



NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Imperial Valley Council

## Cheers to 73 Years Imperial Valley

Seventy-three years is significant, whether you're an individual, a business, or an all-volunteer non-profit organization. Our Council was given its charter on January 15, 1949. Since that time, we've been actively advocating for, and supporting our active duty military members and their families -- not just by giving Thanksgiving turkeys, or recognizing them with awards, or any of the other outstanding support programs we provide for them, but by supporting them on the national stage too.



We're proud of all the work we do in the Imperial Valley to promote the mission of our sea services. Most importantly, we're a local advocate for NAF El Centro, and our Marines to the east in our local community, and we are advocates for all our adopted commands across our nation. We are their voice to Congress, and local elected leaders.

Our Council is part of the national organization's Legislative Affairs team. As such, we have a direct impact on federal legislation. That is the highest level of government in the most powerful government on the planet. It is not false to say that what we do affects the world. If you're not plugged into this advocacy program, we invite you to become a part of our council's legislative advocacy.

Your Navy League membership is vital in supporting our legislative efforts, and your attendance at our local dinner meetings is vital in conveying your commitment to showing your support to those we serve.

It was the original charter members in 1949 who believed in the Navy League mission of supporting our sea services in Imperial Valley. We thank you for helping us keep this vision and mission alive. If you're not a member, [join us](#). or [renew](#) today.

Happy 73rd Anniversary Imperial Valley Navy League!

## February Speaker | Flight Leader, US Navy Blue Angels

**Captain Brian Kesselring, USN**  
**Commanding Officer/Flight Leader**  
**Flight Demonstration Squadron, Blue Angels**



Captain Kesselring, also known as "Boss" is no stranger to Imperial Valley. Boss Kesselring joined the Blue Angels in 2019 and assumed command of the Blue Angels for the 2020 season. Now in his third year as Flight Leader, he will lead the team through their 2022 season.

The Blue Angels arrived in El Centro for winter training on January 4th, and just wrapped up their third week of winter training. They'll be showcasing their skills in their first scheduled show at Naval Air Facility El Centro's Festival of Flight on March 12, 2022. [Read Boss Kesselring's full bio.](#)

## Joining us for a T-Bone Dinner? Reservations Required

It was great to be able to get together again after nearly two years.

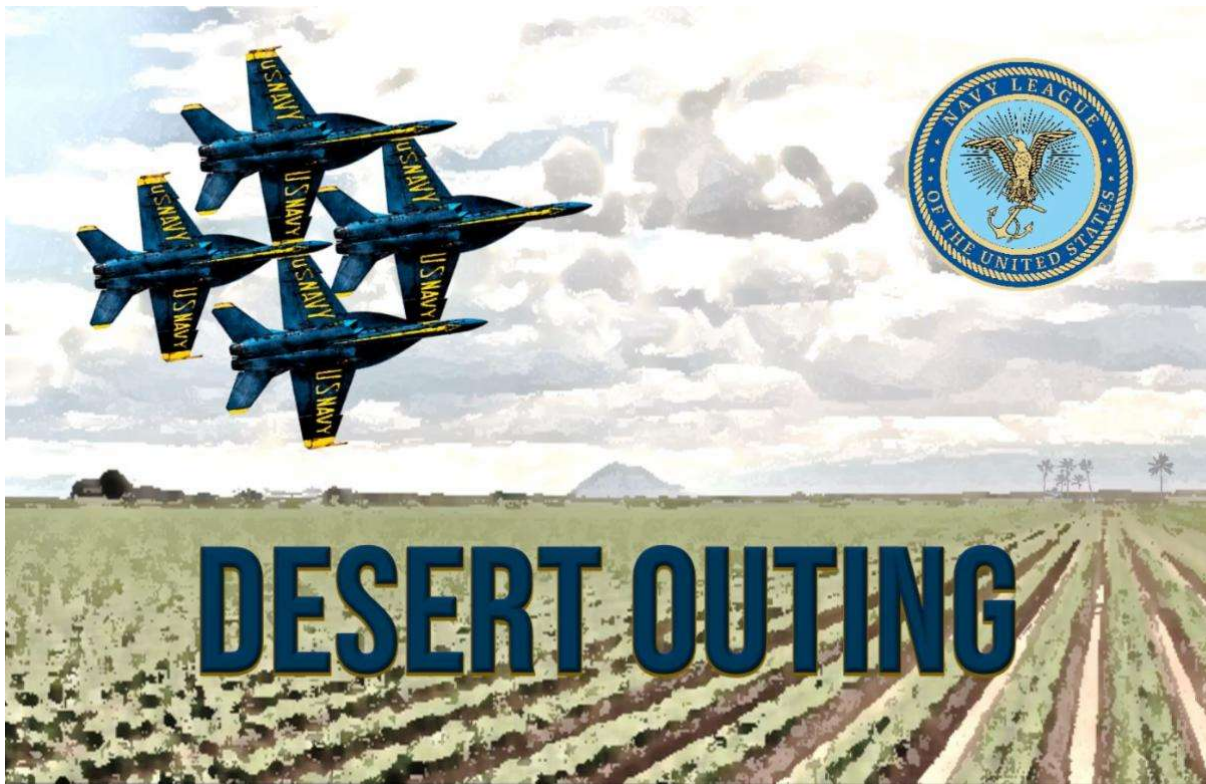
We enjoyed delicious T-bones, great conversation, and an incredibly informative program by Captain Perkins, NAF El Centro's Commanding Officer.

Did you miss it too? We want to see you -- but we do have limitations as we continue to get back to our new normal.

We are currently restricted to 50 guests at our dinners. All members and their guests must have their names on our security access list at least three weeks prior to the dinner. Call us today to ensure your name will be on the list, and that we will have your reservation for a T-bone on the grill. We appreciate NAF El Centro's command for permission to hold our dinners on Base, and we thank you for helping us meet our compliance obligations to the Base.



## We Are Cleared For Take Off! Limited Seating Available



**FEBRUARY 25-26, 2022**

**Accepting Reservations January 5, 2022**

**We have only a few seats left for the 2-day event.  
We have plenty of room for our single-day attendance on Saturday.  
Contact us today to make your reservation.  
Registration closes February 3, 2022.**

## **Navy League National News**

### **Biennial Maritime Policy Statement**

One of the primary foundations of our efforts to support the sea services can be found in the [biennial Maritime Policy statement](#). This document provides a comprehensive blueprint for addressing the needs, challenges and threats facing the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. Please be sure to share this document with any fellow members or supporters of the sea services who haven't had the chance to read it yet.

### **Legislative Affairs Update: Congress Year-Long Continuing Resolution in Sight Without a Budget Deal**

Alarms are ringing over the possibility of a year-long continuing resolution if Congress is unable to pass a budget in the coming weeks. A potential omnibus bill is being floated as a possibility as there appears to be increasing interest from both sides of the aisle to achieve some legislative progress this year. With the Build Back Better bill and the voting rights bills stuck in limbo, the Democratic members that control both chambers will likely



be quite enthusiastic to pass something before campaigning begins in earnest later this year.

If they are unable to reach a budget deal and instead choose to pursue a lengthy continuing resolution, the impact on military funding would be severe. In a recent hearing on Capitol Hill about the impact of CRs, Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Berger said, "Continuing resolutions are backward looking, destabilizing and decelerating. For the past 30 months, I have attempted to accelerate change in support of our approach to the nation's pacing challenges, while concurrently generating the ready forces that create advantage. ... A CR is the last thing a force seeking to accelerate modernization needs. It represents a return to the budget uncertainty that has plagued the department for more than a decade. It is a return to the 'normalization of deviance.'"

We at the Navy League will do everything we can to avoid a long-term destabilizing continuing resolution. If this issue is not resolved in the coming weeks, it will likely become our top priority for the upcoming Sea Service's Hill Surge.

### **Visit the Center for Maritime Strategy Webpage**

Navy League HQ has created a webpage for our new think tank, [the Center for Maritime Strategy](#). Navy League members and the public can catch up on the latest activities and news involving the organization, including blog posts written by Adm. Foggo and podcasts. Please take a look and share with others so we can spread the think tank's important mission nationwide.

### **Apply Now for Navy League Foundation Scholarships**

National headquarters is now accepting Navy League Foundation scholarship applications! These scholarships are available to children and grandchildren of veterans or active-duty sea service men and women, as well as members of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. If you know soon to be college-bound students from sea service backgrounds, please let them know about this scholarship opportunity that is exclusive to them. If you have any questions regarding scholarships, please click the learn more button above or contact us at [scholarships@navyleague.org](mailto:scholarships@navyleague.org).

## **President's Message**

Fellow Navy Leaguers,

I have long said that we may be "small" in Imperial Valley, but we are mighty! We had a small gathering of approximately 30 members and guests at our January dinner. It was great to see you -- and those T-Bones were delicious!

Captain Perkins delivered a very comprehensive and informative presentation on the state of readiness, and the role NAF El Centro is playing on the world's stage.



By now, if you haven't seen our Blue Angels, you've definitely heard them "screaming" across our clear, blue skies. It's good to have them back in the Valley, and it will be good to host the 2022 team for T-bones around our tables next week.

If you haven't done so, reach out to us and [make your reservation](#) for the dinner. We have some availability, and we would love to see you again. We have done our best to ensure our members names are on the security access list. Unsure if you're on our list? [Contact us](#). We want to see you, and we want to know how important you are to our mission and supporting the men and women of the sea services.

Until we "Meet" again, I wish you all good health and happiness.

*Ted*

Ted Gallinat, President  
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[ivnavyleague@yahoo.com](mailto:ivnavyleague@yahoo.com)

## Upcoming T-Bone Dinners and Events

**FEB 1 | Navy League Dinner | 5:30 pm *Early Start Time!***

Meet the 2022 Blue Angels Team

**FEB 25-26 | Desert Outing 2022**

Registration closes February 3, 2022

**MAR 1 | Navy League Dinner | 6:30 pm**

Meet the Blue Angels Men in Black

**MAR 12 | NAF El Centro Festival of Flight**

**APR 5 | Navy League Dinner | 6:30 pm**



Besides being a part of a great organization that serves others.  
You receive benefits too!

Membership now open to all active duty service members

**Become A Member**

**Our Supported Units**



NAVAL AIR FACILITY  
EL CENTRO



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FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION  
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214



USCGC PETREL  
WPB 87350



NAVY MUNITIONS COMMAND  
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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**

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**USCGC PETREL**

**VMA-214**

**Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Maintenance Unit**

**Navy Munitions Command (Weapons) Detachment El Centro**

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# SEAPOW<sup>ER</sup>

## **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.

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