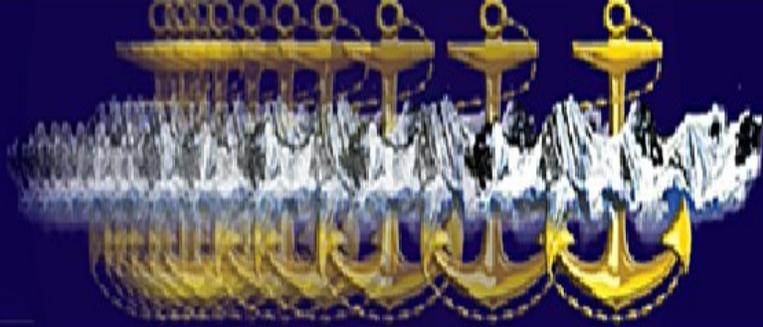




# NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Citizens in Support of the Sea Services



Denver Council Peak News, 12 (2),



March 2022

## Denver Council March 18th Dinner Meeting hosting Chris Schutzenberger and honoring NOSC Denver's Top Sailor of the Year

Thanks to all who attended our January meeting. We heard a very informative talk from CDR Jason Wood about the Navy Civil Engineer Corps and the Seabees and the great work they do. Lots of interesting facts that many of us did not know before.

With the merging of the Colorado Springs Council into the Denver Council, we are planning a Navy Birthday Ball to be held in Colorado Springs this fall.

Our next Denver Council membership meeting will be on Friday, March 18, at the Hilton Garden Inn-Denver Airport, beginning with a social hour at 6 pm. Our guest speaker will be our newest Board Member (VP for Legislative Affairs), Chris Schutzenberger. Chris will speak about the sinking of the Titanic, an event that occurred on April 15, 1912, almost 110 years ago – very significant in maritime history.

I look forward to seeing you at the March meeting. Again, for the protection of you and others, we ask that everyone attending be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

*Jim Quin, Council President*

### Mr. Chris Schutzenberger

Chris retired from Raytheon Corp. in 2016 after a 32-year career, where he was a manufacturing engineer and operations director.

At Raytheon he worked on several Navy programs including radar and electronic warfare systems for the F-14 and F-18 aircraft programs. He also worked on similar systems for the Air Force F-15 and B-2 programs.

Chris is entering his fifth year as a Colorado State Capitol Guide. He also serves as a docent at the Denver Molly Brown House Museum, is a member of the Douglas County Historic Preservation Board, and is a Regional Vice-President of Legislative Affairs for the Navy League of the United States.

Chris lives in Parker with his wife Lynda. They celebrated their 29<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in February and are looking forward to the birth of their first grandchild later this month.



## January Dinner Featured Commander Jason Wood, USN Navy Staff Engineer at Headquarters NORAD/NORTHCOM and Honored Top Sailors of NIOC Colorado

Cmdr. Wood's presentation included a fascinating and informative overview of the history and formation of the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps' (Seabees) support of WWII efforts in Europe and the Pacific and their current vital support of Navy operations worldwide.



### Council Awards/Honors

During the January membership meeting the Council honored the following top performers assigned to the Navy Information and Operations Command Colorado: CTT1 (1W/SW) Joshua Lynch, USN earned the Denver Council Navy League Senior Sailor of the Year Award for 2021, CTR2 (1W) Kenneth Smith, USN earned the Denver Council Navy League Junior Sailor of the Year Award for 2021, and CTR3 Michael Lowd, USN earned the Denver Council Navy League Blue Jacket Award for 2021.

Additionally, the Council recognized and honored the following retiring Executive Board Members for their long-standing and dedicated support of the Navy League and Denver Council: Brett Nelson, Joanne Nelson, and Capt. David Oppenheim, USN (Ret.). Congratulations to all honorees.

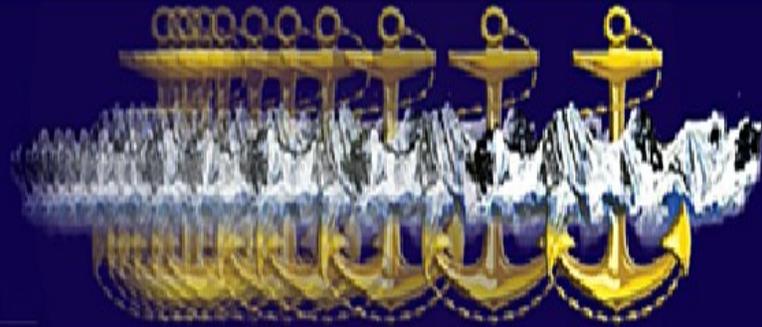
During the upcoming March meeting the Council will honor the top Sailor of the Year from the Navy Operations Support Center (NOSC), and Denver Executive Board Member, Commander Daniel Puleio, USN (Ret.) who plans to relocate later this spring.





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## Denver Council

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### USS Colorado Submarine Association

The Association is finalizing plans to attend the homecoming of the boat from deployment. Although the date has changed several times, personnel planning to attend will adjust their personal schedules accordingly and carry on since it is important to be there in person to demonstrate support for the crewmembers and families.



The Association will present a welcome back Proclamation from Colorado Governor Jared Polis (see next page) and hand out challenge coins to each crewmember acknowledging their mission completion (any extra coins will go on sale on the USS Colorado Submarine Association website). The Association is also working with the boat's leadership to set up a Namesake Visit of select crewmembers to Colorado, early this summer. They are also developing a community relations itinerary for this visit, planning a visit to New London in early summer for a family picnic and awards ceremony, and then for a change of command visit later in the summer. A busy summer schedule indeed.

*Don Price, Association President*



#### Online Resources:

Navy League National:  
<https://www.navyleague.org/>

Denver Council Navy League:  
[www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/](http://www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/)

Denver Council Flickr photo albums:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/131150115@N07/albums/>

Denver Council Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/DenverCouncil/>

USS Colorado (SSN-788) Submarine Association  
<https://usscoloradosubassoc.org>

### Sea Cadets Update

After a two-year hiatus from in-person drills due to COVID restrictions, cadets were excited, actually volunteering to perform overnight watch standing duties at the NOSC in Aurora for January drill. This was one element of a very busy drill weekend which started with the cadets based out of the VFW facility in Bennett, Colorado. There cadets were able to fly a light aircraft under instruction as part of the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles program. It was an incredible experience for the cadets. Not only were they able to fly the light aircraft but they also starred in a National Sea Cadet recruiting video that was being produced by Sea Cadet National HQ. Look for its premier at March's dinner.



In addition to flying, the cadets attempted their swimming qualification where five cadets achieved a first-class swimmer rating which included a requirement for an underwater swim of 25 yards with less than two surfacings for air.

At final muster Captain Bob Easterly from the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Organization recognized Cadet CPO Travis Finning and Cadet PO1 Carter Peltier as their SAR Award recipients.

Senior cadets are all in the process of deciding what their future will be after high school. Cadet CPO Emma Rippo's acceptance at Emory Riddle University in Daytona Beach, FL and CPO Leah Linhardt's appointment to the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY are evidence of this process.

*LT David Gilfillan, NSCC Commanding Officer*

#### National and Local Dues

Please remember to keep up with your Navy League national dues (and keep Sea Power magazine coming to you) and our local Council annual dues of \$15 per individual or \$25 per couple. These local dues became mandatory in January 2019 and are a key element in supporting Council initiatives.



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



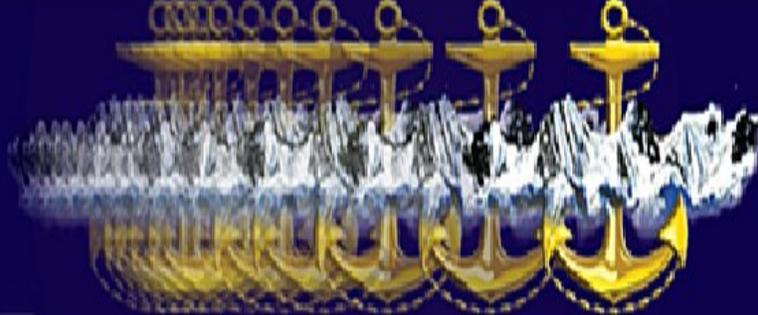
U.S. Flag Merchant Marine





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WHEREAS, USS Colorado, commissioned in 2018, is the first submarine and only the fourth warship to bear the name Colorado, following in the great tradition of the battleship USS Colorado which proudly served our nation from 1923 to 1947 earning seven battle stars; and

WHEREAS, USS Colorado recently returned from its second deployment, with long periods submerged, demonstrating the crew's faith, shared by Coloradans', in democracy, patriotism and service, and honoring others who put their lives on the line and sailed into harm's way; and

WHEREAS, dangerous threats persist throughout the world and the USS Colorado is the first line of defense and the most effective strategic deterrent, on watch and owning the seas; and

WHEREAS, the life of a submariner is extremely challenging and dangerous; and

WHEREAS, Coloradans are immensely proud of the USS Colorado, and are honored that the Colorado name and state flag will travel with the brave men and women serving on this vessel; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is home to thousands of service members, we are acutely aware of the burden your service and sacrifice has on your families who persevere in your absence; and

WHEREAS, we have the deepest respect for you and your families and are grateful for all you have given, worried about, and worked for over the past many months;

THEREFORE, I Jared Polis, Governor of the entire state of Colorado, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2022 as  
USS COLORADO RETURN FROM SECOND DEPLOYMENT DAY

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-eighth day of February, 2022



Jared Polis



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



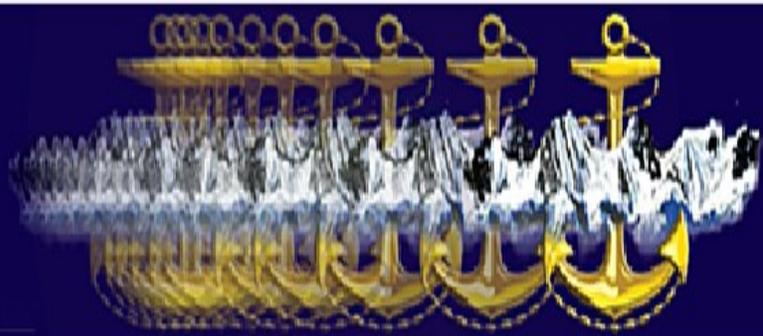
U.S. Flag Merchant Marine





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### Upcoming Events

#### Navy Birthday Ball Planning

The Council is assisting local Navy units plan a Ball to celebrate the Navy's birthday which is October 13<sup>th</sup>. The Ball will be Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs and feature a traditional formal Naval ceremony which includes arrival honors, side boys provided by local NJROTC cadets, a birthday cake and formal toasts. As details develop, Council members and the local community will be updated.



#### Adopted Unit NTAG Rocky Mountain Earns Three National Awards

Adopted Unit NTAG Rocky Mountain earned three national awards for Fiscal Year 2021. Navy Chiefs Armando Ocampo and Corey Curtis earned Recruiters of the Year honors.

The Command additionally received the Gold "R" pendant as the *number one* Recruiting Command in the nation, competing among 26 sister commands. Hearty congratulations to all for this momentous achievement.



Denver Council Navy League Peak Newsletter is an official publication of the Denver Council, serving the members and community of Colorado. This publication does not necessarily reflect the official views of the National Navy League or Department of Defense.

Stories and artwork may be submitted via email to the editor at [mahaffey10@aol.com](mailto:mahaffey10@aol.com)

Electronic versions available upon request.

Find out more on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DenverCouncil/>



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



U.S. Flag Merchant Marine



### Spring Dinner Meeting Friday, March 18th, 2022, 7 PM

Your reservations may be made on line no later than 5:00 PM, **SUNDAY, MARCH 13<sup>th</sup>**, via our Navy League RSVP site: [www.blacktie-colorado.com](http://www.blacktie-colorado.com).

Enter event code **DC0318** (All one word, not case sensitive.)

If you prefer to RSVP by ground mail, please print this page, complete the form, and send the form to arrive **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MARCH 13<sup>th</sup>**, with check payable to NLUS Denver Council to:

Mrs. Florence Mackin  
2137 Night Sky Lane  
Lafayette, CO 80026  
(720) 291-9771

[fmackin@mackinweb.net](mailto:fmackin@mackinweb.net)

**RESERVATION REQUEST for  
NLUS Spring Dinner –  
Friday – March 18th, 2022  
6:00 PM Social Hour  
7:00 PM Dinner**

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST(S): \_\_\_\_\_

# MEALS:

Chicken Marsala \_\_\_\_\_

Veggie Tortellini w Pesto Sauce \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon w/lemon butter sauce \_\_\_\_\_

\$37.50 per plate.

#### DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE

Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport  
16475 East 40th Circle, Aurora, CO 80011

I-70 east to North Chambers Road, turn Right (East) on East 40th Avenue. Turn Right (South) on the second East 40th Circle. Hilton Garden Inn is on the Right behind Applebee's Restaurant.