



# NAVY LEAGUE

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

December 2020

Volume 17

## SITREP One – USS Kansas City (LCS



Join us December 17, 2020 at 6:30 pm for our next a virtual program on Zoom that features CDR Christopher Brusca, USN, Commanding Officer of the USS Kansas City.

USS Kansas City (LCS-22) is an Independence-class littoral combat ship of the United States Navy. She is the third ship to

be named for Kansas City. Kansas City was built in Mobile, Alabama by Austal USA. The ship was christened on 22 September 2018 in Mobile, Alabama, and sponsored by Tracy Davidson, wife of Admiral Philip S. Davidson. She was launched 19 October 2018 into the Mobile River. Kansas City was commissioned

on 20 June 2020[6] and she has been assigned to Littoral Combat Ship Squadron One.

CDR Brusca, A Pico Rivera, CA native, enlisted in the Navy after high school in 1993, as an Operations Specialist.



While serving aboard USS Vandergrift (FFG 48), he was accepted into the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) Program. He graduated from the University of San Diego in 2000 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations. In 2006, he earned Master of Science in Global Leadership from the University of San Diego School of Business.

His sea tours include serving as propulsion officer aboard

USS Dubuque (LPD 8); fire control officer aboard USS Decatur (DDG 73); engineering officer for MCM Crew Fearless while embarked aboard USS Chief (MCM 14) and USS Ardent (MCM 12); engineering officer aboard USS Simpson (FFG 56); strike officer for Carrier Strike Group Nine; executive officer of USS Fort Worth (LCS 3) and commanding officer of USS Charleston (LCS 18). He has participated in deployed operations in the Western Pacific, Arabian Gulf, Horn of Africa and the Baltics, while participating in operations Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

### **\*STAY CURRENT\***

Please keep your membership information up to date. That is best accomplished at the Navy League Hdq website: [https://](https://www.navyleague.org/member-resources/login)

[www.navyleague.org/member-resources/login](https://www.navyleague.org/member-resources/login).

You can access this by clicking the **TAKE ACTION** button on our website [NavyLeagueKansasCity.org](https://www.navyleague.org)

**Membership Info:**  
Bob Culler  
bculler@sbcglobal.net  
(913) 488-6319

**Meeting Info:**  
Jerry Lectenber  
@sbcglobal.net  
(913) 649-2020

NAVY LEAGUE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES  
P. O. Box 411361  
Kansas City, MO  
64141



# A Message from the President

2020 has been a truly extraordinary year that will be remembered for generations.

A look back at the year shows that even without the ability to get together in person, our Vice President of Programs, Jerry Lechtenberg, was able to bring forward an impressive array of speakers via our monthly virtual meetings on ZOOM.

2021 will bring new challenges and a renewed commitment by your board of directors

as we continue to implement the priorities of your 2020-2024 Strategic Plan.

The council will be working to build on our Youth Programs Liaison and Adopted Afloat and Ashore Unit Liaison programs as well as a renewed effort for Legislative Affairs and the advocacy for the Sea Services with our elected representatives. We have new leaders and volunteers for these three programs and this new talent with fresh ideas and energy will transform the council to new

heights. That makes me excited and hopeful for a tremendous 2021 for the Greater Kansas City Council of the Navy League.

Please remember our Sea Service members who may not be able to be with their family as they stand the watch around the globe keeping us all free and safe this Christmas.

Finally, Jane and I want to wish you and your families a healthy and safe Holiday Season.

Chuck

## Affiliate/Sponsor Spotlight

The importance of supporting Sea Services...

One of the components we always stress at **RE/MAX** is giving back to the communities we serve for their real estate needs. More than ever, in this year of such challenge, giving back has taken on an even greater importance and urgency...

particularly, for those who make the choice to be on the front lines for the protection of us all. Certainly, that includes the men and women of our US military services. **RE/MAX** associates are extraordinarily experienced – from years in real estate to dealing with markets in good times and bad. For active-duty and veteran Sea Service personnel that equates to an assurance that they will receive quality care and expertise from **RE/MAX** when it comes to buying or selling homes. **RE/MAX** acknowledges and applauds the commitment of these individuals *and their families* to the sacrifices required of them to maintain a safe and strong USA!



## BLUE ANGELS 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

The world's most famous jet demonstration team, the Navy's Blue Angels - return to the KC Air Show presented by Garmin on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the New Century Air Center in Olathe, Kansas. The Blue Angels will celebrate their 75th anniversary in 2021 as they transition from the legacy F/A-18 Hornets they have flown since 1986 to the much more

capable and more powerful F/A-18E/F Super Hornets.

This will make their low-altitude, tight-turning performances of the Blue Angel solos and the precision of the formations even more impressive! Be sure you and your guests are the first to see the Blue Angels tear up the sky in their new Super Hornets from the Greater Kansas City Council Sponsored Tent and Seating Area. Please mark your Greater Kansas City Council Navy League Calendar and plan to attend. Information on packages and seat pricing coming early in 2021.



## Harry S Truman Sea Cadet Squadron

Nineteen Sea Cadets and nine prospective cadets assembled at the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> for drill. The cadets trained on the Polaris Virtual Learning Platform, which is used for Naval correspondence courses, i.e. Basic Military Requirements (BMR) and Petty Officer. They also practiced knot tying and reviewed the training scheduled for Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

They then assembled at Wyandotte County Lake for a patrolling exercise, using hand signals to designate contacts on the right and left. Although, the weather was not cooperative, the cadets enjoyed it as “just a great Navy day. While

the cadets were patrolling, 7 of the parents attending prepared a picnic of hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans and potato salad. Navy League members Ward Cook, Jim Malouff III and Charlie Farris were present and spoke about what the Navy League does and handed out USS Kansas City Commissioning Challenge Coins, USS Kansas City Pens and pamphlets detailing Navy League information.

Squadron Commanding Officer, Carey Monaghan said “the picnic was a success, in spite of the terrible weather, and I appreciate the support from the Navy League of Kansas City”.



Harry S Truman Sea cadet Squadron members enjoy a training exercise at Wyandotte County Lake

### **\$\$ DONATIONS \$\$**

Do you want to help us with our work on behalf of our local youth 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>***

## Change of Command at the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC)

CDR R. A. Fauntleroy relieved CDR W. E. Welch III as Commander, Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Kansas City, MO during a change of command ceremony on October 24, 2020.

Commander, Naval Region Southeast Reserve Component Command (RCC) Fort Worth presided. Navy League Kansas City President, Chuck Stevens, and Vice President, Charlie Farris, attended as honorary guests.

CDR Welch ended a successful 32 year Navy career and Command of NOSC Kansas City by thanking his family, the Staff, and the Reserve community for their continuous professionalism, initiative, dedication to duty and support. CDR Welch assumed command of NOSC Kansas City in July 2018 and is scheduled to retire April 2021.

CDR Fauntleroy reported from the Pentagon, Washington D.C. and is enthusiastic about his new command.

His guiding principles are: Treat all Sailors fairly, all Sailors should know their work is valued, and everyone at NOSC Kansas City is a part of the Team!



CDR R. A. Fauntleroy

NOSC Kansas City is committed to generate mobilization ready Sailors by providing administrative services, training support, and world class customer service to Reserve personnel in support of surge and operational requirements for the Navy and Marine Corps and Joint Forces.



**Benny Lee**



## *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.



**Malouff Companies**



Chuck

**Out of concern for our members and their families due to the Coronavirus (COVID – 19) and after consultation with our Board, our upcoming luncheon meetings will be online using the ZOOM app until further notice.**

## Care Packages for USS Kansas City Sailors

The Greater Kansas City Council - Navy League received an inquiry from Lynn Kingman of the Riverside United Methodist Church - Moline, IL back in November wanting to know of military members who would be appreciative of receiving morale booster packages and letters for the Christmas Holidays.

Thoughts immediately turned to the junior sailors of the newly commissioned USS Kansas City (LCS-22) home ported in San Diego as many of these sailors have not been able to see their families since March of this year.

Working with USS Kansas City, Command Senior Chief, David Hyatt, fifty-seven junior sailors were identified and preparations made for receiving and distributing the care packages and letters for these young men and women.

The USS Kansas City was built by Austal Corporation in Mobile, AL where the hull was christened in September, 2019 and the ship was commissioned in June, 2020 in San Diego. To learn more about the USS Kansas City, please visit our website and [www.navyleaguekansascity.org](http://www.navyleaguekansascity.org).

Shown below are Riverside United Methodist Church member volunteers Cindy Slater, Barbara Cray, Renee Poust, (not pictured is Lynn Kingman the organizer of the project who was taking the pic

picture.), working on assembling the care packages for the sailors of the USS Kansas City.

The result of this outstanding project was that 57 boxes were filled with books, puzzles, healthy snacks and not so healthy candy, chips and other treats for these service members! Perhaps most importantly, each of the 57 care packages had a personal letter written to a specific junior sailor. This project was an awesome success with many Riverside members providing donations and writing letters!

Thanks to all the Riverside United Methodist Church patriots for your generosity, time and effort!

