

# VOYAGER

## THE LAKE WASHINGTON COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Navy League  
of the United States



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ March 9th Honor the USCGC Healy Dinner
- ◆ May 18th General Dinner Meeting
- ◆ August 17th, Argosy Cruise Event
- ◆ November 16th, Dinner Meeting

Additional information on LWC meetings and events can be found on our web site at [www.lakewashnlus.org](http://www.lakewashnlus.org). You can contact us at [info@lakewashnlus.org](mailto:info@lakewashnlus.org).

### ABOUT US

The Lake Washington Council (LWC) is part of the Navy League of the United States, whose web site is located at [www.navyleague.org](http://www.navyleague.org).

#### Lake Washington Council Adopted Units

- ◆ US Coast Guard Cutter Healy
- ◆ Naval Coastal Warfare Sqdn-33 (former HDCU-113)
- ◆ USCG Integrated Support Command Seattle
- ◆ USS Abraham Lincoln
- ◆ Liberty High School NJROTC
- ◆ University of Washington NROTC
- ◆ USN Sea Cadet Corps, Everett

## Lake Washington Council Honor's the USCGC Healy March 9, 2005

Lake Washington Council will celebrate our 4th Annual Honor the Healy Dinner in the Evergreen Point room at the Red Lion Bellevue Inn, located at 11211 Main Street in Bellevue. **This is a very special event each year, offering us the opportunity of honoring and meeting with the men and women of the USCGC Healy crew.** See page 3 on how you can "Treat a Sailor to Dinner." The no-host social hour starts at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m. There is plenty of free parking. As always, we encourage you to bring interested guests.

We are pleased to have as our speaker for this very special event, Coast Guard VADM Harvey Johnson, Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area and U.S. Maritime Defense Zone Pacific.

The entrée choices for this evening are New York Steak, Grilled Salmon, or Vegetarian. The cost per person is \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Make your reservation today by mailing your check made payable to Lake Washington Council-NLUS, to LWC-NLUS, PO Box 183, Medina, WA 98039-0183, or via email to [info@lakewashnlus.org](mailto:info@lakewashnlus.org). **Please be certain to specify your entrée selections with your reservation. Receiving your reservation no later than March 4th will greatly help our planning of this special dinner meeting.**

Roger Ponto, Editor

# VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Dear Council Members and Friends:

Looking back at the accomplishments of this Council during the past four years is both awe-inspiring and a little intimidating as I commence my term as President.

The events at our January dinner meeting abundantly demonstrated the vitality and energy of the Lake Washington Council, and the personal energy and dedication of its past Presidents. Those of you who attended the dinner meeting experienced first-hand, that energy. We were honored to have the National President of the Navy League, Sheila McNeill as our very special guest and speaker. Also, Roger Ponto and I were pleased to be able to escort President McNeill on a tour of our adopted Coast

Guard units at Pier 36 in Seattle. Her tour included a visit to the Integrated Support Command, the Vessel Traffic Services facility, a small boat ride and a tour of the USCGC Healy.

I particularly want to take this opportunity, both personally and on behalf of the members of the Lake Washington Council, to thank Roger Ponto for his remarkable efforts and dedication to this Council during his past two terms as President. Roger's dedicated efforts dramatically increased membership, increased the number of units we directly support and the support we provide to those units. The recognition Roger received at the January dinner meeting including the presentation of the Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award by Admiral Garrett, 13<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District Commander, attest to those efforts. Thank you Roger!

A vital, active and growing membership is key to our ability to support the sea services in the area and to educate the community about their importance to us. To that end, during 2005, we will work to continue the growth in membership. We will also be focusing on finding new ways to support our own adopted units and to further the public education goal of the Navy League. As part of those efforts, we welcome and solicit the involvement of all of our members in the activities of the Council.

**I ask each of you to consider becoming more directly involved in Council activities.** We need people to help with membership growth, identifying new and effective ways to support our units, coordinating tours and other member activities, and helping out with dinner meetings among other things. We have many ways for you to become involved, some of which we haven't even thought of yet! Please let me or any of the other members of the board know if you would like to help.

I look forward to our activities in the coming year. Take a look at the list of upcoming events on the front page of this newsletter.

Ronald S. Matthew  
 President, Lake Washington Council-NLUS  
 2005

## 2005 BOARD MEMBERS

- President**..... Capt. Ron Matthew
- 1st Vice-President** ..... Capt. David Visneski
- Vice-President**..... Jules Bresnick
- Vice-President**..... Roger Ponto
- Treasurer** ..... Lee Anne Petersen-Walker
- Secretary**..... Malcolm Edwards
- Chaplain**..... Rev. Paul Williams
- Board Members**..... Gerald Kroon
- ..... Dale Branscomb
- ..... RADM John Lockwood
- ..... Cyndee Lockwood
- ..... Sheila Meiling
- ..... MCPO David Ojeda
- ..... Pete Stiles
- ..... Donna Visneski
- Board Members Emeritus** ..... Marilyn Crist
- ..... Louise Chase

## Navy's New X-Craft Christened



On February 5, 2005, the first "Fast Sea Frame" (FSF-1) experimental X-Craft, the "Sea Fighter" was christened at Nichols Bros. Boat Builders, Whidbey Island, WA. This high-speed, experimental vessel will test a variety of technologies that will allow the Navy to operate more effectively in littoral, or near shore waters. It will serve as a "risk reduction," experimental vessel for the Littoral Navy Combat Ships and Coast Guard's Deepwater Program.

This aluminum catamaran is 262 feet long with a beam of 72 feet, displaces 950 tons, with a draft of 11.5 feet. Two gas turbine engines, two propulsion diesels and two waterjets, will power Sea Fighter to near 50 knots. The Sea Fighter crew of 26 will consist of 16 Sailors and 10 Coast Guardsmen. Remarkable for a vessel of this size.

### Treat A Sailor to Dinner

You can once again participate in inviting, as your guests, the crew and spouses of the USCGC Healy, to our 4th Annual Honor the Healy Dinner, by joining in the Healy Sponsor Program. Gold level \$500 & up, Silver level \$250-\$499, and Bronze level \$50-\$249. All proceeds go to the USCGC Healy. Send your tax-deductible check payable to Lake Washington Council, to LWC-NLUS, PO Box 183, Medina WA 98039-0183. Each \$50 invites another sailor.

## LWC BUSINESS AFFILIATES

### Corporate Sponsors

- ◆ Todd Pacific Shipyards
- ◆ Microvision, Inc.
- ◆ Safe Boats International

### Community Affiliates

- ◆ ALSTOM Power Conversion
- ◆ Argosy Cruises
- ◆ Cadick Corp
- ◆ Complete Automotive
- ◆ Costco Kirkland/Issaquah
- ◆ First Command Financial Planning
- ◆ Flags & Flagpoles Northwest
- ◆ Forde Financial & Tax
- ◆ Galvin Flying Services, Inc.
- ◆ Global Construction Services, Inc.
- ◆ Red Lion Bellevue Inn
- ◆ Security Services Northwest
- ◆ Sperry Ocean Dock Ltd
- ◆ Stoller & Company
- ◆ Texas Smokehouse Bar B-Q
- ◆ USAA
- ◆ Vertical Path Recruiting
- ◆ Vigilos, Inc

Through their financial contribution, these business affiliates demonstrate their commitment to LWC-NLUS, to the mission of the Navy League, and their desire to support young people through our programs and scholarships.

### PLEASE UPDATE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!

If you have e-mail and have not received news from LWC in the last month, we do not have your e-mail address. Please contact us at [info@lakewashnlus.org](mailto:info@lakewashnlus.org) with your updated address. This will ensure that you are receiving the latest information from the Lake Washington Council.

LAKE WASHINGTON COUNCIL  
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES  
P.O. Box 183  
MEDINA WA 98039-0183



**NAVY LEAGUE**  
*of the United States*



# Lake Washington Council

CITIZENS IN SUPPORT OF THE SEA SERVICES

**Lake Washington Council is your community organization that:**

- Supports our Puget Sound sea services: USCGC Healy, USS Abraham Lincoln, Naval Coastal Warfare Squadron-33, and USCG Integrated Support Command-Seattle.
- Supports local Naval Reserve Officers Training Units and USN Sea Cadet Corps: NJROTC at Liberty High School, NROTC at University of Washington, and USN Sea Cadet Corps, Everett.
- Increases awareness of the diversity of maritime units in Puget Sound.
- Conveys the pivotal role our Puget Sound sea services play in our national and regional security.
- Furthers understanding that maritime commerce is the cornerstone of our region's economy.

*Navy League of the United States Mission Statement*

**A civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that its national defense and economic well being are dependent upon strong sea services – United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard and United States**