



The Halyards—COLORADO SPRINGS COUNCIL Mar-Apr 2011

A Newsletter to Members and Friends of the Sea Services, Colorado Springs

NAVY LEAGUE of the UNITED STATES

Citizens in Support of the Sea Services
 The Navy League of the United States is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating our citizens about the importance of sea power to U.S. national security and supporting the men and women of the sea services and their families.

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U.S. Navy * U.S. Marine Corps * U.S. Coast Guard * U.S.-flag Merchant Marine

Mar/Apr 2011

Volume 5, Issue 16

A CHART FOR 2011 from Richard Cooper, President, Col. Springs

Navy Leaguers:

This might be a good time to take a navigation check on what we've accomplished in 2010, and where we would like to go in 2011 as a Council.

In 2010, we accomplished some goals and missed a few –

* The Council was represented at the National Navy League Board of Director's meeting in Arlington, VA, and at the National Navy League Convention in Jacksonville (Council representatives travel entirely at their own expense, in case you were wondering...)

*We held our annual business meeting in January with an election of local officers and heard an excellent presentation by naval history author Steve Maffeo, a retired Navy Captain, now working at the USAFA.

*Held family-oriented events at the AFA: a "Flight School" simulator training hosted by the Navy Cadre at the Academy. Attended a demonstration of the "Wings of Blue" cadet Parachute Team showing the gear and aircraft used by the team.

*Sponsored the Birthday Navy Ball in October with ADM James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN, Commander of NORAD and NORTH-COM, as the principle speaker.

* Attended the Navy/Air Force Game in October; good game, except for final score!

* Joined our Navy League friends to watch the Army/Navy game on TV in December.

- In the 'Needs to improve' column, we failed to improve membership, sponsor a ship/unit, witnessed a decline of our two Sea Cadet units, and a launch of the Community Affiliate program to the degree I would like. (Each new affiliate expands our circle of influence by bringing in new members and revenue).



On the Horizon for 2011 (Our Goals):

- * Elections for Officers held in Jan and presentation on PTSD given by *Gazette* writer, David Philipps
- * Reconstitute and re-energize our two Sea Cadet units under new Commanding Officers.
- * Establish links for community funding of Council activities
- * Increase Membership—numbers and leaders
- * Leader for Community Affiliate and Ship Adoption programs.
- * Celebrate the Navy Centennial of Flight
- * Organize and host Navy Birthday Ball
- * Represent the membership at the Navy League National Board of Directors, June 2011
- * Honor our youth at a program in September

Your Council Leadership:

- DICK COOPER, PRESIDENT
- GEORGE SUGARS, VP PROGRAMS
- DICK SPEAREL, VP FINANCE/ TREASURER
- BILL MARSHALL, VP LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
- ART CYPHERS, VP YOUTH PROGRAMS
- BILL LOCKWOOD, VP MEMBERSHIP
- ROY BEBEE, VP—PUBLICITY & CHAPLAIN
- ED SOMMERFIELD, WEBMASTER EMERITUS

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Spotlight on One of CS Council VP's



Arthur B. Cyphers, VP Youth Programs, C/S Council, NLUS

Arthur Cyphers grew up in Cranford, NJ and went to the University of Delaware to earn a degree in Biological Sciences and Chemistry. After graduation, he went to work at the US Food and Drug Administration in Washington, DC.

In 1964, Viet Nam was in full swing. Art enlisted as an Aviation Officer Candidate, was commissioned at NAS Pensacola, and earned Naval Flight Officer (NFO) Wings. He was first assigned to Naval Air Transport Squadron 3 (VR-3) at McGuire AFB, NJ, then to NAS Kingsville, TX as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer, later to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 121 (VAW-121) as Administrative Officer and NFO embarked in aircraft carriers.

In 1973, he began a business career in the plastics industry and continued his Navy career in the Reserves.

He was a Maintenance Officer in Anti-Submarine Patrol Squadron (VP) 64, Administrative Officer in the NAF Adak augment unit, and XO of the senior officer training unit. He retired at NAS Glenview, IL.

Art spent nearly 30 years in the plastics industry, primarily with Klöckner Pentaplast of America (KPA). As Midwestern Regional Manager he was responsible for more than a third of company sales. He especially enjoyed hiring, developing, mentoring, and managing field sales people.

Business was also a place to learn and practice Christian principals in the field. After retirement from KPA, he joined the Assemblies of God Financial Group as a planned giving consultant. He taught biblical stewardship seminars in churches and worked with clients in 12 states to write estate plans that included planned gifts for their favorite Christian ministry.

Art married his college sweetheart, Susan, in 1965. They have two adult daughters who are married and have their three grandchildren. They lived in Naperville, IL for 29 years before moving to Colorado in 2006 – “because there are mountains here and lots of sunshine.” They enjoy skiing, hiking, golf, touring in the mountains, and traveling together.

Art and Sue are active church members where Art sings, and they lead a senior adult group. He is treasurer of Springcrest Foundation of their church. Besides serving Navy League Youth Programs, Art also sings with the Soli Deo Gloria Choir of Colorado Springs and is a primary leader in a Boy Scout troop.



Author David Philipps spoke at the Colorado Springs Council in January on the return of many Wounded Warriors.

Learning to Speak about the Unspoken

The stresses that have been internalized by troops returning from duty in Iraq and Afghanistan are a heavy burden, both to the individual warrior, to their family and to the civilian community. The unconventional nature of threats from unseen and unrecognized sources – IEDs, for example – are a contributing factor to the PTSD experienced by many good soldiers.

The Colorado Springs Council membership was treated to an after-dinner presentation January 20, 2011 by author David Philipps on the topic of PTSD regarding the returning soldier. His book, *Lethal Warriors: When the new Band of Brothers Came Home* addresses the specific issues faced by members of the 4th ID as they returned to Fort Carson, Colorado. The book has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.



**NAVY LEAGUE
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

The Legislative Affairs Committee of the United States Navy League is composed of Navy League members interested in the direction of our nation as it relates to the needs of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the US Merchant Marine. Each year a Navy League Maritime Policy is published which embodies the views of NL leadership and that of our Maritime Services leadership and covers a variety of issues important to the four services. The nation needs a properly sized fleet and with the correct mix to meet the requirements of our government. A Legislative Agenda is developed each year under the direction of the National VP of Legislative Affairs which is a brief extract of the Maritime Policy.

The NL Grass Roots Legislative Affairs program is composed of NL councils and their members who visit Members of Congress, usually in their District offices, to educate them in the current and high priority needs identified by the Navy League. Each Region has a Regional VP of Legislative Affairs who coordinates with the Councils in their area; in the Rocky Mountain Region we have four states, Utah, New Mexico, Wyoming and Colorado.

Each local council in the region identifies an individual to undertake the responsibility to set up and conduct briefings of Members of Congress. They contact the district office of the Congressman or Senator and schedule a date for the briefing. This is usually done with a presenter and a constituent at the meeting which normally takes about 15 minutes.

Individuals interested in this important effort should contact their local council officers as there is necessary training to be conducted prior to visiting a Member of Congress.

**Ireland in
2012!**



Here is an update on the 2012 season-opening football game in Dublin, between the Naval Academy and Notre Dame, to be played September 1, 2012. The "official" travel agency for both teams is Anthony Travel; they have travel packages including hotels, game tickets, and some meals – but not including air travel to/from the U.S. – for four to eight days, starting at \$1475, depending on length of stay and quality of accommodations. Travel insurance is available for purchase, as is a Musical Pub Crawl in Dublin; please visit our website for more information: <http://www.navyleague-coloradosprings.org/upcoming-events> We are told that some of the packages are filling up, so discuss it with your Chief of Staff at your first opportunity. Neither the Navy League of the U.S. and the Colorado Springs Council are sponsors of the events, but offer the information for your investigation. Anthony Travel is under contract with the USNA and Notre Dame University, and should be contacted directly if you are interested: <http://www.anthonyclub.com>

The sanctity of our battlefields, monuments, and veterans institutions is of utmost importance to preserve military history and pay respect to those who fought.
Henry Waxman



THE CHIEF

The Navy Chief noticed a new seaman and barked at him, "Get over here! What's your name sailor?"

"John," the new seaman replied.

"Look, I don't know what kind of bleeding-heart pansy crap they're teaching sailors in boot camp these days, but I don't call anyone by his first name," the chief scowled. "It breeds familiarity, and that leads to a breakdown in authority.

I refer to my sailors by their last names only: Smith, Jones, Baker, whatever. And you are to refer to me as 'Chief'. Do I make myself clear?"

"Aye, Aye Chief!"

"Now that we've got that straight, what's your last name?"

The seaman sighed. "Darling. My name is John Darling, Chief."

"Okay, John, here's what I want you to do"





The Halyards Newsletter

Navy League of the United States
 Colorado Springs Council #132
 P.O. Box 2035
 Colorado Springs, CO 80901



The Navy League has set forth the following objectives:

- To foster and maintain interest in a strong Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine as integral parts of a sound national defense and vital to the freedom of the United States.
- To serve as a means of educating and informing the American people with regard to the role of sea power in the nuclear age and the problems involved in maintaining strong defenses in that age.
- To improve the understanding and appreciation of those who wear the uniforms of our armed forces and to better the conditions under which they live and serve.
- To provide support and recognition for the Reserve forces in our communities in order that we may continue to have a capable and responsive Reserve.
- To educate and train our youth in the customs and traditions of the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marine through the means of an active and vigorous Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

Volunteers Requested for Community Affiliate Membership

The *Community Affiliate Membership* demonstrates a company's commitment to the local Navy League Council and a desire to support and advance the objective and purpose of the Navy League. This membership is designed for companies whose business is primarily local rather than national in scope. Community Affiliate membership demonstrates a company's desire to support young people through our special programs and scholarships.

Council activities range from special military installation visits, ship tours, and a wide variety of social events (dinners, lunches, etc.) during which members of the Sea Services are honored or presented with awards. Council members work together to foster common local interests and to promote maritime issues of national importance.

If you are interested in helping recruit companies to be a *Community Affiliate*, please contact Bill Lockwood or Dick Cooper. Call 719.572.5104.

Application and Membership Information

Colorado Springs Council, Navy League of the United States
 P.O. Box 2035 Colorado Springs, CO 80901-2035

Enroll me as a new member Renew my membership

Please print:

Last Name _____ First _____ Initial _____ Spouse First Name _____

Residence address* _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Phone* _____

E-mail* _____

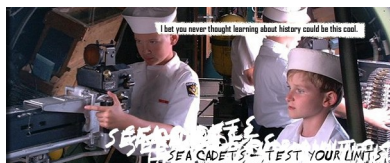
*We will not release personal data to any commercial organization; all information is exclusive of Navy League .

Dues (Payable to CSC NLUS): Individual \$15 Family \$25

Memberships expire December 31 of each year.



YOUTH PROGRAMS REPORT



Mesa Ridge HS will be featured in the "Loud and Proud" segment of Fox News on Colorado Springs Fox Channel 21 in the near future. NJROTC expects to be a prominent part of the story.

Mesa Ridge High School Navy JROTC

The two instructors of the Mesa Ridge High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps are LCDR Don Pletcher in his 18th year as a senior instructor (14th year at Mesa Ridge HS) and OSCS Tony Cook in his 6th year as an instructor.

The Mesa Ridge NJROTC program has earned the coveted Distinguished Unit award for eleven years in a row which comes with several perks, but none more important than being able to nominate cadets to all of the service academies. We presently have a Mesa Ridge graduate at the AFA as a result of this honor who did not receive a congressional nomination. The Mesa Ridge NJROTC also has had several students earn the Navy ROTC scholarship worth up to 180,000 dollars, as well as Naval Academy graduates.

The Mesa Ridge cadets have been the Colorado State Navy JROTC Champions for the last twelve years in a row.

We focus strongly on academics, physical fitness and military drill. Cadets study daily for academic competitions. Last year the cadets earned 5th place of over 1600 teams in a nationwide postal test. Another area of strength is our ACT preparation courses to enhance test scores to increase scholarship opportunities for more cadets.

Specifically this year, the cadets have accomplished the following:

Saturday January 22, 2011 the Mesa Ridge Navy JROTC hosted a Regional Drill, Athletic and Academic competition which is a qualifier to the seven state regional competitions in Kansas City, Kansas in February, 2011.

Eight high schools competed in the event, four Navy and four Army JROTCs. The schools traveled in from as far away as Lander, Wyoming, Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Competing high schools were:

Lander NJROTC; Santé Fe NJROTC; West Mesa NJROTC; Mesa Ridge NJROTC; Fountain Fort Carson AJROTC; JFK AJROTC; Loveland AJROTC; Ridgeview AJROTC

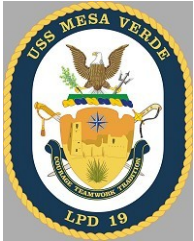
The competition consists of the following eleven events:

1. Academic test of course material;
2. Eight person (4 male/ 4 female) 220 yard relay
3. Sixteen person (8 male/ 8 female) 100 yard relay;
4. Sixteen person (8 male/ 8 female) push-up competition;
5. Sixteen person (8 male/ 8 female) sit-up competition
6. Armed platoon exhibition drill team;
7. Armed platoon basic drill team;
8. Unarmed platoon exhibition drill team;
9. Unarmed platoon basic drill team;
10. Color Guard team
11. Personnel Inspection

The Mesa Ridge NJROTC unit took first place overall, placing in the top three in all categories and beating the second place team by over 700 points.

The Mesa Ridge cadets earned numerous honors for the competitive events.

Also this year we are very proud of the fact that the Mesa Ridge cadets took 1st and 2nd place in the Colorado State all services physical fitness competition at the AFA. The Mesa Ridge cadets also compete in air rifle and orienteering competitions.



WHAT IS A SHIP ADOPTION?

By William Marshall

Some of our members have raised the question about what is involved when our council “adopts” a ship?

After the Council Board of Directors has determined we can support an adoption, the initial step is to obtain the agreement and approval of the Commanding Officer of the ship to be adopted. When we have approval, we will hold appropriate formal ceremonies with the ship.

The adoption of a ship carries with it a deep commitment that the Council and its members assume the responsibility for enhancing the morale and general well-being of the officers and crew. In effect, the council and its members become “the civilians who are there to assist the ship when the chips are down.” We become part of the family of the adopted ship.

In cases where the adopted ship is subject to periodic deployment, the council and its members can be counted on, if needed, to provide assistance to the family members who are left behind.

The Council will also make a practice of hosting annual outings for the officers, the crew, and their family members. We provide civilian recognition and awards to honor outstanding members of the ship who have distinguished themselves within their command, such as the Sailor of the Quarter, or Sailor of the Year. On a case by case basis we will provide funding for special projects not covered by military allotments. The Board has discussed the adoption of the San Antonio Class Amphibious Transport Dock Ship, LPD 19 USS Mesa Verde, homeport, Norfolk VA.

Mentors Needed

The following was received from a **Wounded Warrior** representative via e-mail. If you would like to participate in this worthy program, please contact Justin:

My name is Justin Widhalm. I am a *Wounded Warrior* Programs Manager with the USO at Fort Carson. I’m reaching out to ask your respective networks to take advantage of a valuable opportunity to give our wounded heroes here at Fort Carson to find a mentor who has successfully transitioned from military service to the civilian sector. The program is being held in conjunction with the *USO’s Hire Heroes USA* workshop that is being held in Colorado Springs soon. The USO has long been known for providing great entertainment to our troops forward deployed as well as service members at home. We desire to assist our *Wounded Warriors* in the sometimes difficult transition out of the military to become the next great generation of veterans. If individuals are interested, please contact me for the “Mentor Information Sheet” and questions can be directed to me. This is an outstanding opportunity to give back to this nation that we all love so much. As a *Wounded Warrior* myself, I know firsthand the difficulties that transition can bring. The mentor’s criteria is to be an outstanding citizen who has honorably served in one of the service branches. Enlisted personnel or officers are welcome to inquire. Your help is greatly appreciated,

JUSTIN D. WIDHALM, SFC, US Army (Ret.)
Wounded Warrior Programs Manager
USO (719) 235-3980
Soldier & Family Assistance Center (SFAC)
1481 Titus Blvd. Building 7492
Fort Carson, CO 80913
jwidhalm@uso.org



Prairie View Remembers



A Tribute to Vietnam Era Veterans



Friday, April 8th, 2011
Prairie View High School

4:00 to 5:00 Prairie View Gymnasium:
Performances by PVHS students and staff
Special presentations in honor of our veterans

5:00 to 6:00 Prairie View Great Hallway:
Veteran's red carpet walk of honor
(Yellow ribbon ceremony)

6:00 to 7:00 Prairie View Cafeteria:
Meet Our Veterans Social - hors d'oeuvres
Viewing of military artifacts and projects

Prairie View High School
12909 East 120th Ave
Henderson, CO 80640
PVHS: 303-655-8800

Contact: Kate Hamilton or Kelly Gonzales
khamilton@sd271.org kgonzales@sd271.org
720-290-4148 970-225-1994

Please visit our website at:
www.namvettribute.org

WELCOME ABOARD!

**New NLUS CS
Council Members for
2011:**

**VADM Terry &
Ingrid Etnyre (Ret)
Monument, CO**

Congratulations!

Please submit short articles and photos that relate to Navy League and the Colorado Springs Council to editor, R.L. Bebee: bebees47@comcast.net Prior to the 24th of April for next deadline (May/June/July) publication. Thanks.