



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 1

APRIL 2016

Scheduled Meetings & Theme:

APRIL 21: Youth Programs, 6 pm

YUMA JROTC Update

MAY 19: Awards Dinner, 6 pm

2016 NL Scholars Recognized

JUNE 16: General Mtg 6 pm

JULY - AUG (DARK)

Upcoming Events:

June 5th: Yuma Sea Eagles Awards Ceremony

1pm - West Winds RV Resort

Yuma, AZ

August 27 - 28: Yuma Navy League's

Annual West Coast Adventure:

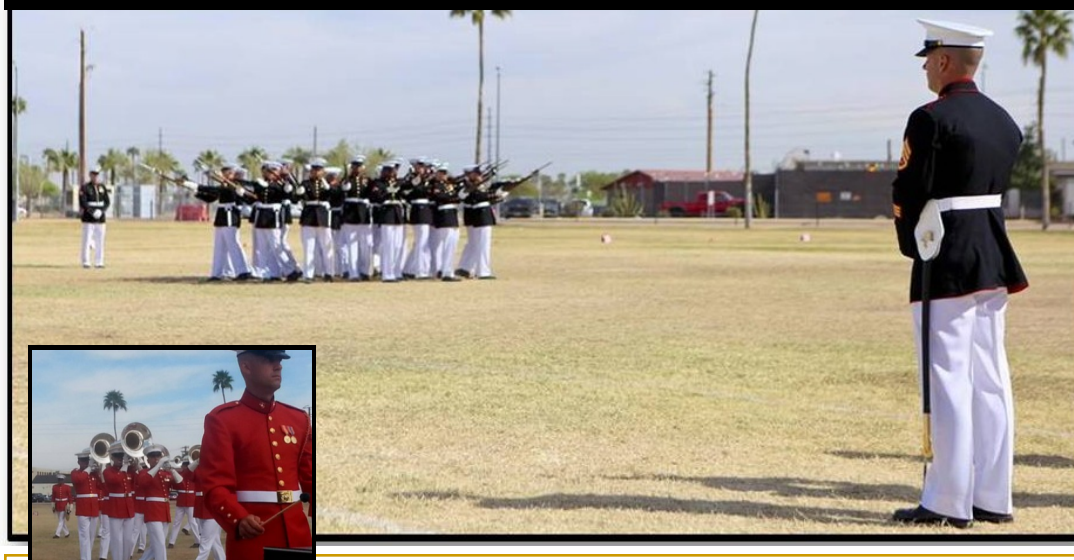
San Diego & Del Mar Races



ROPE YARN GAZETTE RECEIVES NATIONAL JOURNALISM AWARD

(see pg 2)

BATTLE COLOR DETACHMENT MCAS, YUMA



Navy League Yuma council members and the Yuma public-at-large were handsomely rewarded one sunny day as US Marines of Marine Barracks Washington DC , otherwise known as "Eighth & I" performed at MCAS, Yuma AZ.

Did you know? The USMC Barracks at Washington DC is the oldest post in the United States Marine Corps, the official residence of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and home to the "Commandant's Own" Marine Drum & Bugle Corps. Legend has it that the site was selected by friends President Thomas Jefferson and Lieutenant Colonel Commandant William Ward Burrows in 1801.



APRIL 2016

President

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Vice President (PAO)

Valerie Millsum

VP At-large (programs chair)

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Treasurer

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Secretary

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Bob Maytum

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Youth Programs Committee

Chair: 'doc' Hager

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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

PO Box 393

Yuma, AZ 85366

nlusyuma@nlusyumacouncil.org

FROM THE COMMAND DECK

Donald Mackie Award for Journalism goes to Yuma AZ

This March, our National Headquarters announced those recipients of this years' Donald Mackie Award for Journalism. We are proud and grateful to announce the 2015 Mackie Award for small councils was awarded to our Yuma AZ Council for it's Rope Yarn Gazette newsletter.

In just it's first full year of publication, the *Rope Yarn* is distributed quarterly to all Yuma Council members, council sponsors, adopted military commands, and supported youth leadership units. For 2016, we plan to add a few new features emphasizing national & local issues of importance to our national sea services survival plus local projects we either sponsor or participate in.

"we will not sit on past laurels, but keep taking your feedback to constantly evolve as our community requires" ... keep those suggestions coming in."
- Editor

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
Citizens in Support of the Sea Services

Donald M. Mackie Newsletter & Website Awards

Donald M. Mackie Awards are presented annually at the National Convention for newsletters and websites. Judges are selected on the basis of their expertise in the field of journalism, newsletter and web publishing or a related field.

Congratulations to this years Donald M. Mackie Award winners for Best Council Newsletter and Website!

2015 Donald M. Mackie Award Winners for Best Council Newsletter

	Small Council	Medium Council	Large Council
1st Place	Yuma Council	Pensacola Council	San Diego
2nd Place	Colorado Springs Council	Sarasota-Manatee Council	
3rd Place	Sacramento Council	New Mexico Council	

2015 Donald M. Mackie Award Winners for Best Council Website

1st Place	Bremerton Olympic Peninsula Council
2nd Place	Sarasota-Manatee Council
3rd Place	Corona-Riverside Council

About the Donald M. Mackie Awards

The Donald M. Mackie Awards were established in 1964 to encourage more effective communication between Navy Leaguers. The award is named for Donald M. Mackie, an instrumental figure in establishing "Navy - The Magazine of Sea Power," now known as SEAPOWER.

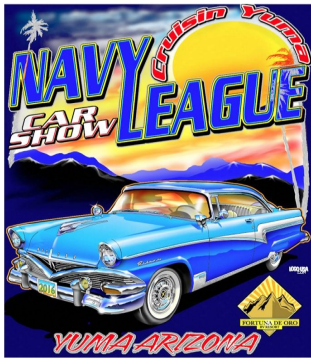
The award honors excellence in both print and web-based communication. The website category was added in 2007 to better represent present and future communication standards.



USNS YUMA (EPF-8)

Hey gang, remember the new US Navy ship to be named Yuma? Well, the latest word is that she is in construction (the keel laying was just this March) with completion due this year in August.

Our own Barney B. has been in contact with the manufacturer, Austal USA, and has been assured we will get the actual date of commissioning once it is finalized. "Commissioning" of a ship means it is ready to be turned over to the US Navy and hits the water amid a spray of mist and champagne. What a great opportunity to adopt the first crew of the USNS Yuma!



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ~ JAN-MAR 2016

CRUISIN' YUMA CAR SHOW

For 2016, The Yuma Council's annual charity fund raiser opened on a sunny January day with autos of every type, nationality and color arriving to show off and have their owners support the Navy League Scholar Awards Fund, among others. A special thanks to all council member and RV Resort volunteers who made this day special. And extra special thanks to our Neptune Council members who worked so diligently to grow our family of Business sponsors.

Feedback from vehicle registrants and public attendees alike were very positive - with many stating they will be back in 2017! Most importantly, our charity fund account is right on budget... Thanks again to Fortuna de Sol RV Resort and CAL-AM for supporting this event.

See you guys next year!



**Best Of Show
2016**



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ~ JAN-MAR 2016



INITIAL DONATION BUDGET APPROVED: February is always a busy month! Establishing old ties and meeting new contacts within adopted commands. Between Military Affairs and Youth Program meetings, we have logged over 20 meetings in just 1 month! Whew! Busy, busy, busy.... The good news is that our Board established the donation schedule for our adopted commands and supported youth leadership programs. Due to our recent successful fund raising, all authorized donations will be met at annual council historical levels - no reductions! Units under

this umbrella include MCAS N&MC Relief, MCAS Single Marine Program, Yuma Young Marines and Yuma MCJROTC. **Plus**, our four (4) Yuma Scholarship Award levels have been raised to \$1,500 per student. Wow.

NAVY CHAPLAIN LT JIREGNA was a featured guest at our March general meeting and delighted the members with a blend of professional perspective as the padre for Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron, MCAS Yuma; plus some personal story excerpts of his family's escape from communist controlled Ethiopia and subsequent homesteading in the United States. Thanks for the visit, Padre!



Navy Leaguers, Do Not Forget

**April is Youth
Leadership Programs**

Please make plans to attend
April 21st general meeting
and see what our MCJROTC
cadets have been up to.
**hint: maybe 1 or 2 cadets
may show up with Major Bell**



JAN: NAVY LEAGUE
CADET CORPS
(NLCC)
TRAINING SHIP
COMMISSIONED

Our Yuma Sea Eagles Squadron has a new younger brother! Our sea cadet program has been so successful, we

have grown from one 11y/o to fifteen young men and women ages 11-13. So Washington authorized a separate unit; the Training Ship B.W. Sandburg. Named after a Yuma SAR hospital corpsman killed on duty, our navy league cadets will train alongside their big brother sea cadets but with a separate age appropriate syllabus. Welcome TS Sandburg!

BATTLE COLORS CEREMONY, MCAS YUMA

Council members Dean 'doc' Hager, Bill and Mrs. Bonsky (and their guests) had great seats in the shaded reviewing stand and saw both drum and bugle corps, and the "commandants own" silent drill team perform flawlessly. Held each year in March, all members are invited to review our active duty marines in action on the parade field.

COL R. Martinez,
USMC (CO,
MCAS Yuma)
greets Yuma
council member,
'doc' Hager
during the days
festivities.





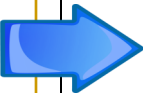
WHAT IS A 1-MC?

For the entire crew to hear an announcement from the bridge, most all ships have a public address system; the "One Main Circuit" or 1-MC. The 1-MC is very loud for a reason and can transmit both voice and specific audio alarms; like the General Quarters (GQ) alarm you hear in maritime movies.



Individual donations of \$100.00 helps our materials costs a great deal.

Businesses: A single donation of \$400 sponsors a cadet's plane fare for his or her experience of a lifetime.



From the "1-MC"

OPERATION PEARL HARBOR

This March, we received a phone call from the owner of the USS Arizona battleship BB39 replica, Mrs. Wanda Sartain. After several months of futile searching, no sponsors had stepped up to help her fund or volunteer labor to repair this State icon cosmetically. With the 75th anniversary of Pearl harbor approaching, she asked the Yuma NL if possibly the community down here could help.

Thus started what is now called, Yuma's "Operation Pearl Harbor 75" (OPH-75 for short). As we listened to the need, it became clear this was going to be a community-wide effort; maybe even state-wide for funding. But heck, we are all "Yumans" and there's nothing we can't do (adapt, overcome, etc). Within 1 workday, we secured a large work bay for her, started fund raising, provided awareness presentations around town, and contacted the business community to lend a hand. So, how are we doing 1 month into this? Materials have been procured (or "comshawed"). Volunteer tradesmen have stepped up. Work is scheduled to start with this May and be completed by the end of June. In addition, each of four gun turrets will be assigned to one youth JROTC type leadership group (Yuma MCJROTC, and Yuma/Glendale/Tucson Naval Sea Cadets). This is a State-wide youth event!

Due in part to the OPH-75 initiative, the US Navy has invited up to 13 eligible Navy Sea Cadets from Yuma to perform honor guard services and receive advanced training at Pearl Harbor during the DEC 7th week. Wow! Yuma cadets will experience living history - even standing formation on the decks of the USS Missouri where General MacArthur signed the end of WWII.

We'll keep everyone up to date in up coming issues. More to come!



WANT TO HELP?

CHECKS MAY BE MADE OUT TO : NL-OPH75 and mailed to:
Yuma Council, NLUS
attn: Youth Programs Chair
10333 S. Ave 14E
Yuma, AZ 85367

Sea Service News



Yuma Mayor Officiates at EPF-8 Keel Laying Ceremony

MOBILE, Ala., — Austal USA celebrated the keel-laying milestone for the Expeditionary Fast Transport vessel *Yuma* (EPF 8) here today with a ceremony marking a significant milestone in the ship's construction. This ship is the eighth EPF built at Austal under the 10-ship, \$1.6 billion block-buy contract awarded to Austal in 2008.

Laying the keel is the formal recognition of the start of a ship's construction. The keel runs lengthwise down the middle of the ship serving as the

basic foundation or spine of the structure, providing the major source of the hull's strength. The Honorable Douglas Nicholls, Mayor of the City of Yuma, Ariz., authenticated the keel at the ceremony by welding his initials onto an aluminum keel plate that will eventually be placed in ship's hull.

By RICHARD R. BURGESS, Managing Editor (Sea Power magazine)

Navy Selects Electric Boat as Prime for New SSBN

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Navy has selected the prime contractor for its next-generation nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarine (SSBN) and has realigned the production plan for the Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine (SSN) to balance the work between the nation's two submarine construction shipyards. Announced in a March 28 release, the Navy's acquisition director has selected General Dynamics' Electric Boat, Groton, Conn., as the prime contractor for the Ohio Replacement (OR) SSBN program, with Huntington Ingalls' Newport News Shipbuilding, Newport News, Va. majorly participating in the program. In order to balance the work between the two shipyards, more of the deliveries of the Virginia-class SSNs will be allocated to Newport News.



Electric Boat and Newport News have built specific major assemblies for the Virginia class and have alternated deliveries since the program's inception. Electric Boat already is engaged in the Ohio Replacement program in its construction of the Common Missile Compartment, which first will be installed on the U.K. Royal Navy's next-generation SSBN. Electric Boat built all 18 submarines of the current Ohio class SSBN program.

ROPE YARN: A period traditionally on Wednesday afternoons, when the crew was excused from most duties and light duty mending uniforms and hammocks, and darning socks. When at sea, the crew was similarly excused on Wednesdays for light personal chores which allowed for more social time and conversation. And now you know!

“Know your Sailor”
Officer in Charge Naval Branch Health Clinic, MCAS Yuma



CDR Christopher J. Maldarella
Medical Service Corps, United States Navy

CDR Maldarella is a native of Los Angeles, California, was reared in Littleton, Colorado and graduated high school in 1985. He enlisted in the Navy in February 1987 and attended Recruit Training Command and Hospital Corpsman “A” School in San Diego, CA in the same year. Following a brief period in the Naval Reserves, his first assignment was aboard the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, CA. In September 1988 he transferred to the Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, CA, serving at the 13 Area/Main-side clinic and also at the main hospital as the Ambulance Dispatcher until April 1990 when he reported for duty aboard the USS Wabash (AOR-5) Long Beach, CA deploying to the Persian Gulf.

In March 1992 CDR Maldarella received an honorable discharge from the Navy, reenlisted in the Naval Reserves, and formally began his college education. He continued as an actively drilling Naval Reservist completing FMF School at Camp Pendleton while serving with 4thMARDIV in Grand Rapids, MI. CDR Maldarella graduated from Calvin College with his Bachelor’s Degree in December 1996 and with his Master’s Degree from Central Michigan University as a Physician Assistant in August 1999. In March 2000, he returned to active duty, accepting a commission into the Medical Service Corps and reported for duty aboard Naval Hospital Beaufort, SC serving as the Medical Officer at 1st Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD, Parris Island.

From May 2003 through May 2005, CDR Maldarella served aboard Naval Health Clinic New England, Branch Health Clinic Saratoga Springs, NY, providing comprehensive primary health care to the Navy’s Nuclear Prototype students and faculty. From May 2005 through May 2007, CDR Maldarella served aboard the USS George Washington (CVN-73) in Norfolk, VA, deploying in support of ‘Partnership of the Americas’ in 2006. From May 2007 through May 2010, CDR Maldarella served aboard the remote Marine Corps’ Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, CA, deploying to Expeditionary Medical Facility Kuwait (EMF-K, Camp Buehring) in 2008 in support of OIF and OEF.

CDR Maldarella’s most recent assignment was with the White House Medical Unit. He served as the Medical Department Head at the Presidential Retreat Camp David. Additional responsibilities included inter-agency medical planning, health facility surveys and contingency health support on behalf of the White House Medical Unit’s international travel mission for the President and Vice President of the United States.

CDR Maldarella’s awards include the Presidential Service Badge, Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer (MSC), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), Navy Good Conduct Medal, Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism and Global War on Terrorism-Expeditionary, National Defense Service Medal (two awards), FMF ribbon, and other campaign and service awards.

CDR Maldarella is married to the former Tracy Lynn Friesen of Gladwin, MI. They have three children, Luke (14), Caely (13) and Cristin (11).

NLUS YUMA COUNCIL

PO Box 393
Yuma, AZ 85366

E-mail:
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

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ADDRESS HERE

YUMA NL COUNCIL HISTORY

Back in 1963, the Yuma Council adopted MCAS Yuma. Since that time, several 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). ***Planned for August 2016: USNS Yuma (EPF-8)***



[Click Here To Register Online](#)

2016 NAVY LEAGUE NATIONAL CONVENTION

JUNE 14-19 2016

EMBASSY SUITES NORTH CHARLESTON
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Registration and Event Costs

Registration

Navy League members - **\$95** per person
Non-Navy League members - **\$150** per person

Events

Room rates = \$186/pers. Incl. tax
6/15 Welcome Aboard Reception - **\$75** per person
6/16 Hall of Fame Luncheon - **\$75** per person
6/17 Sea Services Luncheon - **\$75** per person

6/18 Reception/Dinner - **\$110** per person

INFO> <http://www.navyleagueconvention.org/program.html>