

Imperial Valley Council

T-Bone Tidbits

Volume 2016 Issue 3 March 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2

- 1 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 11 NAF El Centro Entertainment & Food Festival |
- 12 NAF El Centro Air Show

APRIL

- 5 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
Speaker: USCGC Petrel Crew

MAY

- 3 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
- 25-27 Los Angeles Fleet Week

JUNE

- 7 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
- 14-18 National Convention, Charleston, SC

Navy League of the United States

Citizens in Support of the Sea Services



U.S. Navy



U.S. Marine Corps



U.S. Coast Guard



U.S.-flag
Merchant Marine

Blue Angels Enlisted Chiefs and Gunny Sergeants

Meet the Men and Women of the "Men in Black" in March

Command Master Chief (AW/SW/EXW/IDW/PJ) Blake G. Schimmel joined the Blue Angels in November 2015. He is a native of Wheaton, Illinois, and graduated from St. John's Military Academy in 1989. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in November 1990 and completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command Orlando, Florida.

Blake completed Basic Electricity and Electronics School in Orlando, Florida, Electronics Technician "A" School in Great Lakes, Illinois, and various "C" Schools in San Diego. He then reported to USNS Spica (T-AFS-9), in Agana Guam, in 1992.

Blake graduated from Naval Special Warfare Combat Crewman (SWCC) School (Class 013) in 1994. He then reported to Special Boat Team 12 (SBT-12) and served in multiple sea and shore duty billets. While assigned to SBT-12, Blake deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, was promoted to Chief Petty Officer and qualified as a SWCC and Patrol Officer.

Blake reported to the Joint Communications Unit (JCU) in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in 2009, where he stood up the Expeditionary Warfare Specialist (EXW) and information Dominance Warfare Specialists (IDW) programs at JCU, and earned his Navy and Marine Corps Parachutists Wings. While assigned to JCU, he also deployed multiple times in support of Operation Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, and New Dawn.

Blake graduated from the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy (Class 156; gray) in 2010 and was selected for Command Master Chief (CMDM) in 2011. He also attended Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Workforce Education and Training Development in August 2011. Blake then completed the Command Master Chief/Chief of the Boat (CMC/COB) Capstone Course in 2012. He served his first Command Master Chief tour with Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Eight (HSC-8), the "Eightballers."

Join us at the March 2nd dinner as we host the Blue Angels Enlisted leadership.



Command Master Chief
Blake Schimmel



Aviation Electronics Technician
Senior Chief Bill Rhodes



USMC Gunny Sergeant
Lawrence Chapman



Yeoman Chief
Angela Gingerich



Logistics Specialist Chief
Jason Burnmeister



Aviation Maintenance Admin
Senior Chief Sean Belt



Aviation Machinist's Mate Chief
Van Wilkerson



Aviation Structural Mechanic
Chief Pedro Gonzales



Aviation Structural Mechanic
Chief Juan Nunez

**OUR ADOPTED
COMMANDS
AND UNITS**



USCGC Petrel Adoption

Council formally adopts Coast Guard Patrol Boat Petrel in San Diego

On Friday, January 29th the Council adopted the USCGC PETREL (WPB 87350). The PETREL is an 87ft Marine Protector Class Coastal Patrol Boat. USCGC PETREL was built at the Bollinger Shipyard in Lockport, Louisiana. She was brought through the Panama Canal to beautiful San Diego, California and commissioned a Coast Guard Cutter in September 2002.

This 87' Coastal Patrol Boat has several enhancements over the WPB-82s that they replaced, including improved mission sea keeping abilities, significantly upgraded habitability, and compliance with all current and projected environmental protection laws. These cutters employ an innovative stern launch and recovery system using an aluminum hulled inboard diesel powered waterjet boat. The vastly larger pilot house is equipped with an integrated bridge system including an electronic chart display system (ECDIS) which interfaces with the CG's new surface search radar. The Coast Guard has a total of 73 cutters in this class.

PETREL's area of responsibility is from the United States/Mexico border, north to the San Diego/Orange County line, and seaward out 200 nautical miles. PETREL has participated in numerous joint operations with the U.S. Navy, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and other law enforcement agencies. As a key asset in the San Diego area, this allows PETREL to work closely with other agencies and the ability to perform numerous different missions.

Her primary missions include Search and Rescue, Homeland Defense, Enforcement of Laws and Treaties, Environmental Protection, and Defense Readiness. Each year PETREL spends 2000 hours underway and 150 days away from homeport.

PETREL is manned by an all Enlisted crew. She is led by Officer in Charge, Master Chief Boatswain's Mate John Bowen, and 11 crewmembers.

We will be hosting the crew of PETREL at our April 5th dinner next month, and encourage you to come out and meet the crew of our newly adopted ship.



Council President Ted Gallinat accepts the PETREL's gift from Master Chief Boatswain's Mate John Bowen during the Adoption ceremony held at Coast Guard Sector San Diego.



Blue Angels and Imperial Valley Council Celebrate Anniversaries

Both the Council and the Blue Angels kicked off the New Year celebrating anniversaries. We hosted the Blue Angels at Blue Angels night with our regularly scheduled monthly dinner last month. This is a special year in Blue Angels history as they kick off their 70th year of elite demonstration flying at Naval Air Facility El Centro's Airshow on Saturday, March 12th. Over 500 million people have enjoyed watching the Blue Angels since their inception in 1946.

The Imperial Valley Council was chartered on February 12, 1949, and for the past 67 years, we have committed to carrying the message to the American public and our elected officials of the importance of our sea services and supporting our active-duty personnel and their families. We wish thank our members for helping us be successful in our mission for these past 67 years. We couldn't do it without you!

During the dinner, the Blue Angels Commanding Officer, Commander Ryan Bernacchi presented the 2016 Demonstration Team in their first public appearance.

We also continued our recognition of local High School Seniors who have achieved a G.P.A. of 4.0 or higher under our **Reward, Inform and Motivate (RIM)** program. The initiative rewards High School Seniors valley-wide, for their high academic and leadership accomplishments, while exposing the students to Navy League and its mission, as well as career and educational opportunities that they might not otherwise consider upon graduation from high school.



L-R: NAF El Centro's Executive Officer, Commander Adam Schlismann assists President Ted Gallinat and Blue Angels Commanding Officer, Commander Ryan Bernacchi, cut the Council's 67th Birthday cake.



President Ted Gallinat receives the first Blue Angels Lithograph from Commander Ryan Bernacchi and Blue Angels Team 2016



President Ted Gallinat presents Imperial Valley High School Seniors representing Imperial High School and Holtville High School schools.

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Theodore Gallinat, President

Questions or Comments?

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El Centro, CA 92244-3834



Entertainment and Food Festival

Friday, March 11, 2016
 Hangar 6 • Free Admission
 5:30 pm

Pre-Air Show Party

Friday, March 11, 2016
 Sun Downer Club
 9 pm-2 am

Performer Schedule

10:50 am	Leap Frogs Launch	12:40 pm	Metal Mulisha
10:55 am	CO Opening Comments	1:00 pm	Spencer Suderman – Pitts S2B
11 am	National Anthem/Leap Frogs Flag Jump	1:20 pm	John Collver – SNJ
11:10 am	Red Eagles Formation Team – Yak-52	1:30 pm	Planes of Fame- F-86/MigDogfight
11:25 am	VFA-122 TACDEMO	1:50 pm	U.S. Navy Leap Frogs
11:45 am	Vicky Benzing – Extra 300	2 pm	Metal Mulisha
NOON	CAF SoCAL – P51/ZeroDogfight	2:30 pm	U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron – Fat Albert
12:20 pm	SOLO Turk – Turkish F-16 Demo	3 pm	U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron – The Blue Angels



Navy League of the U.S.

Imperial Valley Council
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 El Centro, CA 92244-3834

NEXT DINNER

Blue Angels Men in Black

MARCH 2nd

6:30 PM