



The Pilot

Navy League of the United States
Channel Islands Council

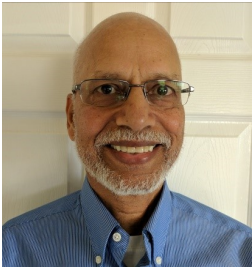
SPRING 2023
APR. MAY JUNE
Vol. 46 Issue 2

www.navyleaguecica.org

Purna Pai, President

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President's Message



Hello everyone, it is Spring again! We have had almost normal amount rain this year and everything around us looks green, But the weather is still on the chillier side and the blossoms are a little late. The days are getting longer giving us more time for outdoor activities. It has been almost a year since we have been meeting monthly for the lunch meetings at the Bard. For those who have not started attending these meetings, I strongly urge you to support your Council and start attending.

During our February lunch meeting at the Bard we had an excellent presentation by Mr. Jeffrey Winters of Gold Coast Ambulance regarding the Emergency Medical treatment and Ambulance response which was full of helpful suggestions for most people in our age group. In March we celebrated the 81st anniversary of the Seabees by honoring the Senior Seabee of the Year McKenzie E. Antoine. Capt. Mike Meno spoke about the mission of the Seabees and introduced Seabee Antoine. Michele Grimaldi, 1st VP presented the NLUS Channel Islands Council Certificate, challenge coin and check to Seabee Antoine. Others in attendance also presented certificates and congratulations. See photo in newsletter. Bob Quinn presented a check to Samuel Rice, NSCC commanding officer of the Port Hueneme Sea Cadet/Navy League Cadet Unit.

Our Council participated in Point Mugu Air show on March 18th and 19th where we had our



booth to disseminate information to recruit new members. A big thank you to Beckie Cramer for her efforts to obtain space at the Air show and coordinating the activities during the Air Show, and to all the Council members who participated. We will also be participating similarly at of 75th Anniversary celebration of the City of Port Hueneme on March 25th at the Hueneme Beach Park.

Our next lunch meeting is on Thursday April 13th at the Bard, during which we will celebrate our Spring Baby shower with the Navy- Marine Corps Relief/Family Services. Please plan on attending and bring baby clothes, diapers, and accessories to the celebration.

One more request regarding your membership. If your membership comes up for renewal, please renew it before it lapses in order to avoid any additional paperwork. If you have questions, please contact our membership chair Mickie Grimaldi. Going forward, our Fundraising Chair, Annette Block has planned for us some fun fundraising activities in Summer, so please keep an eye out for those activities.

A big thank you to Beckie Cramer for her efforts to obtain space at the Air show and coordinating the activities during the Air Show, ...



At the Air Show booth:
Beckie Cramer and Purna Pai



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**You and your guests are invited to
Spring Baby Shower April 13, 2023
at 11:30 am**

Place: Bard Mansion

Suggested items to donate:

Large diapers: sizes 4 & 5

Laundry soap, baby shampoo, lotions, soaps,

Nail clippers, Baby Wipes

Baby Clothes, Gift Cards

Your generous donations are appreciated

For Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society and

Family Services at Naval Base Ventura County



Plan to attend luncheons at the Bard Mansion Second Thursday of the Month Time: 11:30 am

April 13, 2023 Spring Baby Shower Make your reservations early. Call Arlene Fraser at 805 377-0468 and leave a message or send an email to arlene64@aol.com

**NOTE: PRICE INCREASE AT THE BARD MANSION \$20.00 CASH OR CHECK PER PERSON OR
\$21.00 CREDIT CARD PP**

FYI City of Port Hueneme 75th Anniversary Pictorial Postmark...

the Postal Service provides mail-back service where customers can mail pre-stamped envelopes and cards to the Port Hueneme Post Office to receive your pictorial postmark. The address is 560 E. Pleasant Valley Road, Port Hueneme, CA 93041. To qualify for this service, mail-in requests must be post-marked no later than 30 days following the actual pictorial postmark date of March 24th.



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Congratulations to Seabee of the Year

McKenzie E. Antoine



Michele Grimaldi made a presentation on behalf of the NLCIC with Certificate, check and challenge coin to Seabee McKenzie Antoine to kick off the celebration on March 9, 2023 at the Bard Mansion in honor of Seabee of the Year. Photo, from left to right— Martha McQueen-Legohn, Port Hueneme City Council; Bob Quinn, Awards Chairman; Robin Campos, Oxnard Harbor District; **SOY, McKenzie E. Antoine**; Michele Grimaldi, 1st VP NL Channel Islands Council; Nancy Frawley, from CA Assemblymember Jaqui Irwin; Kitty Hurliman, NLCIC presented Seabee tote; and Vianey Lopez, Ventura County Supervisor. Awards also presented from City of Camarillo, City of Oxnard and Congressmember Julia Brownley. Happy 81st birthday, Seabees!



Lucky door prize winners at the Channel Islands Council March 9, 2023, Seabee birthday luncheon at the Bard Mansion, from left: Nancy Dussault, Jim Weeks, Dorothy Carmack and Kitty Hurliman. Thanks to Annette Block for preparing all the gift baskets monthly. Congratulations to winners!

Photo below: Jason Ballestero De Leon, shared his graphic art work at the 81st Seabees birthday luncheon. His art work will be donated to the Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme. Thanks to Jason for sharing his artistic talents in honor of Seabees!

WANTED: BASKETS



Please bring your empty door prize baskets to the Bard Mansion and return to Annette Block. She will recycle and prepare new door prizes. Thanks for your support and participation!





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Ben Moreell Battalion Sea Cadet of the Year and TS Anderson Navy League Cadet of the Year



Ben Moreell Battalion's cadet of the year is 15-year-old **Troy Dome**. **Cadet Dome currently holds the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class**, but is dedicated to future advancements and ready to seek his goal as Chief Petty Officer.

PO2 Dome has been in the Sea Cadet program since 2019 and has attended advance trainings in Honors & Ceremonies, Petty Officer Leadership, and Photo Journalism. He has received ribbons and awards in academic achievement, community service, physical fitness, color guard as well as citations and unit commendations.

Since 2021 PO2 Dome has contributed over 63 hours of community service. He is also a squad leader for the unit's color guard team where he has been a part of over 13 color guard events.

PO2 Dome attends Royal High School in Simi Valley where he has a 4.0 GPA. He also participates in soccer and BMX racing from which he has taken home numerous trophies.

PO2 Dome plans to enlist in the Navy after HS with the intention of becoming a pilot.



Training Ship Nicholas H. Anderson's cadet of the year is 13-year-old **Petty Officer 3rd Class Hannah Songer**. PO3 Songer currently holds the billet of unit Training officer assisting staff in the introduction and training of new recruits to the unit.

PO3 Songer has been unable to attend advance trainings due to a severe foot injury, but she still has managed to achieve numerous ribbon and awards including academic achievement, recruiting, citations and unit commendations.

She has also demonstrated these same achievements at school where she is on the Dean's list and has received Outstanding Citizenship Awards.

Outside of school and the Sea Cadets PO3 Songer is active in Girl Scouts, track, soccer, surf camps and her church youth group. She has participated in Good Will tours with her parents to Mexico and Africa.

PO3 Songer is planning a future in graph arts or computer programming.



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Trident Air Patrol Squadron Sea Cadet of the Year and TS Minutemen Navy League Cadet of the Year



My name is **Cadet Joshua Gelman**. I joined the Navy Sea Cadet program when I was 10 years old. I gained considerable knowledge as I advanced through the League Cadet Program ranks, from recruit cadet to petty officer first class. I continued on and am now a Seaman in the Sea Cadet program. During five years in the program, I was able to learn a great deal, meet new people, have new first-hand experiences, and develop as a leader. I apply the knowledge I learned through the sea cadet training to my daily activities. Without this program, I would not have achieved any of my leadership accomplishments.



Born in Kansas, **Cadet Amayah Meyer** moved to NAS Point Mugu in 2016 when her dad, a Navy Seabee, received orders to Port Hueneme. Growing up on a naval air station, attending air shows with her parents, and meeting women pilots has fostered Cadet Meyer's interest in aviation. Determined to follow her dreams, she joined the League Cadets shortly after her 10th birthday. She hopes to become a Navy pilot; and, when not in school or at drill, she practices flying on a simulator, and looks forward to taking her first "Young Eagles" flight later this month. She also enjoys Taekwondo, Japanese lessons, art, computer games, and time spent with her family and pets. She is grateful for the unique experiences Cadets receive and enjoys her drills, especially marching!

Regional NLCC Cadet of the Year



Cadet Robert Anderson was selected as the **11-1 Regional NLCC Cadet of the Year and the Region 11 Senior Regional Director NLCC Cadet of the Year**. We're extremely proud of him.

Cadet Anderson joined the Navy League Cadet Corps in May 2022 and has been a wonderful addition to the Sea Cadet family. Since joining the program, Cadet Anderson quickly completed Orientation and went on to attend Exploration, Sailing (Advanced), STEM training, Seamanship (Advanced), and has a near perfect attendance record. Cadet Anderson has already earned three PRT ribbons, a community service award, and a citation ribbon for his professionalism, maturity, and devotion to duty while at Orientation. Cadet Anderson always has a positive attitude, is a great team player, and has been a mentor for other League Cadets and will undoubtedly grow to be a great leader.



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WHY DO WE FUNDRAISE?

The answer to that question may seem obvious, but for those of you who are not regular attendees to our monthly luncheons or other fundraising events, our fundraising mission may not be clear.

Our main mission is to support the youth (ages 10-18) of our community through grants to Hueneme High School NJROTC and to the Port Hueneme and Point Mugu Sea Cadets, part of the national youth



leadership development organization that promotes interest and skill in naval disciplines while instilling strong moral character and life skills through leadership and technical programs modeled after the Navy's professional development. We have

provided funds for needs such as uniforms, travel to training exercises and computers.

In addition, we recognize individuals of the Navy, Coast Guard, Marines and Seabees. Awards of merit are presented with recognition from local officials, and often include a monetary award to service members recognized for outstanding performance in their field. We also coordinate baby showers for active duty families in partnership with the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society and Fleet & Family Support.

There are, of course, many ways for our members to contribute to the NLUSCIC fundraising mission. But the best way is to come to our monthly luncheons and meet the impressive people who are the recipients of the support your donations provide.

If you would like more information, please contact me. I'd love to hear from you!

Annette Block

Third Vice President, Fundraising

NetskieB@gmail.com 818 300 5840



SGT Samuel Rice, USMCR, Commanding Officer for Naval Sea Cadet Corp/Navy League Cadet Corp units at Port Hueneme received annual support donation in the amount of \$3,500.00 from Bob Quinn, Awards Chairman on behalf of the NLUS Channel Islands Council at the March 9, 2023, Seabees birthday luncheon at the Bard Mansion. Other NSCC/NLCC Units at Point Mugu and NJROTC Unit at Hueneme High School will also receive \$3,500.00 from the Council at a future luncheon. We appreciate all of our volunteers who support our outstanding youth program.



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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

With the addition of our newest member this past week, our Navy League Channel Island council roster stands at 155 members! One of the council goals for this year is to continue to increase membership significantly. The good news is Navy League has now been opened up to Active Duty personnel which will hopefully help us achieve that goal.

The beautiful brochures made by Beckie Cramer and Arlene Fraser have arrived and there are also new membership applications that will be making their debut as well. There is also a brochure and application that is specific to Active Duty personnel that we hope to be distributing at various locations.

Current members are now encouraged to renew on line to receive immediate confirmation of payment. www.navyleague.org

Michele (Mickie) Grimaldi

1st VP membership NLCIC
micaroon2002@yahoo.com

Thanks to Beckie Cramer for arranging NLUS Channel Islands Council to have a booth at the Air Show also appreciate all volunteers at the booth: Purna Pai, Bette Alburdis, Michele Grimaldi, Diane Quinn, Judy Quinn, Bob Quinn, Helen Weeks, Annette Block, Jim Weeks, Gailen Vick (yellow hat) with prospect; not in photo: Stan Block and Mike Batarseh. Also thanks to Sea Cadets/Navy League Cadets, staff and parents also at their Sea Cadet booth.



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2023 Officers and Board of Directors

Purna Pai, President
Michele Grimaldi, 1st Vice Pres.,
Membership & Publicity
Lisa Guillen, 2nd Vice Pres., Programs
Annette Block, 3rd Vice President,
Ways and Means
Robert Quinn, Recording Secretary
Kitty Hurliman, Corresponding
Secretary
Arlene Fraser, Treasurer
Bette Alburdis, Chaplain
Jim Cecil, Jr., Judge Advocate
Board of Directors:
Stan Block, Dorothy Carmack,
Tom Fraser, Judy Quinn
Jim Cecil, Jr., NLUS National Director
Emeritus

Special reminder: Contact Judy Quinn, at 805 485-3995 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

Plan to attend lunch at the Bard Mansion on Thursday, APRIL 13, 2023 at 11:30 am
SPRING BABY SHOWER



NOTE: 2023 Price increase to:

\$20.00 cash or check per person
\$21.00 credit card per person.

Security Access Requirements to NBVC Port Hueneme

NBVC Security Pass office prepares a NL Security List for entry to the Base on dates NL will have a luncheon at the Bard Mansion. If you completed a Form and have been approved, your name is on the current Security list. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks for your cooperation.

RSVP Contact Arlene Fraser 805 377-0468

Please leave a message and let me know if you are on the gate list or if you will need a ride from the Seabee Museum parking to the Bard Mansion. Thanks!



2023 CALENDAR

THURSDAY LUNCH AT THE BARD MANSION TIME: 11:30 AM

Apr. 13; May 11; June 8; Aug. 10*; Sept. 14; Oct. 12*; Nov. 9*

Note * Awards luncheon

Watch for other special events.