

**Fort Lauderdale Council  
OFFICERS 2008**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Wednesday, March 5th at 4:00 PM**

**SEA CADET HEADQUARTERS**

*Located at:*

300 S.W. 25th Street • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315



**EDITOR**

Hugh Kirkpatrick  
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 Norene & Basil Damico,  
 Mary K. Follin, Rosemarie Dezolt,  
 Deloris Besterda, Carl Fasano

**ALL COPY DEADLINE:**

Please provide any photos, along with copy, prior to the 1st day of the month for publication in the next newsletter.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Dinner Meeting at Coral Ridge Yacht Club**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2008**

**6-7 PM Cash Bar**

**7-9 PM Dinner & Program**

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:**

**CDR JOHN DALY, USCG  
 TACLET SOUTH COMMANDING OFFICER**

**NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**  
 Fort Lauderdale Council, Inc.



P.O. Box 4835, Sunrise Station  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338-4385



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**NAVY LEAGUE NEWS**  
 FORT LAUDERDALE COUNCIL

A PUBLICATION OF THE FORT LAUDERDALE COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**



Bravo Zulu to our President's Ball Committee for the planning and execution of a most memorable Ball! VADM Adam Robinson, Jr., entertained us with a great speech about service, service to our organization, service to our community, and service to our country! He spoke from his heart and made a number of comments to me about how great our Council serves our community and the sailors/marines when they visit Fort Lauderdale! I would like to congratulate and thank every one of you individually and as a team for the success of the President's Ball. Lynn and Richard, you put a team together that worked well and made this night a special night for everyone in attendance. The Sea Cadets made us all proud that we could show the Surgeon General of the Navy just how professional these young men and women are.

I would like to share a few comments from Capt Jennifer Vedral-Baron:

*VADM Robinson, Mrs. Robinson and I want to thank you and your council for the wonderful hospitality shown to us Saturday evening. The event was most enjoyable. We were thoroughly impressed with the Sea Cadets and those adults who volunteer to mentor, teach and prepare them for their futures. Thank you for all you do to support the maritime forces.*

CDR Gene Martin of Southcom stated:

*The Vice Admiral's comments on "service" were spot on and really hit on the values of our country and the need for service to be instilled in our youth. The Sea Cadet program is the epitome of service and development of future leaders. Again, thanks so much for your kindness, hospitality and a beautiful night.*

I want to thank you again for your efforts in making this Ball a success and a very memorable night for us all!

Happy Valentine's Day!

Chuck Black



080110-N-0780F-001 Souda Bay, Crete, Greece (Jan. 10, 2008)  
 The Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Bainbridge (DDG 96) arrives at NATO Pier Facility in Souda harbor for a routine port visit. Bainbridge is on a regularly scheduled six-month deployment. U.S. Navy photo by Mr. Paul Farley (Released)

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**GUEST SPEAKER FOR  
 MARCH 19th MEETING:  
 CDR JOHN DALY, USCG**

**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

Congratulations to Lynn Drucker and Richard Taylor, along with their staff. The Ball at the Westin Hotel was outstanding! (see pages 3 & 4)



My efforts will continue to be dedicated to provide a newsletter which will attract more members who support our mission. One thing we must do is become better known to the public. "What is Navy League?" is so often heard. We need to expose our name in ways that to increase our identity thus attracting more new members.

One suggestion is continued participation at Sea Cadet events. Do you know some of our members have never attended our Saturday morning meetings to observe how we are training future boys and girls to become valued citizens for the future? Are you one of the above?

The Ft. Lauderdale Sea Cadet building is located at: 300 SW 25th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335, (954) 522-8995.

Hugh Kirkpatrick

**UNITED STATES NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS**

The United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps is committed to training American youth to foster their leadership abilities, broaden their horizons through hands-on training, and to guide them to becoming mature young adults. They are taught patriotism, and self reliance, and aspire to the core values of "honor, courage and commitment". Graduates of the Sea Cadet program pursue military and nonmilitary careers. Those that do join the military enter the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force or Merchant Marine.

**I NEED ALL NAVY LEAGUERS TO CALL ME**

if they know of any member in need of a card or flowers that should be sent to them. (i.e. Get well, Cheer up, Congratulations or Condolences.)

**LISBETH PEARSON**  
Corresponding Secretary

Ph: 954-491-1673  
email: lisbeth3711@aol.com

**SPEAKER AT OUR JANUARY 16TH MEETING:**

**SEA CADET THOMAS HIXON**



I am Petty Officer 3rd Class Thomas Hixon of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Spruance Division. I am 16 years old and a sophomore at South Broward High School in Hollywood, Florida. I am a student in the school's Marine Magnet Program. I am also a member of their Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, where I am currently a Cadet 2nd Lieutenant. I hope to become the Battalion Commander in my senior year.

I first enrolled in Sea Cadets when I was 13. I started out as a League Cadet, but that same year I was promoted to Sea Cadets. I attended recruit training (boot camp) in the summer of 2006 at Admiral Farragut Academy, St. Petersburg, Florida. During Winter 2006 and Spring 2007, I trained at USCG Station, Fort Lauderdale. During Summer 2007 I attended Master-At-Arms Training at NSB Kings Bay, Georgia and Petty Officer Leadership Academy at Admiral Farragut Academy.

I became part of the Spruance Division Color Guard Unit in Nov. 2007, and I have performed in many Color Guard Ceremonies. This Spring I will again be attending Coast Guard training at USCG, Fort Lauderdale. This Summer I hope to attend Seabee training and Scuba School, as well as staffing the recruit training hosted by our unit. Some other training I would like to attend include Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Amphibious Operations, and SEAL training.

After High School, I hope to attend either the U.S. Naval Academy or the U. S. Coast Guard Academy. I plan to major in either Mechanical or Civil Engineering.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS:  
FEBRUARY**

- 02/02 . . . Claudia Vance
- 02/14 . . . Hugh Hoffman
- 02/15 . . . Basil Damico
- 02/19 . . . Anthony Foster
- 02/21 . . . Oren Lewis

**NAVY LEAGUE MEMORIES**

The following Navy League Members are being recognized for their participation, dedication, contributions, and efforts that have helped to make our Organization successful and interesting:

**LYNNE BENDER**

**ROSE MARY LARSON**

**JAMES & JOANN  
BLACK**

**MARTIN & DORIS  
MILLER**

**RICHARD & CHERI  
CHOSID**

**JORGE & KATHLEEN  
PEREZ**

**BASIL & NORENE  
DAMICO**

**JESSE & CLAUDIA  
VANCE**

**CAPT. EDWARD & JOAN  
FINK**

**CARL FASANO**

*Would you like to be recognized for your contributions?*

Watch for YOUR name in the next issue....

**Navy League Member "Bud Brown"**

Long time director since 1975, he will be missed by all who knew him as an active supporter of our Council, never missing a meeting. In recent times when his eyesight became limited and he couldn't drive, our fellow members picked him up, took him to Coral Ridge Yacht Club (our meeting place) and returned him to his condo. Attending his funeral viewing at Hunter Funeral Home were Richard Taylor, Oscar Romano and Nels Pearson. A memorial service at 1:30 pm. His family and friends spoke of their time spent with Bud. I was privileged to speak and announce a memorial donation to Big Brothers of Broward County in memory of his service to them.

*Hugh Kirkpatrick, Past President*

Brown, Arthur Allen "Bud" passed away Saturday, January 26, 2008 in his home in Ft. Lauderdale. Bud was born November 24, 1929 in Lakeside, Ohio to the late William R. and Marrian Carroll Brown. He graduated from General Motors Institute and Ohio Wesleyan and served as an Army corporal at Ft. Knox during the Korean War. He then worked for years in his family's boating business, Brown's Marina, on Lake Erie before moving to Fort Lauderdale. A long time resident of Fort Lauderdale, Bud continued his love of boating as a yacht broker, was past president of Southern Yacht Brokers Association and served on the City of Fort Lauderdale Marine Advisory Board. He was also a member or supporter of many organizations including the Marine Industries Association of South Florida, Coral Ridge Yacht Club, the Navy League, Amvets, the Naval Air Station, Sea Cadets, Broward Navy Days, ROTC and Big Brothers of America. Bud and his Little Brother, Mark Bruck of Coral Springs, remained friends and were recognized as the longest term Big Brother match in South Florida. Bud is preceded in death by his parents; sisters Carolyn Belt and Wilma Ernst. He is survived by his son, Wade Brown, of Charlotte, North Carolina, his daughter, Mary Ann Bumbera, of Gurnee, Illinois and brother John C. Brown of Huron, Ohio. A Memorial Service will be 1:30 pm Saturday, February 9, 2008 at Fred Hunter's Funeral Home, 718 South Federal Hwy., Downtown Fort Lauderdale.



*“Health Colonel” puts Team Spruance Sea Cadets through their paces during a boot camp workout on Fort Lauderdale Beach, Fla.*

## U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Awards The ‘Health Colonel’ For Selfless Support

Team Spruance of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps recognized retired Army Reserve Lt. Col. Bob Weinstein June 5 at its annual awards banquet at the Tropical Acres Restaurant in Dania Beach, Fla.

LCDR Alan Starr, the division’s commanding officer, presented the support award to Weinstein for his unselfish service in training and inspiring the Sea Cadets with his military-style workouts on Fort Lauderdale Beach, Fla., on a regular basis.

Asked about why he contributes his time, Weinstein, who’s known as the “Health Colonel,” responded, “These Sea Cadets represent our future and their own. There is no price that can be put on the investment in character building through the instilling of key life values that are timelessly beneficial to mankind.”

In the course of the evening, there were many awards presented to Sea

Cadets and others who contributed significantly to the success and growth of the Sea Cadets. The Navy League is a significant sponsor of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corp’s Team Spruance is the finest youth development program for boys and girls ages 11-17 available in South Florida. The program and staff’s goal is to help teens and pre-teens develop skills, self-esteem and confidence that will help them succeed to the greatest degree possible for each individual in school and life. Team Spruance receives its primary support from the Fort Lauderdale Council of the Navy League of the United States, along with contributions from many area businesses and individuals.

### The Navy League 100 Years Ago

*“For the building and maintaining in the proper shape of the American Navy, we must rely upon nothing but the broad and farsighted patriotism of our people as a whole.”*

Those words from Teddy Roosevelt highlighted the fundamental mission of the Navy League, On Nov. 5, 1902, the Navy League was created with the purpose: “... to enlighten the people ... on

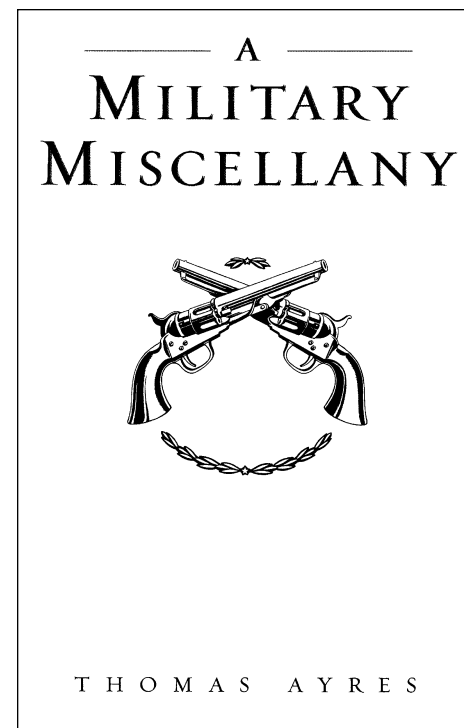
naval matters and tell them what a Navy means to the country and what it ought to mean to them.” Two weeks later, a constitution was drafted and on Dec. 29, the League’s certificate of incorporation was filed in Albany, N.Y. The Navy League of the United States was born.

The first edition of the *Navy League Journal* stated that it was the League’s resolve never to formulate specific needs for ship types or force levels, but rather to educate the people on the importance of sea power: to instill the requisite broad and farsighted patriotism.

Roosevelt’s words recognized the nature of our political system then, and they are even more valid today. He understood that patriotism first required a board understanding and acceptance of the founding principles of American patriotism: the revolutionary heritage of human dignity and republicanism, the Constitution’s role and dominance in defining liberty and providing safeguards and responsibilities for preserving that liberty for future generations.

### GOOD READING

Here’s a book you may find interesting:



## United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

SPRUANCE Division & Training Ship RADFORD

Sponsored by the Fort Lauderdale Council of the Navy League of the United States

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 21101, Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33335-1101

Headquarters: 300 S.W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315  
954-253-6618



**LCDR Alan M. Starr, NSCC**  
Commanding Officer

**VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**  
**JANUARY 2008**

The Spruance Division began the New Year with a Cadet discussion on the value of New Year’s Resolutions, which broke down with each Cadet setting personal goals and objectives that are reasonable and attainable. Several planning sessions were conducted with representatives from Units in our Region to establish parameters for staffing our very first South Florida Region Recruit Training. Ens Dick Lawrence X.O. of the American Veterans Division in West Palm Beach has made the arrangements with the Palm Beach Sheriff personally, for the use of the Palm Beach Eagle Youth Training Center, in Belle Glade, for no cost. Planning sessions were also conducted with the Staff and Cadets from Units in our Region to hold the First Annual Flagship Competition. The date was set for April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008, to be held at the Fort Lauderdale Coast Guard Station, in Dania Beach. We had three guests from the Seal Beach Battalion come from California to teach us how it is done with Cadet Units in California. “Props” were constructed for the knot tying event, the stretcher carry race, and the fire hose competition. Spruance Cadets and Enterprise Division Cadets held a practical demonstration of each event to ensure they are doable with maximum emphasis on safety.

Awards were presented to Cadets who attended Winter Training. Cadet Bieszcack and Cadet Bisetti attended Recruit Training in Pensacola, Florida. Cadet Alfredo Bisetti, one of our newest Cadets, was recognized for Outstanding Performance at the Recruit Training, in Pensacola Florida, and earned the Cadet Citation Award. Six Cadets gave up their Xmas Holiday Break to work at the Fort Lauderdale Coast Guard Station. Cadet Brittany Baudin went north, to attend Petty Officer Leadership Academy in New Jersey. Cadets Jason Brown and Wayman Peguero were advanced from League Cadet to Sea Cadet. Cadets Brittany Baudin, Augustin Hernandez, and Kristina Santiago were advanced to Seaman.

Our Color Guard Activities included the Scottish Festival at Fort Lauderdale Stadium, the Fort Lauderdale Council dinner at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club, the Installation of officers of the Broward County Council, onboard the cruise ship Caribbean Princess, and the dedication of a Park in honor Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kaye, by the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation.

LCDR Alan M. Starr, NSCC  
Commanding Officer

# PRESIDENT'S BALL '08



*Ball Co-Chairs  
Lynn Drucker and Dick Taylor*

"You are my relief," said the Surgeon General of the Navy, VADM Adam Robinson, Jr., as he looked directly at our Sea Cadets. Abandoning his prepared speech, he spoke from the heart to a crowd of 175 at the President's Ball, which celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Our Guest of Honor described the dedication to service that had directed his life choices. He explained how devotion to service had kept him in the medical corps, when he could have gone into private surgical practice. His words inspired all those present, young and old, to aspire to a life of service and patriotism.



*Guest of Honor:  
VADM Adam Robinson, Jr.,  
Surgeon General of the Navy*

In addition to Admiral Robinson and his wife Yuko, many other active duty military were our guests. Colonel Bill Costello, USA attended, representing Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN, Commander, U.S. Southern Command. Also in attendance from South Comm were CDR Eugene Martin, USN, LCDR and Mrs. T.J. Darwin, USN, LCDR and Mrs. Neil Brennan and CDR and Mrs. Chris Cruz, USN, CDR and Mrs. David Dorn, USN, LT John Rowley, USN, and LTJG Oliver Pao, USN. Representing the Coast Guard was CDR and Mrs. Brian Gove, USCG and LT and Mrs. John Boesch, USCG. It was a thrill to have so many military guests spread throughout the room. Other honored guests included RADM and Mrs. Alberto Diaz, Jr., MC, USNR, personal friends of the Robinsons, and N.L.U.S. National Vice President and U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, National Director, Patricia Du Mont. In addition, many Sea Cadet Staff and parents attended.

Another highlight of the evening was the fantastic performance by the Sea Cadet Color Guard and Drill Team, under the command of LCDR Alan Starr. Each Sea Cadet received a personal greeting from VADM Robinson, as well as one of the Admiral's coins as a gift. The Sea Cadets listened attentively to the Admiral's speech, and initiated a standing ovation at its conclusion.

The ballroom was decorated with poster-sized photos of our Sea Cadets, blue and gold balloon bouquets, and orchids in golden cachepots adorned with the Sea Cadet seal. Dancing to the tunes of the Ted Knight Orchestra, a delicious dinner, and an exciting raffle drawing capped off the evening. The winners of the raffle prizes were as follows:

1. 7 day cruise for two on Holland America Line – Mr. and Mrs. Leo Greenfield
2. American Airlines Round-trip tickets for two – CDR and Mrs. David Dorn, USN
3. Air Tran Airways Round-trip tickets for two – Mrs. Carol Dender
4. Jet Blue Airways Round-trip tickets for two – Mr. Herman Lutsky
5. Opera Tickets (Courtesy of Oscar & Alicia Romano) – Admiral Diego Hernandez
6. Marlins Tickets (Courtesy of Signs by Tomorrow) – Nels and Lisbeth Pearson
7. Dinner for two at the Tower Club – Admiral Diego Hernandez

The evening was in keeping with our Navy League goals. We celebrated our Sea Cadets, entertained our active duty military, and inspired all in attendance with our excellent speaker. Thanks to President Chuck Black for his excellent performance as "Master of Ceremonies", and to our Ball Committee, Lynne Bender, Jim Black, Lynn Drucker, Leo and Barbara Greenfield, Oscar Romano, Nels and Elizabeth Pearson, Gary Pirtle, Richard Taylor, and Claudia Vance for all of their hard work, which culminated in a lovely evening.



*CRUISE WINNERS: LEO AND BARBARA GREENFIELD  
Pictured left to right: CDR Eugene Martin, USN, Leo and Barbara Greenfield, Lynn Drucker and President Chuck Black*

# PRESIDENT'S BALL '08



*Council President Chuck Black,  
National Vice President Patricia Du Mont  
and VADM Adam Robinson, Jr.*



*Lynn Drucker, Colonel and Mrs. Bill Costello, USA,  
Doug and Yvonne Serrano*



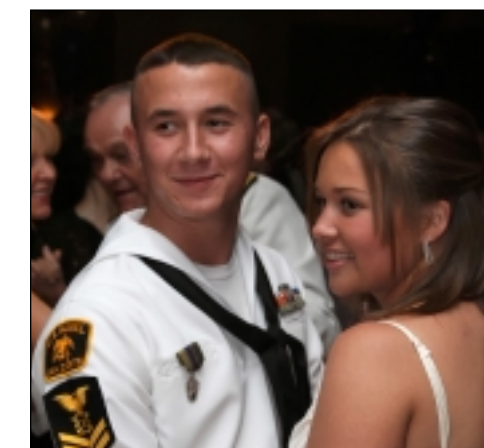
*SPRUANCE DIVISION COLOR GUARD:  
Thomas Hixon, Brandon Wasicsko, Augustin Hernandez,  
Luis Contreras, R.J. Bieszczak, Adam Drucker*



*SPRUANCE DIVISION DRILL TEAM:  
Alexander Jobson-Jones, Orion Rollins,  
Ryan McDaniel, Josh Kotler*



*RAFFLE DRAWING: Lynn Drucker and  
CDR Eugene Martin, USN*



*Petty Officer Brandon Wasicsko dancing  
with Anne Marie Bieszczak*