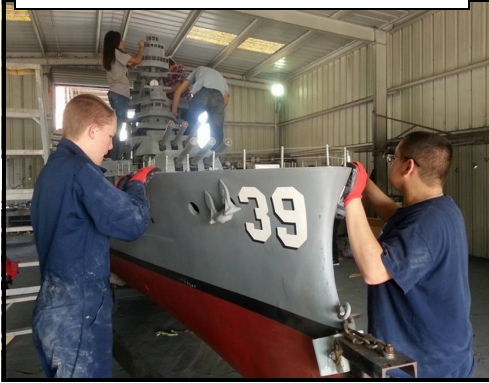


NATIONAL FLAG DAY
CELEBRATION, BPO ELKS - YUMA



REGIONAL VOLUNTEERS INFO!

USS ARIZONA RESTORATION



Tucson Seabee Battalion and
Yuma AZ Sea Eagle Squadron, NSCC

As the Yuma community has rallied around the cosmetic restoration of the USS AZ replica this past month, our Sea Eagle Squadron hosted several local youth programs to make this effort a truly regional one! Over several weekends, our cadets hosted volunteers from our own MCJROTC plus naval sea cadets from Tucson AZ and El Centro CA. After all the dust cleared and donuts eaten, the superstructure was sanded and ready for paint.

BRAVO ZULU to all these young men & women!



A team effort! Thanks Yuma Sea Eagle Squadron (NSCC) for hosting brother youth leadership units; The Yuma MC JROTC, El Centro CA Desert Eagle Squadron (NSCC), and Tucson Bn (NSCC).



El Centro CA Desert Eagle and
Yuma AZ Sea Eagle Squadrons, NSCC



Yuma MC JROTC cadets and
Yuma AZ Sea Eagle Squadron, NSCC

VETERANS AIRLIFT COMMAND



VAC: Local business owners and avid general aviation pilots Joe and Annie Fisher are even busier these days expanding their community service and appreciation for others. While attending a Citation Jet Pilots Association meeting in Houston, TX, Joe and Annie Fisher visited Universal Weather and Aviation Inc. During their visit they participated in a presentation about the Veterans Airlift Command (VAC) and the wonderful things they do for our veterans with severe injuries. These veterans often times have difficulties traveling on commercial airlines for multiple reasons. The VAC provides free air transportation to post 9/11 combat wounded service members and their families for medical and other compassionate purposes through a national network

of volunteer aircraft owners and pilots. Joe and Annie Fisher have flown several Missions for VAC and are always amazed at the positive attitude and outlook of these veterans who have been through so much some have lost multiple limbs or suffered many hardships, and they understand they will deal with the consequences for the rest of their lives. It is an honor to serve those who have served our country and given so much of themselves for America. For more information on how you can become involved, please visit <http://www.veteransairlift.org/>.



Yuma Welcomes VMX-1

This May saw a new aviation squadron stand up at MCAS Yuma. Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron One (VMX-1) is an operational test squadron consisting of several aircraft types. Originally a Marine Corps composite squadron designated VMX-22 in 2003, it was renamed upon its full transition to MCAS Yuma this year. So what does it do?

VMX-1 is an independent test organization which conducts operational testing under the command umbrellas of Commander, Op Test and Evaluation Force or Director, USMC Op Test and Evaluation Activity - depending on the program

being evaluated. Its tasking is to:

- Address future requirements.
- Develop tactics, techniques, and procedures for current and planned USMC aviation Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) based assets.
- Build an operational tactics guide
- Sponsor tilt-rotor issues and concepts to ensure their readiness for deployment.

A lot of transitioning took place to build the Marine Corps' sole Op Test & Evaluation Squadron: In June 2015, the Command Element and tilt rotor MV-22 (Osprey) component relocated to MCAS Yuma from MCAS New River, NC. In August 2015, Light Attack Helicopter (UH-1Y, AH-1W, AH-1Z - see pics below) and Aviation Command + Control components relocated to MCAS Yuma from Naval Weapons Station China Lake and MCB Camp Pendleton CA, respectively. VMX-1 is commanded by COL George B. Rowell, USMC.

UH-1Y



AH-1W



AH-1Z





BATTLE OF MIDWAY

Naval History Slice

June: Pearl Harbor HI - U.S. Pacific Fleet staff gathered to pay tribute to naval heroes marking the 74th anniversary of the Battle of Midway, June 7th 1942.

The Midway victory, fought June 4-7, 1942, was widely considered one of the turning points of the war in the Pacific. In May 1942, intelligence experts at the Combat Intelligence Unit at Pearl Harbor, known as Station Hypo, intercepted nearly 1,000 Japanese messages per day and deciphered / translated about 25% of them. They provided Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz with information that the Imperial Japanese Navy intended to attack the Midway Atoll. Acting on this intelligence, naval forces were able to deliver a decisive blow, driving the enemy back, ultimately resulting in their surrender Sept 2nd, 1945.



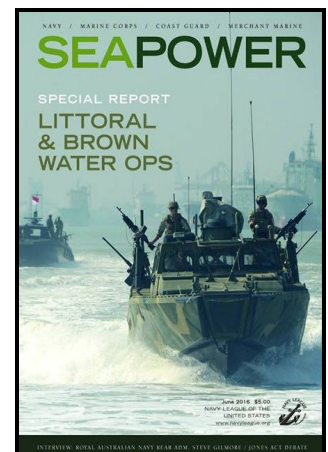
As seen on our face book page.

Check out:

www.facebook.com/navyleagueyuma



Navy Hospital Corps Birthday,
June 17th



NLUS YUMA COUNCIL

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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

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Your YUMA NL COUNCIL

Back in 1963, the Yuma Council adopted MCAS Yuma. Since that time, several base reorganizations have occurred. Currently, in-garrison adoptees include both MCAS Headquarters Staff and the Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron (H&HS). H&HS is responsible to the Base CO for the day-to-day operations aboard the air station to keep it running as a small "community within the community". Approximately 600 Marines and Sailors are assigned to H&HS. With assistance from roughly 1,200 civilians who work aboard MCAS Yuma, they work to keep the station operational through the efforts of a variety of units and sections. Adopted sections include air traffic control, airfield operations, administration, logistics, range management, explosive ordnance disposal, communications, combat camera, aircraft rescue and firefighting, military police, postal, legal, public affairs, search and rescue, financial operations, and the dining facility. More recent adoptions by Yuma's Navy League Council are MCAS Yuma's Navy Branch Health Clinic (2014) & Marine Corps Branch Dental Clinic (2015). By unanimous consent of our general membership, **plans are for USNS Yuma (EPF-8) adoption** by August 2016.

