



The Pilot

Navy League of the United States
Channel Islands Council

SPRING 2025

APRIL MAY JUNE

Vol. 48 Issue 2

www.navyleaguecica.org

Tony Suleiman, President

2025 Officers and Board of Directors

Tony Suleiman, President

Michele Grimaldi, 1st Vice Pres.,
Membership & Publicity

Purna Pai, 2nd Vice Pres., Programs

Annette Block, 3rd Vice President,
Ways and Means

Robert Quinn, Recording Secretary

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Stan Block, Dawn Canfield, Beckie
Cramer, Bob Davis, Arlene Fraser,
Tom Fraser, Judy Quinn, Gailen Vick

Jim Cecil, Jr., NLUS National Director
Emeritus

RSVP Contact

Diane Quinn

tazquinn@gmail.com

805 729-0671

Please leave a message and let me know if you are attending. If you are not on the Security Gate list, please go to the Base Pass Office to obtain a one-day pass. Thanks!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is time to renew your Form 5512 for Naval Base Ventura County at Port Hueneme and new members who need Base access also need to complete their Form 5512 and give the completed form to Arlene Fraser, who coordinates the security gate list at the NBVC Security Office. The Security List provides attendees with access to the Bard Mansion for monthly luncheons. If you plan to attend the luncheons, you also need to contact Diane Quinn in advance to place your name on the reservation list each month. One list for security and another list for lunch reservations are required. Join us for an informative time at the Bard Mansion each month.

Steve Huber and Rachel Jones from United Water Conservation District gave an informative presentation about our water resources and answered many questions at the February 13, 2025, program. We had an interesting presentation at the March 13th luncheon from Chaplain Todd Iverson, Navy Reservist, who also serves as Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ventura. Jason Kranz, Commanding Officer of the Seabees also attended. The Seabee of the Year award will be presented at a later date.

Make your reservations early to join us on **Thurs., April 10th, Spring Baby Shower at the Bard Mansion. Save the dates for May 8th and June 12th for lunch. See you soon.**

Tony Suleiman, President





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Membership Information



Welcome Aboard!

Bonnie Smith, left, sponsored new Navy League member, Debra C. Block.

Steve Huber, Life Member of Channel Islands Council received his name badge and council challenge coin from Tony Suleiman, President (center) and Michele Grimaldi (right), 1st VP Membership at the Feb. 13, 2025 luncheon.



For over 100 years the Navy League of the United States has been committed to supporting the United States Sea Services and their families. If you are reading this you are likely already a member of the Channel Islands Council and you know about the great local impact we have had for this undertaking of education and advocacy. But I would also encourage you to consider yourself a membership ambassador to your friends and family; to spread the word about all the good things our council has achieved and encourage others to come on board.

We are once again meeting at the beautiful and historic Bard Mansion on the Naval Base Ventura County: Port Hueneme. Encourage prospective members to come along, enjoy lunch, meet a bunch of nice folks, have a chance at winning a lovely basket, and help support our mission.

Promote what we do by directing them to our Council website and then on to the main Navy League of the United States website to learn more about what happens at the national level of the organization. And then while they are there, point out the little “JOIN” box in the upper right hand corner!



Mickie Grimaldi
1st VP/ Membership

www.navyleague.org
www.navyleaguecica.org

National Navy League
Annual Convention
June 4– 7, 2025
Jacksonville, Florida



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February 13, 2025 at Thomas R. Bard Mansion

Future of Water



Tony Suleiman, President presented Certificate of Appreciation and council challenge coin to Steve Huber and Rachel Jones, Directors of United Water Conservation District, guest speakers at the February 13, 2025, luncheon at the Bard Mansion. They provided information about water resources and answered questions and concerns about water quality in the area.



Congratulations to
February 2025 Door Prize Winners

Lucky , happy winners standing from left to right: Gailen Vick, Janet Foley, Annemarie Arnold, Tom Fraser, and Judy Quinn seated.

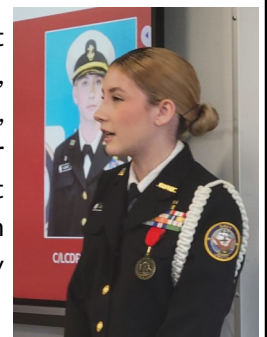
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Thank you to Annette Block for preparing gift baskets for door prize drawings.
Remember to return to recycle empty gift baskets to Annette Block. She will create new prizes

NJROTC Hueneme High School March 18, 2025



Cadet CDR Victor Jimenez, photo left, introduced himself and shared about his leadership role in the NJROTC program. Cadet LCD Jayda Godinez, Operations Officer, photo right, talked about her NJROTC responsibilities, and her future educational goals. Other cadets also shared about their NJROTC involvement. The Unit had an inspection outside and the event was attended by Channel Islands Council members, Gailen Vick, Bob Quinn and guest Bill Griggs. The Annual Pass and Review will be held later in May at Hueneme High School.



Contact Gailen Vick, Council Liaison to NJROTC if you are interested in attending the NJROTC event in May 2025 at Hueneme High School.



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MARCH 13, 2025 at the Bard Mansion
HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEABEES



Photo above: Todd Iverson, Navy Reserve Chaplain, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a council challenge coin from Tony Suleiman, President and Purna Pai, 2nd VP- Program chairman. Chaplain Iverson shared information about his service in the Navy as Chaplain and stated that the U.S. Navy is recruiting additional Chaplains.

Jason Kranz, Commanding Officer representing the Navy Seabees. Jason Ballestero de Leon, a Navy League member and graphic artist designed a special artwork in celebration of the 83rd birthday of the Seabees and he presented his artwork to Jason Kranz, Commanding Officer. Photo above: from left to right with artwork in center: Tony Suleiman, Jason de Leon, Jason Kranz and Chaplain Todd Iverson. Belated recognition for Seabee of the Year will be presented at a later date.



Congratulations



March Door Prize Winners from left to right:

Janet Foley, Purna Pai, Bonnie Jo Smith, Annemarie Arnold and Carl Bathelt, Jr.



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SPRING BABY SHOWER

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Time: 11:30 am.

at the Bard Mansion

**Please make your reservations early
with Diane Quinn**

**tazquinn@gmail.com
805 729-0671 call or text**

**Request from Kitty Hurliman and Navy
Marine Corps Society**

Items needed for April Baby Shower:

Infant and baby boy clothes

9-month old baby girl clothes

Infant mittens Play Pads

Diaper Bags Strollers Car Seats

**Sensitive Skin Products: shampoo,
conditioner, lotion, wipes, laundry
soap, hand soap**

Also, Diapers and gift cards are needed.

**Please bring new, unwrapped
baby items for the Shower.**

**Your donations for the Baby
Shower are appreciated!**

**Thank you for your generosity
and support.**

Did you know...?



NBVC holds a monthly food distribution event for those facing food insecurity. Anyone with base access may attend and receive free food. Volunteers make these events possible by partnering with Food

Share Ventura County which is designated as a United States Department of Agriculture site and is subject to strict guidelines and safety protocols.

Help spread the word about the next food distribution event to be held on Saturday April 19, 2025 (0900 – 1200) behind building 19 Vet Clinic and DAPS.

Contact Holly Walaszek (732-814-1044 or Holly.walaszek@gmail.com) for more information.

Update from Dawn Canfield, regarding Food Distribution on Base coordinated by Holly Walaszek.



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Chief Petty Officer Pinning Ceremony and Awards NSCC/NLCC Point Mugu Units



Joshua Gelman's parents assisted in the Chief Petty Officer pinning ceremony on January 18, 2025 at the Awards Banquet held at the Camarillo Community Church. **Congratulations to CPO Gelman for his outstanding achievement and leadership!**



Sea Cadet of the Year, Trident Patrol Squadron 65:
CPO Joshua Gelman received Certificate of Recognition, Challenge coin and a check from Channel Islands Council representatives: Tom Fraser and Diane Quinn at the awards ceremony in Camarillo.



Color Guard Unit at Awards Ceremony in Camarillo on January 18, 2025.

Congratulations

to all awardees
and outstanding
volunteers/staff/
instructors and all
Cadets at the
Annual Awards
Banquet!

Special thanks to
ENS
Tejormoortula,
Commanding
Officer NSCC/
NLCC
Point Mugu Units



Navy League Cadet of the Year, TS Minutemen: PO3 Cayden Garcia received Certificate of Recognition, challenge coin and a check from Tom Fraser and Diane Quinn, Channel Islands Council representatives at the awards ceremony on January 18, 2025.



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**Sea Cadet and Navy League Cadet Units from Port Hueneme at
Annual Inspection and Awards Event at Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club**



Sea Cadet of the Year, Ben Moreell
Battalion Unit at Port Hueneme: Seaman
Murray Lynn, received Certificate of
Recognition, challenge coin and a check
from Channel Islands Council
representative, Bob Quinn at the Awards
event held on February 15, 2025 at Pacific
Corinthian Yacht Club at Channel Islands



Navy League Cadet of the Year, TS
Nicholas H. Anderson, Port Hueneme:
PO3 Eric Nguyen, received Certificate of
Recognition, challenge coin and check
from Channel Islands Council
representative Tom Fraser.
Congratulations to all award
winners.

Congratulations

to all awardees and
outstanding volunteers/staff/
instructors and all Cadets at
the
Annual Inspection and
Awards Event

Special thanks to
WO Samuel Rice
Commanding Officer
NSCC/NLCC
Staff Sergeant Marine Corps
Reserve



Ben Moreell Battalion Unit, NSCC



Training Ship Nicholas H. Anderson, NLCC

2025 Channel Islands Council Calendar

2nd Thurs. at 11:30 am at Bard Mansion

April 10, 2025 Spring Baby Shower

May 8, 2025 Merchant Mariners

June 12, 2025 Guest speaker/ Age group
photos

July = No Show Lunch Fundraiser =
do not attend = Do send donations

Aug. 14, 2025 US Coast Guard birthday
and awards; Wine Auction

Sept. 11, 2025 Fall Baby Shower

Oct. 9, 2025 US Navy birthday and
awards

Nov. 13, 2025 US Marines birthday



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Navy League of the United States

Post Office Box 873

Port Hueneme, CA, 93044

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Special thanks to

Military & Youth Awards

Admiral Sponsors:

Oxnard Harbor District &

City of Port Hueneme

REMINDERS

Please return empty gift baskets to Annette Block at the next luncheon. She will fill the baskets to prepare door prizes for lucky winners. Thanks!



Special reminder: Contact Judy Quinn, at 805 276-8474 and let her know of any ill or bereaved member. She will get a card in the mail immediately. Please keep her informed, as each and every one of our Navy Leaguers are very important to us.



Thomas R. Bard Mansion

2025 CALENDAR NLUS CHANNEL ISLANDS

2nd Thursday of the Month at the Bard Mansion at 11:30 am.

Price: \$20.00 cash/check per person ; \$21.00 credit card per person

Plan to attend lunch at the Bard Mansion

on Thursday, APRIL 10, 2025 at 11:30 a.m

SPRING BABY SHOWER

Please bring new, unwrapped baby items. Thanks!

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Thursday, MAY 8, 2025 at 11:30 am

INTERNATIONAL MARINERS CENTER

Recognizing Merchant Mariners

RSVP

DIANE QUINN tazquinn@gmail.com

Call or send a text to 805 729-0671

If your name is not on the security gate list, please go to the NBVC Security Office for a one-day pass. You will need your driver's license and your Social Security card number.

Photos in this newsletter from:

Gailen Vick and Arlene Fraser.