

**Navy League of the United States
2006 Northwest Regional Conference
Ron Testa, Northwest Region President**

**Hosted by Lake Washington Council
Recipient of the NLUS Outstanding Council Award 2004
Dave Visneski, Council President**

**24-26 February 2006, Red Lion Bellevue Inn
11211 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98004**

Fellow Navy Leaguers and friends - The following is a tentative and incomplete schedule. However, the Region Conference is only four months away, and the planning committee desires to get the basic information about conference dates and speakers out to our membership, to other Councils, and to our friends in this November issue of our Voyager Newsletter. **SAVE the DATES!** SUPPORT your Region and Council by attending the events and workshops. More information will be forth coming in the January issue of Voyager, in separate Regional Conference mailings, and on our web site at www.lakewashnlus.org. Note, prices for the various events are to be determined.

Questions to; Conference Committee co-chairs:

Jules Bresnick at JBresnick@aol.com or John Lockwood at jclock4@comcast.net,

Tentative Program and Schedule

Friday, 24 February 2006

- 1100-1815 Registration & Check-In (Registration fee must be paid by all conference attendees) \$25
1800-1900 Welcome Aboard Reception and Dinner– Cocktail hour with no host bar
1900-2200 Dinner & Program; **Keynote speaker- Rear Admiral Joel Whitehead**, USCG, Chief of Congressional and Public Affairs, Coast Guard Headquarters (confirmed)

Saturday, 25 February 2006

- 0730-1600 Registration & Check-in continues
0800-1150 Workshops & Meetings
1200-1315 Luncheon; **Keynote Speaker – Rob McKenna, Washington State Attorney General** (invited)
1315-1630 Workshops & Meetings
1800-1900 Banquet–Cocktail hour with no host bar
1900-2200 Banquet-Dinner & Program; **Keynote Speaker – John Pannenton**, National President, Navy League of the United States (invited)

Sunday, 26 February 2006

- 0930-1200 Tour of Coast Guard Integrated Support Command-Seattle, including our adopted USCG Cutter Healy, CG Museum, and other attractions (Buses depart from hotel lobby at 0930)

LWC Reaches Out to Sea Service Members Hit by Katrina

In the wake of Katrina's destruction, at the mid-September Board of Directors meeting, Council President Ron Matthew and the Board voted to donate \$1000 to assist sea service members stationed on the Gulf Coast and in the vicinity of New Orleans whose homes were destroyed. The donation will be equally divided between Navy Relief, a fund that supports both the Navy and Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Fund. Fully 70% of the 1300 Coast Guard members stationed in the area devastated by Katrina lost their homes.

Following the Board's action, Council President Matthew sent an e-mail to Region President Ron Testa advising him of the Council's action, and suggesting that each of the 21 Councils in the Region attempt to meet or exceed Lake Washington's donation. Region President Testa followed with an e-mail to each Council President and to all National Directors in the Region advising them of our generous donation.

National Director Emeritus and former Northwest Region President Bruce Van Tassell commended our President and the Council for setting a great example and for reaching out to help our sea service members and their families who were so badly mauled by Katrina.



US Senate Resolution Honors US Coast Guard's Hurricane Katrina Response

The following are excerpts from US Senate Resolution 246, commending the Coast Guard's performance in responding to Hurricane Katrina. WAY TO GO USCG!!!

The Coast Guard anticipated the potential for significant loss of life and property as Hurricane Katrina approached Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama and made landfall on August 29, 2005, and, in advance of the storm, relocated its personnel, vessels, and aircraft out of harm's way;

The Coast Guard immediately deployed nearly 1,000 personnel, including captains, crew, pilots, rescue swimmers, pollution response teams, and other specialists and reservists, from stations all over the country, to coastal areas affected by the hurricane, for a total regional force size of approximately 3,619 personnel;

Coast Guard personnel who had never personally worked together before began to work as teams to conduct and coordinate search and rescue operations while Hurricane Katrina continued to bear down on the central Gulf of Mexico shoreline;

The Coast Guard rescued or evacuated 33,544 individuals as of September 21, 2005, a number that represents eight times the number of lives saved by the Coast Guard in an average year;

Three Coast Guard pollution response Strike Teams responded to 1,129 pollution incidents as of September 20, 2005, which include total discharges of more than 7 million gallons of oil, unknown amounts of sewage, and unknown quantities of other toxic chemicals, and the Coast Guard has contained or otherwise closed 426 of these cases;

The Coast Guard performed its hurricane response missions largely with outdated legacy assets, increasing the wear and tear on these assets while foregoing regularly scheduled maintenance activities in the interest of sustaining its surge in life-saving operations;

The Coast Guard already conducts its missions with the 40th oldest fleet of the 42 nations with Coast Guard or naval fleets;

More than 700 Coast Guard personnel stationed in the Gulf region lost their homes and all personal property and are now living on overcrowded Coast Guard vessels and in makeshift shelters;

Before, during, and after the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, Coast Guard personnel exhibited determination and a full commitment to their missions, and the Coast Guard has proven to be one of the most resourceful and capable services in the United States government;

Before, during, and after the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, Coast Guard personnel performed their missions with the highest level of bravery and self-sacrifice, and their effectiveness in performing their missions is unparalleled in the United States government.

PROPOSED SLATE
Lake Washington Council 2006 Board Members

This slate of proposed Board members for 2006 has been developed by the Nominating Committee appointed by LWC President Ron Matthew, and has been approved by your current Board. Elections will be held during the November 16th Dinner Event.

President	CAPT David Visneski
Vice President	Jules Bresnick
Vice President	Roger Ponto
Treasurer	Lee Anne Petersen-Walker
Secretary	Susan Gilpin
Chaplin	Rev. Paul Williams
Board Members	RADM John Lockwood
	CAPT Ron Matthew
	Peggy Ponto
	Pete Stiles
	CPO Allen Torstenson
	Donna Visneski
Board Members Emeritus	
	Marilynn Crist
	Louise Chase

**Lake Washington Council Scheduled to Adopt Two New
Sea Service Units at the November 16th Event**

At the November "Mission Achievement" Event we will formally adopt two new units, bringing our adopted sea service and youth organizations to a total of ten. We believe this represents the largest number of units adopted by any Council in the Northwest Region. To learn the identity of these very special additions to our family of supported units, be certain to attend the November 16th event.