



## Imperial Valley Council

Serving all Imperial County communities.

**April 3, 2018**

**IV Navy League Dinner | NAF El Centro Mirage Club at 6:30 pm**



### **Train to Fight! Fight to Win!**

That's the slogan of the [Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron Four One \(HSM-41\)](#). HSM-41 is the U.S. Navy's West Coast Fleet Replacement Squadron that trains the Navy's newest Naval Aviators and Aircrewmembers to fly and fight the MH-60R Seahawk helicopter. The MH-60R is considered the world's most advanced rotary wing maritime strike platform.

HSM-41 is based in Coronado, California at Naval Station North Island. It's there that these dedicated professional maintainers, instructors and support personnel carry out the mission to provide the most highly trained Aviators and Aircrewmembers to the Navy's

deploying fleet squadrons.

We are pleased to welcome back to Imperial Valley, Lieutenant Commander Manuel "Manny" Sanchez, USN, who is the Maintenance Officer for HSM-41. You read more about LCDR Sanchez in his [biography](#) and what he's been up to since you last met when he served as the Maintenance Officer for the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels.

Join us for a great evening of friends, and T-Bones.



**It's the largest maritime exposition in the United States**

Sea-Air-Space (SAS) is now the largest maritime exposition in the U.S. and continues as an invaluable extension of the Navy League's mission of maritime policy education and sea service support. The Sea-Air-Space Exposition will continue to support the mission of the Navy League and lead the way as "THE" Exposition to attend each year to display the most current information and technology relevant to maritime policy.

If the product is intended to enhance and advance the quality of America's Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or U.S.-flag Merchant Marine, then it is on display at the Navy League's Sea-Air-Space Exposition!

There will be over 275 exciting and interactive exhibits showcasing the latest in maritime defense and energy technologies. The exposition is free and open to Navy League members, active duty, reserve and retired U.S. Military, Members of Congress and their staff, and U.S. federal, state and local government employees.

The SAS Expo will be held April 9-11 at the Gaylord National Convention Center in National Harbor, MD. Learn more about [Sea-Air-Space](#) today.

**Fair Winds and Following Seas Navy Leaguers**

**Harry Mercer | Past Council President, 1982**

World War II Veteran Harry Mercer served as Council President in 1982. Following his retirement, he moved to Tulare, CA. As a Navy



League Life Member, Harry continued to stay in touch with us until his passing.

We will miss Harry and his frequent letters of support and encouragement.

## Marilouise Hurley

Longtime friend, Teacher, Pilot and Navy Leaguer, Marilouise Hurley's enthusiasm for life, and flying was infectious. She loved hearing the Blue Angels fly over her home on Evan Hewes Highway.

With over 3000 hours of flight time of her own, it was her newspaper column "Mari-Go-Round" that landed her in the backseat of Blue Angels #7 with LT Randy Clark. Blue skies, Mari.



## Fall in and Join Us!

Our Desert Eagle Squadron of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corp has been re-established, and we are searching for boys and girls ages 10-17 for our Navy Leaguer and Sea Cadets Corps squadron.

Do you know a young person who would benefit from this national youth leadership and development organization that promotes interest and skill in naval disciplines? This after-school program instills strong moral character and life skills through leadership and technical programs modeled after the Navy's professional development system. [Find out more about our Sea Cadet programs.](#)

## President's Message

Does it seem quiet around here to you? Our Blue Angels successfully completed winter training, and have flown from the nest. If you're not following the [Blue Angels travels on Facebook](#), you'll want to check their exciting photos. Speaking of Facebook, you'll also find [Naval Air Facility El Centro](#)'s latest news there too. Check them out, and LIKE our own [Imperial Valley Council](#) page while you're there!

Following our dinner meeting next week, I'll be headed to the Navy League's premier event of the year -- Sea-Air-Space Exposition in Washington, D.C. The Expo was founded in 1965 as a means to bring the U.S. defense industrial base, private-sector U.S. companies and key military decision makers together. The Expo provides abundant opportunities to learn about, test and see the most advanced military equipment available. Sea-service panels, a gala -- featuring singer Lee Greenwood, and much more are on the line-up. I hope to see you there.

I recently had the pleasure to extend the opportunity to our April speaker to visit El Centro...again. LCDR Sanchez served with the Blue Angels -- and he remembers our T-Bones well. So much in fact, that he jumped at the chance to "give back" to the fine

folks in Imperial Valley for all we did for the Blue Angels during his time with the Team. I'm looking forward to seeing you next Tuesday, as he is.

Happy Easter!

*Ted*

Ted Gallinat, President  
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