

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2016

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 5 No Council T-Bone Dinner | DARK
- 15 Imperial Valley Council's 67th Birthday!
- 16 Imperial County Aviation Day
- 29 Council Adoption of USCGC Petrel
Naval Base Point Loma | 1:00 pm

FEBRUARY

- 2 Blue Angles Night | 5:30 pm
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 26-27 Desert Outing

MARCH 2

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

APRIL

- 5 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm

MAY

- 3 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm
- 25-27 Los Angeles Fleet Week

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

Blue Angels Arrive for training, 70th Anniversary

From Hellcats to Hornets 1946 - 2016

The Blue Angels arrived to Naval Air Facility El Centro under sunny skies on Saturday, January 2, 2016. Call it "Chamber of Commerce weather," but it's the reason the Blue Angels began training in El Centro in 1967. The Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron was established on April 24, 1946. If you do the math, that's 70 years of precision flying, and for 49 of those 70 years, they've been honing their flight skills here in El Centro. That's also how long the Imperial Valley Council has been lending its support to the Blue Angels through various means, and one relationship this Council is proud of.

With the arrival of the 2016 Team, come new members. Commander Ryan Bernacchi, flight leader and "Boss" of the Blues says the team will conduct their 10-week training session that will end in mid-March during which time they will "transform our team into the Blue Angels everyone will recognize." Bernacchi went on

to state, "Our ability to come here enables our mission. Hopefully some people, anybody, military or civilian, will be inspired by us to chase their dreams and do great things."

You'll be seeing the Blue Angels both in the sky as they enter their full winter training mode, as well as in our community. As Lead Solo Pilot Lieutenant Ryan Chamberlain put it, "We are eager to begin training for our 70th season of putting on world class demonstrations. There is no better place than our second home in El Centro."

We'll be hosting the Blue Angels flight officers at our February 2nd dinner at 5:30 p.m. We look forward to meeting the new officers, and we know you will too. Please join us in February to give them a warm Imperial Valley welcome!



Incoming Council President, Ted Gallinat welcomes Cmdr. Ryan Bernacchi and 2016 Flight Demonstration Team to NAF El Centro.

Coast Guard Adoption set for January 29

Final day to RSVP is January 18

The joint adoption of the USCGC Petrel WPB87350 and USCGC Sea Otter WPB87362 with the Palm Springs Council is scheduled for Friday, January 29, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. See insert for invitation. We are looking forward to your participation. Please call (760) 791-7345 to make your reservation for access.

OUR ADOPTED
COMMANDS
AND UNITS



Blacksheep Deployed with 13th MEU

VMA-214 completes Certification Exercise (CERTEX)

Our Blacksheep squadron is deployed with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) which provides a forward deployed, flexible sea-based Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis response and limited contingency operations, including enabling the introduction of follow on forces and designated special operations in order to support the theater requirements of Geographic Combatant Commanders.

Recently, the Blacksheep completed their Certification Exercise (CERTEX) and received a "Bravo Zulu" for their work, which is a comprehensive set of training exercises that combines Navy and Marine Corps amphibious capabilities. CERTEX is intended as the final evaluation before to certify their readiness to conduct integrated missions across the full spectrum of military operations.

The Squadron's Family Readiness Officer, Ashley Thorn, stated that half of the squadron deployed with the 31st MEU in November, and are doing well.



Legislative Update

Continuing America's Strength Campaign

Seth Cropsey, director of the Hudson Institute's Center for American Seapower, in an article in The Wall Street Journal on January 6th stated that today's 272-sheep fleet isn't nearly enough. The U.S. needs 350 ships to meet rising global dangers. Here are some highlights:

Aircraft Carriers: Increase from the congressionally legislated level of 11 aircraft carriers to 16, so the nation can maintain at least one aircraft carrier strike group in the West Pacific, the Persian Gulf, and return powerful U.S. naval forces to the Mediterranean.

Submarines: America needs 90 submarines to provide a healthy nuclear deterrent, shadow or hunt enemy subs, assure dominance in the West Pacific, and meet additional global challenges.

Amphibious warships: The U.S. Navy and Marine Corps should have 45 of these ships.

Large surface combatants, Destroyers and Cruisers: "These remain the U.S. fleet's backbone. They hunt for subs and other surface ships, project power inland, and protect - and are protected by - aircraft carriers...a total of 100 large surface combatants - an increase from the planned 88 - is the minimum required."

"Yes, this is expensive, but it's cheaper than surrendering America's global naval dominance - and that's where the nation is headed, given the trend lines as China's fleet grows."



"With danger rising around the world, from the Persian Gulf to the South China Sea, the increasing military and economic threats cannot be ignored. "

2016: Dates from History for the Year Ahead

25th Anniversary - Desert Shield/Desert Storm

As the rest of the nation looks back at the year 2015, some of us are looking ahead to 2016 and the opportunities it presents for us to honor and remember momentous events from our Navy's history. Throughout this year, we'll be highlighting some of these important dates. Here's one from 1991.

On Jan. 16, 1991, at 7 p.m. Eastern, President George H. W. Bush announced to the country that the liberation of Kuwait had begun. The offensive action against Iraq, codenamed Operation Desert Storm is carried out under provisions of twelve U.N. Security Council resolutions and resolutions of both houses of the U.S. Congress. Combat Operations last through the end of February. Forward deployed naval forces provided protection for early introduction of land-based ground and air assets, and may well have deterred further aggression by Iraq. Maritime superiority and unchallenged control of the sea enabled the safe and timely delivery of equipment, supplies and spare parts necessary to support the allied campaign. Naval aviation complemented allied air operations, added flexibility to the air campaign and deterred reintroduction of Iraqi aircraft from Iran into the conflict while Tomahawk cruise missiles took out heavily defended targets in Iraq and significantly degraded enemy air defenses.



A U.S. Navy pilot's stats marked on the side of his attack aircraft while deployed in support of Operation Desert Storm. They show combat missions flown, missiles launched, and bombs dropped.

Navy League Membership is Now a Better Value than Ever

New membership pricing is available as of January 1, 2016. A one-year Premium membership is now offered at \$55, which includes the monthly print edition to our acclaimed Seapower magazine, and the annual Seapower Almanac delivered to your home. Even greater savings are available through multiple-year memberships up to five years or life based on age.

We're also offering a fully digital E-Membership, an electronic membership for individuals who want to take their membership on-the-go for only \$25 per year. Spouses, parents and students, and other partnerships can mix and match multiple memberships to best suit the subscription/electronic access preferences of the family. Access the membership application online via this code on your smartphone.



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Theodore Gallinat, President

Questions or Comments?	Website: www.ivnavyleague.org
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*United States Coast Guard Sector San Diego and the Command and Crew
of the
USCGC Petrel WPB87350
and
USCGC Sea Otter WPB87362*

along with the

*Navy League of the United States
Imperial Valley Council and Palm Springs Council*

requests the pleasure of your company at the

*Change of Command and Adoption Ceremony
at which*

*Imperial Valley Council will adopt USCGC Petrel
and*

Palm Springs Council will adopt USCGC Sea Otter

on Friday, the Twenty Ninth of January

at 1:00 pm

*Sector San Diego
2710 North Harbor Drive
San Diego, California*

Please arrive in order to be seated no later 12:45 p.m.

Lunch and Tours following ceremony

Please R.S.V.P. by 18 January 2015

Imperial Valley: ivnavyleague@yahoo.com or (760) 791-7345


Palm Springs: jeaston@dc.rr.com or (760) 272-8449

Attire: Tropical Blue and Civilian Business

FREE

Imperial
MARKET DAYS HOSTS

Support your
Local
Airport



Aviation DAY

FREE FLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN

Imperial County Airport
9am-3pm

»» **JAN. 16, 2016** ««

Airplane Static Display, Rock Climbing Wall, I.V. Discovery Zone,
Fresh Produce & Baked Goods, Craft & Specialty Vendors,
Live Music, Food & Beer Garden



\$15 PRE REG.
\$25 EVENT DAY
\$15 YOUTH 7-17
[Buff Included in Fee]

START AND FINISH : IMPERIAL COUNTY AIRPORT
REGISTRATION & CHECK IN: 7AM-7:30AM | START 8AM

**CHILDREN'S FREE
FLIGHT REGISTRATION:
8:00AM-12:00PM**

Departures 

Age	Time
8-10	9am-10pm
11-12	10am-11am
13-14	11am-12pm
BREAK	12pm-1pm
15-17	1pm-2pm

Navy League will host a booth at Aviation Day

We are seeking volunteers to help us man the booth for 1-2 hour time slots beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Join us for a great day of aviation!

Call Steve Benton to sign up (760) 996-2624

Don't miss the excitement . . .Join us for our major fundraising event. Reservations now being accepted.

www.ivnavyleague.org



Navy League of the U.S.

Imperial Valley Council

P.O. Box 3834

El Centro, CA 92244-3834

NEXT DINNER

Blue Angels Night

FEBRUARY 2nd

5:30 PM

(early start time)