



Navy League
of the United States



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JUNE 2022

FUTURE EVENTS

Board Meeting TBD
Dinner Meeting TBD
Scuttlebutt Social Hour-3rd Thu

ABOUT US

The Lake Washington & Everett (LW&E) Council is part of the Navy League of the United States, www.navyleague.org

SUPPORTED UNITS

USCG Base Seattle
USCGC Healy (WAGB 20)
USCGC Henry Blake (WLM 563)
USCGC Blue Shark (WPB 87360)
USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23)
Undersea R & D Detachment
Liberty High School NJROTC
Snohomish High School MCJROTC
U. of Washington NROTC
Naval Station Everett Division USNSCC
US Naval Station Everett
Carrier Strike Group ELEVEN
Destroyer Squadron Nine
USS John S. McCain (DDG 56)
USS McCampbell (DDG 85)
USS Momsen (DDG 92)
USS Kidd (DDG 100)
USS Gridley (DDG 101)
USS Sampson (DDG 102)
USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114)
Afloat Training Group - PACNW
Branch Health Clinic Everett
Regional Support Organization - PACNW
Naval Operational Support Center Everett
Puget Sound Naval Shipyard &
Intermediate Maintenance Facility

USS McCampbell Arrives in New Everett Homeport

Naval Station Everett Public Affairs News Release

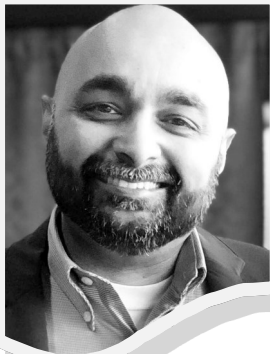
EVERETT, Wash. – Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS McCampbell (DDG 85) arrived in its new homeport of Naval Station Everett, WA on 8 April. Prior to relocating, the ship underwent an extensive Depot Modernization Period in Portland, OR that spanned over 18 months. The modernization included improvements to the hull, mechanical systems, electrical technology,

Photo by Patrick Dionne



wireless communications, and weapon upgrades. This routine maintenance ensures the ship can continue to be mission capable throughout its expected service life. Before entering the shipyard, USS McCampbell was forward deployed in Yokosuka, Japan. The ship will continue conducting modernization pier side in Everett to complete the work. USS McCampbell is led by Commanding Officer CDR Steven Zielechowski. *"We are excited to return to a fleet concentration area and have the close by support from Naval Station Everett. We are looking forward to training alongside our new neighbors and eager to work hard back out at sea."* Zielechowski said. The ship's arrival brings the total number of U.S. Navy ships homeported in Everett to seven including: USS Momsen (DDG 92), USS Gridley (DDG 101), USS Sampson (DDG 102), USS Kidd (DDG 100), USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53), and USS John S McCain (DDG 56).

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Welcome to the June 2022 issue of the Lake Washington & Everett Council's Mackie Award winning newsletter, *Voyager*. Beginning the last quarters in my tenure as Council President, I feel so blessed to have been able to write this column for almost the last five years. These past few

months have been extremely busy for me personally as I had to concentrate on my professional career as a Strategic Technology Consultant, but our council has been fairly active. Karmin Pincus, our President-Elect, and I met with the leadership of Naval Station Everett and discussed how our council can better support the base. With input from those leaders, we restarted our monthly Thursday dinners at the Scuttlebutt Restaurant on the Everett waterfront. In April, Karmin hosted the USS McCampbell (DDG 85), where we adopted the ship as an officially supported unit of our council. In June, we hosted the USS Kidd, (DDG 100). A room full of sailors from both of these ships were treated to the usual Navy League hospitality of the Lake Washington & Everett Council. In July, we hope to recognize the outstanding sailors of the Naval Medicine Readiness & Training Unit - Everett, otherwise known as the Naval Branch Health Clinic Everett. The NMRTU recently had a change of lead-

ership. My friend, HMCM (SW/AW/FMF/IW) Eugene Johnson, was transferred to Texas on the last posting of his illustrious career. HMC Benjamin Chapin has taken over as the Leading Chief Petty Officer for the unit. Seattle Fleet Week 2022 planning is in full swing. The US Navy, US Coast Guard and the Royal Canadian Navy are sending ships for the event. The ships are scheduled to arrive in Seattle on 1 August and depart on 7 August. There will be a parade of ships on 1 August at the Seattle waterfront. The US Navy ship tours will be held at Pier 90 from August 2 - 6, while the Royal Canadian Navy will have ship tours at Pier 69 from August 2 - 6. The US Coast Guard will also be allowing ship tours on the Seattle waterfront. The US Navy's Blue Angels will be flying again in Seattle from August 5 - 7 at the Seafair Weekend air show. I hope many of you are able to come attend Seattle Fleet Week in person this year and support our Sea Services. As for the rest of the year, we hope to continue holding our monthly Scuttlebutt social events on every third Thursday of the month. Please come and raise a pint to some outstanding sailors based on Naval Station Everett. Also, we hope to have our annual Naval Station Everett award dinner in early November. We hope to give you the date of the event in the next issue of the *Voyager*. I hope you all have a great summer ahead,

Sanu

ADM Linda L. Fagan
27th Commandant
of the U.S. Coast Guard.



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Council Supported Unit News

In June, **Naval Station Everett** participated with Life Flight and Air Lift Northwest in an exercise that demonstrated emergency aeromedical evacuations from the base to a local hospital. The training prepared for a potential real-world earthquake and tsunami disaster. The drills were part of a regional disaster response exercise that included many different aircraft and first responders from state, county, and local partner agencies in the Northwest Regional Aviation consortium.

The crew of **USCGC Henry Blake (WLM 563)** held a change of command 17 June at Naval Station Everett. During the traditional military ceremony, LT Cyrus Unvala, USCG relieved LT Myles McCarthy, USCG of command of cutter



Photos by PA3 Michael Clark & SN Nathan Montalvo USCG

Henry Blake under the direction of RADM Melvin W. Bouboulis, USCG, Commander, 13th CG District. McCarthy (*above right*) received the Coast Guard Commendation Medal during the ceremony. LT Unvala (*below*) recently served at the Office of the Deputy Commandant for Operations in Washington, DC. Other assignments included tours in Arctic icebreak-



ing and aids to navigation in Alaska and the Great Lakes.

(More Unit News on pages 10 to 13)

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The Pandemic Didn't Slow Down NSE Sea Cadets in 2021!

Article & photos by AO2 Bob Lockyer
(USN 1976 – '81), LW&E Council member

Naval Station Everett (NSE) Sea Cadet Corps' (NSCC) Commanding Officer LTJG Eric Grimsby proudly reports their division members were awarded the "Unit Commendation" ribbon.



This was awarded to the division which distinguished itself by achieving performance to pre-pandemic levels in recruiting, advanced training attended by cadets, and number of advancements completed by cadets. The award was authorized by CAPT James Christie, USN, Retired. The unit also par-

ing with this team of NSCC youths, learn more about the NSE division at: <https://www.nsecc.org/>. If the NSE division is not a convenient location, find a corps in your area by visiting the National Sea Cadets' website at: <https://www.seacadets.org/>.

A brief history of a young Naval Port, NSE and its Sea Cadets.

The Sea Cadet division was initially commissioned on 4 March 1970, as the Cormorant Division, named after a seabird. This was during a time when the current naval station didn't exist. The area only served as a dry dock on the Port Gardner Bay shores. The Navy used the area as a dry dock since 1942 but there was no official



Photo by LT Marie Sketchley, NSCC

ticipated in several community events over the course of last year. NSE division adult volunteers and cadets are setting the example for units across the region in the number of increased cadet members recovering after declining over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. This youth organization serves to instruct cadets about the sea-going services, community service, citizenship, and an understanding of discipline and teamwork. NSCC develops cadets' interest and ability in seamanship, instilling virtues of good citizenship and strong moral principles. It also demonstrates the value of an alcohol-free, drug-free and gang-free lifestyle and the division exposes cadets to the prestige of public service. This can result in a variety of career paths for youth through hands-on training with our nation's armed services. If you have a child aged 8 to 18 that could benefit from participat-

port – the lumber industry dominated the shorelines. Late in 1982, City of Everett begun an 18-month bidding, research and development project to lure a new naval base to its waterfront. After a fierce political battle under the leadership of Senator Henry Martin "Scoop" Jackson,





tions for environmental impact studies and for the installation of new electrical power and other utility systems. Three and a half years later in October 1987, fifteen ships sailed to Everett including four cruisers, four frigates, four destroyers and two minesweepers. The area hasn't been the same since. The Navy brings hundreds of millions of dollars to the city to support operations. On 12 March 1992, another step forward for NSE came when the submarine USS George Washington Carver (SSBN-656) moored at the newly installed carrier pier. Dredging activities lasted for more than a year so carriers could moor pier side. The aircraft carrier pier and South Wharf were

Left to Right: CPO Malina Sketchley, CPO Lucas Lu, PO3 Samuel Getahun, SN Maxim Tretiakov & PO2 Thomas Rhodes who served as a US Senator from 1953 until 1983, the Navy made its choice on 17 April 1984. An official announcement was printed in the *Everett Herald* newspaper that Tuesday declaring Everett as the winner over six other city candidates in the state. To prepare, dozens of local engineers produced reams of paper with specifica-

officially completed 4 June 1992, as reported by the *Homeport Update*, a publication that appraised citizens on base progress. A ribbon cutting ceremony commemorated the completion date of the \$56 million project. Sometime in the 90s, the cadet unit name was changed to Nimitz Division after the USS Nimitz (CVN 68). The unit was renamed after Naval Station Everett sometime in the 2000s.



Liberty High School NJROTC Patriot Company Update

By John Deehr

On Saturday evening, 2 April, cadets, family, friends, and staff members celebrated the US Navy's rich history and its 246th birthday at the annual NJROTC Navy Ball. The event was held at the Meridian Valley Country Club in Kent and after a two-year COVID hiatus, we had an excellent turnout with 70 cadets and 128 people total in attendance. The evening kicked off with a receiving line and after some social time, the official ceremony began. We were thrilled and honored to have Stephen Vlach (*center at right*),



Liberty H.S. Football Coach as our Guest of Honor and featured speaker. His speech was excellent and well received by everyone in attendance. After a meal that included prime rib, steelhead trout, or cauliflower steak, we toasted the USA, our armed forces, our cadets, and their parents and guardians. We announced the royal court, had a senior / parent dance



and concluded the evening with dancing. A good time was had by all.

CAPT John Deer (*below*) presents the NLUS Theodore Roosevelt Medal and certificate to Cadet Petty Officer Second Class Jefferey Linn. The NLUS award is given for outstanding perfor-



mance of duty and was established to honor those cadets who best exemplify Roosevelt's values of energy, spirit, competition, and fair play. The award consists of a medal, ribbon bar, certificate, and pamphlet on President Theodore Roosevelt, whose visage is on the medal. Cadet Linn is completing his second year in NJROTC. This year he advanced three times, was an integral member of the Academics Team that won the JROTC Puget Sound Division Championship and then finished third in all of NJROTC Area Thirteen that includes NJROTC teams from 11 states and Japan and Guam. He was also a squad leader and assumed the role of Assistant Platoon Leader in their absence. In addition to his participation in NJROTC, Cadet Lin carries a 3.5 grade point average while holding a full academic load that includes Honors Lit, precalculus, and physics. A very active member of the Junior state of America (JSA) club, he was recently elected Mayor.

On 26 March, Liberty High School NJROTC Patriot Company took eight teams to the Pacific Northwest JROTC Conference Championships at Marysville Pilchuck High School. Competing against the absolute best JROTC teams from 33 schools from northwest Oregon and western Washington, Patriot Company competed in Air

Rifle, Academics, Armed and Unarmed Drill, Color Guard, and Physical Fitness. Competing at the highest level and against several schools with over 120 cadets, Patriot Company was crowned Conference Champion in Physical Fitness, beating their closest opponent by over 120 points. Patriot Company finished fourth overall in the entire conference with the following team results: *Fourth Place*: Precision Air Rifle, Color Guard Team 1 & Color Guard Team 2; *Fifth*



Place: Armed Drill; *Sixth Place*: Unarmed Drill. This was the best showing in recent memory. Above (*left to right*) Cadets Jaden Williams, Fischer Scorch, Ashton Rood, Allison Marcel, and Kaitlin Lew take a well-deserved breather after crushing the competition and winning the Physical Fitness Conference Championship.



Above Left to Right: Cadets Alison Marcel, Felicia Le, Brian Reyes-Ramirez, and Alexander Le, present The Colors at the Issaquah VFW Memorial Day Ceremony on 30 May.

NSE Sea Cadets' Outlook is Propelled Forward During Pandemic

Article & photos by AO2 Bob Lockyer
(USN 1976 – '81), LW&E Council member

Snohomish County continues to humanely build homeless shelters as homelessness reaches a ten-year high, much like many U.S. areas during this pandemic. Pew Research recently said that 70% of teens surveyed reported that depression and anxiety were major issues among their peers. A separate report by Mental Health America (mhanational.org), stated the need for mental health services by school children has grown by 125%. The mental health industry has an aberrant level of teens and adults alike requesting help working through personal and social issues. Yet,

- Thinking about your own personal character traits, what aspect of your personality did the NSE Sea Cadet program help you improve?
- What other information, if any, would you like to tell the readers?

CPO Lucas Lu, age 18

"I have been a Sea Cadet for seven years. I decided to enroll when a family friend was enrolling. After the first drill I fell in love with the group. What I like the most are the wonderful experiences that I have received - everything from touring submarines to tying knots; these opportunities now mean so much to me. My favorite activity is helping young shipmates grow. Sea Cadets helped motivate me and directed me toward college. The program taught me determination with responsibility that I will and have used in my journeys. It



From left to right: PO2 Rhodes, PO3 Getahun, PO3 Tretiakov, CPO Lu & CPO Sketchley

during interviews with the Naval Station Everett Naval Sea Cadets Corp (NSCC), cadets exhibited maturity, confidence, and a positive outlook. Although this is not to say that they did not feel the pinch of isolation. Many said they wished there could have been more ship tours, which was a restricted activity during the pandemic. Readers may find it interesting how graduating cadets voluntarily answered the survey questions below at their graduation on 22 May 2022. Graduates were given the following questions:

- How long have you been a Sea Cadet and what made you decide to enroll in the program?
- What did you like best about the Sea Cadet program? What was your favorite activity?
- What are your plans for the next few years and how did the Cadet training influence it?

cemented my sense of responsibility and slowly allows cadets to build up their leadership abilities. I have gained many friends. Not a single day do I regret joining the Sea Cadets."

PO2 Thomas Rhodes, age 17

"I have been a cadet for over three years. I decided to enroll to get an introduction into a military lifestyle. My favorite training was the small boat operation training during rough seas. I got to man the boat for a while. We were out with other small boats, and it felt like we were going to tip over in the ocean swells. We were kept safe but it was exciting. I also enjoyed the port security tactical maneuvers and boarding drills. I plan to attend the US Coast Guard Academy. I learned discipline, focus and attention to details during my participation in the program."

PO3 Samuel Getahun, age 17

"I've participated for several years. I heard about the program through my mom; she said it seemed interesting, and I should investigate it. After I learned about it, I wanted to try out. I like all the friendships that I built during my tour. My favorite activity was getting in shape with PT (physical training). I plan to attend Western Washington University to pursue a degree in bio-medical engineering. The Sea Cadets help me to become a better leader and my peers gave me that opportunity as team members. Keep calm; stay calm."

PO3 Maxim Tretiakov, age 17

"I have participated for seven years. My mom made me do it and I'm sure glad she did. The training was the best, but my favorite was participating in the color guard. I'm going to Lake Washington Institute of Technology for two years and then on to UW. I gained maturity and I am a more confident leader today. My recommendation is don't wait until the last minute. Interested kids can join at the age of eight."

CPO Malina Sketchley, age 17

"I have been a cadet for three and a half years. I joined because I saw an opportunity for character development and life experiences. My favorite part was the training, as when we would stay at a fort for several days and learn a certain topic. I plan to attend the University of Montana to study wildlife biology. I wouldn't say my experiences in the cadets affected that decision, but I made great strides in my confidence and leadership skills. As hard as the program could be at times, I wouldn't trade a minute of it. The things I've learned and the friendships I have made were worth everything it took to succeed."

Pinning Ceremony: PO1 Jameson Grimsby, advanced to CPO

Joining the highest rank available to cadets, PO1 Jameson Grimsby was advanced and pinned on 22 March. PO1 Grimsby entered the room in military fashion singing "Anchors Away" in a cappella style as he paraded around the auditorium, timing the end of the chorus perfectly as he reaches the front of the room. At right he's at attention and being pinned as a Chief Petty Officer (CPO) at the age of 16, shortly after his birthday. The minimum age for a Sea Cadet chief is age 16. Most cadets

don't reach this rank until age 17 or 18. During the ceremony, he was also awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Naval Sea Cadet Metal that was recognized in an official letter by US Congressman, Rick Larsen of the second district of Washington (<https://larsen.house.gov/>). When a Sea Cadet reaches the rate of chief, he or she will have completed many advanced training certifications including learning to lead cadets in Sea Cadet operations. CPO Grimsby was color guard commander for four events while earning academic excellence and placement on his high school dean's list. He earned the VFW Sea Cadet medal and the CPO rate in part by completing 160 hours of community service and assisting as leading petty officer during drills. Sea Cadet chiefs must assume a direct unit leadership role and CPO Grimsby is now *Leading Chief* for his Naval Station Everett unit, helping younger cadets along with Command Chief Elijah Lisenby. CPO Lisenby is now age 17. Sea Cadets who are 18 and/or graduated high school, will no longer be allowed to participate in the Sea Cadets. It's apparent that CPO Grimsby will be command chief in year 2023 since Elijah Lisenby will be a senior next year. Overall, the event was upbeat with happy and congratulatory young faces, ages 8 to 17, hoping someday to fill the roles of their friends who are now graduates or promoted. The graduates all had a plan in mind and were off to accomplish their goals with enthusiasm. LTJG Eric Grimsby, Commanding Officer and LTJG Mike Madrid, Executive Officer and NSCC staff are commended for their commitment to the Sea Cadets and for leading with flying colors the cadets through very unusual times.



Council Supported Unit News

With the Spanish-American War looming in 1898, Congress passed a bill authorizing establishment of the U.S. Navy Hospital Corps, signed into law by President William McKinley on 17 June 1898. Three ratings were created therein—



hospital apprentice, hospital apprentice first class (a petty officer third class), and hospital steward, which was a chief petty officer. Happy 124th Birthday Hospital Corpsmen on 17 June from corpsmen on **USS McCampbell (DD 85)**!

On 13 April, sailors from **USS John S. McCain (DDG 56)** conducted a large scale integrated fire drill and medical training environment with the

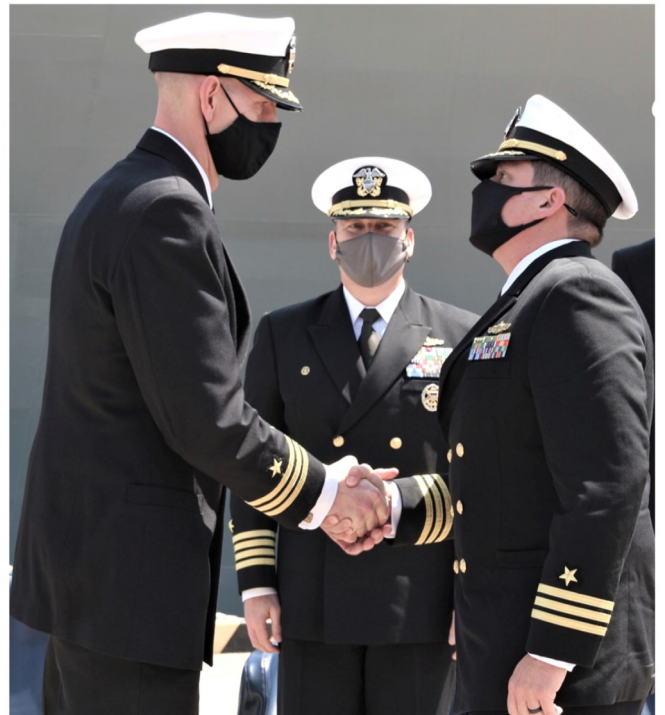


USS Kidd (DDG 100), **USS McCampbell (DDG 85)**, Naval Station Everett Fire Department, Everett Fire Department, Marysville Fire Department, and Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA). All teams worked together to combat various drill casualties and save the ship!

USS Kidd (DDG 100) (*below*) returned home from its shakedown cruise after over six months of maintenance in the shipyard. Lots of work is still



ahead as they sharpen the sword, but the ship performed beautifully and the crew was incredible! **USS Kidd (DDG 100)** Photo courtesy of CDR Sam Herbst USN, Retired.



USS Sampson (DDG 102) held its Change of Command Ceremony in Busan, South Korea on 1 May. CDR William M. Bencini (*above right*) relieved CDR Adam C. Soukup as the Commanding Officer of USS Sampson. Photo by Retail Specialist 3rd Class Ederson Dait



Day two of the **MCJROTC Snohomish** Cadet Leadership Course started with early morning physical training and an MRE for breakfast. Round robin training followed on a rock climbing wall, zip line, and a high swing. In the afternoon, a short hike for cadets and then camouflage face painting was followed by building shelters (*above*). Mother nature added to the training as it poured the whole afternoon. Camp finished with a hot meal and an awards ceremony, packing, and a quick debrief on the camp. Cadets did a great job and gained excellent experience to run their own camp next fall.

Congratulations to **USS Momsen (DDG 92)** team (*below*) for winning the sports day tournament



hosted by the United Arab Emirates Navy. *Top left to right:* EM2 Samuel Gyasi, EM3 Trinity Jalloh, SN Astrid Jaime-Viveros, OS2 Jose Cesena, GSEFN Bryan Baeza, ENS Luis Camarena, QM3 John McHugh, AWR2 Regnor Vondedenroth, ET2 Christopher Willis, *Bottom left to right:* CTR3 Christopher Kopacz, IT3 Cheyenne Russell

On 28 April, the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security John K. Tien hosted an awards ceremony at **Coast Guard Base Seattle**, officiated by the DHS Chief Human Capital Officer Mr. Roland Edwards, to present the DHS Secretary's Awards to employees for their outstanding contributions. This annual program recognizes the extraordinary individual and collective achievements of the workforce. Awards were presented to eight DHS departmental teams, three individuals and one USCG flight crew. More on the awards and those recognized can be found at:

<https://www.mycg.uscg.mil/News/Article/3013307/dhs-secretarys-awards-presented-in-seattle/>

Afloat Training Group Pacific Northwest commemorated the 80th anniversary of The Battle of



Midway. The Battle of Midway began 4 June 1942, as the U.S. Navy fought for victory in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Thousands of service members sacrificed their lives during the conflict, and this engagement marked a major turning point of the war.

Congratulations to Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Marco Ferreira (*below left*) of **USS Gridley (DDG 101)** for reenlisting! Sailors celebrated on the Aft Missile Deck.



**Lake Washington & Everett Council supported unit
University of Washington Naval ROTC
2021-2022 academic year photos**





LAKE WASHINGTON & EVERETT COUNCIL
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NAVY LEAGUE *of the United States*

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Supports local Naval Reserve Officers Training Units and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps:

- Liberty High School NJROTC and Snohomish High School MCJROTC
- University of Washington NROTC and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Naval Station Everett Division
- Increases awareness of the diversity of maritime units in Puget Sound
- Conveys the pivotal role of Puget Sound sea services in 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 Merchant Marine.

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