



Navy League
of the United States



VOL. 91 DELGENE PHILLIPS - EDITOR

WWW.LAKEWASHNLUS.ORG

MARCH 2020

FUTURE EVENTS

Board Meeting
Dinner Meeting TBD
Scuttlebutt Social Hour TBD

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
U. of Washington NROTC
Naval Station Everett Division USNSCC
US Naval Station Everett
Carrier Strike Group ELEVEN
Destroyer Squadron Nine
USS Kidd (DDG 100)
USS Momsen (DDG 92)
USS Gridley (DDG 101)
USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114)
USS Sampson (DDG 102)
Afloat Training Group - PACNW
Branch Health Clinic Everett
Regional Support Organization - PACNW
Naval Operational Support Center Everett
Puget Sound Naval Shipyard &
Intermediate Maintenance Facility

Patriot Company Wins Home Drill Meet - Crowned Northwest Drill & Rifle Conference - Puget Sound Division Champion

On 29 February, Liberty NJROTC Patriot Company hosted seven local JROTC schools and nearly 300 cadets for the final 2019-2020 school year drill meet. Looking to complete an undefeated regular season, executing on all cylinders they brought home six first place finishes out of eight categories for 91 team points to complete their undefeated season and were crowned the NW Drill and Rifle Conference Puget Sound Division Champion.



Liberty H.S. Principal Martin and Patriot Company display the drill meet, individual, and division awards they earned on Saturday and during the 2019-2020 drill season. **First Place Team Awards:** Color Guard Team 1, Armed Drill Team, Academics Team 1, Physical Fitness Team 2, Sporter Air Rifle, Precision Air Rifle. **Second Place Team Awards:** Color Guard Team 2, Academics Team 2 **Third Place Awards:** Unarmed Drill Team

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



The Lake Washington and Everett Council of the Navy League have had a busy first quarter in 2020 as you will read in these following pages.

We held our first dinner of the year in January where CDR James O'Mara, Commanding Officer of the USCGC Active gave a fascinating presentation about unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV/S). At the dinner we also installed the Lake Washington & Everett Council Officers and Board of Directors.

Our student units have been very active this quarter, with the Liberty High School NJROTC team, under the tutelage of CAPT John Deehr, USN, whose exploits are also in this issue.

Our council has also agreed this year to adopt the Marine Corps JROTC team, under the leadership of CAPT William Lennon, USMC, from Snohomish High School. You will read the first of many articles on them in this issue as well.

I know that many of you were looking forward to our annual springtime USCGC Healy dinner in the next week or so. But as I mentioned in an email to everyone, due to the rapid spread of the

coronavirus COVID-19 infection, it was decided to postpone the dinner to a later date. The Healy does not set sail on her next voyage till mid-July and we hope to get together to celebrate the crew before then.

Sanu Chacko
President



VADM John Currier (*left*) speaks during the vice commandant change of watch ceremony at CG Headquarters in Washington, DC, on 20 May, 2014

(USCG photo by PO2 Class Patrick Kelley)



Cadet Senior Chief Petty Officer Khanh Dao (*center*) reports to Cadet Lieutenant Commander Olivia Van Ry (*right*) that she has assumed the duties and responsibilities as Cadet Command Senior Chief from Cadet Senior Chief Petty Officer Bruce Vagt (*left*). See more on the Liberty NJROTC change of command on page 11.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Carl Platou

Russell Steele

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President..... Sanu Chacko
First Vice-President..... Vacant
Treasurer..... Jeff Garrett
Secretary..... Janie Nicodemus
Judge Advocate..... Bert Kinghorn
Chaplain..... Jim Ardissono

Other Directors: Cec Allison John Deehr
Kevin Isherwood Phil Johnson John Kartak
Bob Lockyer Delgene Phillips Karmin Pincus
Pete Stiles John Thoma

Honorary Members: Jim Britt “Mitch” Mitchell

National Director Emeritus:
Louise Chase (LWC) (NLUS)
Roger Ponto (LWC) (NLUS) / Past LWC President
RADM John Lockwood, USCG, Retired

Former 13th CG District Commander and Friend of Council passes away

Former Vice-Commandant VADM John P. Currier, USCG, Retired, (*pictured previous page*) passed away on Sunday, 1 March 2020 in Traverse City, MI at the age of 68. VADM Currier was born in Westbrook, MA, and was commissioned from Officer Candidate School in 1976 and designated a Naval Aviator in 1977. An alumnus of the U. of Southern Maine, he held a Master's in Business Administration from Embry-Riddle University. He was a 1996 graduate of the USAF Air War College. During his career, VADM Currier stood the watch at six Coast Guard Air Stations and was designated an Aeronautical Engineer in 1982. Other assignments included Deputy Program Manager (Engineering) for the CG and USN HH-60H/J joint helicopter acquisition at the Naval Air Systems Command, and Chief of SAR Operations & Director of Auxiliary for the 9th CG District. VADM Currier served as Commanding Officer of Air Stations Detroit and Miami. Subsequently, he was assigned as Pacific Area Chief of Operations, then Area Chief of Staff. Promoted to Flag rank in 2005, VADM Currier served as Assistant Commandant for Acquisition, then as Commander of the 13th District. As USCG Chief of Staff in 2009, he later transitioned that position to the first Deputy Commandant for Mission Support. VADM Currier assumed duties as the 28th Vice Commandant from May 2012 until retirement in May 2014. VADM Currier was a veteran aviator with over 6,000 flight hours in CG and USN fixed and rotary-wing aircraft. He was the 23rd Ancient Albatross, the longest serving CG Aviator on active duty. His professional recognition includes the Harmon International Aviation Trophy, the Alaska Air Command SAR Pilot of the Year Award, American Helicopter Society, Fredrick L. Feinberg Award and the Naval Helicopter Association SAR Aircrew of the Year, all awarded for hazardous rescue missions. VADM Currier is survived by his wife, the former Mary Jane Greenleaf of South Portland, MA, and their two sons, Benjamin and Andrew. A funeral mass took place on 6 March in Traverse City, MI at St. Joseph Catholic Church. A second Memorial Mass will be held at 1100 on 17 April in Westbrook, MA at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church. Final interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery on a later date.

LW&EC BUSINESS AFFILIATES

Corporate Sponsors

- ♦ The Boeing Company
- ♦ GE Energy Connections
- ♦ GEICO—Military
- ♦ Honeywell, Inc.
- ♦ Microsoft
- ♦ SAFE Boats International
- ♦ Schneider Electric
- ♦ USAA
- ♦ Vigor Shipyards, Inc.

Community Affiliates

- ♦ American Licorice Company
- ♦ American Publishing & Printing, Inc.
- ♦ Aviation Technical Services
- ♦ B.E. Meyers & Company, Inc.
- ♦ Cadick Corporation
- ♦ Craig Chapman, CFP, Financial Advisor Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.
- ♦ First Command Financial Services
- ♦ Flags & Flagpoles Northwest
- ♦ Forde Financial & Tax, Inc.
- ♦ Global Construction Services, Inc.
- ♦ Gloria R. James, P.L.L.C.
- ♦ Heritage Bank
- ♦ Human Resources of Auburn, Inc.
- ♦ Port of Everett
- ♦ Red Lion Hotel Bellevue
- ♦ US Bank Everett
- ♦ US Family Health Plan (USFHP) at Pacific Medical Center
- ♦ Vertical Path Recruiting, Inc.

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

Partners

- ♦ Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council of the Navy League
- ♦ Hire America's Heroes
- ♦ Tacoma Council of the Navy League

NJROTC Performs at First Drill Meet of Year

By John Deehr

Photos courtesy of NJROTC

On Saturday, 11 January, Patriot Company competed in their first drill meet of the season at Todd Beamer High School in Federal Way. We competed against the following local high school JROTC teams: Graham Kapowsin (Army JROTC), Kentwood (Marine Corps JROTC), Federal Way (Air Force JROTC), Todd Beamer (Air Force JROTC), Auburn Mountain View (Army JROTC), Bremerton (Navy JROTC), and Spanaway Lake (Navy JROTC). As usual, it was a spirited competition! Overall, Patriot Company started their drill season in great fashion!



(Above) US Navy Midshipman Luke Ransom (Liberty 2018) inspects Cadet Irene Miller *(at right)* during the Unarmed Drill Team personnel inspection.

Team Awards:

Color Guard Team 2	- First Place
Armed Drill Team	- Second Place
Academics Team 1	- Second Place
Academics Team 2	- Third Place
Precision Air Rifle	- First Place
Sporter Air Rifle Team 1	- Second Place
Physical Fitness Team 1	- Second Place

Individual Awards:

First Place:

Kaitlin Lew - Female Individual Physical Fitness
Christian Castro - Precision Air Rifle
Thomas Bennett - Unarmed Drill Down
Christopher Lew - Armed Drill Team Commander

Second Place:

Mathea Caole - Precision Air Rifle
Christopher Lew - Individual Armed Drill Exhibition

Third Place:

Olivia Burch - Female Individual Physical Fitness
Christopher Lew - Precision Air Rifle
Emily Lew - Unarmed Drill Down
Daikun Wu - Armed Drill Down

(Below) Cadets display their team & individual awards from the Todd Beamer drill meet.





As one of two finalists, Cadet Thomas (TJ) Bennett (*on right*) competes against a female cadet from Kentwood High School in the Individual Armed Drill Down competition. During this competition, cadets must execute various drill maneuvers on command. If the maneuver is executed incorrectly, the cadet is eliminated from the competition.

Color Guard Team 2 (*from left to right*) Cadets Logan Harris, Carson Tucker, Daniel Tsang and Dominic Ogino are inspected by an active duty Army Sergeant First Class prior to performing in the Color Guard competition. Color Guard Team 2 finished in first place.



Cadets Olivia Burch (*left*) and Kaitlin Lew stand by to receive their third and first place Iron Woman awards.

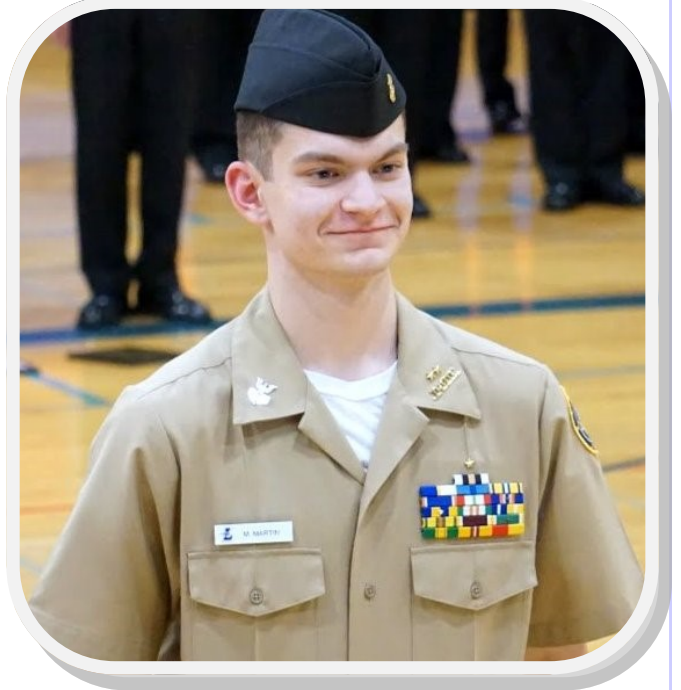


NJROTC Continues Excellence at Second Drill Meet of Year

By John Deehr

Photos courtesy of NJROTC

On Saturday, 18 January, Patriot Company competed in their second drill meet of the season at Graham Kapowsin High School in Graham. We competed against the following local high school JROTC teams: Graham Kapowsin (Army JROTC), Kentwood (Marine Corps JROTC), Federal Way (Air Force JROTC), Todd Beamer (Air Force JROTC), Auburn Mountain View (Army JROTC), Bremerton (Navy JROTC) and Spanaway Lake (Navy JROTC). As usual, it was a spirited competition! After garnering 59 team points and winning the first drill meet, Patriot Company piled up 81 team points at Graham Kapowsin and took the top team spot again. Liberty's next drill meet is Saturday, 8 February at Kentwood High School.



Cadet Petty Officer First Class Matthew Martin stands by to receive a gold medal for first place in Individual Armed Exhibition competition.

Cadets (*below from left to right*), Emily Lew, Olivia Van Ry, Justin Le, Kaitlin Lew, Carson Tucker, Matthew Martin, Christopher Baham, Colby Van Ry, Bryan Rosenfelt, and Sofia VanHuss prepare to participate in the Physical Strength competition. Physical Strength Team 2 finished in first place and Cadet Kaitlin Lew brought home the gold medal for the Iron Woman competition.



Team Awards

Color Guard Team 1	- First Place
Color Guard Team 2	- Third Place
Unarmed Drill Team	- Fourth Place
Armed Drill Team	- Third Place
Academics Team 1	- First Place
Academics Team 2	- Second Place
Precision Air Rifle	- First Place
Sporter Air Rifle Team 1	- Second Place
Physical Fitness Team 1	- First Place



Individual Awards

First Place:

Christopher Lew - Armed Drill Team Commander
 Kaitlin Lew - Female Individual Physical Fitness
 Jacob Hill - Academics
 Mathea Caole - Precision Air Rifle
 Matthew Martin - Individual Armed Drill Exhibition

Second Place:

Christopher Lew - Precision Air Rifle

Third Place:

Faith Ellis - Precision Air Rifle

(At left) Cadet Seaman Jeffrey Pan takes aim at his target during the Sporter Air Rifle competition. Liberty's Sporter team finished in second place and Cadet Pan brought home a bronze medal for third place in the individual standings.

Patriot Company Cadets *(below)* display the team and individual awards they brought home from the Graham Kapowsin drill meet on Saturday.



USCG Unmanned Aerial Systems Explained at January Dinner

Compiled by Pete Stiles & Jeff Garrett

Photos by Jim Ardissono, Sara Isherwood & Sam Chacko

With twenty-six guests on hand, President Sanu Chacko opened the meeting at 1845 by introducing two special guests. The first was the Keynote Speaker for the evening, CDR Jim O'Mara, USCG, Commanding Officer of the USCGC Active, a 210 foot medium endurance cutter that has

Sanu at the podium and Roger Olsen (*below*) administered the Navy League's Oath of Office. Sanu then took a few minutes to talk about the council's events and activities during 2019 which included the dinners in Bellevue, the Scuttlebutt Social evenings in Everett and the 2019 Naval Station Everett Recognition Dinner in December. He also mentioned the council's engagement with the Seattle Navy League Council in assisting hosting Fleet Week during SeaFair 2019. Sanu next introduced CDR Jim O'Mara, USCG stating that



Above left to right: Roger Olsen, Sanu Chacko, Pete Stiles, Jeff Garrett, John Deeher, Janie Nicodemus, Kevin Isherwood, Bob Lockyer & Jim Ardissono. Not pictured: Bert Kinghorn, Cec Allison, Phil Johnson, John Kartak, Delgene Phillips, Karmin Pincus & John Thoma

been homeported in Port Angeles since 1988. The second was Roger Olsen, Past President of the Tacoma Council, Past President of the Navy League's NW Region and a Navy League Director Emeritus. Following Sanu's initial remarks, the Liberty High School NJROTC presented the Colors. Liberty High School Cadet Chief Petty Officer Faith Ellis led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Colors were retired, Council Board Member Jim Ardissono gave the invocation and the buffet dinner was served. Following the dinner, Sanu noted that a list of the LW&E Council's 2020 Officers and Board of Directors could be reviewed at each place setting. He announced that in 2020 the council would add two new board members, both residing in the Everett area. Karmin Pincus is a veteran of the US Air Force and a principal with PCS Everett Real Estate. John Kartak is a longtime owner of a construction company, resides in Snohomish and is the current Mayor of the city of Snohomish. All 2020 officers and board members present joined

CDR O'Mara had assumed command of the USCGC Active 12 months earlier after serving as a National Security Affairs Fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University. CDR O'Mara has served in five other cutters, including as commanding officer of three patrol boats in California, Puerto Rico and Bahrain. He led a number of critical USCG initiatives including proof of concept deployments with the US Navy H-60S Helicopter and the installation and deployment of the ScanEagle unmanned aerial system. The Boeing Insitu ScanEagle is a small, long-endurance, low-altitude unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) built by Insitu, a subsidiary of Boeing, and is used for reconnaissance. CDR O'Hara began his presentation by talking about his service assignments and commands prior to commanding USCGC Active. He highlighted his involvement with the Coast Guard's unmanned aerial systems (UAS) program – informally called drones, which after years of testing, these systems are now being implemented on cutters. He described three types of UAS:

Long-Range UAS

- Provides wide area surveillance for the Area Command.
- It can operate beyond radio line of site C2link (SATCOM).
- 24 hour endurance.

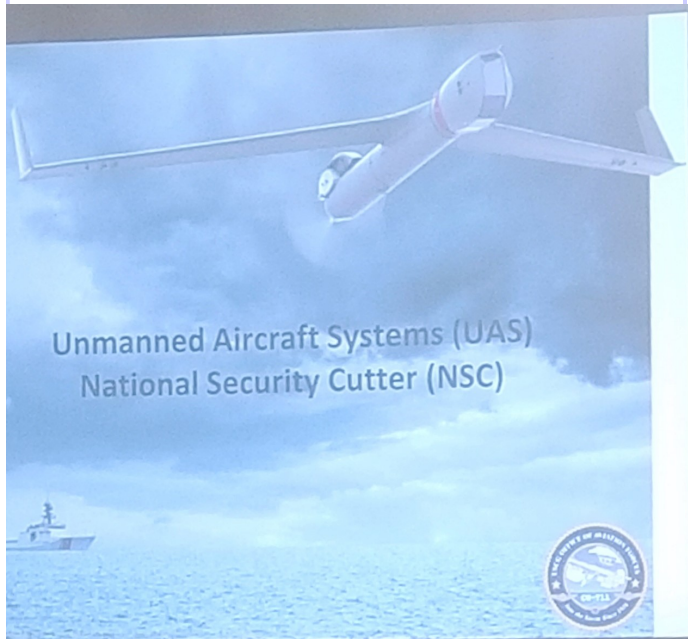
Medium-Range UAS

- Delivers on demand support for the Tactical Commander.
- It can operate beyond visual line of sight C2 link (Radio).
- 12+ hour endurance

Short-Range UAS

- A personal, portable system.
- Visual line of site C2 Radio/WIFI).
- 20 - 30 minute endurance

CDR O'Hara (*below*) spoke about the greatly enhanced capability that the new technology drones has provided to the USCGC in search and rescue activities, but more importantly, in the Coast Guard's drug interdiction program which recently has resulted in increased seizures of illicit drugs destined for the USA. He concluded his presentation with some interesting comments about the challenges of operating a 53 year-old cutter, and a lengthy question and answer session. President



Sanu next invited Sea Cadet SN Lucas Lu to the podium. SN Lu (*above left*) is the current Naval Station Everett Division Sea Cadet of the Year. He described in detail SN Lu's multiple accomplishments and outstanding performance during 2019, all of which contributed to his selection as the "Top Cadet" in Division NSE 134. President Sanu concluded the evening's events by announcing the next Lake Washington and Everett Council dinner will be the "Annual Healy Dinner" at the Bellevue Red Lion Hotel on Wednesday, 18 March 2020, 1800 – 2100. The president again thanked all for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 2056.



New Snohomish High School MCJROTC unit Looks Sharp

Article & photos by Bob Lockyer

The Snohomish High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps is the newest supported unit of Lake Washington & Everett Council. The Snohomish Marine Corps Junior ROTC has been a part of the Snohomish community for over 50 years. The program is open to students that attend Snohomish, Glacier Peak, and Monroe High Schools and is one of three schools in the region with Marine Corps units; others are Kentwood and Woodrow Wilson High Schools. Fellow board member John Kartak and I visited with the Senior Marine Instructor, Capt William Lennon USMC, Retired on 9 January and he gave us a tour of the unit armory and spaces. Capt Lennon remarked, *"Thank you for reaching out to me and our JROTC Program. I am looking forward to getting to know you better and building the relationship between the Navy League and our MCJROTC Program."* Later, I took photos during the unit's drill and inspection on 25 January in their regional competition at Everett High School. I also spoke briefly with CDR Giles, Senior Instructor at Everett High School NJROTC and with Capt Lennon, MCJROTC. On 22 February the unit will participate in Future Leaders Camp which ties back to the unit mission which is Leadership Education. Capt Lennon (*on left*) shows John Kartak (*on right*) one of the marksmanship rifles in the unit armory.



NJROTC Holds Annual Cadet Change of Command

By John Deehr

Photos courtesy of NJROTC

Liberty High School NJROTC held their annual Cadet Change of Command on Thursday evening, 30 January. The Naval Change of Command is steeped in tradition, is the official turnover of command responsibility and authority, and allows the outgoing commanding officer to assemble the crew, say farewell, and introduce them to the new

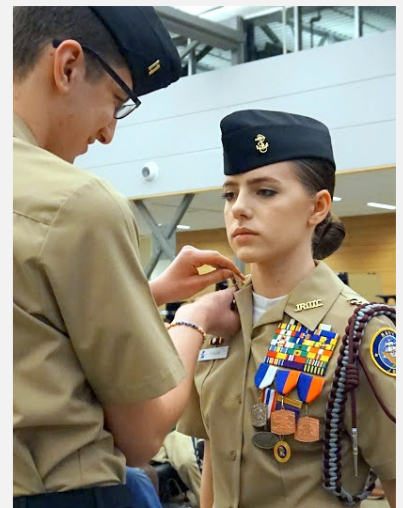
commanding officer. Cadet Lieutenant Commander Olivia Van Ry (at left) turned Patriot Company over to Cadet Lieutenant Commander Christopher Lew (at right). Along with the official change of command, cadets (bottom photo) who recently passed their advancement exams were promoted to the next rank. Four Ca-



dets were also advanced to the rank of Cadet Chief Petty Officer, the highest enlisted rank that can be achieved within the NJROTC program. These cadets have passed all advancement exams, displayed outstanding leadership qualities, and passed an oral board which is administered by CAPT Deehr and



Chief Spears. Congratulations to Cadets (above from front to rear) Dominic Ogino, Taylor Nicole Le, Lane Harryman, and Grant Brown. Cadet Chief Petty Officer Faith Ellis (at right) is promoted to Cadet Lieutenant Junior Grade and assumes the duties of Patriot Company's Operations Officer from Cadet Lieutenant Junior Grade Evan Rosenfelt (at left).



From front to rear: Thomas Bennett, Logan Harris, Nicole Hume, Emily Lew, Kaitlin Lew, Neha Suresh, Kylee Cosand, Danielle Widdows, Paul Dutton, & Daniel Tsang.



NJROTC Wins Again at Third Drill Meet of Year

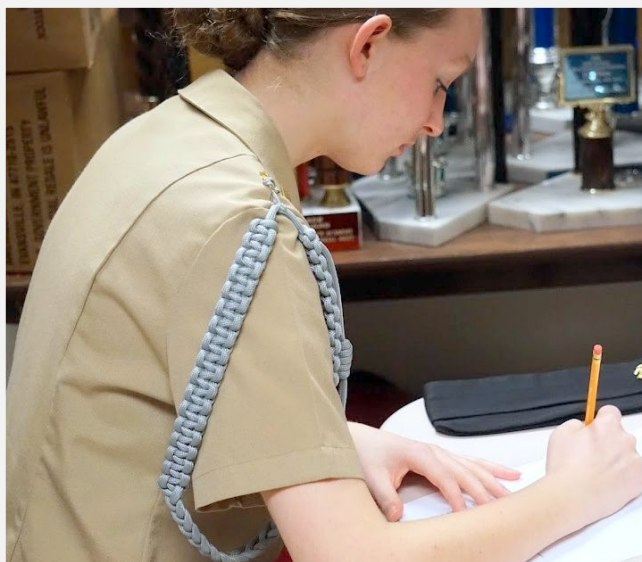
By John Deehr

Photos courtesy of NJROTC

On Saturday, 8 February, Patriot Company competed in the third drill meet of the season at Kentwood High School in Kent. We competed against the following local high school JROTC teams: Graham Kapowsin (Army JROTC), Kentwood (Marine Corps JROTC), Federal Way (Air Force JROTC), Todd Beamer (Air Force JROTC), Auburn Mountain View (Army JROTC), Bremerton (Navy JROTC), and Spanaway Lake (Navy JROTC). After garnering over 140 team points and winning their first two drill meets, Patriot Company piled up over 70 team points at Kentwood and took the top team spot again. Liberty's next drill meet is Saturday, 29 February right here at Liberty! With support of parents and students, hopefully the cadets will compete and be crowned the Puget Sound Division Champion!

Team Awards:

Color Guard Team 1	- First Place
Unarmed Drill Team	- Third Place
Armed Drill Team	- Second Place
Academics Team 1	- Second Place
Precision Air Rifle	- First Place
Sporter Air Rifle Team 1	- Second Place
Physical Fitness Team 1	- First Place



Individual Awards:

First Place:

Christopher Lew - Armed Drill Team Commander
Kaitlin Lew - Female Individual Physical Fitness
Christian Castro - Precision Air Rifle

Second Place:

Olivia Burch - Female Individual Physical Fitness
Sanjana Addanki – Academics
Thomas Le - Sporter Air Rifle
Mathea Caole - Precision Air Rifle

Third Place:

Faith Ellis - Precision Air Rifle
Faith Ellis - Unarmed Team Commander
Lindsay Carvalho - Unarmed Drill Down
Emily Lew - Female Individual Physical Fitness



Cadet Daniel Tsang (*above*) has his drill rifle inspected by an active duty Army soldier during the armed drill team personnel inspection. Patriot Company Armed Drill Team brought home the second place team award and Cadet Lieutenant Commander Christopher Lew was awarded the top team commander award. Cadet Lieutenant Commander Olivia Van Ry (*at left*) takes the 100 question general knowledge academic exam covering topics including math, science, English, history, government, geography, current events, and pop culture. Cadets have one hour to complete the exam. Patriot Company brought home the silver medal and Sanjana Addanki earned the second highest individual exam score.



Cadet Senior Chief Faith Ellis (*above*), the Unarmed Drill Team Commander accepts the third place plaque for the Unarmed Drill Team.



Cadet First Class Petty Officer Thomas Le (*above*) accepts the silver medal for having the second highest individual score in the Sporter Air Rifle competition.

(*At right*) Cadets Kaitlin Lew, Olivia Burch and Carson Tucker lead the pack in the mile run of the physical fitness competition. Patriot Company's Physical Fitness Team 2 took first place with Kaitlin Lew, Olivia Burch, and Emily Lew sweeping the Iron Woman awards!



Cadets from Patriot Company display the three first place, three second place and one third place plaques along with numerous individual awards they earned at the Kentwood drill meet.

USCGC Sea Cloud and Hoquiam Barrier-breaking ships in U.S. Desegregation

Written by William H. Thiesen, Ph.D.
Coast Guard Atlantic Area Historian
Photos by U.S. Coast Guard

"This vessel . . . performed all its duty creditably, survived all inspections and had no major problems. There was no segregation by compartments, departments or messes and white and colored performed the duties of their rates." In the quote above, LCDR Carlton Skinner related the success he experienced as captain of the desegregated warship USS Hoquiam, which he commanded in the North Pacific in the midst of World War II. In 1944, Coast Guard-manned Hoquiam became the nation's second experiment in desegregating a U.S. warship. In 1943, the Coast Guard-manned USS Sea Cloud (*above right*) had served as the federal government's first deliberate test of desegregation of a U.S. Ship. Skinner first reported aboard Sea Cloud as



executive officer in November 1943. He took command after his first weather patrol and oversaw the first experiment in racial integration on board a U.S. warship. Earlier, he sent a memorandum up the Coast Guard chain-of-command recommending training for African-American seamen in ratings other than food service, the only ratings open to minorities at that time. The Commandant approved Skinner's request and began assigning black seamen to the Sea Cloud. Within a few months, there were over 50 African-Americans assigned to the Sea Cloud. The cutter's African-American men included lieutenants Joseph Jenkins, Clarence Samuels and Harvey Rus-





sell, Sea Cloud's African-American commissioned officers. Jenkins (*above left*) and Russell had graduated from the service's Reserve Officer Training Program at the Coast Guard Academy while Samuels (*above right*) came up through the enlisted ranks. Skinner had requested no special treatment or publicity and the Sea Cloud successfully carried out its missions like any other warship assigned to weather patrol duty. Skinner reported no significant problems and the Sea Cloud passed two Navy Atlantic Fleet inspections with no deficiencies. In 1944, Skinner and his crew transferred to new assignments. After his tour aboard Sea Cloud, Samuels took command of a lightship armed and converted into a picket ship at the Panama Canal Zone. He was the first minority officer to command a U.S. warship in a combat zone. In the spring of 1944, Skinner assumed command of Coast Guard-manned USS Hoquiam (*at right*), a frigate that patrolled the North Pacific. When Skinner reported aboard Hoquiam, he brought with him about 30 African-American enlisted men and Jenkins and Russell from the Sea Cloud. Hoquiam successfully performed convoy escort duty along the Aleutian Island chain through the spring of 1945 when it was decom-

missioned and transferred to Russia as part of the Allies' Lend-Lease Program. After their tours aboard Hoquiam, Skinner and his officers found assignments that continued to advance integration of the U.S. armed services. After commanding Hoquiam, Skinner served as an advisor to the U.S. Navy in its first experiment in desegregation with the destroyer escort USS Mason. In January 1945, Jenkins briefly commanded a cutter based in Boston becoming the first recognized African-American officer to command a U.S. ship. In 1945, Russell transferred to the Coast Guard-manned U.S. Army tanker TY-45 in the Southwest Pacific. He commanded the all white crew through 1946 becoming the Coast Guard's third African-American cutter captain. Russell later broke the corporate color barrier as vice president of the Pepsi-Cola Company. Sea Cloud and Hoquiam proved barrier-breaking efforts in the desegregation of the U.S. sea services. Unlike the U.S. Navy's first desegregated ships, Sea Cloud and Hoquiam's white and black crew members shared the same sleeping quarters and ate at the same mess tables. African-American Coast Guard officers also broke the color barrier at white officer's clubs for the first time in U.S. history. On board Sea Cloud and Hoquiam, white and black Coast Guardsmen served together in close quarters proving for the first time that desegregation could succeed even under the most confined and stressful wartime conditions.



Monthly Naval Station Everett Reception Recognized USS Sampson (DDG 102)

By Pete Stiles
Photos by Bob Lockyer

The Lake Washington & Everett Council hosts a monthly reception for Naval Station Everett Navy and Coast Guard active duty and reserve personnel at the Scuttlebutt Family Restaurant and Brewery located on the Everett waterfront. In addition to Navy and Coast Guard members, civilians are invited and encouraged to attend and we certainly do not forget our occasional U.S. Marine Corp members that attend the Scuttlebutt social events from base security. At each event, a Naval Station Everett afloat or ashore command



is the featured unit. Pete Stiles (*above left*) chats with Bob Bolerjack (*right*), Executive Director of State, Regional & Military Affairs - City of Ever-



Below left to right: CTR2 Alexandria Connors (Sailor of the Quarter), CDR Hal Vasquez (CO, USS Sampson) & GM3 Amber Conner (Sailor of the Quarter)



ett, WA . Bolerjack is partially responsible for ensuring sea service assets remain at NSE. He spoke about visiting the Pentagon, Congress and coordinating city resources with the Port of Everett and the military. On 20 February 2020, 28 enlisted members of USS Sampson (DDG 102) attended, along with LW&E board members Sanu Chacko, Bob Lockyer, Karmin Pincus and Pete Stiles and a number of other guests. President Sanu recognized Sampson's Sailors of the Quarter, including CTR2 Alexandria Connors, GM3 Amber Conner, ET1 John Bailey, and GSMFN Aniel Danzot. LW&E Council takes pride in monthly recognizing USN and USCG enlisted "best of the best." The next reception will be Thursday, 19 March, again at the Scuttlebutt.



At left: Sanu Chacko explains the council mug to ET1 John Bailey, Sailor of the Quarter.

Bottom right: GSMFN Aniel Danzot shows off his Sailor of the Quarter mug.

Bottom left: Friends of John Kartack, Bob McCarthy (*left*) and Bill Praegner (*right*) VFW Auxiliary members, are new council members and sponsor a Pearl Harbor Memorial Dinner every 6 December so no one ever forgets Dec 7, 1941.



LAKE WASHINGTON & EVERETT COUNCIL
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
P.O. Box 547
BELLEVUE WA 98009-0547



Voyager is the official newsletter of the LW&EC NL-US and is published electronically in March, June, September and December and provided to all members. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to: *Voyager* Editor, P.O. Box 547 Bellevue WA 98009-0547 or email to: etpefp@comcast.net

***Since Voyager is now digital only, insure
your email address is correct and updated!***

NAVY LEAGUE *of the United States*

Lake Washington & Everett Council

CITIZENS IN SUPPORT OF THE SEA SERVICES

Lake Washington & Everett Council is your community organization that:

Supports our Puget Sound Sea Services: USCGC Healy, USCGC Henry Blake, USCGC Blue Shark, USCG Base Seattle, USS Jimmy Carter, Naval Station Everett and Undersea R & D Detachment, USS Kidd, USS Momsen, USS Gridley, USS Ralph Johnson, USS Sampson, Destroyer Squadron Nine, Carrier Strike Group ELEVEN, Regional Support Organization – Pacific Northwest, Afloat Training Group – Pacific Northwest, Naval Operational Support Center Everett & Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility

- Supports local Naval Reserve Officers Training Units and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps: Liberty High School NJROTC, University of Washington NROTC, 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.