

ON THE WEB AT:
WWW.CJNLUS.COM

The Anchor

“Weighing In At The Heart Of New Jersey
Navy League of the United States
Central Jersey Council - Founded in 1902



Our Adopted Units:

NWS Earle,
Leonardo, NJ

USNS Supply
AOE 6
NWS Earle, NJ

USCGC Bainbridge Island,
WPB 1343
Sandy Hook, NJ

USCGC Katherine Walker
WLM 552
Bayonne, NJ

USCGC Sailfish
WPB 87356
Sandy Hook, NJ

USCGC Sturgeon Bay
WTGB 109
Bayonne, NJ

BB62 Division United
States Sea Cadets Corps
Camden, NJ

PRESIDENT:
William A. Aitken

VICE-PRESIDENT:
Christine Aaron

VICE-PRESIDENTS:
Frank Greco
Richard V. Ehlert
Daniel A. Dermer

SECRETARY:
Danielle Pervy

TREASURER:
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**LIAISON FOR
NATIONAL POLICY:**
Daniel A. Dermer

NEWSLETTER:
Stephen J. Hutton

PAO:
Christine Aaron

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Janie Komassi
Andy Madajewski
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John Coviello

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William A. Aitken

MASTER-AT-ARMS:
Paul Sayers

CHAPLAINS:
Hon Vincent LeBlon

HISTORIAN:
Angus Gillespie

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by William Aitken

On January 17, 2009, I was honored to be sworn in as your new Council President. I am grateful to all those who have supported me as I follow in the footsteps of some great leaders. Since joining the Central Jersey Council in 2000, I have been blessed to meet and learn from many of the Council's Past Presidents, officers and members. Each have in contributed so much to the Council and I hope to continue their traditions and the numerous programs they established.



Before I begin, I would like to thank my predecessor, Richard V. Ehlert for his dedication over the past 2 years as council president. Having filled in his shoes these last few months, I now only realized how much hard work goes in to making the Central Jersey Council, the premier council in New Jersey and one that our military families can turn to when in need.

I have now been in office for more than nine (9) months and I can not

believe how fast the time went and how busy we have been. It has been a whirlwind adventure for me and the council. Thus far we have handed out Theodore Roosevelt Youth medals to the BB 62 Division of the Sea Cadets, as well as three (3) different Naval NJROTC units in New Jersey. We have attended and made presentations at the Change of Command for the USCGC Sailfish and the retirement ceremony for OSCM (SW/AW) Joseph Eppolito, the Command Master Chief for Naval Weapons Station

Earle. We have participated in the NWS Earle Command Picnic and assisted with fundraising for the upcoming Navy Ball. Our Council has distinguished itself with the US Navy, which in gratitude for our accomplishments flew members of our council by helicopter to board the USS Iwo Jima for Fleet Week 2009. Also in July, the USCGC Katherine Walker expressed its gratitude for all of our support by inviting 20 members to join them for the Macy's 4th of July

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The Anchor

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Stephen Hutton
Newsletter Editor

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GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ON-LINE

To help the council reduce its costs please sign-up for our on-line newsletter. Mailing costs associated with the newsletter are one of our largest operating expenses.

Contact sjhutton@cjnlus.com to find out more

Balloonfest 2009

On July 24 - 26, 2009, the Navy Ball Committee conducted a fundraising event at the Solberg, Readington, NJ Balloonfest. During this three day event, volunteers from Naval Weapons Station Earle, the Earle Sea Cadets and members of our council sold chicken fingers and soft drinks to help raise money for the Navy Ball. Special thanks goes out to Council President William Aitken and his family and Council Vice President Frank Greco for going above and beyond by providing assistance on both the Saturday and Sunday

events. Over \$2,000.00 dollars was raised for the Navy Ball during the event.

During the balloonfest, Council President Aitken was able to meet with the events coordinator, who invited the council back for next year's balloonfest. Our president also had the opportunity to meet the owner of the Little Pirate balloon, as he and the Earle Sea Cadets were made crew and assisted during the inflation and deflation of the balloon. ❖

Navy Ball

On Friday, October 16, 2009, the Navy Ball Committee for Naval Weapons Station Earle hosted its 12th annual Garden State Navy Ball. This event was expected to attract between 500 and 750 military and civilian workers. Throughout the year the Navy Ball Committee conducts fundraising efforts to help offset the cost of the event for the junior enlisted

personnel who may not be able to afford the event without the financial support. Anyone interested in making a monetary donation for this worthy event should make the check payable to the "Navy Ball Committee" and forward the same to Daniel Dermer, 28 Jensen Street, East Brunswick, NJ 08816 ❖

Sailfish Change of Command



On Thursday, July 2, 2009 the Council bid goodbye to LT Scott C. Mitchell, CO of the USCGC Sailfish. The formal ceremony took place at Sandy Hook Station and was presided over by Coast Guard Sector NY. Lt Mitchell is

retiring from the Coast Guard and heads to Toms River for F.B.I. training.

LT Mitchell thanked the Central Jersey Council for its continued support and dedication to the ship's crew. As is customary, the Council President presented an original water colored painting of the Sailfish to the outgoing CO and CJNLUS Ballcap to the incoming CO. We wish LT Mitchell best wishes in his future endeavors. We also welcome LT to the Central Jersey Council family. ❖

Central Jersey Council of the Navy League of the United States



www.cjnlus.com

The Navy League of the United States was founded in 1902 with the encouragement of President Theodore Roosevelt. It is unique among military-oriented associations in that it is a civilian organization dedicated to the education of our citizens, including our elected officials, and the support of the men and women of the sea services and their families.



www.navyleague.org

4th of July Celebration – USCGC Katherine Walker



On Saturday July 4th, 2009 Council President William Aitken and 20 members and family of the Central Jersey Council boarded the USCGC Katherine Walker as guests of Lt Daniel Twomey and Coast Guard for the Macy's 4th of July Fireworks. This year was special in that it marked the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson sailing up the river in 1609 for the Dutch East India Company. Along with plenty of food, the members got underway as the cutter was the command post for Coast Guard Sector New York establishing a security perimeter for the 5 Macy's fireworks barges in New York Harbor. Once on station Council members with the help of Lt. Rich Bauman, his wife and son,

prepared the food that was provided by the Council. This food was not only provided to the family and crew of the Katherine Walker but also to the family and crew of our other adopted cutter the USCGC Sturgeon Bay.

For the past few years council officers have volunteered their time cooking and serving food and refreshments on board the our adopted coast guard cutters, relieving its crew of this duty, so that they can spend quality time with there family during this event Although busy providing harbor security, the crew were able to spend a few minutes being wowed by Macy's overhead display. Very late in the evening, the USCCG Katherine Walker was released from the scene and started back to Bayonne New Jersey. During its journey back home, the Katherine Walker passed by the Statue of Liberty for all to view in its splendor.

After the event, LT Twomey expressed his grateful and that of his officers and crew for the food and refreshments provided by the Council as well as those who prepared and served it. ❖

BB-62 Sea Cadet Inspection



On Sunday, March 15, 2009, our adopted Sea Cadet Unit, the BB-62 Division had its annual inspections. Present from the council were Council President William Aitken, and officers Richard Ehlert, Daniel Dermer, Frank Greco and John Coviello. Conducting the inspections were Lt Monty Zaks and LCDR Harry Bierbach from Liberty Region 4-3. At the conclusion of the inspection, LT. Zaks personally

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commended the unit, its commanding officer LT Bart Myles and his staff. Bravo Zulu BB-62.

After the inspection, Council President Aitken had the honor and privilege to award the Navy League's

Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal to PO3 Leif Tornberg and League Cadet Evan Jones. The Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medal is awarded each year to the unit's most outstanding cadet and league cadet. Bravo Zulu to PO3 Leif Tornberg and League Cadet Evan Jones. ♦

Test Your Naval Terminology—Quiz #3

Prepared by Angus Kress Gillespie

The object of this quiz is to score as many points as possible and to earn the highest game rank you can for bragging rights at the next meeting. This quiz deals with naval terms and acronyms. For example, in 1943, Bell Labs coined the term *acronym* as the name for a *word* (such as SONAR) created from the first letters of each word in a series of words (such as **SO**und **N**avigation **AND** **R**anging). See how many of these terms and acronyms you can identify without looking at the answer key. ♦

Scoring:

- 10 correct = Skipper. Circumnavigation is in your future
- 9 correct = First Mate. You are almost ready for command
- 8 correct = Second Mate. You can do alright in fair weather.
- 7 correct = Deckhand. You have the basics down. Keep shipping out.
- 6 or less = Galley Slave. Don't go on the deck without your life jacket on!

Answer Key

- 1. Base Allowance for Housing
- 2. Bureau of Naval Personnel
- 3. Chief Master at Arms
- 4. Commanding Officer
- 5. Chief of the Boat (Senior Enlisted Person on Board a Submarine)
- 6. Damage Control
- 7. Do It Yourself
- 8. End of Active Obligated Service
- 9. Extra Military Instruction
- 10. General Quarters (The call for all hands to man battle stations.)

Navy Leaguers Take a Night on the Town by Angus Kress Gillespie

New Brunswick, New Jersey, July 18, 2009 —Normally the Navy Leaguers of the Central New Jersey Council are concerned with serving the sailors of the Navy and Coast Guard in our area. However, from time to time, the Council organizes social and recreational outings for its own members.

Such was the case on the evening of Thursday, July 16, 2009, when Vice President Daniel Dermer and his wife Denise organized a visit to Vinnie Brand's Stress Factory

Comedy Club at 90 Church Street in New Brunswick.

The Stress Factory features stand-up comedians who speak directly to the audience, with the absence of a theatrical "fourth wall." With an iconic brick wall as backdrop, the show presented three comics, one at a time.

The Stress Factory is a good place for a few hours of laughs. The setting is like a club, with dark lights and small tables. The wait staff comes around and takes drink orders at the

beginning of the show and brings your drinks out to you and collects the money. You never have to leave your seat.

The show opened with newcomer George Higgins, age 23, who made fun of his own slight physique of 137 pounds with jokes about going to the gym in order to bulk up.

The show continued with established comedienne Erin Jackson of Washington, D.C., a veteran of Comedy Central and the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

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Navy Leaguers Take a Night on the Town by Angus Kress Gillespie (continued from page 4)

Headliner for the evening was Emmy Award winning comic Paul Mercurio of Manhattan, a rising star on the comedy scene. Mercurio combines his quick wit and intelligence with innovative improve ability.

At the show, Mercurio singled out Navy Leaguer Frank Grecco, age 83, for special favorable attention for his naval service in World War II. Grecco received enthusiastic applause from the audience. At the end of the evening the proprietor presented Grecco with a gift certificate for a return visit.

Among those in the Navy League crowd was council historian Angus Kress Gillespie who said of the show, "If you are in the mood for some irreverent, occasionally off-color comedy, this is an evening well spent. I loved the abrasive tone and rapid-fire delivery of these comedians." ❖

Joe Eppolito OSCM (SW/AW) Retirement



On June 26, 2009, the Council said goodbye to our dear friend,

Command Master Chief Joseph Eppolito for Naval Weapons Station Earle. Council Members William Aitken, Daniel Dermer, Richard Ehlert and Andrew Madajewski attended the piping overboard (retirement) ceremony and luncheon held at the Windjammer Club at NWS Earle. Together with family, friends and a large contingent of Navy personnel, OSCM

Eppolito's career was highlighted and admired by all. Council President Aitken made civilian Joseph Eppolito and honorary member of our council presented him with a personal water colored painting by Nate Ostrow. The Council wishes Joseph Eppolito and his family fair winds and following seas as they start the next phase of their lives. ❖

USS Iwo Jima



On May 19, 2009, several members of the Central Jersey Council were treated to a surprise when they flown out to the Atlantic Ocean in a Navy MH-53E Sea Dragon helicopter to meet the USS Iwo Jima LHD 7.

The USS Iwo Jima is a Wasp class amphibious assault ship

The Wasp class are the first specifically designed ships to accommodate new Landing Craft, Air Cushion (LCAC) for fast troop movement, Harrier II (AV-8B) Vertical/Short Take-Off and Landing (V/STOL) jets which provide close air support for the assault force, MV-22 Osprey VTOL tiltrotor aircraft, a variety of US helicopters, tanks, armored personnel carriers and other support vehicles. The Iwo Jima has 1,075 crew members and room for 2,200 marine embarked troops. The ship has medical and dental facilities capable of providing intensive medical assistance to 600 casualties, whether combat incurred or brought aboard ship

during humanitarian missions. It is one of the largest ships in the U.S. Fleet.

After a forty minute flight, our council members were taken on a private tour of the USS Iwo Jima by Ens. Macasaet, USN as the ship was making its way into New York Harbor for the Fleet Week 2009 festivities. While on board, we were able to meet many of the officers and crew and made new friends. After several hours they were flown back to New York. A great and memorable time was had by all.

Upon the conclusion of Fleet week, the USS Iwo Jima docked

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USS Iwo Jima (continued from page 5)

at US Naval Weapons Station Earle for replenishment. While in port, our council was honored again by special invitation of the ship. Dan Dermer, Stephen Hutton, Christine Aaron and others were able to tour the ship as she was taking on supplies. Christine Aaron presented the Captain Jeffrey Amik and bridge officers with fresh pastries from Shop Rite. This small gesture was not unnoticed, as the Council received a personal hand written thank you from Captain Amick. ❖

UPCOMING EVENTS

Turkey Drive



Starting in early November, the Council will kick off its Annual Turkey Drive. As in years past we plan on giving needy families on board our adopted cutters and at NWS Earle Turkeys and food baskets for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

gift cards to enlisted personnel at NWS Earle and aboard our adopted cutters.

Anyone looking to donate to turkeys, or purchase food gift cards, please contact Council President William Aitken ASAP @ (732) 656-3129 ❖

The Council has continued to support giving turkeys and food

Shake Your Can Fund-Raisers

- 1) On Sunday, November 8, 2009, the Council will have a shake the can fund-raiser at the Franklin Township Shop Rite on Elizabeth Ave. In the Somerset section of Franklin Township. This event will help raise funds for the Council as well as secure donations from the shoppers for Operation SOS. Please contact Chris Aaron at 732-469-8201 for further information. The event will commence at 10:00 am and end no later than 3:30 pm.
- 2) Then on Saturday, November 28, 2009, the Council will have an additional shake the can fund-raiser at the East Brunswick Shop Rite off Rt. 18. Contact Dan Dermer at 732-257-7999 for further information. ❖

Holiday Party Station Sandy Hook

This years Annual Christmas Party for the Sailors and families of the USCG Cutters **Bainbridge Island** and **Sailfish** will be held on Saturday December 5, 2009 at the Chief's Mess.

Final scheduling by the cutters has not been determined so the exact time for this event has not been scheduled. However, as in year's past a lite fare will proceed the arrival of Santa Claus. Santa will then distribute the giving tree gifts purchased by our Council Members.

We hope to see all members whether they purchase a gift or not attend this event to show our support for the crews and families of these cutters who are consistently deployed for most of the Council's events. ❖

Pearl Harbor Commemoration Day

This year the Council is helping to coordinate the first ever PEARL HARBOR COMMEMORATION DAY at NWS Earle on 12/7/2009. This mid day event will include a light lunch and Council Historian Angus Kress Gillespie speaking about the significance of December 7, 1941. Please keep an eye out in the newsletter or the web-site for updated information or contact Dan Dermer at 732-257-7999 for further details. ❖

Brunch with Santa

This years Annual Christmas Party for the Sailors and families of the USCG Cutters **Katherine Walker, Sturgeon Bay** and **Penobscot Bay** will be held on Saturday December 12, 2009 at the ANT Building at Station Bayonne.

As in years past aboard the USCGC Katherine Walker, a brunch for the families and crew will

proceed the arrival of Santa Claus. Santa will then distribute the giving tree gifts purchased by our Council Members. This yearly event has grown to such a degree that it was moved into the Aides to Navigation Building (ANT) to accommodate so many people.

We hope to see all of you there! ❖

Angel Toy Pickup and Packing Day

This years Angel Toy Pickup Day is Sunday, December 13, 2009.

For those that have been contacted by Cathy Kobilis or Dan Dermer, your pickup sites are already determined. Anyone who has a truck or SUV and desires to help out, please contact Dan Dermer at 732-257-7999. ❖

TOY PACKING DAY is Monday, December 14, 2009 at the Baptist Church in Edison just like in year's past. Anyone who is available that day and wants to get into the true Spirit of Christmas, as hundreds of gifts are packed, please contact Dan or Denise Dermer at 732-257-7999. We anticipate that well over 800 gifts will

need to be sorted and checked for packing. These gifts will then be sent off to all cutters, commands and stations of Coast Guard Sector New York as well as Naval Weapons Station Earle. A great lunch, great people and a noble mission and a good time is there for all Council Members. ❖

URGENT URGENT URGENT

The Angel Program is already in desperate need of more gift donors, more gift cards or just plain cash. Anyone who simply wishes to ask stores for any donations can help keep the Grinch from stealing our Christmas Program.

Please contact Denise or Dan Dermer at 732-257-7999 for further information and a quick "how to" lesson. Your help is urgently needed and its only the end of October.

REMEMBER>>>>>>>>This is about kids at Christmas! Its that simple! ❖

NWS Earle Holiday Village

This years Holiday Village is going to be held at the Windjammer on NWS Earle on December 18, 2009.

Come out and visit Santa's Workshop, get cookies from Mrs Claus and have a wonderful North Pole time.

More information will be available via the Council website or by contacting Council President William Aitken. Remember access to this event is somewhat restricted so make your plans early. ❖

Installation of Officers Dinner

The Council's Annual Installation dinner is scheduled for January 23, 2010 at the East Brunswick Chateau.

Stay tuned to future newsletters or check the website for further details. ❖

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by William Aitken (continued from front page)

Fireworks. Due to all of our efforts, I have been selected for the nominating committee for the Liberty Region (Ohio, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey) and Richard Ehlert has been made an alternate National Director for the State of New Jersey.

My plans for our Central Jersey Council, like all organizations, are simple. Just keep up the good work we have been doing and what we are known for throughout the region. To quote Past President Dan Dermer, "we are non military families helping military families." This council is made up of some great members and officers who are dedicated to

our cause - supporting the men and women of the sea services. Our Council has established many worthwhile programs for our military families and it is my job to see to it that they continue and, if possible, improve on them.

Unlike other charities, all of our officers are unpaid volunteers who dedicate their time and efforts to our adopted units, Coast Guard Sector New York and Naval Weapons Station Earle. I can proudly say that 100% of all donations go to the support of our military families. It my hope that over the next few years we can increase our membership and get more people

involved in our events so that we can provide even more support to those who deserve it – our military families.

Before signing off, I'd like to once again express my sincere thanks to the Central Jersey Council, my officers and membership who make all this work possible. Your enthusiasm and unquestioned willingness to volunteer your time in all circumstances makes me humble and proud to say I am the president of the premier Navy League Council in this area.

Thank you. ❖

ELECTIONS SLATED FOR NOVEMBER 17, 2009

On November 17th, the Council will hold its Annual Election of Officers for 2010. The election is scheduled to take place shortly before the formal dinner meeting being held at the East Brunswick Chateau. In accordance with the council Bylaws, a nominating committee meeting was held and the following slate of officers is presented for the election. If any Council member has any questions or would like to present a candidate prior to the meeting, please contact Council President William Aitken for further information. During the election, nominations from the floor will be accepted.

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2010**PRESIDENT:**

William A. Aitken

SR. VICE-PRESIDENT:

Christine Aaron

VICE-PRESIDENTS:***Community Affairs:***

Frank Greco

Membership:

Richard V. Ehlert

Military Affairs:

Daniel Dermer

SECRETARY:

Robert R. Scheer

TREASURER:

Thomas Vastardis

LIAISON FOR**NATIONAL POLICY:****NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Steve Hutton

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER:

Christine Aaron

JUDGE ADVOCATE:

David Arroyo

MASTER-AT-ARMS:

Paul Syers, Jr.

CHAPLAIN:

Hon Vincent LeBlon

HISTORIAN:

Angus Kress Gillespie

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Judy Bufis,

John Coviello,

Dr. Angus Gillespie,

Frank Greco,

James Haney,

Henry Jensen,

Janie Komssi,

Andy Madajewski,

Walter Olkowski,

Alice Radakis

❖

FALL DINNER MEETING

On Tuesday, November 17, 2009 The Council will have its final dinner meeting of the year. This dinner will be held at the East Brunswick Chateau on Cranberry Rd. in East Brunswick. Cocktails will be available at 5:30 pm with Dinner beginning at 6:30 pm. The Evenings Guest Speaker will be Captain Robert O'Brien, Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Sector NY. Other guests will include the CO's from our adopted cutters, the Commanding Officer from NWS Earle, Captain Gary Maynard as well as other personnel from NWS Earle. We are hoping that a special invitee, the CO of Joint Base Mcguire-Dix-Lakehurst will attend. Before the dinner is served the Council will hold its Annual Election of Officers. All nominees or persons wishing to be nominated for a Council office should attend. This Dinner meeting will also have Giving Tree gift requests available to the members. Remember that these requests are for "our" personally adopted Coast Guard Cutters children.

This is a great way to close out the year and meet the Commanding Officers that serve in and around Central New Jersey. Ticket prices are \$25.00 per person and the menu choices are broiled salmon, chicken francaise or skirt steak .

Kindly return the bottom portion of this announcement to Daniel Dermer @ 28 Jensen Street, East Brunswick, NJ 08816, to reserve your spot. If you have any other questions, please contact Dan @ 732-257-7999.

Name: _____

Number of Guests Attending: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Choice of Entree' _____

Check is enclosed _____ Will pay at the door _____

REMEMBER, This event is attended by many members of the military. All of them are guests of the Council. If you or your spouse are unable to attend this dinner, consider "sponsoring" one of our Navy or Coast Guard guests. The cost of their tickets are \$22.00 but any donations are greatly appreciated.