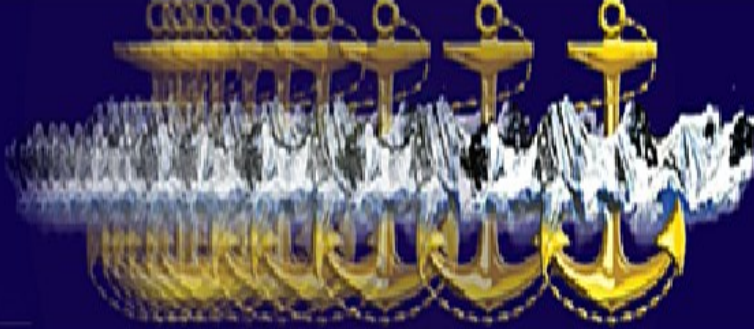




NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Citizens in Support of the Sea Services



Denver Council Peak News, 14(1),

January 2024

Denver Council January 19th Dinner Meeting Hosting Dr. Chris Juergens, Ph.D. of History Colorado and Honoring Top Performers of the U.S. Coast Guard Cryptologic Unit

By Florence Mackin, President

My best wishes to all for a happy and healthy new year.

The Denver Council's first meeting of 2024 is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024. The meeting will be held at the **Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport** located at 16475 East 40th Circle in Aurora. We are returning to this venue as the Board found it to be the most cost-effective choice for the Council.



I am sure that all who attended the November meeting were moved by Chaplain Andy Meverden's inspiring story of a tragic accident in Afghanistan that resulted in the deaths of four young boys and his subsequent participation in a local custom to acknowledge the injury to the fathers of these children. These events occurred while he served as a U. S. Army Green Beret in this war-torn land.

Our guest speaker for January is Dr. Chris Juergens, Head of Curatorial Services, and the Anschutz Curator of Military History at History Colorado where he manages the military collections with oversight of over 10,000 artifacts. History Colorado just opened a new exhibit titled "Winter Warriors – The 10th Mountain Division in World War II." It is a very thorough and well-done presentation of the story of Colorado's 10th Mountain Division.

We will also honor the top performers of the United States Coast Guard Cryptologic Unit Colorado.

Hope to see you all on January 19th!

Dr. Chris Juergens, Ph.D. Head Curatorial Services and Anschutz Curator of Military History at History Colorado

Dr. Chris Juergens is the Head of Curatorial Services and the Anschutz Curator of Military History at History Colorado. Here he oversees the state's extensive military collections, ensuring this important history is appropriately collected, preserved, and shared. In his free time, he is also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Strategy and Policy at the United States Naval War College.

Dr. Juergens will discuss the "Military History Collections at History Colorado." This talk will broadly discuss the types of stories held in the state collection at History

Colorado, the methods of collecting artifacts, the strengths and weaknesses of the collection, and plans for the coming year. Also provided will be an overview of recent high-profile work in the collection, including the newest exhibit, *Winter Warriors*, and ongoing work surrounding the service of the WWII battleship, USS Colorado BB-45.



November Dinner Featured Chaplain (Colonel) Andy Meverden and honored NTAG Rocky Mountain Top Performers

Chaplain (Colonel) Meverden presented an inspiring account of some of his crucial interactions with the Afghan people while serving as a U. S. Army Green Beret in Afghanistan.

NTAG Rocky Mountain top performers are addressed in the Awards/Honors section of the newsletter.



Denver Council Local Dues 2024

Denver Council dues for 2024 are \$15.00 for an individual member and \$25.00 for a couple, payable from December 2023 to March 2024. We now have the option to pay your local dues for 2024 online at the following link:

<https://www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/event-5507479>
If you prefer to pay by check or cash, you can do so at the January or March meetings. Or you can mail your check made payable to NLUS Denver Council to Mrs. Pam Quin, 1000 Green Oaks Drive, Greenwood Village, Colorado 80121-1325.

Toys For Tots

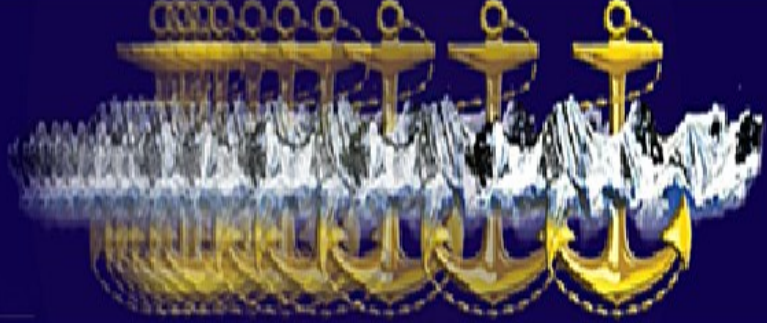
Thanks to all who generously supported the annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, by bringing a variety of new, unwrapped toys to the November meeting.





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USS Colorado Submarine Association Update

By Don Price

On Tuesday, December 19, seven members of the Association were in Groton, Connecticut to welcome Colorado's crew back from their third six-month deployment. As is usually the case, it was a cold and windy day down on the pier. Nonetheless, these homecomings are always moving events as wives, kids and other family members are reunited with their sailors. It was a happy and very exciting time for all; and participating Association members felt honored and humbled to have a role in the festivities.



For this homecoming, Association members: helped the Family Readiness Group sell challenge coins designed and procured by the Association to commemorate the deployment, provided these coins to the boat upon their return to be distributed to each sailor making the deployment, enjoyed personally greeting many of the sailors as they disembarked from the boat and picked up, and helped bring aboard, food for the duty section on their first night in port.



It is ALWAYS fun to climb down a ladder into the boat and hang out for a bit of social interaction with crew members. It brings back OLD memories for some and makes new memories for others.

The following is a link to the local Connecticut NBC

Online Resources:

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

Denver Council Navy League:
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>

affiliate's coverage of the event which included an interview with Association President Don Price as members waited for the boat's return.

[Sailors on USS Colorado make it home to Connecticut for the holidays](#)

Here is a photo of members' time on the pier in Groton.



Council Officer & Executive Board Member Elections

The following are the Officers and Executive Board Members elected during the November meeting who will be inducted at the January 19th, 2024 meeting to lead the Council through 2024.

Council Officers:

- Florence Mackin, President
- Gray Buckley, Secretary
- David Fong, Treasurer

Executive Board:

- Kathleen Branch, Membership Recruiting
- David Fong, Council Contact, Youth Programs, Social Media
- Joe Suchman, Media & Public Relations
- Chris Schutzenberger, Legislative Affairs
- Joe Mahaffey, Newsletter Editor & Council Awards
- Jim Quin, Past President and Membership Retention
- Pam Quin, Meeting Coordination
- Gray Buckley, Council Chaplain
- Steve Bethke, Navy Ball Coordinator
- OPEN, Programs
- Art Cyphers, Member-at-Large

The Council is seeking volunteers for the open position. Those interested in filling any position should email Council Contact David Fong at dfong@lexdiv.org. Board members must be active members in good standing with the Denver Council Navy League.



U.S. Navy

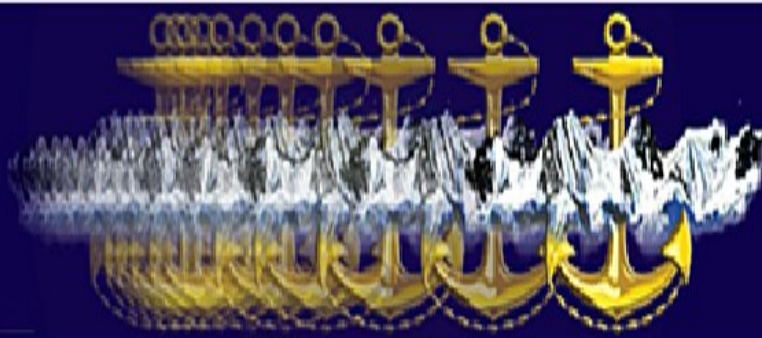


U.S. Coast Guard



U.S. Flag Merchant Marine

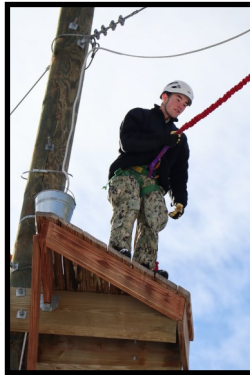




Sea Cadet Update

By Page Carr, Inst, NSCC

During the November drill, the cadets headed to Camp Timberline near Estes Park for their annual camp weekend. After arriving at the camp, cadets unloaded the vans, put away their sea bags and ate chow. They then tackled and filled the afternoon with the ropes course and jumping off the platform. The platform jump taught the cadets about parajumping. For many cadets, it was their first time making the jump but with so much support from their fellow cadets, no one backed out of their jumps.



After the ropes course and a warm-up indoors, the cadets divided into three groups, each rotating through three different classes for the rest of the afternoon. Classes included Land Navigation (Land Navs), Radio Communications (Radio Coms) and Field Operations (Field Ops), all of which were designed to help the cadets prepare for their nighttime field operations missions.

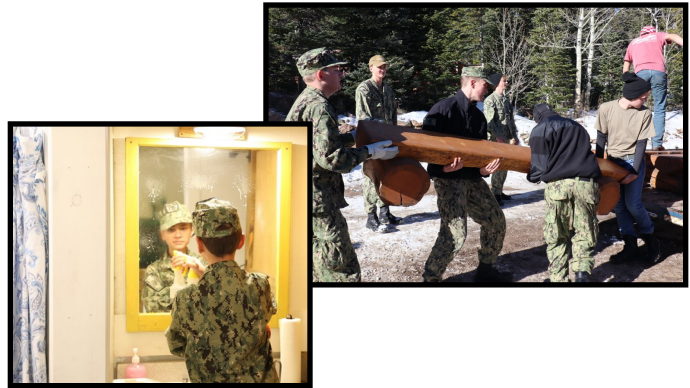
At sundown, cadets were divided into three groups and given a location they were required to achieve without being ambushed. There were three ambush parties consisting of Sea Cadet unit leaders. The three cadet groups were sent to different locations while the ambush parties went out to find their targets.

All three groups successfully completed their missions. Arriving back at the lodge, the cadets were treated to homemade hot chocolate while they debriefed their missions before heading to bed.

On Sunday, following a Physical Training session (field hockey) and morning chow, the cadets were divided into five groups, with counselors who led them in the many tasks necessary to close the camp. Cadets helped move wooden benches to the barn for winter storage, cleaned out the kitchen, swept and mopped floors, and cleaned all the surfaces in the cabins and buildings. The



cadets were so helpful that camp officials invited them back again for 2024!



Wreaths Across America Update

Lexington Division & Training Ship Colorado were successful in meeting their Wreaths Across America goal. They were able to get 411 wreaths sponsored which exceeded their goal of 400. Cadets traveled to Fort Logan National Cemetery on December 16th where they helped unload the trucks, guarded the wreaths, and taught the public how to properly lay the wreaths and to honor our deceased Veterans.

Veterans Memorial Ceremony

Several members of the Denver Council attended the annual Veterans Day remembrance event at the University of Colorado, Boulder. This year's guest speaker was Ben Purser, Vice President for Geostrategic Risk at The Institute for Security and Technology.



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



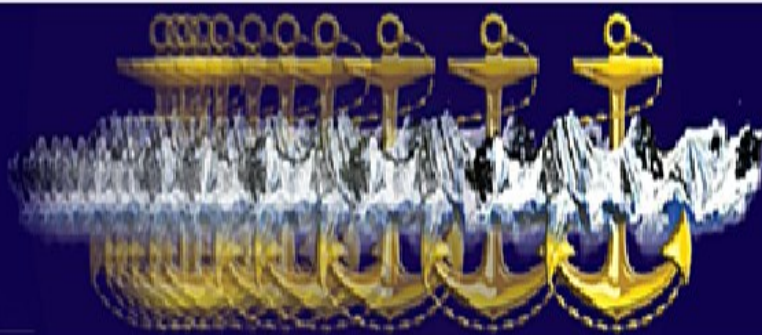
U.S. Flag Merchant Marine





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Awards/Honors

During the November Dinner meeting, the Council honored the Navy Talent Acquisition Group Rocky Mountain's STS2 (SS) Moreno C. Big, USN who earned the Denver Council Navy League Recruiter of the Year Award and NC1 (AW) Andrew J. Burns, USN who earned the Denver Council Navy League Recruiter in Charge of The Year Award.



On December 16th the Council presented the Navy League Theodore Roosevelt Youth Award for Outstanding Performance to Young Marine Lance Corporal Tyler A. Shreiner of the Rocky Mountain Young Marines Unit of Fort Collins, Colorado. Congratulations to all honorees.



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

Electronic versions available upon request.

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

Note Location Change January Winter Meeting Friday, January 19th, 2024, 7PM

Your reservations may be made online no later than **Thursday, January 11th, 5 PM** via our Navy League RSVP Site:

<https://www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/event-5513668>

If you prefer to RSVP by ground mail, please print this page, complete the form and send it to arrive **NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, January 11th** with check for \$40.00 per plate payable to NLUS Denver Council to:

Mrs. Pam Quin
1000 Green Oaks Drive
Greenwood Village, Colorado. 80121-1325
720-937-9124
Jpq9123@msn.com

**RESERVATION REQUEST for
NLUS Denver Council January Dinner
Friday, January 19th, 2024
6:00 PM Social Hour
7:00 PM Dinner**

NAME(S): _____
GUEST(S): _____
MEALS: _____
Chicken _____
Salmon _____
Vegetarian Plate _____

Cost remains at \$40.00 per plate

**DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE:
Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport
16475 East 40th Circle,
Aurora, Colorado 80011**

I-70 east to North Chambers Road (Turn left, North), then 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.



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



U.S. Flag Merchant Marine

