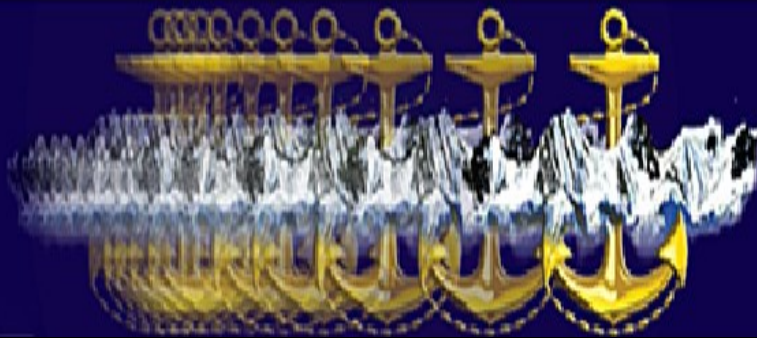




# NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

*Citizens in Support of the Sea Services*



## Denver Council May 21st Gala Dinner Meeting Hosting Colonel Matthew Zummos, USMC and Honoring Top Performers of the Navy Reserve Center and the Sea Cadets

Our next dinner meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 21, 2026** at the American Legion Hall, Post 161, located at 6230 West 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Arvada, CO. **The social hour will begin at 5 pm and dinner will be served at 6 pm.** We had to move our meeting back by one week due to a scheduling conflict. **Please note that there has been a change of date as well as a change of day and an earlier start time**



I have invited Colonel Matthew Zummo, USMC, the Commanding Officer of the NROTC Unit at the University of Colorado, to be our guest speaker. We will honor the top performers at the Navy Reserve Center Rocky Mountain and the Sea Cadets. I will also invite the NROTC Scholarship Recipients as well as the Sea Service Academy appointees and their parents to attend.

On April 6<sup>th</sup> I attended the Tri Military Awards Ceremony at the University of Colorado in Boulder where awards were presented to the top-performing members of Reserve Officers Training Corps. I had the honor of presenting the Navy League Exemplary Leadership Award to Midshipman Blaise Coslick. Midshipman Coslick will be sworn into the United States Marine Corps at his graduation in May.

I hope to see you on Thursday, May 21st at the American Legion Hall

*Florence Mackin*

Denver Council President

## NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL

A celebration of the Navy's 251st Birthday will be held on October 23rd, 2026 at the Antlers Hotel, 4 Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!** More information

about this **GALA** event will be forthcoming on our Denver Council Navy League website at:

[www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/](http://www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/).

## Colonel Matthew Zummo, USMC

Colonel Matthew Zummo is from Simsbury, Connecticut. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1999 through the NROTC program at the University of Colorado.

Following The Basic School and Armored Officer Basic School, he was assigned to 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division in Camp Lejeune, NC. While there he served as a Tank Platoon Commander and Scout Platoon Commander and deployed to OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM in 2003. Colonel Zummo was then assigned to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego where he served as a Series and Company Commander.

After attending the Expeditionary Warfare School in Quantico, VA, he returned to 2nd Tank Battalion. During this tour he deployed in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM II twice while serving as a Police Transition Team Leader and Company Commander. Following the deployments he served as the Battalion Operations Officer.



In 2010, Colonel Zummo was then assigned to Marine Corps Recruiting Station Orange in Orange County, CA where he served as the Commanding Officer until 2013. Following Marine Corps Command and Staff College, he returned to 2nd Tank Battalion to serve as the Battalion Executive Officer. During this tour he also deployed in support of OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE and with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit as their Theater Special Operations Command Liaison. (Continued on next page)

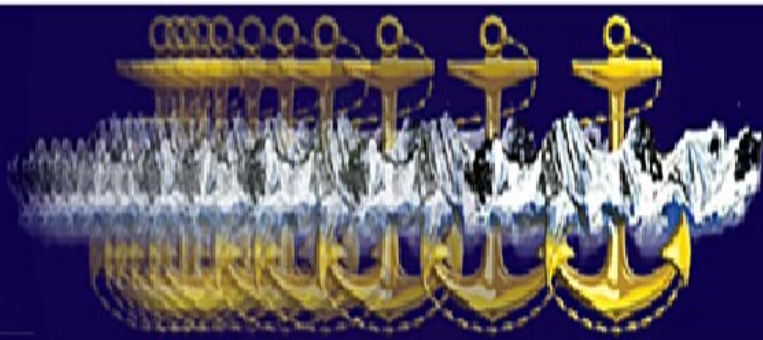
**SEE A BOUNTY OF DENVER NAVY LEAGUE PHOTOS!**

[Colorado Navy League's albums | Flickr](#)



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### Colonel Zummo continued)

Colonel Zummo then reported to 7th Marine Regiment in 29 Palms, CA where he served as the Operations Officer until taking command of 1st Tank Battalion in January 2018.

In 2020, following his command tour, he was assigned to Special Operations Command in Tampa, FL where he served as the Strategy Division Chief, J-5.

In 2022, Colonel Zummo reported to Marine Forces Central Command where he served as the Assistant Chief of Staff G-3 until 2025.

In July 2025 Colonel Zummo assumed command of NROTC at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Colonel Zummo has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Colorado and a Master of Military Studies degree from the Marine Corps University.

### March Dinner Meeting Hosted Commander Gary Francis, USN (Ret.), A Former Nuclear Submarine Commanding Officer

At the meeting, Commander Francis reflected on his illustrious career during and after his active duty assignments and lauded the current status and importance of support for the local city of Broomfield's military veterans museum.

### Awards/Honors

During April 2026, the Council awarded Navy League Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medals for outstanding performance to Marine Corps JROTC cadets Jacob Roblero-Roblero and Lesly Jimenez during a ceremony at Northridge High School in Greeley, CO.

Similar medals were awarded at ceremonies to the following: In May, 2026 to Cadet Sergeant Kathia Chavira-Olivas and Cadet Corporal Daniel Vasquez-Molina of Adams City High School in Commerce City, CO. and to Navy JROTC Cadet Seaman David Hernandez II, of Prairie View High School in

Henderson, CO; 2025 Sea Cadet of the Year PO2 Matthew Jones of Lexington Division Sea Cadet Unit and 2025 Navy League Cadet of the Year LC3 Rupert Tsang of Training Ship Colorado Navy League Cadet Unit, both in Aurora, CO. The following Colorado Springs cadets also received Theodore Roosevelt Medals in the month of April: Cadet Joshua Ehlen, Doherty HS NJROTC; Cadet PO1 Jaysen Perry, Widefield HS NJROTC; and Cadet LTJG Jordan Johnson, Mesa Ridge HS NJROTC. Cadet Aden Burnett, Kelly Walsh High School MCJROTC in Casper, Wyoming will receive his medal in May.

### Legislative Affairs

Preparations and training for this year's Anchors Aweigh Fly-in are underway! This year the Fly-in will be held on June 1 - 2 in Washington, D.C. (right before the national convention later in the week at Norfolk, VA). **The Anchors Aweigh Fly-In is the Navy League's flagship activism event.** Every year, Navy League members from around the country gather in Washington, D.C. to educate their lawmakers on the sea services' needs. **Registration for our 2026 Fly-In on June 1-2 is open!** If you would like to participate this year, contact Chris Schutzenberger at [teamschutz@yahoo.com](mailto:teamschutz@yahoo.com).

If you would like to be added to the distribution list for the upcoming training led by the Navy League National office, please contact the Legislative Affairs Associate, Sonia Toloczko, at [stoloczko@navyleague.org](mailto:stoloczko@navyleague.org)

### Navy League National Convention

The 2026 National Convention will be held June 3-6, 2026 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott, 235 E Main St., Norfolk, VA. See the Navy League national website [www.navyleague.org](http://www.navyleague.org) for information and registration.

### Other Online Resources: Control + Click to follow link

Navy League National:

<https://www.navyleague.org/>

Denver Council Navy League:

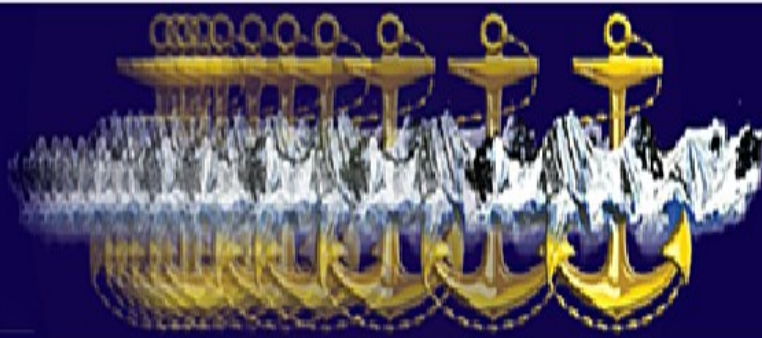
[www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/](http://www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/)

Denver Council Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/DenverCouncil/>

USS Colorado (SSN-788) Submarine Association

<https://usscoloradosubassoc.org>



### Sea Cadet Update

**March–April 2026:** Lexington Division and Training Ship Colorado (LEX-151) continued a strong spring training cycle with two productive drill weekends focused on readiness, leadership, and hands-on skill development.

**March Drill:** Cadets executed a full overnight drill at Buckley Space Force Base and the Naval Reserve Center. Training included uniform preparation, inspection readiness, team-building, Recruit Orientation, and academic periods. Both units traveled to **A-1 Scuba (Diventures)** for water confidence and introductory scuba sessions, reinforcing maritime safety fundamentals. Sunday featured Physical Readiness Testing, field day, and formal inspections, followed by awards, promotions, and cross-decking.

**April Drill:** Cadets focused on leadership, discipline, and marksmanship fundamentals. Saturday included Rope Yarn, Code of Conduct instruction, dining etiquette, and **gun safety and marksmanship fundamentals** in preparation for live - fire training. The annual **Senior Dinner** honored graduating cadets with a formal evening event. On Sunday, both units traveled to the **Family Shooting Center at Cherry Creek State Park** for controlled marksmanship training before

returning to the Navy Reserve Center (NRC) for field day, uniform change, and final muster.

**Celebrating Our Graduates:** LEX-151 proudly recognizes **ten Sea Cadets graduating high school this year**. Their achievements reflect the strength of the program and the dedication of our instructors and families

- **1 appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy ,**
- **1 appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy**
- **1 cadet enlisting in the U.S. Navy .**
- **The remaining graduates earning ROTC scholarships across multiple military branches. These cadets exemplify the values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment, and we congratulate them as they begin their service journeys.**

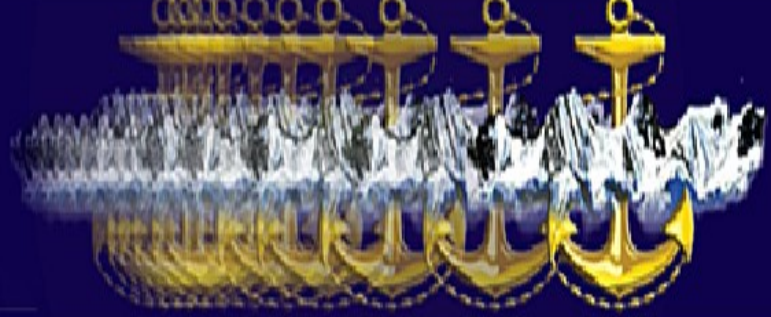
*LTJG Jason Chun-hsing Chen, MBA/MS*





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### USS Colorado Submarine Association Update *Don Price, President*

The boat remains in overhaul in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and is on schedule to complete the availability this summer. Association members still hope to visit the boat in late June to help celebrate the completion of the availability and again in November to attend the next Change of Command and welcome aboard the new Commanding Officer. These visits remain subject to world events and base access requirements.

Although there's not much news, the boat did send some pictures of their undocking, below. And also a GREAT time lapse video of the undocking at the following link (once you open the link click on the photo of the boat and it will open the video): <https://www.facebook.com/share/1A5RDHzAs9/?mibextid=wwXifr>



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)

May Gala Dinner Meeting

Thursday, May 21st, 2026

5pm social hour, 6pm dinner

Your reservations may be made online no later than Sunday, May 17, 6pm via our Navy League RSVP site:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/denver-council-gala-may-21-2026>

If you prefer to RSVP by ground mail, please print this page, complete the form and send it to arrive NO LATER THAN SATURDAY May 16th, with a check for \$35.00 per plate pay-able to NLUS Denver Council to:

Mrs. Florence Mackin

2137 Night Sky Lane

Lafayette, CO 80026

720-2911-9771 [fmackin@mackinweb.net](mailto:fmackin@mackinweb.net)

**RESERVATION REQUEST for NLUS Denver Council May 2026 Gala Dinner, Thursday, May 21, 2026**

**5:00PM Social Hour 6:00PM Dinner**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dinners \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING PLACE:**

**American Legion Hall Post 161**

**6230 West 60th Avenue**

**Arvada, CO. 80003**

**Please remember to keep up with your Navy League National and Local 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 are a key element in supporting Council initiatives**