



Imperial Valley Council
Serving all Imperial County communities

T-Bone Tidbits

Upcoming Events

October

- 3 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 13 Navy Ball | 6:00 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 27 Navy Day

November

- 7 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 11 Veterans Day Parade | 10:00 am
5th Street, Holtville, CA

December

- 5 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club

January 2018

- 2 No Meeting—Dark

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

Captain Alfonzo, NAFEC's 35th Commanding Officer

El Centro's Navy Mayor to speak in October

In a change of command ceremony last February, Captain Brent "Fever" Alfonzo assumed command of Naval Air Facility El Centro as its 35th Commanding Officer.

We're looking forward to hearing about Captain Alfonzo's state of the NAFEC address, and hearing about his career path that led him to El Centro.

Captain Alfonzo grew up just a short distance from Imperial Valley. He is a native of Poway, California. He joined the Navy in August 1988, reporting to the Naval Academy Preparatory School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the United States Naval Academy, and was commissioned as an ensign upon his graduation with the class of 1993. He reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida for primary and helicopter flight training, and was winged as a naval aviator in November 1995. He earned a Master's Degree in Global Leadership from the University of San Diego in April 2001.

Alfonzo's operational assignments include Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 4 "Black Knights" with an embark aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72); Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 14 as Helicopter Operations Officer and Seahawk Weapons and Tactics Instructor; a return to HS-4 as operations department head, and HS-6 "Indians" as executive officer with follow on assignment as commanding officer. During this tour, the Indians completed a successful deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and transitioned from HS-6 to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 6, upgrading the squadron to the highly capable MH-60S Seahawk helicopter. He has accumulated 4,400 flight hours in his flying career.

Alfonzo's shore and staff assignments include HS-10 "Warhawks" as fleet replacement squadron instructor, and with the Joint Chiefs of Staff Operations Directorate in the National Military Command Center. In addition, he served as Rotary Wing Weapons School Department Head at Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, NAS Fallon, Nevada, and as WTI Program Director at Naval Mine and Anti-Submarine Warfare Command and Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center.



CAPT Brent Alfonzo, USN

Hurricane Relief: How can you help?

During the recent hurricanes, Coast Guard members helped save countless lives even as their own homes were at risk. You can help these families during the devastation and flooding caused by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

- ◇ Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Program: <https://www.cgmahq.org/>
- ◇ Coast Guard Foundation: <http://www.coastguardfoundation.org/>
- ◇ Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: <http://www.nmcrrs.org/>



OUR ADOPTED COMMANDS AND UNITS



NAF EL CENTRO
NAVAL AIR FACILITY
EL CENTRO



NAVY MUNITIONS COMMAND
CONUS WEST DETACHMENT



US NAVY BLUE ANGELS



USS FITZGERALD DDG 62



USMC MARINE ATTACK SQUAD-
RON VMA-214



STRIKE FIGHTER WING PACIFIC
MAINTENANCE UNIT ELC DET



DESERT EAGLE SQUADRON
ESCONDIDO BATTALION &
TRAINING SHIP KIT CARSON
US NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS



USCGC PETRAL
WPB 87350

Gold Star Mother's and Family Day

Gold Star Family Program highlighted at September Dinner

In case you missed it, at our September dinner, we hosted Sabrina Griffin, Navy Region Southwest's Regional Coordinator who told us more about the Gold Star program.

Since 1936, the last Sunday in September has been designated as Gold Star Mother's Day to recognize and honor those who have lost a child while serving our country in the United States Armed Forces.

In 2009, fallen service members' families were officially recognized and added by presidential proclamation, renaming the observance to Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day.

Members of the Armed Forces don't serve alone. Standing with each service member are parents, spouses, children and siblings providing support and love.



NAF El Centro's Command Triad, Captain Brent Alfonzo, Commander Adam Schlismann, and Command Master Chief Jay Embree, with Sabrina Griffin and Imperial Valley Council President, Ted Gallinat

This year when the president signs the proclamation observing Sept. 24, 2017 as Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day the nation has the opportunity to let the families who have suffered the unimaginable pain of losing a loved one while on active duty know that America will not forget them or their hero.

The Navy is committed to helping foster resiliency for families of fallen service members regardless of how they died. The Navy Gold Star Program honors Gold Star families throughout the year by hosting events that pay tribute to their lost loved ones, providing resources and opportunities to connect with one another.

For more information on the Navy Gold Star Program call 1-888-509-8759, or visit them online at

www.facebook.com/navygoldstar or www.navygoldstar.com



GAO: Naval Shipyards, Poor Conditions that Affect Operations

Government Accountability Office Issues Report

Our Shipyards are in trouble. The GAO released another troubling report last week, focused on the state of our public shipyards, and it was very concerning. The report shows the need to invest in shipyard infrastructure projects and how these issues at shipyards are impacting the Navy's readiness.

To read the report online, visit <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-17-548>. Here are some highlights:

- Backlogged maintenance and restoration projects for the facilities have grown by 41 percent over the past five years
- Fixing them will cost roughly \$4.86 billion and won't be completed for nearly 20 years.
- A Navy analysis found that shipyard capital equipment has an average age that now exceeds its expected useful life.
- Inadequate facilities and equipment have led to maintenance delays that contributed to more than 1,300 lost operational days for carriers and 12,500 lost operational days for submarines from fiscal year 2000 to 2016, the report states.
- As a result of the ongoing problems, the Navy will be unable to conduct more than a third of its 218 planned maintenance periods over the next 23 fiscal years.
- The report found that the average age of the 18 drydocks used to perform maintenance is about 89 years, with the oldest completed in 1891 and the newest completed in 1962.
- Several dry docks can't support existing boat classes, while others can only support vessels when assisted by equipment or tidal schedules.

The Navy League is on Capitol Hill, constantly supporting forums, speakers, and other events to help tell the sea services story. But that pales in comparison to the power you have as a constituent. Make your voice heard. Tell your Member of Congress and your Senators you support the sea services by taking action on one of our legislative initiatives. For a current list of initiatives visit our voice to Congress at <http://cqrcengage.com/navyleague/>

*You are cordially invited
to attend*

242ND NAVY BALL

Naval Air Facility El Centro

October 13, 2017

6:00 p.m. - Midnight

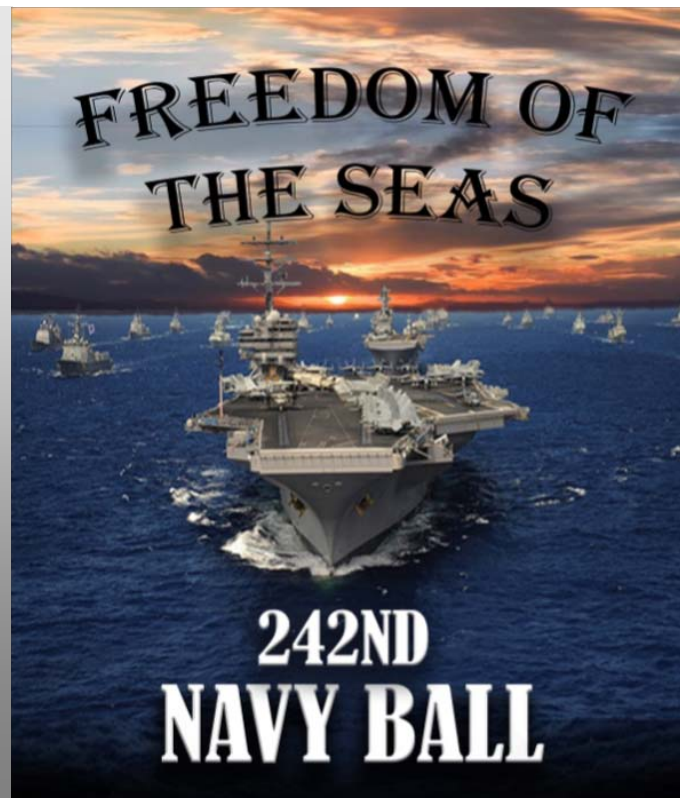
Mirage Club

\$45 per person

Formal Attire

Must RSVP by October 4th

(760) 604-2016



Make a Difference

The **Navy League** is a qualified charity under the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Federal, civilian, postal and military personnel are eligible to make charitable contributions through payroll deductions until Dec 15. Tax deductible donations support the Navy League's worthy causes which is to support the men and women in uniform and their families, and youth programs. For more information, visit www.cfctoday.org
Please reference Campaign #58495.



Bravo Zulu USAA!

Last year USAA joined us to become a Table Sponsor for our Council. We appreciate USAA's continuing support of active duty and military retiree families across the nation.



Continuing in their support of our Council, and the families at NAF El Centro, USAA has generously donated \$500 to Imperial Valley Council to support NAF El Centro's 242nd Navy Ball.

Together with USAA's generosity, we were able to donate a total of \$1600 in support of this year's Navy Ball.

Thank you, USAA!

SAILOR AWARD SPONSORS

**IMPERIAL COUNTY SHERIFF'S
AERO-SQUADRON**
STRIKE FIGHTER WING PACIFIC
MAINTENANCE UNIT

WYMORE, INC.
Dick Wymore and Marla Wymore
USCGC SHERMAN WHEC-720

find us on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ImperialValleyNavyLeague>
<https://www.facebook.com/NavyLeagueUS>

TABLE SPONSORS

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FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES
TOWNE PLACES SUITES
THE DAHM TEAM REAL ESTATE COMPANY
USAA

Become a Table Sponsor today!
Contact Gaylla Finnell to find out how you can support our programs.

U.S. Naval Sea Cadet and Navy Leaguer Cadet Corps

Desert Eagle Squadron
Instructor Brian Phillips
(760) 356-4570

Escondido Battalion
LTJG Patrick Healey
(315) 254-7598

<https://deserteaglesquadron.wixsite.com/home> www.escondidobattalion.org

Theodore Gallinat, President

Questions or Comments?

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El Centro, CA 92244-3834

Joint Operation Turkey 2017 Launches

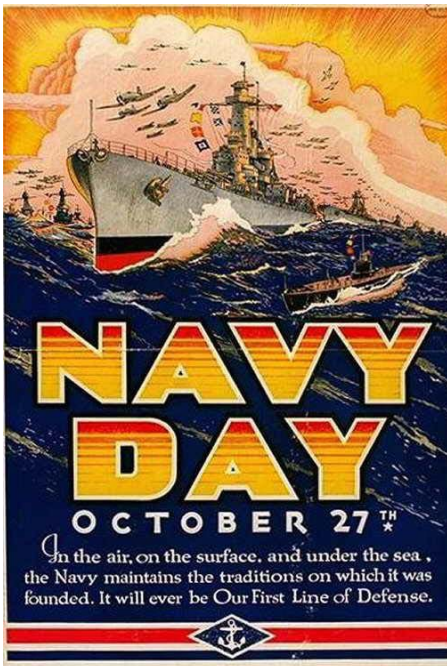
Give Thanks by Sponsoring a Turkey for a Family

October is here, which means the holidays will be upon us in no time at all. Though it's difficult to think about holiday gatherings when the temperature is still hovering around triple digits, we must.

What isn't difficult to consider though, is considering how much gratitude we have for those who are in service to our country. It is a privilege to show that gratitude in small ways, and we invite you to join us as together we make a difference in the lives of our active duty personnel stationed at Naval Air Facility El Centro, and on the USCGC PETREL.

Please consider sponsoring a turkey for a family in the amount of \$20 or more. You may mail your donation to the council using the form, or make your donation online with your credit card through our website: <https://www.ivnavyleague.org/joint-operation-give-thanks>

Your sponsorships are tax-deductible.



The Two Navy Holidays: Navy Birthday and Navy Day

Navy League originally sponsored Navy Day beginning in 1922

The Navy Birthday is one of the two Navy-wide dates celebrated annually – Navy Birthday and Navy Day.

The United States Navy was originally established as the Continental navy on 13 October 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized the procurement, fitting out, manning, and dispatch of two armed vessels to cruise in search of munitions ships supplying the British Army in America. The legislation also established a Naval Committee to supervise the work. All together, the Continental Navy numbered some fifty ships over the course of the war, with approximately twenty warships active at its maximum strength.

Navy Day was originally sponsored by the Navy League 1922. Navy Day is designed to give recognition to the naval service. The Navy League of New York proposed that the official observance be on 27 October in honor of President Theodore Roosevelt, who had been born on that day.

In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of 13 October as the Navy's birthday. In contrast to Navy Day, the Navy Birthday is intended as an internal activity for members of the active forces and reserves, as well as retirees, and dependents. Since 1972 each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion "to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service." (Military Times)

In Memorium

We were so saddened to lose two beautiful members of our Navy League family this past month. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers. Fair winds and following seas.



Bettie Linda Edwards

Member since 2005

Kathryn Baretta Wood

Life Member since 2004



4th Annual *Imperial County* *Veterans Day Parade*

*A Patriotic Tribute
to America's Veterans*

Honoring World War II Veterans

Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

5th Street in Holtville, California

- ★ Car & Motorcycle Show
- ★ Food & Craft Vendors
- ★ Live Entertainment
- ★ Beer Garden

*Pancake Breakfast for Veterans
hosted by Holtville Fire Dept.
from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.*

**We invite all Veterans,
Active Duty Service
Members, Reservists,
and members of the
public to join us!**

For Parade Information:

Call (760) 336-3058

Email: vincent1252@roadrunner.com

or

Call City of Holtville (760) 356-3013

Email: dgarcia@holtville.ca.gov

For Food & Craft Vendor Information:

Call City of Holtville (760) 356-3013

Email: dgarcia@holtville.ca.gov





GIVING THANKS TO OUR TROOPS

We all have our nation's brave service members to be thankful for this, and every year. Joint Operation Give Thanks is just one of the many ways Navy League gives its thanks to the courageous men and women who wear our nation's cloth.



For more than 25 years, the Imperial Valley Council of the Navy League has provided Thanksgiving turkeys to the active-duty servicemen and women whose families are stationed at Naval Air Facility El Centro. Last year, the Council extended its circle of giving to include the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter PETREL (WPB 87350).

With your help, we were able to donate 201 turkeys to active duty families last year. We look forward to partnering with you again to help us fund this important program.

Please join us in supporting Joint Operation Give Thanks 2017, and help us "Give Thanks" to our service members and their families for their sacrifice to our nation.

Your sponsorships are tax-deductible.

☐ **YES! I want to be a part of Joint Operation Give Thanks 2017!**

I want like to sponsor _____ turkeys at \$20 per turkey, for a total of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please make your tax-deductible gift payable to IMPERIAL VALLEY NAVY LEAGUE, and mail to:

Imperial Valley Navy League
P O Box 3834
El Centro, CA 92244-3834

or **Give Online**

<https://www.ivnavyleague.org/joint-operation-give-thanks>

*The Holtville Chamber of Commerce is
proud to bring back
Tim Hurley*



*November 4, 2017
Holtville City Park Gazebo
Holtville, CA
12:00 pm
Veterans Day Event*



Country artist, Tim Hurley is coming back to town.

Tim has opened for John Michael Montgomery, Joe Nichols, Kane Brown and Lindsay Ell.

He has been headlining and performing at festivals, fairs and events all over the western United States.

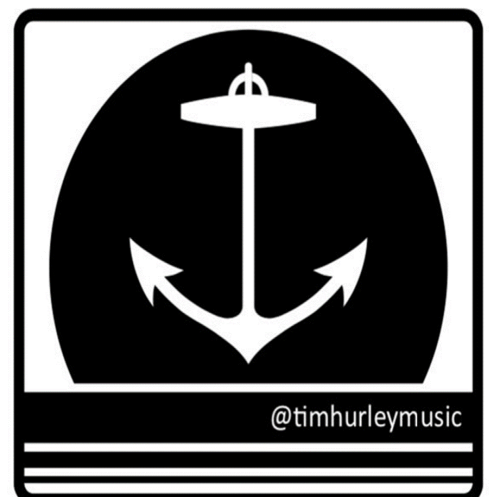
In October 2017, Tim and his talented band will be featuring the "beach country" sounds for San Diego's Fleet Week 2017.

Tim performed at the 70th Carrot Festival in February 2017.

We welcome Tim back to Holtville!



For more info call the Holtville
Chamber of Commerce,
(760) 356-2923
Bring your chairs or blankets
and enjoy an afternoon
of great music!



www.timhurleymusic.com