



The Pilot

Navy League of the United States
Channel Islands Council

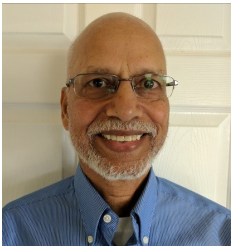
SUMMER 2023
JULY/AUG/SEPT
Vol. 46 Issue 3

www.navyleaguecica.org

Purna Pai, President

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President's Message



Hello everyone, Greetings. The summer and the warmer weather are upon us, but we don't feel the full warmth of the summer yet due to prolonged June gloom. Hopefully, it will change as summer progresses.

During the Spring, we had three successful lunch meetings. In April we celebrated the Spring baby shower with Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society. Ms. Sonya Akintonde attended the meeting to accept the baby clothes and items donated by the generous members of our Council. A check in the amount of \$3,500.00 to Trident Patrol Squadron 65 from the Council for the Sea Cadet and Navy League Cadet Units at Point Mugu was received by Inessa Gelman for the units. During May, we celebrated our Merchant Mariners with Chuck Caulkins from the International Mariners Center who gave an informative speech about the center and its operation. At the May luncheon Bob Quinn presented a certificate to Dearyl Gemeniano, NJROTC Cadet of the Year. NJROTC Unit at Hueneme High School received a check for \$3,500 from the Council.

During the June meeting we had the Age Group pictures. If you missed this opportunity, then you will need to wait another year to be in these beautiful group

pictures! Also, during this meeting our Membership Chair, Michele Grimaldi, had a group discussion, where the members had an opportunity to reintroduce themselves and describe how they became involved with the Council. Navy League of the United States at its annual national convention in June, awarded Channel Islands Council the Mackie Award for outstanding newsletter with a Gold Award. Congratulations!

As is our annual custom, in July we will have no show lunch fundraiser. This is an important annual fundraiser for us, and I ask all of you to be as generous as possible. You can buy an entire table for six mystery guests for only \$120 for the no show lunch! At the August lunch meeting, we will be celebrating the Coast Guard Birthday and honor the Coast Guard of the Year. In addition, we will have an exciting fundraising wine auction. In September, we will be celebrating our Fall Baby Shower with your generous support. Also special guest speaker, County of Ventura Sheriff James Fryhoff will be at the September luncheon. So please plan to attend our monthly lunch meetings to participate and support your Council and enjoy the activities. I look forward to seeing you at the lunch meeting at the Bard on August 10th. Until then be safe, enjoy the Summer and hope you had a safe, Happy Fourth of July!



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JULY NO-SHOW FUNDRAISER

SEND IN YOUR DONATIONS FOR YOUR MYSTERY GUESTS TO SUPPORT
NLUS CHANNEL ISLANDS ANNUAL PROJECTS:
AT \$20.00 PER GUEST, INVITE AS MANY GUESTS TO "NOT ATTEND"
ENJOY YOUR MONTH OFF DURING JULY
REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR DONATION
NO-SHOW TABLE DONATION \$120.00 for 6 MYSTERY GUESTS or
whatever amount you decide to donate.



Thank you very much for your support!

U.S. COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND AWARDS LUNCHEON

AT THE BARD MANSION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023 AT 11:30 AM

COST \$20.00 PER PERSON CASH OR CHECK; \$21.00 CREDIT CARD

RSVP Contact **Arlene Fraser 805 377-0468**

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Fundraising Wine Auction - Join the Fun!

FALL BABY SHOWER THURS., SEPT. 14, 2023 AT 11:30 AM BARD MANSION

"Thanks for your generous support at the Spring Baby Shower and now get ready and shop for everything for babies and toddlers: clothes, baby items and all sizes of diapers needed to support our young families."

Kitty Hurliman, Liaison for Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society & Family Services



Also, Special guest speaker: Come and hear from **County of Ventura Sheriff James Fryhoff** with Assistant Sheriff Andrew Salinas.



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Congratulations to Lucky Door Prize Winners



Channel Islands Council APRIL 13, 2023, luncheon at the Bard Mansion, from left: Kitty Hurliman, Leslie Smith, Nancy Dussault, and Vince Bella.



Channel Islands Council MAY 11, 2023, from left: Dearyl Gemeniano, Michele Grimaldi, Sara Alviani, Lorreta Gemeniano, and Inessa Gelman.



Channel Islands Council June 8, 2023, from left: Kendall Mattina, Lisa Guillen, Rich Rollins, Janet Foley and Melissa Frederick.

Thanks to Annette Block for preparing all the gift baskets monthly.
Congratulations to winners!



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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CALLING NEW MEMBERS (AND OLD ONES TOO)!! ARE YOU READY FOR SUMMER?

Yes, we are!! Your Channel Islands Council has fun in store for the summer months! Month-by-month, here we go!

JULY

Yes, it's a no-meeting month, but there is still somewhere to go! On **Tuesday, July 11** it's our annual **Eat-at-Yolanda's fundraiser**. From **11 am to close, for dine-in or take out**, have a margarita and a meal and raise money for NLUSCIC without lifting more than a fork! **Make sure to bring the flyer included in this newsletter, along with friends and family.**

AUGUST

We celebrate the Coast Guard's birthday at our monthly luncheon on Thursday, August 10, but wait; there's more!! We will be having our mid-year Wine Auction right after the Coast Guard festivities. Bring cash, check or your credit card and these wonderful wines will be going to the highest bidder. Let's have a goal to top last year's amount of \$800! We can do it!

How often do we have an opportunity to gather as a group in our Aloha outfits? We will for our **potluck Tropical Summer Social to be held on August 27 from 11am-2pm at Oxnard Imperial Community Room, 4010 Saviers Road in Oxnard**. This is not a fundraiser, just a get-together where we can be with old friends and make some new ones. There will be prizes, and we will have Hawaiian entertainment. **Please call or email me to sign up by August 13**. Potluck assignments will be made as we get closer. **Contact Annette Block at 818 300 5840 NetskieB@gmail.com**

As we move into fall, we have planned a tour and tasting at **Ventura Spirits on October 15**. Famous for their unique and inventive liquors, Ventura Spirits uses the natural and agricultural bounty of California's central coast to hand-craft novel and delicious spirits - distilled, aged and bottled in Ventura. Check them out at www.venturaspirits.com Space is limited to 40 total. Maximum of 20 people per tour. We have scheduled October 15 for the first tour. If we exceed 20 people, one additional tour will be added on October 8. First come, first served so make your reservations as soon as possible. There has been a lot of interest in this outing, located at 3891 N. Ventura Avenue, Suite B2A, Ventura, CA. The distillery is located in an industrial area. There is handicap access if necessary.



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SAVE THE DATE!

TROPICAL SUMMER SOCIAL

Sunday, August 27 11:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m.

Let's get together! Meet up with old friends and make some new ones at our potluck summer social! Family and friends welcome!

Bring your favorite dish (serving 8-10) to share and wear your sunniest outfit for an aloha mood!

Event location: Oxnard Imperial Community Room, 4010 Saviers Road, Oxnard
Call or email Annette Block to sign up! 818 300 5840 NetskieB@gmail.com

Prizes for the best Aloha shirt!

Bring your family and friends!



For a special event
A Tour and Tasting at

Ventura Spirits Company

Sunday, October 15, 2023 1:00 pm

\$20.00 per person

Famous for their unique and inventive liquors, Ventura Spirits' mission has been to use the natural and agricultural bounty of California's central coast to hand-craft novel and delicious spirits - distilled, aged and bottled in Ventura, California

Space is limited. Maximum 20 per tour group. 40 spaces available.

SOUND FUN? Call or email Annette Block to reserve your space!

818 300 5840 NetskieB@gmail.com

Location info to follow.



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CELEBRATION FOR CITY OF PORT HUENEME'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY PARADE AND STREET FAIR HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023



Wonderful celebration with City of Port Hueneme and community supporters and many organizations at Hueneme Beach Park.

Thanks to volunteers from Channel Islands Council: Purna Pai, Bob Quinn, Diane Quinn, Bette Alburdis, Kitty Hurliman, Vick Gailen, and Arlene Fraser. Thanks to Michele Grimaldi for providing the popup tent, tables and supplies. Also thanks to National NLUS for providing marketing items, and Beckie Cramer for getting the banner and hand-out brochures printed.



VOLUNTEERS SUPPORTED USS SANTA BARBARA COMMISSIONING AT PORT HUENEME NBVC ON APRIL 1, 2023

THANK YOU FOR OUTSTANDING DEDICATION TO SERVE, from left: Purna Pai, Michele Grimaldi, Carol Sanders, Diane Grossman, Kim Lucas and Gailen Vick. Thanks to everyone who assisted at the Commissioning including Sea Cadets, Navy Leaguers and volunteer staff.



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Membership Message from Michele Grimaldi, 1st Vice President, Membership

When you come to our monthly meeting be sure to pick up a Navy League Channel Islands Council information pamphlet so you can share who we are and what we do with your friends who may be interested in joining with others to sustain the Navy League's mission to educate, advocate, and support the members and families of our United States Sea Services.

As of the end of June 2023, our Navy League Channel Island Council membership stands at 158! Welcome aboard to all new and renewing members! For you new members, be sure to check for your welcome letter and go to the NLCIC website to learn more about our Council and the events and meetings planned for the rest of the year. **Channel Islands Council Website: www.navyleaguecica.org**

Time seems to be going faster and faster and gets away from all of us so email reminders for renewing members are sent out at 90, 60, and 30 days to the preferred email listed on our roster. Our National

Navy League membership department is encouraging all new and renewing individuals to complete membership forms online to streamline the process. You will need to go to the **Navy League of the United States website: www.navyleague.org** and if you do not already have a member profile you will need to create a new user name and password. Be sure to specify that the Channel Islands Council is your preferred council. By using a credit card to pay your yearly dues, you get instant feedback that your membership is current so that you can continue the Navy League's mission to serve those who serve others.

If you cannot join or renew online, please contact Michele Grimaldi 1st VP Membership or another board member who can provide a membership form to you to fill out and mail to our address.



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SPRING BABY SHOWER HELD ON APRIL 13, 2023

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO SUPPORT NAVY MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY AND FAMILY SERVICES AT NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY!

NLUS Channel Islands Council certificate of appreciation presented by Kitty Hurliman, right, to Sonya Akintonde, Executive Director for NMCRS at NBVC, Port Hueneme. Purna Pai also extends appreciation to NMCRS and Family Services for their dedicated support of our active-duty families at NBVC.

Get ready for our Fall Baby Shower to be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023. All baby and toddler items, clothes and diapers are needed. Thanks for your continuing support



Inessa Gelman, volunteer parent for Trident Patrol Squadron 65 Naval Sea Cadet Corp and TS Minutemen Navy League Cadet Corp units at Point Mugu received annual support donation to the units in the amount of \$3,500.00 from Bob Quinn, Awards Chairman, and Tom Fraser, Sea Cadet liaison, on behalf of the NLUS Channel Islands Council at the April 13, 2023, luncheon at the Bard Mansion. We appreciate all of our volunteers who support our outstanding youth programs.



Guest speaker at our April 13, 2023, Rudy Cobos received certificate of appreciation from Lisa Guillen, 2nd VP-Programs; also in photo at left Purna Pai, Council President and to the right, Rudy's assistant Nick Gilbert. Rudy is business owner of Cobos Fire and Safety and he shared information regarding fire safety in our homes. Be prepared and stay safe for health and safety indoors.



April 1, 2023 at Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, CA

USS Santa Barbara Commissioning

Admiral Samuel J. Paparo, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet in photo with Naval Sea Cadet Corp Units and staff. Admiral Paparo greeted each of the Cadets after the Commissioning Ceremony.



ADM Paparo



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MAY 11, 2023 MERCHANT MARINERS PRESENTATION FROM CHUCK CAULKINS INTERNATIONAL MARINERS CENTER AT PORT HUENEME

From left: Cherry Lopez*, Lisa Guillen presented certificate to Chuck Caullins*, President of IMC; Michele Grimaldi, 1st VP NL CIC; Casey Dexter*, Arlene Fraser* and Kitty Hurliman in photo. Note: * Board member at International Mariners Center



NJROTC CADET OF THE YEAR FROM HUENEME HIGH SCHOOL

From left to right: Michele Grimaldi, 1st VP welcomed everyone to the May 11, 2023, luncheon at the Bard Mansion; Bob Quinn made presentation to NJROTC Cadet of the Year, Dearyl Gemeniano, holding her certificate and check; her parents: Loretta and Jerry Gemeniano, and Steve Hayes, NJROTC program director at Hueneme High School received check from Channel Islands Council for the unit in the amount of \$3,500.00. Congratulations for an outstanding year!

HAPPY 89TH BIRTHDAY, BOB QUINN



Diane Quinn, Bob Quinn, John & Dorie Quinn and Michele Grimaldi, with home baked birthday cake for Bob's 89th birthday on May 11th at the Bard Mansion.



Bette Alburdis presented birthday balloon and cards signed by Navy League members to Bob Quinn on his 89th birthday. Bob goes above and beyond to support Navy League year-round and served as USN Captain at NBVC. Happy Birthday with many more to celebrate!



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HAPPINESS IS...

90's: Jim and Mona Cecil



80's: Bob Quinn, Stan Block, Bette Alburtis and Tom Fraser



70's: Rich Rollins, Purna Pai, Arlene Fraser, Janet Foley, Michele Grimaldi, Gailen Vick, Kendall Mattina, John Mattina, Darrell Boynton and Kitty Hurliman.



60's: Lisa Guillen, Annette Block and Vance Brahosky.



50's: Melissa Frederick and Dawn Canfield.



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Banner from the archives: Navy League of the United States, Ventura County Women's Council was the previous name of the Channel Islands Council. The council changed its name to include the Ventura County Council (Men's group) to merge into one council as several men joined the VCWC. Arlene Fraser served as the last president of the VCWC and Barbara Wiggins was the first president of the newly named Channel Islands Council in 2003.

In photo from left: Arlene Fraser, Kendall Mattina, Kitty Hurliman, Lisa Guillen, Bette Alburtis, Annette Block, Nancy Dussault, Janet Foley, Michele Grimaldi, Melissa Frederick, Dawn Canfield and Mona Cecil seated. The Council was chartered on January 26, 1973.



June 8, 2023 luncheon at the Bard Mansion in honor of those who served in the military and in recognition of Father's Day and supporters of Navy League from left: Darrell Boynton, Rich Rollins, Stan Block, Purna Pai, Bear/Ross Carmichael, Gailen Vick, Jim Cecil, Jr., John Mattina, Vance Brahosky, Tom Fraser and Bob Quinn. We appreciate all of our military active duty and those who served for protecting our freedom and quality of life. Thank you for your continuing support of our Sea Services and their families.



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Navy League of the United States
Post Office Box 873
Port Hueneme, CA, 93044
www.navyleaguecica.org

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



Thomas R. Bard Mansion

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

**Plan to attend lunch at the Bard Mansion
on Thursday, AUGUST 10, 2023 at 11:30 am
US COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY & AWARDS**

NOTE: 2023 Price:

\$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

Aug. 10*; Sept. 14; Oct. 12*; Nov. 9*

Note * Awards luncheon

Watch for other special events.