



CAMDEN- KINGS BAY COUNCIL
Navy League of the United States
NEWSLETTER

<http://www.kingsbaynavyleague.org/>

MARCH 2010

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2009-2010

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MARCH MEETING

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH

KINGS BAY CONFERENCE CENTER
18:00 Social - 19:00 Dinner

Menu

Garden Fresh Salad
Grilled Pork Chop with Brown Sauce
Butter Garlic Shrimp
Rosemary Potatoes
Yellow Rice ~ Vegetable Medley
Rolls & Butter
Assorted Desserts
Coffee/Hot Tea/Cold Tea/Water

Price: \$20.00 per person

Reservations: (912) 729 - SEAS (7327) or e-mail to: navyleaguedinner@yahoo.com
Please make reservations no later than Noon, Monday, March 8th. No shows will be billed!

Program

Captain Mike Brown

Commanding Officer, USS Georgia (SSGN 729) (Gold)

President's Message . . .

My thanks to all of you who came out to welcome CAPT Aaron Bowman, Commanding Officer of Naval Station Mayport, and his wife Debbie at our first council event of 2010 on February 11th. It was a wonderful evening and I appreciate the enthusiasm of our council in welcoming to Kings Bay the CO of our sister base to the south. As always, our Chef Master Chief Robert Brimley and his crew prepared an outstanding meal for us. Thanks Master Chief!

Recently I had the privilege of being invited to represent our council and join the families of the crew of the USS GEORGIA (SSGN 729)(GOLD) at a welcome home celebration at Jacksonville Naval Air Station on Monday, February 8th. Cheryl Aston, our Council Secretary, was the lead person in charge of making all the arrangements. Sheila McNeill and I joined Cheryl and the gathered family members on a very cold morning in a large new hanger at NAS. Following a long 30 hour flight from Diego Garcia via 2 or 3 stops, they landed about 7 am to a great celebration. WELCOME HOME GEORGIA GOLD! We are fortunate to have as our guest speaker this month CAPT Mike Brown, the Commanding Officer of that returning GEORGIA COLD Crew. I know you all join me in anticipation of what he will share with us on March 11th following their deployment in the Indian Ocean.

I was also proud to represent our Council on Friday, February 12th as RDML Barry Bruner, CAPT Wes Stevens, Subase MWR Director Bob Spinnewebber and others cut the ribbon of the new Clubhouse at the base Golf Course. This is a beautiful new facility and I encourage all of you to visit and patronize it.

Most of you by now have seen the newspaper accounts of the proposed FY 2011 Federal Budget submitted to Congress by the President. The administration is proposing cutting the Coast Guard Budget by over 300 million dollars next year, which includes the proposed closure of our Maritime Safety and Security Team (MSST 91108), which is co-located with the St Marys Police Department on Point Peter Road. Members of our congressional delegation, local community government leaders, The Camden Partnership, chamber members and others, have banded together to fight this attempt to reduce the Coast Guard at a time when the threat of terrorism from many avenues has increased not decreased. This was evidenced by the recent attempted bombing on Christmas Day of a jetliner bound for Detroit. The missions of the Coast Guard have dramatically increased since the events of 9/11, and they have been doing more with less for years. They need us now more than ever to be their staunch advocates.

Sheila McNeill and I have been in contact with our national Navy League President Dan Branch and other Navy Leaguers across the country as we work to try and support the Coast Guard's needs for recapitalization of their assets and aging fleet, and work hard to restore full funding to this sea service at a critical time in our nation's history. Please be on the look-out for emails in the near future on what you can do to help in this effort. You will remember that a few years ago when the Navy determined that they needed 4 of our submarines in Kings Bay to move to the West Coast, we did not challenge that even though our national security, and we supported that. In this case, cutting the Coast Guard budget and 'laying off' almost 1,200 Coast Guardsmen, at a time of not only increased risk but of high unemployment, is the wrong thing to do. I know I can count on your support and participation as we work hard in the coming months by many means to support the Coast Guard.

I wish you all a great month as we begin March and I look forward to seeing you all on Thursday evening, March 11th as we give a warm NAVY LEAGUE welcome home to CAPT Mike Brown. See you then!

Keith

About our Speaker . . .

Captain Mike Brown is the son of a career submariner and a graduate of Mesquite (Texas) High School. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy with the Class of 1983, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Marine Engineering.

After Submarine School, CAPT Brown reported to the USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN 620) as a Strategic Weapons Officer home ported in Charleston, SC. He completed six strategic patrols on board serving in various Division Officer assignments. In June 1987, CAPT Brown reported to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA where he earned a Masters Degree in Nuclear Physics, earning him acceptance into the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.



After Nuclear Propulsion Training, CAPT Brown reported to the USS TECUMSEH (SSBN 628) where he completed qualifications as an Engineer Officer. In October 1992, he reported to the USS DRUM (SSN 677) home ported in San Diego, CA as Engineer Officer. Brown completed two Western Pacific deployments during this tour.

In January 1996, Brown reported to the USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) Gold as Executive Officer home ported in Kings Bay, GA. He completed three strategic patrols, during which the ship earned numerous awards, including the Battle "E" award.

In May 1998, he reported to the COMSUBLANT Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE) Team. He reported to Prospective Commanding Officer School in April 2000.

In November 2000, CAPT Brown took command of USS JACKSONVILLE (SSN 699) home ported in Norfolk, VA. Brown led JACKSONVILLE through several important operations, including being deployed to the Mediterranean Sea during the tragic events of 9/11/2001. As a result of these operations, JACKSONVILLE earned several awards, including the Battle "E".

Brown returned to the TRE Team, as Senior Member, in May 2003. During this tour, he was responsible for certifying the Operational Readiness of East Coast Submarines. He then transitioned to Director, Submarine Sea Training (DSST) and Force Navigator on the COMSUBFOR Staff. During this tour, he was responsible for leading the Navy's efforts towards electronic paperless. In March 2008, CAPT Brown reported as Commanding Officer to USS Georgia (SSGN 729) (Gold).

CAPT Brown is married to the former Kathy Choate of Mesquite, TX. They have four sons: Clint, a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy; Cody; Chase; and Cameron.

Youth Services . . .

Sea Cadets: 5-7 February 2010 the Kings Bay Sea Cadet Division participated in JAKES (Juniors Acquiring Knowledge, Ethics, and Sportsmanship) EVENT at the Ocala Conservation Center near Ocala, FL. While there, each cadet enjoyed the opportunity to shoot handguns, rifles and shotguns. Everyone enjoyed skeet shooting, fly fishing, kayaking, outdoor safety, a mock turkey hunt and archery. It was particularly interesting to watch a handler and his dog conduct a rescue dog search.



On the evening of 6 FEB 2010, four cadets returned from the JAKES EVENT in Florida to St. Marys and presented colors for the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Camden County Chapter Chartering ceremony. The cadets and the escort stayed for the ceremony and dinner. The chartering ceremony was conducted by MOAA National President, Retired Navy Vice Admiral Norb Ryan.

On Sunday 7 FEB 2010, the Kings Bay Sea Cadet Division received a call offering them the opportunity to tour the US Navy Carrier Carl Vinson CVN 70 which was in Mayport while assisting with the Haiti relief effort. During their time on board, the cadets had lunch in the ships galley and visited with some of the sailors stationed aboard the ship. Navy SN Kenneth Kirlin, formerly the Kings Bay Sea Cadet Division PT Officer, who transferred to and is now a crewmember of USS Carl Vinson made the arrangements for this wonderful tour.



NJROTC: The Camden County High School NJROTC unit will have its annual military inspection at the high school stadium on 9 March 2010. Navy league members are invited to attend. Anyone wishing to attend, please contact Youth Program NJROTC Chairman, Jerry O'Donoghue.

Welcome New Members . . .

The Camden-Kings Bay Council welcomes the following new members to the Navy League: Simon & Mary Ann Scott and Timothy Bryant.

2010 Sea Services Award Banquet . . .

Our annual event to honor the top Sailors, Marine and Coast Guardsmen of the Year will be on Thursday, May 13th at the Kings Bay Conference Center. Cheryl Aston has agreed to serve as our Chairperson for the event this year, and she is looking for volunteers to assist in this our signature and most important event of the year. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please email Cheryl at teacher1@tds.net.

Navy Chief of the Month . . .

LSC(SW) Lori C. Brown, SUBASE Kings Bay, was recognized as the Navy League Chief of the Month at our February 11th meeting.



Community Affiliates Honor Roll

AMERIS BANK ~ BENNETT SUZUKI
CAMDEN/CHARLTON BOARD OF REALTORS
FREEDOM SELF STORAGE ~ NORTHROP GRUMMAN
QC MANAGEMENT, INC. ~ SATILLA COMMUNITY BANK
SECURIGUARD, INC. ~ SONCEL ~ SHEILA'S HALLMARK
SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM
SOUTHERN EQUIPMENT & SERVICES
VT GRIFFIN SERVICES, INC.