



NAVY LEAGUE

OF THE UNITED STATES
"GREATER KANSAS CITY COUNCIL"
NAVYLEAGUEKANSASCITY.ORG



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Council Launches *NEW* Website NavyLeagueKansasCity.org



The Greater Kansas City Council of the United States Navy League launched a *new* website that is designed to keep you better informed as to what your local council is doing to support the sea services and its members. The website is basically a business platform to support all of your needs.

The *NavyLeagueKansasCity.org* home page provides the user with a variety of options. Members can find information on upcoming meetings and events, access the Council's newsletters and review articles from the national organization's Sea Power Magazine. In addition you can link directly to each of the sea services national websites. With just a "click" on the sea service's seal you will have immediate access to current information on recruiting, deployments, naval facts and statistics, educational opportunities and more.

The new website also links you to our Councils Adopted

Ships and Youth Programs and provides access to each one. Supporting our sea going forces is an important Council's mission.

Most important to our members is the "TAKE ACTION" button on the upper right of the home page. By clicking this button members and guests can contact our Council with questions, join/renew their membership or make a donation in support of one of the many Council programs, include paying for a meal at our meetings.

Individuals interested in becoming members can join the Navy League and current members can easily renew their membership as the link takes you to the national Navy League website.

The "TAKE ACTION" button also provides a location where members can make a donation to one of the many programs sponsored by the Council by using *PayPal*.

Join us *September 17th at 1830* for our next Virtual program on *ZOOM*.

Sino-US Naval Issues: A Conversation

With Dr Geoff Babb, LTC USA (Ret), Associate professor of history in the Army CGSC Department of Military History

This presentation provides an overview of the key issues confronting the United States Navy in the USIN-DOPACOM Area of Operations and beyond. From the Arctic Ocean to the Baltic Sea the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy now challenges the USN regionally with the long-term potential to compete globally. There is a tendency to focus on the critical issues related to the Taiwan Strait and the South China Sea. However, this challenge continues to grow geographically, diplomatically, and in terms of China's procurement and deployment of increasingly-technologically advanced and lethal maritime forces. This discussion of the USN and the growing rivalry with the PLAN is a timely reminder of the importance of sea power in today's national security environment.

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A Message from the President

Greetings Greater Kansas City Council members. The Officers and Board Members of your Greater Kansas City Council hope you are staying healthy and that you are coping with the ramifications of the COVID-19 virus to the best of your ability. Please check-in with your ship-mates, family and friends to fill any void created by this crisis and be there for them, if only just to listen.

We continue to marvel at the dedication and effort being made by those at the “tip of the spear” in this war against the virus; the

doctors, nurses and nurse’s aides, the first responders and paramedics, the police and our National Guard citizen soldiers. While many of us can stay safely at home, so many are in critical and essential jobs that do not have this choice. We are truly thankful for these hometown heroes and their families who support them.

Your council Vice President of Legislative Affairs Ward Cook continues to educate your Kansas and Missouri Congressman and Senators on the need to support and keep our Sea Services strong so that the international sea lanes of commerce remain safe and free

for navigation. We continue to build a bold program to support our adopted afloat and shore units, led by Vice President of Adopted Units – Dave Miller, as well as our sponsored youth programs, led by Vice President of Youth Activities – Charlie Farris. Your support of this effort is critical to its success.

Your leadership strives to communicate with you, our council members, in an effective manner and with a frequency you desire. This effort has been primarily through emails. Our challenge, at the council level, is finding the right frequency for sending you email communications. Likely, you already receive more email than you can read and appreciate, and with that in mind we have tried to balance the need for updated council information with the value of your time and attention

We believe our new website which you will read more about in this newsletter, will offer you a line of communication which will provide you both Navy League and Greater Kansas City Council information that is timely and complete. Please take a few minutes for a visit. And let us know what you think.

The year 2020 has been one for the record books and although it has certainly produced disappointment and loss, there are some silver linings in the cloud. For example, your Greater KC Council has not been able to meet in person since February, however, using incredible technology we have been able to meet monthly in a virtual format and listen to some of the outstanding speakers brought to you by your Vice President Council Events – Jerry Lechtenberg.

Chuck

August Program: Mass Shooting At Fort Hood

On November 5, 2009, a terrorist mass shooting took place at Fort Hood, near Killeen, Texas. Nidal Hasan, a U.S. Army major and psychiatrist, fatally shot 14 people and injured more than 30 others. It was the deadliest mass shooting on an American military base.

Our August guest speaker, was Keara Torkelson, an Army Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, who grew up in



Kansas City. She was at Fort Hood for a routine appointment prior to her deployment for duty in Iraq. Keara’s, life was changed forever that day when

she sustained wounds to the head and her back.

Keara related in great detail the actions she and others took when the shooting started to protect themselves and others. She described the chaos and how lucky she was to have survived the shooting.

After struggling with PTSD for years, Keara found recovery through holistic healing and mindfulness practices. Her mission today is to help other veterans achieve resiliency by sharing her story with the world.

****STAY CURRENT****

Please keep your membership information up to date. That is best accomplished at the Navy League Hdq website: <https://www.navyleague.org/member-resources/login>. You can access this by clicking the **TAKE ACTION** button on our website [NavyLeagueKansasCity.org](https://www.navyleaguekansascity.org)

Members Needed for Liaison Duty

We missed many of you at our last virtual meeting when we heard about the Battle of Midway and gave away two Kansas City Chiefs tickets, donated by USAA, for the September 10th game at Arrowhead. For those that joined in, however, thank you for your participation.

Our VP Membership, Bob Culler and our board of directors are focused on increasing our Council membership over the next four months, but more importantly we are going to have our membership more engaged in the liaison mission with our adopted ashore units, adopted afloat units and sponsored activities. Many of you know us by our monthly luncheons and now, with the presence of the corona virus, our virtual **Zoom** meetings. What you may not be aware of are the many activities of the Kansas City Council within the local community that need your support. With your help we can greatly increase our community presence. **Your Greater KC Council:**

1. Advocates for the Sea Services with the Congressional and Senatorial offices that represent the Greater KC Area. Our VP Legislative & Partnerships, Ward Cook and Victor Hurlbert lead the efforts of the council in this critical role.
2. Has adopted and sponsors a number of youth oriented organizations in the KC Area. Our VP Youth Programs, Charlie Farris, Walt Schley, Wayne Zetzman, lead these efforts for the following units:
 1. Harry S. Truman Sea Cadet Squadron
 2. Kansas University NROTC, Jayhawk Battalion
 3. Greater Kansas City Science Fair
 4. Excelsior Springs Job Corps Center NJROTC
 5. Shawnee Mission West NJROTC
 6. Shawnee Mission North NJROTC
 7. Ruskin High School MCJROTC
3. Has adopted and sponsors a number of active duty military units in the KC Area. Our VP Unit Adoptions, Dave Miller leads these efforts.

1. USS Kansas City (LCS 22)
2. USS Missouri (SSN 780)
3. USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)
4. USS Topeka (SSN 754)
5. Navy Element, C&GSC, Ft. Leavenworth, KS
6. Navy Operational Support Center, Kansas City, MO

These units require our time, our experience and our resources, and that requires your participation. Consider becoming a Liaison between our Council and our adopted units and sponsored youth activities.

Our VP Membership, Bob Culler, asks that all our members bring forward the name of one prospective Navy League member prior to year-end.

Dictionary of Navy Slang From Various Sources

If you spent anytime in the Navy or Marine Corps you undoubtedly heard the usage of slang by *old salts* to describe certain events and traditions. Comments such as “O’dark thirty” and the “1MC” or “Bag Nasty” a pre-packaged bag lunch usually consisting of a cold cut sandwich, piece of fruit, and juice box or can of soda. Served at galleys in lieu of regular chow for sailors on the go. Did you ever wonder if there is collection of these slang comments. Well there is and it is an incredible massive collection. The link to dictionary of Navy Slang is within the massive Goat Locker Org site:

<http://goatlocker.org/resources/nav/navyslang.pdf>

“Basket Leave” - Highly illegal free time off, “Death Pillows” - Ravioli, “Duck Dinner” - Slang for Dishonorable Discharge and “Gator-Freighter” - Ship used in amphibious warfare are just a few more of the thousands of terms in this collection. Enjoy!

\$\$ DONATIONS \$\$

Want to help us with our work on behalf of our local youth and service members but are unable to volunteer your time, **consider a donation to the Greater KC Council**

at our **NEW and IMPROVED Greater KC Council website:**
<https://navyleaguekansascity.org>



Navy League of the United States

Greater Kansas City Council

2020 Council Officers

Title

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Chaplain
- First Vice President – Youth Programs
- Second Vice President – Unit Adoptions
- Vice President – Legislative & Partnerships
- Vice President – Membership
- Vice President – Communications
- Vice President – Council Programs
- Vice President – At-Large

Name

- Chuck Stevens
- George Bukaty
- Walt Schley
- George Beard
- Charlie Farris
- Dave Miller
- Ward Cook
- Bob Culler
- Tom Holden
- Jerry Lechtenberg
- Jim Malouff

KU-NROTC Welcomes Midshipmen

The KU-NROTC recently welcomed a record number of new freshman midshipmen. 25 new midshipmen were sworn in on Saturday August 22, 2020, in front of the Allen Field House. This is an incredible number for a unit like KU. Captain Jim Cooper, former Commanding Officer of the KU-NROTC unit said it has probably been 25 years since the unit took in 25 midshipmen in a freshman class.

The midshipmen maintained the required social distancing while inside and all are remained masked. KU's campus requires

social distancing and masking at all times when on campus.

The units current CO said active duty ROTC personnel are under strict COVID 19 guidelines. NROTC Regional Commanders make decisions based on the status of infections in any given area: currently, in Kansas, active duty personnel aren't permitted to eat out in civilian restaurants, use civilian gym facilities, or go to hairdressers/barbers in the civilian sector. If you need a haircut you do it yourself or go to a barber on the nearest military base.



Affiliate Members / Sponsors

I would like to thank each of our Greater Kansas City Council Community Affiliates Members and Sponsors. We appreciate their commitment to strengthen our Sea Services and especially their support for our Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

