



IMPERIAL VALLEY

Supporting the Sea Services since 1949



March 2023

Reservations Strongly Recommended

T-Bone dinners are still only \$30.00. You may pay in advance by cash or check, or use the link below to pay with our Square Card site. An optional QR code to access our pay site is also available. Reserve your spot at the table for a T-bone dinner. There is a \$2.00 credit card convenience fee.



Important Notice

Our steaks are specially hand-cut for us each dinner meeting. Due to our inability to store extra steaks, we'll only be ordering as many as we have reservations for. We typically have 1-2 extra steaks on hand, but cannot guarantee you a steak dinner without an advance reservation.

[Call or email us if you have questions.](#)

[Click here to make Dinner Reservations](#)

Join us for Blue Angels MIB Night



Blue Angels Senior Enlisted Leaders The Men in Black

**Master Chief Avionics Technician (AW/SW)
Hector Viramontes, USN**

In his first year with the Blue Angels, AVCM Hector Viramontes recently earned his Blue Angels crest.

Prior to becoming "crested," new team members must train and become experts in all facets of Blue Angels squadron history, procedures, teamwork, and tradition. They are now forever part of the Blue Angels family. Once a Blue

Angel, Always a Blue Angel.

Master Chief Avionics Technician (AW/SW) Hector Viramontes is a native of Pico Rivera, California. He graduated from El Rancho High School in 1995. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in November 1995, where he completed Basic Training and Airman Apprenticeship Training at...

[Read full bio](#)

NAF El Centro Airshow Featuring Blue Angels



EL CENTRO
Air Show

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NAVAL AIR FACILITY EL CENTRO
VIRAGUI FIELD
1950 • AIRSHOW • 2023

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023
GATES OPEN AT 9 AM

**NAVY LEAGUE IMPERIAL VALLEY
OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF EL CENTRO AIR SHOW**

Blue Angels Night A Big Success!



We were at capacity at Emerald Seed Company for Blue Angels Night. We extend a hearty THANK YOU, and shoutout to our sponsors:

Mike Dessert, Emerald Seed Company who loaned his facility for the evening; and Jeff Alford and Cherisse Alford of Alford Distributing Company for providing the beverages for the evening for our special guests.



We were visited by members of both the Yuma and San Diego Navy League councils -- it was great to see our neighbors to the east and west of us.

While we were celebrating a night of Blue Angels, and being able to "Meat" again with our members, we celebrated the council's 74th birthday with members of our adopted commands: Captain Lee, Commanding Officer of Naval Air Facility El Centro, Commander Alexander Armatas, US Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, several members from VMFA-214, and BMCS John Lowell, Officer in Charge of USCGC Petrel, and our council's youngest member, Jonathan Villa with Council President, Ted Gallinat.

DON'T THINK. JUST DO ... SO WE DID!



Neither wind, nor rain, nor sleet, nor snow, could hold us back -- all of which were present concerns, but Desert Outing happened last weekend, and we were all so pleased to be able to present this incredible event to our Navy League guests. The rain held off, and we were able to watch both the Blue Angels and Thunderbirds fly two practice sessions each.



We had great fun, and in addition to our VIP guests on Friday night, a silent auction, a Blue Angels model opportunity drawing, we hosted five Boy Scout Troops and our U.S. Naval Sea Cadets for a campout on Base.



A special shoutout to Don Brock of Brock Asparagus who very generously donated asparagus for our Friday night dinner. Don has been a consistent donor of his Imperial Valley grown asparagus for many years. We are very grateful for his support.

We also wish to extend a special

thanks and acknowledgement to Navy League members, Ava and Bruce Crowder, Ray and Cindy Congdon, and Bob Donovan who donated several items toward our Silent Auction.

None of this weekend could have occurred without the important support we receive from Naval Air Facility El Centro -- specifically, the Commanding Officer, Captain Michael Lee, and Public Affairs Officer Kristopher Haugh who were instrumental in securing our authorizations for this year's event, and the entire Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department, GSE and KBR who allowed us to utilize their space and who set-up our event area. A huge Bravo Zulu for a job well done!

Lastly, no part of this event takes place without the dedication of our Board of Directors and volunteers who pitch in, year after year, to ensure our guests are well-fed, made to feel welcome, and enjoy the experience of a lifetime.

We extend our thanks to the Blue Angels, and the Thunderbird demonstration teams that permit us to carry out our mission of educating the American public about their importance, and directly supporting them -- our active duty military members.

We are grateful to, and for, all of you.

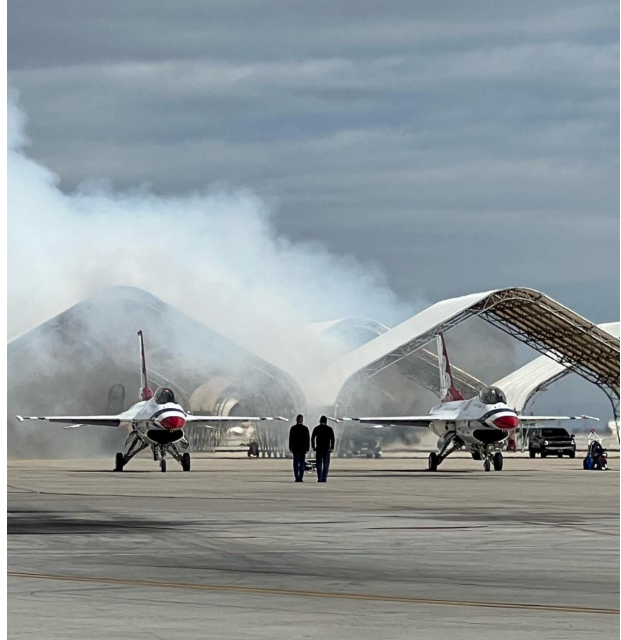




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Troop 783
Lisa Gallinat

Scholarships Available

Scholarship Funding for Military Spouses

The Navy League and Columbia Southern University (CSU) are proud to announce a new scholarship for military spouses. The recipient will receive 60 credit hours towards any degree program (up to \$25,200) at CSU. This scholarship is open to a spouse of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps or U.S. Coast Guard personnel. If you have any questions regarding this scholarship please contact us at scholarships@navyleague.org. [Apply here](#).

Submissions for 2023-2024 School Year Scholarships Now Open

We are proud to announce that scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year are now available! Navy League Foundation scholarships increase access to deserving high school seniors from sea service families who will be continuing their education to an accredited institution in the Fall of 2023.

[Apply now on the Navy League website](#)

Your Voice Matters | Letters to Congress



We have many pressing issues facing our sea services. If we don't make our voices heard to our Congressional and Senate leadership, who will? Our sea services rely on us being their voice to our elected representatives.

You can be their voice by sending your letters on these important matters. Visit our [Voice to Congress site for active campaigns](#), and submit your letters. Your responses really do make a difference.

President's Message

Moving Forward with Supporting our Sea Services

Our Imperial Valley Council just celebrated its 74th anniversary of charter. We paused for just a moment to commemorate this milestone, however we must continue to move forward with supporting our nation's Sea Services!



This past month of February; brought on several new challenges and hurdles to overcome, but during it all we didn't lose sight on holding our T-bone Dinners to recognize the Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen and women. And, to top it off, we also held our council's annual fundraiser -- *Desert Outing*, with only two weeks to plan and execute the event.

As we were literally wandering in the desert, looking for an appropriate venue to hold our next T-bone Dinner, we were already planning some of our annual events such as our annual BBQ at Lake Martinez for our Blacksheep Marines, and hosting our Coast Guard unit and their families with a day of Padres baseball to celebrate their USCG birthday in August.

In the photo directly above, you will see what is now becoming somewhat of an annual Imperial Valley event. Both premiere flight demonstration squadrons: Blue Angels and Thunderbirds in a display that they call the "Super Delta." This is a 12-aircraft flying formation with so much closeness, that they appear to fly as one! This is no easy feat. Planning, hard work, mixed with a lot of skill by

these aviators, and good weather added for extra measure -- well a picture says 1000 words! Beauty. Awesome. Are two words that I use.

As part of our annual support to NAF El Centro, we are once again sponsoring the Performer's Chalet at NAF El Centro. The chalet provides food and beverage to the active duty members of our military during the Airshow event. There is no funding for the Base to provide this for our military members -- this is where Navy League can step in, and provide much needed support to these men and women who will be flying in to support our local airshow.

Again, because our March dinner set-up will be a little different than you're used to, we'll do our best to make sure you're appreciated, and valued as a member. Just as we've been doing for the past year, we will be taking reservations for the dinner.

Your advance reservations helps us immeasurably in our steak orders, and ensures you'll get a steak when you show up. We are requesting that you place your dinner reservation and payment online. You can use the link above to reserve your spot at this very popular dinner.

Plan to join us for T-bones next Tuesday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. at the Imperial Moose Lodge and meet the 2023 MIBs. You won't be disappointed!

Until we "Meat" again,



Ted Gallinat, President
Imperial Valley Council
Navy League of the U.S.
www.ivnavyleague.org
ivnavyleague@yahoo.com

Upcoming T-Bone Dinners and Events

MARCH 2023

7 | Navy League Dinner | 6:30 pm

Location: Moose Lodge, 2310 Myrtle Rd, Imperial

11 | El Centro Airshow

Naval Air Facility El Centro | Gates open 9:00 am

APRIL 2023

4 | Navy League Dinner | 6:30 pm

Location: TBD

MAY 2023

2 | Navy League Dinner | 6:30 pm

Location: TBD

Follow Us Whenever, and Wherever We Go!



Welcome New and Renewing Members!

Thank you for your Membership!

The Navy League depends on passionate individuals like you to support those currently serving and advocate for the sea services. Local councils adopt ships and shore commands, reward and honor enlisted personnel, host dinners and celebrations for military personnel, and support family members.

Frederico Alvarado
Roberta Bemis
Joseph Beyke
Donald Brock
William Browning
David & Kathy Burk
Roy and Sue Caldwell
Hon. James Carletti
Chad Cooper
Stella Cowley
Carol Dedic
Hon. James Carletti
Chad Cooper
Stella Cowley
Carol Detric
Pamela Di Giovani
Robert Donovan

Bill Dubois
John Duffy
Luman Grover Farrell
Allen Flehinger
Elana Flehinger
Daniel Folwick
David Forwood
Andrew Galuppo
Tim Guzman
Denice Heintz-
Tomlinson
Michael Holehan
Spencer Hughes
Dr. Andrew Ingel
Danielle Ingoglia
Alyce Jackson
Alma Kenyon
Jill Lopez

David Morales
Clifford Nash
Emili Neel
Kyle Oldoerp
Antonino Paolantoni
Grant Rafferty
Paul Rafferty
James Richardson
Nick Rowson
Carl & Vicki Sessions
Carleton & Mary Smith
Greg Stansbery
Ronald Strohmeyer
Jacqueline Teepen
Michael Wagner
Lita Whitehead
Monica Wilson

Ready to Join?

[Besides being a part of a great organization that serves others.](#)

[You receive benefits too!](#)

[Membership now open to all active duty service members](#)

Our Supported Units



NAVAL AIR FACILITY
EL CENTRO



US NAVY BLUE ANGELS FLIGHT
DEMONSTRATION SQUADRON



USMC MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK
SQUADRON VMFA-214



USCGC PETREL
WPB 87350



NAVY MUNITIONS COMMAND
CONUS WEST DETACHMENT



STRIKE FIGHTER WING PACIFIC
MAINTENANCE UNIT EL CENTRO



NAVAL BRANCH MEDICAL
EL CENTRO



USS FITZGERALD DDG 62



DESERT EAGLE SQUADRON
ESCONDIDO BATTALION
TRAINING SHIP KIT CARSON



CALEXICO HIGH SCHOOL

Sailor Award Sponsors

Become a Unit Sponsors

USS FITZGERALD (DDG-62)

USCGC PETREL

VMFA-214

Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Maintenance Unit

Navy Munitions Command (Weapons) Detachment El Centro

Table Sponsors

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[THE DAHM TEAM REAL ESTATE COMPANY, INC.](#)

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The Official Publication of the Navy League

In print since 1902, Seapower provides Navy League members, sea service chiefs and members of Congress with the most relevant news affecting the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine.

Navy League of the United States

Imperial Valley Council

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