



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 2-4 Miramar Air Show featuring Blue Angels
- 6 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 10 U.S. Navy Birthday Ball | 6:00 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 29 NAF El Centro Child & Youth Programs
Fall Festival | 6:00 pm

NOVEMBER

- 3 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 10 U.S. Marine Corps 240th Birthday
- 15 Joint Operation Turkey for the Troops

DECEMBER

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

SAVE THE DATE!

FEBRUARY 2016

- 26-27 Desert Outing

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

Rear Admiral John Neagley

Deputy Commander, Fleet Readiness

Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR)

The Navy's Space and Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) is one of three major Department of Navy acquisition commands. While other systems commands focus on tangible platforms, information is SPAWAR's platform. SPAWAR's products and services transform ships, aircraft and vehicles from individual platforms into integrated battle forces, delivering and enhancing information dominance and awareness among Navy, Marine, joint forces, federal agencies and international allies. SPAWAR provides the hardware and software to connect our warfighters at sea, on land and in the air.

Our October speaker is a native of Edison, New Jersey. Rear Admiral John Neagley graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1982 and received his commission from Officer Candidate School in 1984. He holds a Master degree in Environmental Management from Duke University, a Master of Science Degree in Financial Management from the Naval Post Graduate School and a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval Command and Staff College.

Neagley has served at sea in USS Whipple (FF 1062), USS Coral Sea (CV 43), USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53), and as executive officer on USS Antietam (CG 54), where he deployed to the Arabian Gulf and participated in Operation Desert Fox with the Carl Vinson Battle group. He, subsequently, served as chief staff officer, Destroyer Squadron 21 and deployed with the Sea Combat Commander to the Arabian Gulf with the John C. Stennis Battle Group. He assumed command of USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62) in 2001 and led her combat deployment to the Arabian Gulf in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom in 2003.

Ashore, Neagley was assigned as Research and Development, Test and Evaluation (RD TEN), and Weapons Procurement (WPN) appropriations manager, Surface Warfare Directorate (OPNAV N86) from 1996 until 1997. He reported to Future Ships Branch (OPNAV N763) in 2003 and served as the lead requirements officer for the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) Program. In 2005, Neagley reported to the LCS Program Office as the principal assistant program manager and director of sustainment. From 2009 to 2011, Neagley served as the program manager of PMS EOD/CREW (PMS 408), where he fielded Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and counter Improvised Explosive Device (IED) systems to Iraq and Afghanistan. He was selected as the executive assistant to Naval Sea Systems Command in June 2011 and reported as the LCS program manager in March 2012. In September 2012, Neagley assumed duties as Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command deputy commander, Fleet Readiness.



Rear Admiral John Neagley

OUR ADOPTED
COMMANDS
AND UNITS



News and Notes from Navy League Headquarters

Board of Directors Meeting and Capitol Hill Fly-In

The Board of Directors meeting will be held Friday, Dec. 4, through Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Conference Center at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum Heights, Md. Registration is now open for both the meeting and the hotel at www.navyleague.org/bod.

All Navy Leaguers are invited to participate in our second "Anchors Aweigh Fly-In" as we meet our members of Congress on Capitol Hill and present the Navy League's legislative priorities. We will storm the hill Thursday, Dec. 3, the day before the Board of Directors meeting. Please plan to arrive no later than 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 2, to be included in the training. Shuttles will take Navy Leaguers from the Maritime Institute to Capitol Hill. The Legislative Affairs team will book all meetings and provide training, messaging and leave-behind documents.

If you are interested in participating, please email Sara Fuentes by email at sfuentes@navyleague.org with your name and address and we'll take care of the rest. All Navy Leaguers are invited and encouraged to participate.

Are you involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics? We need you for the new STEM Committee!

The National STEM Committee has been established and is currently looking to fill nine slots for its steering committee - with two slots remaining.

If you have a passion for science, technology, engineering and math, and want to participate at the national level to set the national Navy League agenda for STEM, please send a one-page bio to Stacy McFarland at smcfarland@navyleague.org for more information.

The Birth of the Navy of the United States *by Naval History and Heritage Command*

On Friday, October 13, 1775, meeting in Philadelphia, the Continental Congress voted to fit out two sailing vessels, armed with ten carriage guns, as well as swivel guns, and manned by crews of eighty, and to send them out on a cruise of three months to intercept transports carrying munitions and stores to the British army in America. This was the original legislation out of which the Continental Navy grew and as such constitutes the birth certificate of the navy.

To understand the momentous significance of the decision to send two armed vessels to sea under the authority of the Continental Congress, we need to review the strategic situation in which it was made and to consider the political struggle that lay behind it.

Americans first took up arms in the spring of 1775, not to sever their relationship with the king, but to defend their rights within the British Empire. By the autumn of 1775, the British North American colonies from Maine to Georgia were in open rebellion. Royal governments had been thrust out of many colonial capitals and revolutionary governments put in their places. The Continental Congress had assumed some of the responsibilities of a central government for the colonies, created a Continental Army, issued paper money for the support of the troops, and formed a committee to negotiate with foreign countries. Continental forces captured Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain and launched an invasion of Canada.

In October 1775 the British held superiority at sea, from which they threatened to stop up the colonies' trade and to wreak destruction on seaside settlements. In response, a few of the states had commissioned small fleets of their own for defense of local waters. Congress had not yet authorized privateering. Some in Congress worried about pushing the armed struggle too far, hoping that reconciliation with the mother country was still possible.

Yet, a small coterie of men in Congress had been advocating a Continental Navy from the outset of armed hostilities. Foremost among these men was John Adams, of Massachusetts. For months, he and a few others had been agitating in Congress for the establishment of an American fleet. They argued that a fleet would defend the seacoast towns, protect vital trade, retaliate against British raiders, and make it possible to seek out among neutral nations of the world the arms and stores that would make resistance possible.

Still, the establishment of a navy seemed too bold a move for some of the timid men in Congress. Some southerners agreed that a fleet would protect and secure the trade of New England but denied that it would that of the southern colonies.

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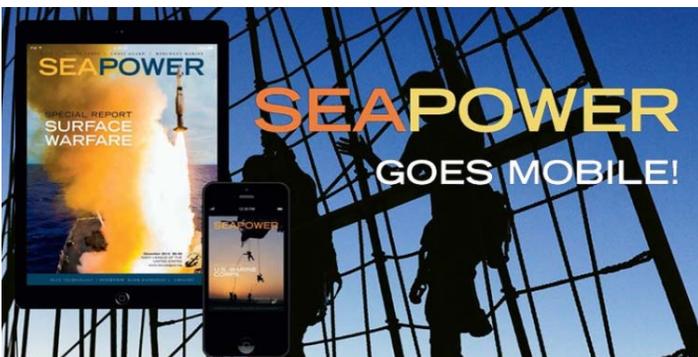
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Most of the delegates did not consider the break with England as final and feared that a navy implied sovereignty and independence. Others thought a navy a hasty and foolish challenge to the mightiest fleet the world had seen. The most the pro-navy men could do was to get Congress to urge each colony to fit out armed vessels for the protection of their coasts and harbors.

Then, on 3 October, Rhode Island's delegates laid before Congress a bold resolution for the building and equipping of an American fleet, as soon as possible. When the motion came to the floor for debate, Samuel Chase, of Maryland, attacked it, saying it was "the maddest Idea in the World to think of building an American Fleet." Even pro-navy members found the proposal too vague. It lacked specifics and no one could tell how much it would cost.

If Congress was yet unwilling to embrace the idea of establishing a navy as a permanent measure, it could be tempted by short-term opportunities. Fortuitously, on 5 October, Congress received intelligence of two English brigs, unarmed and without convoy, laden with munitions, leaving England bound for Quebec. Congress immediately appointed a committee to consider how to take advantage of this opportunity. Its members were all New Englanders and all ardent supporters of a navy. They recommended first that the governments of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut be asked to dispatch armed vessels to lay in wait to intercept the munitions ships; next they outlined a plan for the equipping by Congress of two armed vessels to cruise to the eastward to intercept any ships bearing supplies to the British army. Congress let this plan lie on the table until 13 October, when another fortuitous event occurred in favor of the naval movement. A letter from General Washington was read in Congress in which he reported that he had taken under his command, at Continental expense, three schooners to cruise off Massachusetts to intercept enemy supply ships. The commander in chief had preempted members of Congress reluctant to take the first step of fitting out warships under Continental authority. Since they already had armed vessels cruising in their name, it was not such a big step to approve two more. The committee's proposal, now appearing eminently reasonable to the reluctant members, was adopted. The Continental Navy grew into an important force. Within a few days, Congress established a Naval Committee charged with equipping a fleet. This committee directed the purchasing, outfitting, manning, and operations of the first ships of the new navy, drafted subsequent naval legislation, and prepared rules and regulations to govern the Continental Navy's conduct and internal administration.

Over the course of the War of Independence, the Continental Navy sent to sea more than fifty armed vessels of various types. The navy's squadrons and cruisers seized enemy supplies and carried correspondence and diplomats to Europe, returning with needed munitions. They took nearly 200 British vessels as prizes, some off the British Isles themselves, contributing to the demoralization of the enemy and forcing the British to divert warships to protect convoys and trade routes. In addition, the navy provoked diplomatic crises that helped bring France into the war against Great Britain. The Continental Navy began the proud tradition carried on today by our United States Navy, and whose birthday we celebrate each year in October.



WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBER

JUDI DAUGHERTY

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Questions or Comments?

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El Centro, CA 92244-3834



GIVING THANKS TO OUR TROOPS



We all have our nation's brave service members to be thankful for this and every year. Joint Operation 2015 is one way we wish to thank these courageous men and women this Thanksgiving.

For many years, the Imperial Valley Council of the Navy League has provided Thanksgiving turkeys to the active-duty servicemen and women who have families stationed at Naval Air Facility El Centro.

The Council wishes to continue this tradition, and for the past two years, you have made it possible with your donations and partnership. We are again seeking to partner with our Navy League members, Imperial Valley community, and businesses to help us fund the NAF El Centro turkey donation in a joint effort called "Joint Operation Give Thanks 2015."

With your help, we will be able to show our appreciation to our service members and their families and "Give Thanks" for their sacrifice to our nation.

Please join us in supporting Joint Operation Give Thanks 2015. Your sponsorships are tax-deductible.

___ YES! I want to be a part of Joint Operation Give Thanks 2015!

I would like to sponsor ___ Turkeys at \$15.00 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**

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Federal ID #33-036769



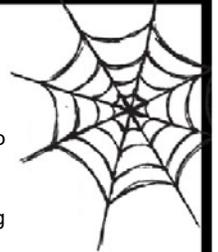
Save the Date

DESERT OUTING 2016

FEBRUARY 26-27, 2016



We need 200 Cupcakes



The Council is proud to again partner with the Navy's Child and Youth Programs (CYP) to support this year's Fall Festival to be held on Thursday, October 29th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at NAF El Centro.

We are seeking donations for 200 store-bought Halloween-themed cupcakes for the event. The Council will be donating prizes for the Halloween booth.

Please contact Gaylla Finnell at (760) 336-0015 if you are able to make a donation for the event.



Navy League of the U.S.

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

NEXT DINNER

OCTOBER 6TH

6:30 PM