



## Navy League of the United States - St. Louis Council

# PORTSIDE

May 2018

Only with power at sea can America survive.

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## President's Message

By Wayne Chauncey

Happy Spring Navy Leaguers...or at least late Spring. We are gearing up for another busy season. I just attended the U.S. Navy League's Annual Sea, Air & Space Symposium and was fascinated by the advancements in military technology that are setting the pace for a strong National Security in the future. Let's continue to do our part in helping get the message out to our community about our support for the sea services and what they do every day to ensure the open sea lanes of trade and communication.

I am looking forward to kicking off the Spring season with our 60th Cardinal Recruit Company baseball game at Busch Stadium on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Our participating companies of Anheuser Busch, Boeing, Stifel and now Price Waterhouse will donate their suites for our active duty navy families and servicemen along with our new members. See page 4 for more information about the Cardinal Company

Prior to the annual awards presentation the board met to review the year end financials and elect the 2018 officers. Phil Evans our new Treasurer and board member was introduced and Lee Metcalf installed the officers and board members. We will have our quarterly board meeting May 17<sup>th</sup> and then on August 9<sup>th</sup> as we gear up for the summer golf tournament. Once again, we will have our outing at Norwood Hills Country Club on Aug 28<sup>th</sup>. And our Navy Maritime Ball will also be held at Westborough Country Club on October 13<sup>th</sup>, the Navy's 243<sup>rd</sup> Birthday. Save the date on your calendars. Also remember to spread the word to our N/MCJROTC Schools to contact us for 2019 Scholarship award information.

Lee Metcalf arranged a great opportunity for our organization to participate with Missouri's Lt Governor, Mike Parson at the change of home port ceremony for the *USS Missouri (SSN 780)* to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. It was great to see two ships named USS Missouri side by side, the old

and the new. Even though she is not a commissioned ship, it was a proud moment for the Missouri Battleship Foundation to take part in the passing ceremony.



**USS Missouri (SSN 780) rendering passing honors to the USS Missouri (BB 63)**



**President Chauncey and Lt Governor Mike Parson visiting the USS Missouri (BB 63)**

We also had a chance to meet with the Commanding officer of the *USS Jefferson City (SSN 759)*, a Los Angeles Class attack submarine. All this experience will prepare us for our mission of being linked to the Governor's Office when it is time for the *USS St Louis (LCS 19)* to be commissioned next year. Thanks again to Lee Metcalf for his efforts as the head of the USS St Louis Commissioning Group.

We will be launching our new website soon and look forward to feedback and ways to make our council more advanced in social and online media moving forward.

Thank you for your continued support.

**In Memoriam**  
**Robert B. Fredrickson**  
**Past Council President and**  
**Board Member Emeritus**

## Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

By Dick Kallemeier

The annual meeting was held January 27<sup>th</sup> at the downtown Missouri Athletic Club. In what has become a tradition, the Sea and League Cadets, **Cadet Seaman Brady Evans, Seaman Raph Rolwes, Seaman John Zyk and Cadet Petty Officer Third Class Isabella Hoolihan**, paraded the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CAPT Scott Stoermer, USCG**, Commander Sector Upper Mississippi River, was the guest speaker. His responsibility oversees Coast Guard operations in eleven states and over 2,200 miles of navigable waterways. As the Captain of



**CAPT Stoermer accepting the Councils appreciation from Dick Kallemeier**

the Port, Officer-in-Charge Marine Inspection, Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator and Federal On-Scene Coordinator for oil spills and hazardous materials release he shared some of the issues of budgeting, maintaining equipment and supporting the annual \$4 trillion river commerce.



**LTJG Tom Gamboe, Daniel Balai, Tom Hepfer and LT Ken Nowack**

and the Adult Leader-*Officer of the Year* is **LTJG Tom Gamboe**. **LT Ken Nowack**, the unit Commanding Officer received and Navy League *Award of Appreciation*.

A *Scroll of Honor Award*, the highest award a Council can present was given to **Doyle Wilhite**. He was recognized for being a Council Past President, various Area and Regional Presidencies and being a National



**Doyle Wilhite**

Director Emeritus.

The *Award of Excellence* recognizes outstanding leadership, job performance, community service and/or fellow service member assistance of junior level officers and enlisted naval services members. This is the fifteenth year for the awards and they are given in two phases, the first at the recipient's command and the second at the annual meeting. This year's eight recipients are:

**HM2 Robert A. Miller, USN** serves as the Navy Operational Support Center, St. Louis' Funeral Honors Coordinator and Color Guard Leading Petty Officer. He led and trained 30 honor guard team members in the completion of 1164 military honors for Navy veterans within a 300-mile radius across 3 states resulting in a 100% success rate. He is directly responsible for NOSC-St Louis receiving numerous accolades from Navy Region Southeast and appreciative family mem-



**Lorraine and HM2 Robert Miller**

bers, because of his efforts as Funeral Honors and Color Guard Coordinator. In service to his community, he volunteered more than 200 hours at Tabernacle Church, assisting with minor repairs and the empowerment of at-risk youth. He has also dedicated over 90 hours to Meal-on-Wheels, delivering 500 meals to elders in the local community.

**LT Adam Rennegarbe, USN** exhibited outstanding leadership in the execution of his duties as the Navy Recruiting District Officer Production Officer. His foresight and effective communication was vital in leading 21 Officer Recruiters across 200,000 square miles to obtain 100 percent Active General Officer, 100 percent Reserve General Officer, 179 percent Diversity, 129 percent Nuclear



**Jason Carter, LT Rennegarbe and Mike Nolan at NRD-St. Louis**

Propulsion Officer Candidate, 25 percent Chaplain Direct Accession, 200 percent Chaplain Collegiate Program Officer and 100 percent Judge Advocate General. In addition to leading his team to success in various mission areas, he remained focused on his most valuable resource, his people. His focus on training and development led to 14 Advanced Officer Recruiter and three Division Officer Qualifications.

**ENS Dana P. Schmitt, USCG** is the Sector Upper



**Kamal Madi, now LTJG Schmitt and his mother Rhonda Madi**

Mississippi River Incident Management Division Chief within the Response Department. He oversaw all hazards emergency and marine environmental response, in the largest Coast Guard Sector and directed 80 pollution and HAZMAT investigations using a team of

12 Pollution Responders. In addition to his daily Incident Management Division duties, he served as a Western River Flood Punt Team Leader where he deployed in response to four incidents; April flooding in Eureka, Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, and Tropical Storm Nate. During the Harvey flood response, he led rescue operations in the communities of Baytown, Houston, Port Arthur, and Orange, Texas, contributing to saving the lives of 316 people and 17 family pets. The level of leadership exhibited, and the amount of responsibility shouldered by ENS Schmitt far exceeds those of his peers.

**MK2 Andrew L. Lucas, USCG** is assigned to Sector

Upper Mississippi River as the sole boat engineer for the Response Department's Enforcement Division. He completed four deployments in August and September. In August, he was part of the RBS boat crew that deployed to support the National Park Service in Grand Teton, Wyoming, during the tourism season and Total Eclipse of the Sun. His professionalism resulted in many citizens and government partners' strongly requesting further Coast Guard presence at Jackson Lake in the future. He also deployed as a punt boat operator and engineer for flood response operations in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and Tropical Storm Nate. During the Harvey response, he conducted rescue operations in Spring, Houston, Port Arthur, and Vidor, Texas, contributing to saving the lives of over 450 people and over 50 family pets. Within a week's return from Harvey, he redeployed to stage flood punt capabilities for Hurricane Irma rescue operations in Mississippi and Georgia.



**MK2 Lucas**

**OS1 Anastazya C. Lencz, USCG** is assigned to Sector

Upper Mississippi River as an Operations Unit Watchstander. This position requires a technical knowledge, an extensive qualification process and an ability to interface with personnel and provide detailed briefs on rapidly developing situations. She has an integral role in the execution and planning of the Operational Commander's response to Search and Rescue,

Marine Environmental Protection, and Marine Safety incidents. She demonstrated her skills when she volunteered for the difficult duty of Local Element Electronic Key Management System Manager. When Hurricane Irma hit, Coast Guard District Seven relocated temporarily to St. Louis. For the District to continue oversight of their extensive operations, they required satellite communications; equipment beyond the scope of the Command Center's capabilities. OS1 Lencz provided coordination on the proper implementation and documentation of all equipment transfers and installation. Her efforts enabled District Seven to maintain communications with assets necessary for Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue operations. Giving back to the community, she volunteers in the Veteran-to-Veteran Program at Pathways Hospice in Chesterfield.



**OS1 Lencz**

**IS1 Andrew Burton, USNR** is TRANSCOM



**CDR David Montgomery, unit CO and IS1 Burton at USTC**

NRJIOC's Leading Petty Officer, Command Fitness Leader, Mentorship Program Leader, and Enlisted Information Warfare Specialist Coordinator. His selfless professionalism shines as unit Navy Benefits Advisor providing Sailors with direction to find Navy resources. As the Enlisted Information Warfare Specialist coordinator, he substantially supported 7 Sailors in achieving their EIWS qualifications, a major milestone in their career progression. As a true leader does, he regularly spends his off-duty hours devoted to others. Most recently, he volunteered in planning the Granite City Warrior Hockey Alumni game, planned 2-unit MWR events, and aided sailors from different units in education and fitness. IS1 Burton has completed his MBA and Senior Enlisted Information Warfare Specialist Requalification.

**Sgt Ryheme Stephens, USMC** is assigned to TRANSCOM to provide executive-level administrative support for the Commanding Generals and the Command Senior Enlisted Leader. He has been essential to the successful utilization of the electronic correspondence processing tool, Senior Leader Approval Process or SLAP. His efforts utilizing the system and advising the staff on its use have increased participation and helped the transition to an almost paperless staffing process. He is solely responsible for updating and distributing the

(Continued on page 4)

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monthly key essential personnel roster ensuring the command has contact information with the key military and DoD civilians who have important roles during all real-world emergencies. As the primary Automated Data Processing Equipment Manager, he maintained accurate control and accountability of 380 computer assets worth over \$700K. He was a crucial part of the Joint Color Guard team performing in 35 metropolitan area events. He also participated in 5 Honor Flights honoring those who have served and sacrificed for their country. He is enrolled in Park University pursuing an Associate Degree in Business Marketing maintaining a 4.0 GPA.



Sgt Ryheme Stephens

**HM1 Quinn Gibson, USN** is assigned to TRANSCOM and led a 9-member team in the operation of a \$197 Million dollar in-transit visibility system that regulated, coordinated, and validated clinical & administrative data for over 3,204 patient movements with a \$32 Million-dollar transportation value. As the team lead for the Joint Patient Movement Expeditionary System he coordinated an 8-member team in support of Hurricane's Harvey and Maria. His team evacuated 276 personnel in dire need of life saving medical treatment from St. Croix Virgin Islands. As Command Fitness leader, he coordinated the 2017 Physical Fitness Assessment, spring and fall Cycle for 16 Commands, 152 hours of Fitness Enhancement Program & Command



HM1 Quinn Gibson

physical training sessions for over 150 Sailors. He volunteered 25 hours to support Adopt-A-Highway, Airman's Attic, Scott Air show, coached 46 High School wrestling students and mentored 300 Belleville Detention Center Youths. Petty Officer Gibson was the Master of Ceremonies for the Battle of Midway Ceremony with 300 personnel in attendance.

## 60<sup>th</sup> Cardinal Company

By Dan Kloeppe

The Cardinal Company game is June 7th. League members we will again be asked for a \$50 donation per ticket to pay for the Cardinal Company Tee shirts. We offer two free tickets for new members signing up for a 2 year Navy



League membership. It is believed the relationship with Navy Recruiting, the Navy League and the Cardinals is the oldest in Major League Baseball. Contact Dan Kloeppe ASAP [dankloeppe@aol.com](mailto:dankloeppe@aol.com) if you would like to attend. Remember it is a 12:15 game, get there early (11:15) to watch the mass reenlistment by this year's guest officer, **RDML Peter A. Garvin**, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command. He will also throw out the first pitch.



## Legislative Affairs

By Mike Nolan



The Fiscal Year 2018 Omnibus Appropriations legislation was signed by **President Trump** on March 23, 2018. This year's government funding bill includes the largest annual defense increase in 15 years. It ensures our military men and women get the pay raise they deserve and have the equipment and training they need. Congress saw the need to build sufficient Navy ships to protect our nation's security and keep the commercial sea lanes open for our growing economy.

This appropriations bill sets aside \$23.8 billion dollars for the Navy to procure 14 new ships, five more than was requested in its original \$20.4 billion dollars ship-building ask. Also, this Omnibus bill now codifies the 355 ship Navy in law in the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act.

Some of the highlights of this appropriations legislation include:

Navy & Marine Corps:

- \$3.3 billion for 2 new Arleigh Burke guided missile destroyers
- \$3.3 billion for 2 new Virginia class nuclear attack submarines
- \$1.8 billion for the first next generation LXR amphibious warship
- \$1.5 billion for 3 Littoral Combat Ships
- \$10.2 billion for 90 F-35 Lightning II Joint Fighter Aircraft
- \$1.8 billion for 24 Boeing F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet aircraft
- \$1.7 billion for 10 Boeing P-8A Poseidon aircraft
- \$1.3 billion for 14 Bell-Boeing V-22 aircraft

**Maritime Administration:**

The Maritime Administration received additional funding for its Maritime Security Program, \$ 300 million dollars for a new training ship and additional support for its Marine Highway program.

**Coast Guard:**

The Coast Guard expenditures were increased over 9% from 2017. This is a much-needed increase and includes additional expenditures for aircraft, two Fast Response Cutters and \$25 million dollars for inland waterways and western river cutters.

**Others:**

Expenditures were also increased in Operations and Maintenance and other smaller accounts. The Sea Cadets received an extra \$5 million dollars for the outstanding work they do to train the 9,800 young men and women (nationwide) who participate in this program.

As you can see from the above expenditures our members of Congress realize the importance of a strong "Sea Service" team to protect our national security. Our nation thanks all those members of the Navy League who have taken time to call their members of Congress and/or send E-mails or letters to indicate that our Sea Service team was woefully under-funded and we needed to restore the funding to keep our defense force number one in the world.

On March 20, 2018, 3 of our St. Louis Council members (**Dick Kallemeier, Don Stockton** and this writer), went to Capitol Hill to talk with both senators from Missouri and four of our members of the House of Representatives. We brought defense related issues to these elected officials, to include several listed above for the Navy/Marine Corps and Coast Guard. These members of Congress were very receptive especially to the fact that we need to insure we have a strong Sea Service team which includes sufficient personnel and modern equipment. We thank all Navy League members of Missouri who have communicated with their elected representatives on the subject of support for our Sea Service team.



**Members of Navy League and ROA visit Capitol Hill, Dick Kallemeier, Mike Nolan, Senator Roy Blunt, Don Stockton and Rick Nelson**

## Fleet Happenings

*By Joe Bilodeau*

The Navy is developing a new two-piece, command-issued uniform that could eventually replace the Navy’s coveralls as an operational uniform, both on ship and at shore-based operational commands for some, but not all sailors. Hundreds of sailors will be participating in the initial round of wear tests for the uniform that Navy officials are calling the “Maritime Two-Piece Fire-Retardant Variant.”

The trial will include a khaki variant for chiefs and officers that could bring khakis back to sea for the first time in years. The Navy will test two variants for sailors E6 and below. One set will feature dark blue shirt and pants, with colors similar to the existing coveralls, and the other version will feature a light blue shirt and dark blue pants, similar to the traditional colors of the dungaree uniform. The design comes after sailors in focus groups voiced overwhelming interest in a two-piece uniform similar to the Coast Guard’s operational dress uniform.

“This was sailor driven and came out of focus groups in Norfolk and San Diego, encompassing roughly 250 sailors from all communities,” said **CAPT Mark Runstrom**, director of Fleet Supply Operations and Services at U.S. Fleet Forces Command. Runstrom said 84 percent of those sailors said the Navy should pursue a two-piece fire-retardant uniform. Sailors want a uniform they can wear while commuting to and from work, which Navy officials say will likely be permitted with the new two-piece.

A return to an all-khaki, at-sea working uniform is bound to be popular with officers and the chiefs mess, who complained loudly in 2010 when the Navy put all ranks in the Navy Working Uniforms, or NWUs. According to Runstrom, the E-6 and below sailors from the focus groups generally preferred the completely dark blue version rather than the light-dark contrast.



The three-month wear test will likely begin in March and will involve roughly 350 participants across eight geographic regions and 28 commands. It is expected to last for three to four months.

According to the Naval Sea Command, the *USS Michael Monsoor (DDG 1001)* successfully completed its

*(Continued on page 7)*

# Youth Programs



U.S. Navy Sea Cadet and Navy League Cadet Corps



Cleveland Junior Naval Academy NJROTC

Riverview Gardens High School NJROTC

Washington & Borgia High Schools NJROTC

Pacific High School MCJROTC

Roosevelt High School MCJROTC



University of Missouri

## Sea Cadet Program

By LT Ken Nowack, USNSCC

The Cadets enjoyed the training and learned a lot from the Marines. We had our annual inspection in March and all went well. The Cadets also did introductory scuba diving during the March drill weekend along with swim qualifications. April drill we be at Smartt Field for Young Eagles day which provides the Cadets an introduction to flying with the EAA. In May, we will be marching in the Alton, Illinois Memorial Day parade with a cookout afterwards. June prep time for re-entrant training and advanced trainings.

Update on last year's graduates, **Carson Gamboe** just finished machinist mate nuclear A school and was promoted to Machinist Mate Nuclear 2nd Class. **Cole Wukitsch** will be enlisting in the Air Force at an advanced rank due to Sea Cadets and **Ein Austin** will be joining the Navy as an E3.

At the February drill MSgt Avery and a group of Marines volunteered their time and taught the Cadets rifle drill, command calling and marching.

The Cadets also did introductory scuba diving during the March drill weekend along with swim qualifications. April drill we be at Smartt Field



Sea Cadets attending Home Land Security Training at Camp Robinson Arkansas

## STEM Camp 2018

By Tim Raines



Through the initiative of the Navy League-St. Louis Council, area JROTC and Naval Sea Cadets will be attending a 5-day training exercise again in 2018 at Pensacola's National Naval Aviation Museum. The program focus is on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) using computer simulations. From July 22nd to the 28th Naval Sea Cadets and Navy/Marine Corps JROTC cadets from Riverview Gardens, Washington, Cleveland

Naval Academy and Pacific High Schools will be aboard the simulator *Ambition*. There will be over 40 cadets attending the National Flight Academy (NFA), a 102,000 sq. ft. structure built to mimic a modern aircraft carrier. All area Navy and Marine Corp JROTC units and Naval Sea Cadets are invited to attend. Interested cadets is please contact your Naval Science Instructor or Commanding Officer and Tim Raines by email at [rainesta99@gmail.com](mailto:rainesta99@gmail.com).

Cadets at the camp will be immersed in aviation-related role-playing scenarios, disaster relief or homeland security missions, examples that will emphasize STEM. The game-like programs, designed by aviators and creative writers, teach team building and communication skills along with principles of flight, propulsion and meteorology. The exercises make extensive use of high-tech simulators. The museum and academy sit side by



Flight Simulator Missions



USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park visit

side on the grounds of the Pensacola Naval Air Station.

Prior to the start of the academy the cadets will spend some beach time at NAS Pensacola Beach. After completion of the academy the cadets will visit the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park, in Mobile Alabama.

Only through the continued community support is this possible. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> trip to the NFA and we have been fortunate to have over 150 cadets attend this annual STEM event. The cadets are very appreciative to the Navy League and the other sponsors. Thank you for your support.

<http://www.nationalflightacademy.com/>

*(Continued from page 5)* **Fleet Happenings**

acceptance trials on 1 February. The Maine Bath Works built stealth destroyer is the second ship in the Zumwalt-class of destroyers.

The Portland Press Harold reports that the Navy statement says onboard systems such as navigation, damage control, mechanical, combat, communications and propulsion met or exceeded specifications. The Monsoor headed out to sea for the first time in December for its first sea trials. Unfortunately, the sea trials were cut short due to equipment failures.

The 610-foot Monsoor is the second in a class of three futuristic looking ships that are equipped with electric drive propulsion, new radar and sonar, powerful guns and missiles and a sleathy shape.



Part of the crew of the future USS Michael Monsoor as the ship passes Fort Popham on its way out to Sea Trials, December 4, 2017 (Robert F. Bukaty/AP)

**2018 Golf Tournament**

*By Rick Vogel*

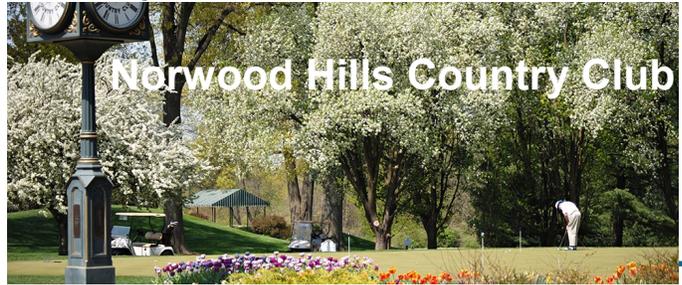
Looking for a way to support your local Navy League and have fun at the same time? Join us on Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> for our annual fundraiser golf tournament at Norwood Hills Country Club. The pristine conditions of Norwood are a true treat for golfers looking for a challenge and always exceed expectations. A great time was had by all last year and your Navy League is working hard for a repeat performance.

Please also consider being a sponsor for our 2018 tournament. As a key fundraiser for your Navy League, this event is critical to our success as an organization. Your support directly benefits local youth programs such as

the SEA CADETS and Junior ROTC, local STEM initiatives as well as military families. We cannot do it without your help!

If you or your company are looking for charitable causes that support local youth and military families, please put the Navy League and our golf tournament in the mix. We would greatly appreciate your support. Call me, **Rick Vogel** at (314) 817-1428 or email [rick.vogel@marcone.com](mailto:rick.vogel@marcone.com).

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this great event for a great cause!



**New Dental/Vision Insurance for military families and retirees**

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM), in partnership with the Defense Health Agency and the Department of Defense, announced the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) will be offered to TRICARE eligible retirees and their families during the 2018 Federal Benefits Open Season. Active duty family members will be eligible to enroll in FEDVIP vision insurance.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program ends on Dec. 31, 2018. Those enrolled in TRDP must choose a dental plan through FEDVIP to have coverage in 2019. Enrollment is not automatic. This announcement affects 1.63 million beneficiaries enrolled in TRDP and offers a choice to an additional 1.3 million eligible retired beneficiaries not currently enrolled in TRDP.

Most beneficiaries in a TRICARE health plan may enroll in a FEDVIP vision plan. This comprehensive vision coverage, including eyeglasses or contacts, is in addition to the routine eye examination benefit that many beneficiaries have under TRICARE Prime or Select.

The Federal Benefits Open Season enrollment period, Nov. 12, 2018 through Dec. 10, 2018, runs concurrently with the TRICARE Open Season. Coverage will be effective Jan. 1, 2019.

FEDVIP currently serves more than 3 million Federal employees, retirees and their families. It provides comprehensive dental and vision insurance at competitive group rates with 10 dental and four vision carriers for enrollees to choose from.

For more information, visit [TRICARE.benefeds.com](http://TRICARE.benefeds.com) to sign up to receive messages, updates, and reminders on the FEDVIP throughout the rest of this year.



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**Navy League - St. Louis Council  
Richard Kallemeier  
14775 Thornbird Manor Pkwy  
Chesterfield, MO 63017**

**Calendar of Events**

**May**

**(17) St. Louis Council Board Meeting  
MAC West 5:30 PM**

**June**

**(7) 60th Cardinal Company  
Busch Stadium  
Swearing-In Ceremony 11:15 AM**

**July**

**(19) St. Louis Council Board Meeting  
MAC West 5:30**

**August**

**(9) St. Louis Council Board Meeting  
MAC West 5:30 PM  
(28) Annual Golf Tournament  
Norwood Hills Country Club**

**October**

**(13) 243rd Navy Birthday Ball  
Westborough Country Club**



**PORTSIDE NEWSLETTER**

Opinions expressed herein are those of the editor or columnists and not necessarily those of the St. Louis Council or the Navy League of the United States. Published by the Navy League of the United States, St. Louis Council.

**President**

**Wayne Chauncey** [wayout@att.net](mailto:wayout@att.net)

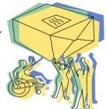
**Editor**

**Richard Kallemeier** [dickkall@charter.net](mailto:dickkall@charter.net)  
(636) 733-3323

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