

# Imperial Valley Council

## T-Bone Tidbits

Volume 2016 Issue 11 December 2016



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### DECEMBER

- 2 NAF El Centro Christmas Parade
- 6 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm  
NAF El Centro Mirage Club

#### 2017

##### JANUARY

- 3 DARK | No dinner
- 14 Aviation Day | Imperial County Airport

##### FEBRUARY

- 7 Council T-Bone Dinner | 5:30 pm  
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 24 Desert Outing 2017 Fundraiser

##### MARCH

- 7 Council T-Bone Dinner | 6:30 pm  
NAF El Centro Mirage Club
- 10 Food Fest at NAF El Centro Airshow
- 11 NAF El Centro Airshow

#### 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

### U.S. Coast Guard Sector Commander San Diego

#### Captain Joseph Buzzella, USCG to speak in December

Captain Buzzella is the Sector Commander and Captain of the Port of San Diego, California. In this role, he is responsible for leading operations to ensure maritime safety, security, and environmental protection.

Captain Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr. hails from Miami, Florida. After completing Coast Guard Enlisted Basic Training at Cape May, New Jersey in 1986, he was assigned to Coast Guard Base Miami Beach, Florida. He is a 1988 graduate of the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) and a 1992 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Management and an officer commission. Following graduation from the Coast Guard Academy, Captain Buzzella served as a Deck Watch Officer aboard the USCGC Spencer and USCGC Vindicator. Upon completion of U.S. Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Florida, he was designated a Coast Guard Aviator in 1996. He then reported to Coast Guard Air Station Miami, Florida where he flew the HH-65A Dauphin Helicopter and later the HU-25A Falcon Jet where he maintained a dual airframe qualification conducting search and rescue, alien migrant interdictions, and counter drug missions. In 2000, he was assigned to Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod, Massachusetts where he flew HU-25A Falcon Jets conducting search and rescue and New England fisheries enforcement missions. In 2005, he was assigned under the Department of Homeland Security Chief Financial Officer in Washington D.C., where he served as an Assistant Director & Budget Program Reviewer providing oversight of more than \$26 billion in annual appropriations. In 2007, he reported to Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco, California where he held the positions of Operations Officer and Executive Officer. In 2011, he served as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City, Michigan. His last assignment, Captain Buzzella served at the Pentagon as Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Deputy Director of the Chairman's Action Group (CAG) under General Martin Dempsey, USA and General Joseph Dunford, USMC. He assumed command of Sector San Diego in January 2016.

Captain Buzzella has accumulated over 3400 flight hours. He has held Instructor Pilot ratings in both the HU-25A and MH-65C aircraft and an Airborne Use of Force Aircraft Commander designation in the MH-65C helicopter. He also holds FAA fixed and rotary wing airline transport pilot credentials.

Captain Buzzella holds a Master in National Security Strategy from the National War College, a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University and a Master of Science in Quality Systems Management with a specialization in Homeland Security from the National Graduate School. He is a former Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Public Service Fellow.



Captain Joseph R. Buzzella, USCG

#### *One size fits all!*

Is your holiday shopping list out of control? Are you fretting about what to buy the person who has it all? It's a wrap! Give the gift of Membership! Perfect for family, friends or colleagues, and lasts beyond the holiday season. Ask us how, or visit us online at [Join.navyleague.org](http://Join.navyleague.org)



## OUR ADOPTED COMMANDS AND UNITS



## Veterans Memorial Dedicated

### El Centro's Bucklin Park site of new Memorial

On Veterans Day, the City of El Centro along with local dignitaries, veterans and community members dedicated the newly-constructed Veterans Memorial at Bucklin Park in El Centro. The Memorial pays tribute to the numerous fallen soldiers commemorating Memorial Day.

El Centro Mayor Jason Jackson said the Memorial's five-sided black granite monument representing all five branches of service including, has been a year in the making, and was funded through the City's general fund at a cost of \$300,000.

Jackson went on to say that "Honoring our veterans and military for the services they provide for us was long overdue in the city of El Centro."

The dedication was attended by over 100 individuals, including veterans from the American Legion Post 25 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9305, who were given the opportunity to express their gratitude.

"We veterans are a family and it's amazing to see what this city has done for us," said Commander Anacleto Treviño of American Legion Post 25.

Other civic dignitaries were in attendance, including Gaylla Finnell, Treasurer and Past President of the Imperial Valley Council of the Navy League, who was a key-note speaker.

During the ceremony, Finnell stated, "The core mission of the American military is to protect and defend our nation. This means deterring potential aggressors and, if deterrence fails, fighting and winning wars. We come here today to honor all the veterans who have served in the American military, and to say "thank you" for protecting and defending our nation.

Finnell went on to say that "with the threat of terrorist networks and the need to stabilize and rebuild nations in conflict, the U.S. military's tasks are putting new demands on the men and women who so unselfishly volunteer to serve our nation. In addition to our military's duty to protect and defend our nation, our service members are deployed around the world in peacekeeping and stability operations – critical missions in support of our nation's overall security strategy."



*Imperial Valley Council NLUS Treasurer, Gaylla Finnell and Ron Ronning, USMC Veteran at the dedication of the El Centro Veterans Memorial on Veterans Day.*

"Thank you to all veterans, for your willingness to take "suitable, selective, swift and effective" action in defense of our nation and the free world. The life we enjoy today is founded upon your sacrifice, which we do not take for granted. We honor and respect you, and renew our commitment to support you in gratitude for your service.

## Chief Petty Officer Advancement

### Escondido Battalion Celebrates Milestone in Squadron

First class petty officer Fischer Mata became Escondido Battalion's first Chief Petty Officer. A pinning ceremony on November 20th celebrated the accomplishments of this distinguished cadet.

To achieve the highest rank in the Sea Cadet program, Mata studied the appropriate Navy course work, attended and staffed summer and winter trainings, and completed hours of community service. Most importantly, though, he showed the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment; he proved himself a capable leader; and he showed the character of the rank he now wears.

Chief Mata previously served as the unit's Lead Petty officer. He has now handed the responsibility over to the petty officers who are following in his steps.





# Blacksheep Celebrate 241st Birthday with MAG-13 in Yuma

## Pomp, Circumstance and Historical Uniform Pageantry at Quechan Casino

The evening was filled with highly polished uniforms, beautiful ball gowns, and every bit of pomp and circumstance imaginable. There was the traditional cake-cutting, where the first and second piece of cake is presented to the oldest and youngest marine to signify the passing of traditions from one generation to the next.

The evening's guest of honor was Major General Mark R. Wise, Commanding General of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. Other guest speakers included Colonel Marcus Annibel, MAG-13 Commanding Officer, and Lieutenant Colonel Duane Rivera, VMA-214 Commanding Officer.

The Birthday Ball is just one of the ways in which Marines celebrate the creation of the Corps. It's also a time for Marines to share in the history and traditions that have been passed from one generation to the next, and to reflect on those who have worn the uniform, currently wear the uniform, and will someday wear it, as well as honor the sacrifices each of have made in their service.

The highlight of the evening was the elaborate historical uniform pageant. The uniforms were proudly showcased, reflecting the deep history of the Marine Corps and the men and women of different eras who answered their nation's call. The first uniform showcased was the Continental Marines in the midst of the American Revolution in 1776. Generations of Marine Corps uniforms paraded into the ballroom. From The War of 1812, the American Civil War, the Spanish-American War, Banana Wars, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, Operation Desert Shield, and the uniforms worn today. Included in the pageant was the uniform of female Marines from WWI, WWII, and modern day. Their uniforms and roles in the Marine Corps evolved over time as well.



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Dick Wymore and Marla Wymore  
USCGC SHERMAN WHEC-720

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Contact Gaylla Finnell to find out how you can support our programs.

### U.S. Naval Sea Cadet and Navy Leaguer Cadet Corps

Desert Eagle Squadron	Escondido Battalion & Training Ship Kit Carson
Instructor Brian Phillips	LTJG Patrick Healey
(760) 356-4570	(315) 254-7598
<a href="http://www.deserteaglesquadron.org">www.deserteaglesquadron.org</a>	<a href="http://www.escondidobattalion.org">www.escondidobattalion.org</a>

### Theodore Gallinat, President

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## Joint Operation Give Thanks | Mission Complete

It's the season of giving, and we are thankful for so much. You our members, the active duty men and women and their families who sacrifice so much to protect our freedoms.

We were blessed to give back in some measure by way of donating a total of 201 turkeys to the families stationed at Naval Air Facility El Centro, and with the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter PETREL in San Diego.

We want to express our genuine thanks to our members and friends across the nation who selflessly opened their Pocket books to join our effort and make a difference in a military family's life:



Judi Daughtry

David and Carolyn Hilfiker

Jerry "Dan" Laughrin

Danielle Ingoglia

Liz Gonzalez Realtor

Dean and Pat Currie

Ted and Lisa Gallinat

Arturo and Diana Ley

Heinrich and Martha Weber

Jennifer & Jared Thompson

El Centro Elks Lodge #1325

Stephanie Mills

George and Marie Gardner

Robert & JoeNell Darr

George Garrett

Ralph & Deborah Richey

We also wish thank the NAF El Centro Commissary staff, Command Master Chief Wayne Marcus, and Chief Kalyanbarden, as well as our members who volunteered to organize the project, and distribute turkeys to our military families: Betty Tucker, Lee Hindman, Shelli Kirschner, Gaylla Finnell and Lisa Gallinat.



# We Give Thanks







DEAR IMPERIAL VALLEY NAVY LEAGUE,

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS TIME TO  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION OF  
A TURKEY FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE  
CREW. YOUR SUPPORT OF U.S. COAST GUARD  
CUTTER PETREL IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.  
WE WISH YOU A HAPPY AND JOYOUS  
HOLIDAY SEASON.

THANK YOU SINCERELY,  
CREW OF THE PETREL

*Jon Mann MKC*

*THANKS AGAIN!  
DAN & JILL HEITZER*

*...so very much.  
John Bowler, BMCN, OIC  
KENNETH J. FREEMAN*

*W. L. W. FA  
SU*

*Thank You!  
Kia Sinking*

*THANK YOU SO MUCH!  
Bertamy WANG (SSZ)*

*Bretcher  
BRIANNE FECHNER MK3*

*THANKS AGAIN YALL!  
-MK3 DEANA MANGAYA*

Just a short message to  
thank you all for what  
you do in helping the  
sailors in El Centro enjoy  
a wonderful Thanksgiving  
away from their families.  
Happy Thanksgiving and  
God Bless!  
ATC John Harris

## Thank You notes via Facebook:

Thank you so much for the turkey from the  
duty standers on CGC Petrel!! It's  
delicious!

— at USCGC PETREL



Thank you so much for the turkey!!

— Dan Heitzer, USCG Petrel



Thank you! What an awesome support  
group! Happy Thanksgiving!

— Jessica McIntosh

Thank you Imperial Valley Navy  
League! We were able to share our  
fried turkey with 2 Navy families  
— Kenneth Freeman, USCG Petrel



# Holly Jolly Party

December 8, 2016

Free Comedy Show, courtesy of NAF El Centro's  
Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department for patrons 18+.

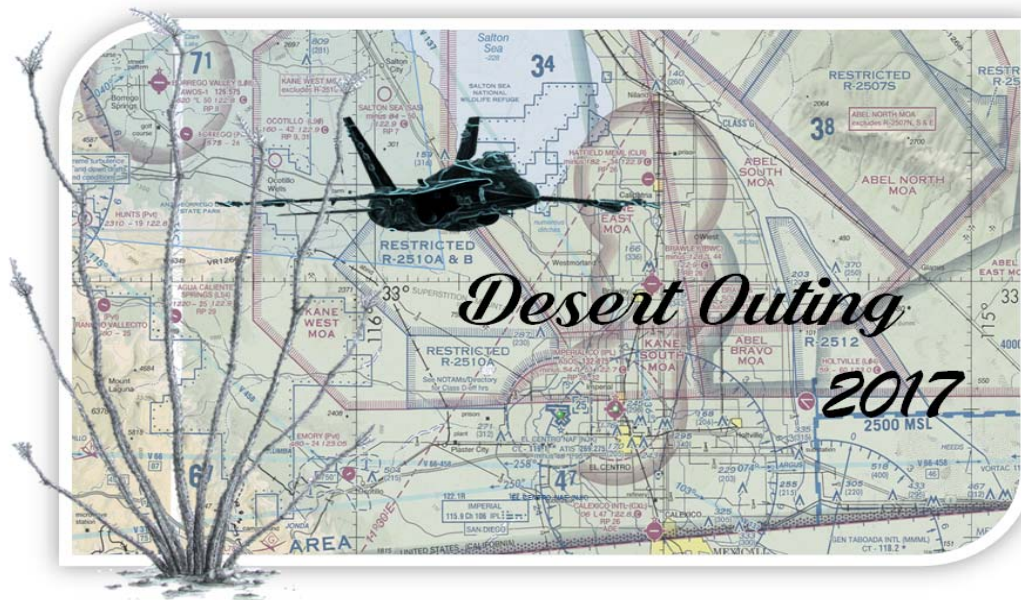
NAF El Centro Mirage Club

Social Hour	5:00 - 6:00 pm
Games & Prizes	6:00 - 9:00 pm
Comedy Show	9:00 - 11:00 pm

\$15.00 per person

Contact (760) 604-8428 for tickets

Semi-formal attire with best dressed and ugly sweater contests!



*February*  
*24-25, 2017*

Naval Air Facility  
El Centro

Now Accepting  
Reservations!

Don't miss out  
on the action!



**Navy League of the U.S.**

Imperial Valley Council  
P.O. Box 3834  
El Centro, CA 92244-3834

**NEXT DINNER**

**DECEMBER 6**

**6:30 PM**