



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2016

- 2 Blue Angles Night | 5:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 26-27 Desert Outing

MARCH 2

- 1 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 12 NAF El Centro Air Show

APRIL

- 5 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm

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

New Blue Angels Boss Arrives to Lead 2016 Team

Blue Angels "Boss" to introduce New Team at February Dinner

Commander Ryan J. Bernacchi is a native of Los Altos, California. He attended the University of California, San Diego, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1996, and was commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Navy.

Ryan reported to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, Florida, for aviation indoctrination in November 1996. He completed primary flight training in the T-34C Turbo Mentor at NAS Whiting Field, Florida, and completed intermediate and advanced flight training in the T-2C Buckeye and T-45C Goshawk at NAS Meridian, Mississippi. He received his wings of gold in April 1999.

Ryan then reported to Strike Fighter Squadron 125 (VFA-125), the "Rough Raiders," at NAS Lemoore, California, for initial training in the F/A-18 Hornet. Ryan reported to Strike Fighter Squadron 113 (VFA-113), the "Stingers," at NAS Lemoore, in January 2000, where he served as the Aircraft Division Officer, Air-to-Air Weapons Training Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, and Landing Signals Officer. Ryan completed two Western Pacific/Arabian Gulf deployments with USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) and flew in support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

Ryan was selected to attend the U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN), NAS Fallon, Nevada, in July 2003 and graduated in September 2003. Ryan then joined the TOPGUN staff as an instructor pilot and served as the Navy and Marine Corps subject matter expert in GPS guided weapons.

Ryan returned to the fleet in May 2006 as the Training Officer for Strike Fighter Squadron 87 (VFA-87), the "Golden Warriors," at NAS Oceana, Virginia. In November 2007, Ryan reported as a Department Head for Strike Fighter Squadron 81 (VFA-81), the "Sunliners," at NAS Oceana, where he served as Safety Officer, Operations Officer, and Maintenance Officer. Ryan deployed with USS Nimitz (CVN 68), to the Western Pacific while assigned to VFA-81.

Ryan attended the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, and graduated with distinction with a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies in 2010. In November 2010 he reported to the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group as a Director Fellow, where he worked on advanced operational concepts for the Navy.

Ryan reported as Executive Officer of Strike Fighter Squadron 192 (VFA-192), the "World Famous Golden Dragons," at NAS Lemoore, California, in March 2012, and deployed to the Western Pacific/Arabian Gulf aboard USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He then commanded VFA-192 through a transition to the F/A-18E Super Hornet.

Following his command tour with VFA-192, Ryan served as a Federal Executive Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Ryan joined the Blue Angels in September 2015. He has accumulated more than 3,000 flight hours and 600 carrier-arrested landings. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, one Individual Air Medal with Combat "V" (three Strike Flight), four Navy Commendation Medals, one with Combat "V," and numerous unit, campaign, and service awards.

Join us on February 2nd at 5:30 p.m. to meet the new 2016 Blue Angels Team members.



Commander Ryan Bernacchi

**OUR ADOPTED
COMMANDS
AND UNITS**



Pennies 4-Soldiers Benefits Imperial Valley Council

Imperial's Frank Wright Middle School Fundraiser donates to Navy League mission

On Friday, January 22, 2016, the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) at Imperial Unified School District's Frank Wright Middle School held their first "Pennies 4-Soldiers" fundraiser. Funds raised from the family movie night and concessions are benefiting the Imperial Valley Council's mission of supporting the supported active duty members of the Sea Services and their families.

The middle-school parents and teachers stated they are "making students aware of the sacrifices of the armed forces to enable the freedoms our students enjoy. This is one way our students learn to volunteer and give back too."

Navy Leaguers and Second Class Petty Officer Leo Hernandez, USN, were on hand to speak to the parents and students about the Navy League's mission, Navy opportunities, as well as provide information about our Sea Cadet and Navy Leaguer Cadet program.

We applaud the Imperial Frank Wright PTO for their invitation to participate and their inaugural event and generosity in giving back giving back to our local heroes.



Soaring over Imperial Valley

Desert Eagle Squadron Sea Cadets take flight

The Imperial County Airport held its annual Aviation Day on Saturday, January 16, 2016. The event is sponsored by The Young Eagles, provided youth from ages 8-17 years the opportunity to fly in an airplane and meet pilots. Attendees also had an opportunity to explore airplane static displays, and various vendors provided aviation-related awareness.

The Council and Desert Eagle Squadron of the Sea Cadets participated with a booth with solar viewing through a telescope to bring awareness to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) for both kids and adults.



The Sea Services Needs YOU!

The Navy League is the voice of the sea services on Capitol Hill. The sea services depend on Navy League members to tell their story to our Congressional leaders. We believe that providing for the common defense is—and must always be—the first and most important responsibility of the federal government. As a maritime nation, the United States must have the strongest, most capable sea services and a dedicated maritime strategy to ensure conflicts are kept far from our shores and that the sea lanes are open and free for commerce. Congress needs to understand the negative effects of budget caps and sequestration to the sea services. It is up to you to help the sea services explain what they can and can't do with the limited money that is available in a world with increasing global instability.

If the Department of the Navy, the Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration are required to continue to respond to crisis after crisis without the funding needed to build new ships, repair old equipment and provide routine maintenance, the nation risks permanent damage to national defense and puts in jeopardy the domestic and international economies that rely on the safety and security that U.S. sea power provides. Ships, crews and equipment cannot continue the current pace of operations. The retention of trained personnel will decline, ultimately leading to reduced readiness for combat and other missions. By many measures, current funding levels do not meet the sea services' needs.

We need you to tell this story. 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 campaigns.

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Desert Eagle Squadron

LT David Gupton

(760) 356-5760

www.desertereaglesquadron.org

Escondido Battalion & Training Ship Kit Carson

LTJG Patrick Healey

(315) 254-7598

www.escondidobattalion.org

AS THE CHINESE AND RUSSIAN NAVIES GROW, CAN WE AFFORD TO LET OURS SHRINK?

**Being a superpower isn't just about national pride.
Our security depends on a strong and modern U.S. Navy.**

After 13 years of war and a decade of insufficient funding for the growing number of missions requiring sea and aircraft-based power, our Navy needs new ships and significant maintenance. The plans are in place, but the funding isn't. Tell Congress we can't wait any longer for a next-generation Navy.

DON'T LET THE NAVY-MARINE CORPS TEAM BE CUT SHORT.

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Questions or Comments?

Contact us at: (760) 791-7345

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El Centro, CA 92244-3834



Navy League Membership is Now a Better Value than Ever

New membership pricing became available as of January 1, 2016. A one-year Premium membership is now offered at \$55, which includes the monthly print edition to our acclaimed Seapower magazine, and the annual Seapower Almanac delivered to your home. Even greater savings are available through multiple-year memberships up to five years or life based on age.

We're also offering a fully digital E-Membership, an electronic membership for individuals who want to take their membership on-the-go for only \$25 per year. Spouses, parents and students, and other partnerships can mix and match multiple memberships to best suit the subscription/electronic access preferences of the family. Access the membership application online via through our website <http://navyleague.org/membership/join-renew.html> or via this code on your smartphone.



SEAPOWER

SEAPOWER magazine and its Almanac issue are official publications of the Navy League of the United States, a nonprofit international organization founded in 1902 to support the U.S. sea services. SEAPOWER articles cover a wide range of topics, including national defense, foreign policy, naval affairs, maritime issues, homeland security, and defense research, development and procurement. SEAPOWER coverage focuses on such areas as defense strategies, emerging technologies and ways to improve the operational concepts and managerial processes of the U.S. sea services.

The principal mission of SEAPOWER — an award-winning magazine — is to educate Congress and the American people about the activities, requirements and accomplishments of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. It also provides a forum for senior sea service leaders to express their views on various topics of concern. SEAPOWER also supports and encourages the programs of the Navy League councils throughout the United States and overseas. Download the SEAPOWER App on your smartphone or tablet today!

Membership Application



The Navy League was founded in 1902 with a clear three-pronged mission: to support the members of the sea services and their families; to educate the American people and their elected leaders about the critical importance of sea power for their economic prosperity and national security; and to help build America's future through successful youth programs like the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Whether you ever served in uniform or not, we invite you to join us today. Our mission, "Citizens in Support of the Sea Services," reflects both our commitment and our broad appeal to everyone concerned with support for our men and women in uniform. Join us in supporting the men and women of our Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine.

YES! PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A NAVY LEAGUER.

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP (PLEASE CHECK ONE)

- \$55** 1-YEAR PREMIUM INDIVIDUAL/INTERNATIONAL (includes print editions of SEAPOWER Magazine and Almanac)
- \$100** 2-YEAR PREMIUM (Save \$10)*
- \$130** 3-YEAR PREMIUM (Save \$35)*
- \$180** 4-YEAR PREMIUM (Save \$40)*
- \$225** 5-YEAR PREMIUM (Save \$50)*
- \$25** E-MEMBERSHIP (includes electronic edition of SEAPOWER and Almanac)
- \$1,000** LIFE MEMBERSHIP (to age 55)
- \$750** LIFE MEMBERSHIP (age 56 -75)
- \$500** LIFE MEMBERSHIP (age 76 +)

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DONATION \$ _____

The Navy League is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations you make to the navy league are tax-deductible and support programs like sea cadets, youth scholarships and sea services awards.

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Don't miss the excitement . . . Final day to Register . . . FEBRUARY 10, 2016

www.ivnavyleague.org



Navy League of the U.S.

Imperial Valley Council
P.O. Box 3834
El Centro, CA 92244-3834

NEXT DINNER

Blue Angels Night

FEBRUARY 2nd

5:30 PM

(early start time)