

# ANCHOR LINE

**SARASOTA – MANATEE COUNCIL OF THE NAVY LEAGUE**  
**MAY-JULY 2020**

Visit us at: <http://www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org/>

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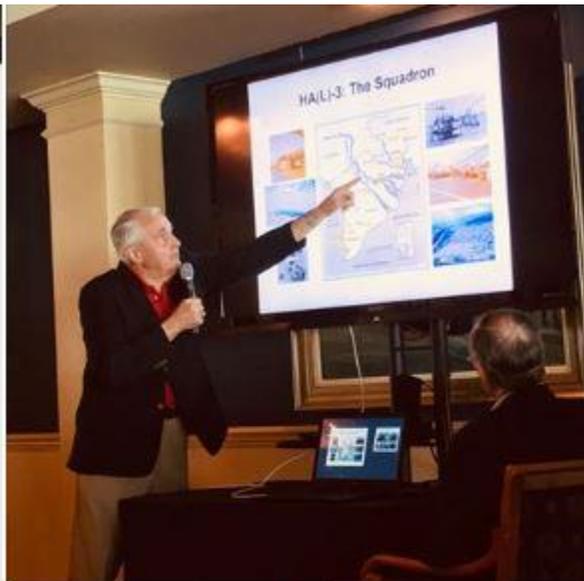
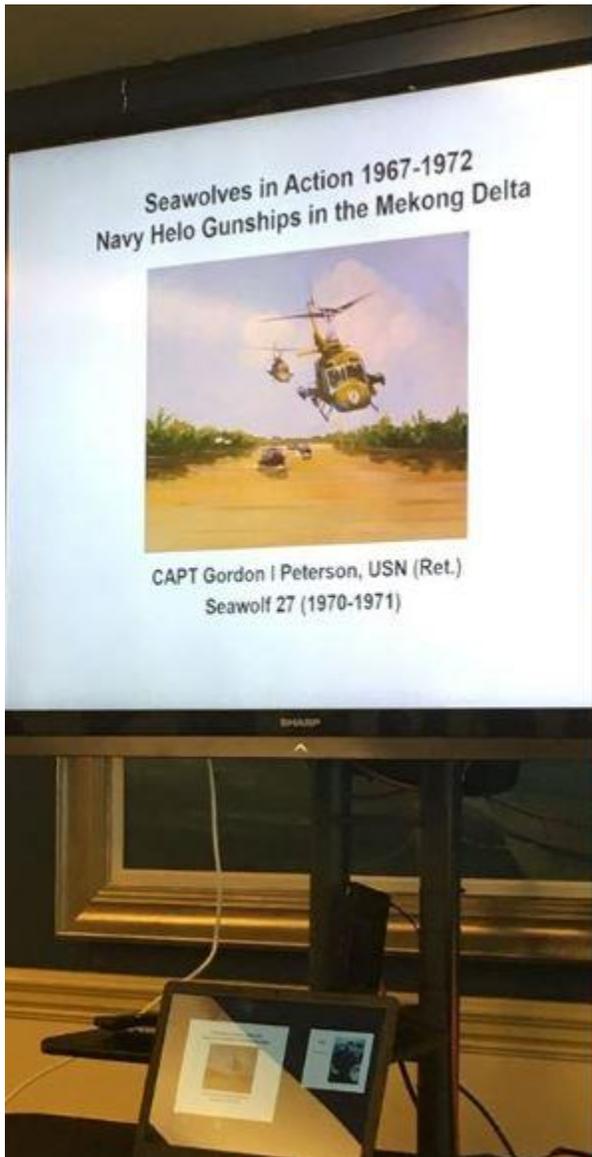
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## FEBRUARY DINNER

On Wednesday February 26, 2020 over forty members and guests came for lunch at Bird Key Yacht Club to hear Captain Gordon “Gordo” Petersen USN (ret) speak about Helicopter Attack Light Squadron 3 (HAL-3) Operations in the Rung Sat Special Zone (near Saigon) in the Republic of Vietnam fifty years ago. He told about the “Sea Wolves” and their many feats of "derring do", as well as the organization and history of that legendary unit. An incredible story!





I hope this issue of *Anchor Line* finds you, and yours, safe and healthy.

As you might expect, the “interesting times” that we’re living in have destined our Council’s monthly schedule to the trash heap: No luncheons; no dinners; no Sailor of the Quarter awards; no Memorial Day parade; no recognition of the local youth who’ve been selected for sea-service academies or ROTC scholarships. The list goes on, as does the uncertainty. I’ve been asked when we’ll be able to resume some semblance of our Council schedule, but that’s a question I can’t answer. Obviously, a lot will need to happen, across our Nation and across the world, before we can even hazard a guess. In the meantime, we are (virtually) processing scholarship applications for local students. So *some* of the good things we do are continuing.

Al Burda, our *Anchor Line* publisher, has asked me to give a schedule of our upcoming events this issue. I have done that, and it is below. Of course, it is rough and tentative, but we’ll give it a go. Hopefully, soon, we will return to some form of “normal,” and will have a pent-up demand to get together, safely, over a luncheon or dinner, with an entertaining speaker. Like in the “old days....”

Finally, when you have the opportunity, please thank a first responder and/or medical care provider for their efforts to get us all thru this mess, often at risk to their own well-being. And in the meantime, as the saying goes, “Keep calm and wash your hands.”

*Tim Rocklein*

2020 President

## NAVY LEAGUE PROPOSED *TENTATIVE* MEETING DATES FOR REMAINDER OF 2020

### Membership Meetings

July 22, Wednesday, luncheon—Venue TBD

August 26, Wednesday, 5:45pm, Bird Key Yacht Club - Dinner or Luncheon Note 1

September 23, Wednesday, 5:45pm, Bird Key Yacht Club – Dinner or Luncheon

October 28, Wednesday, 5:45pm, Bird Key Yacht Club – Navy Birthday Dinner

November 18, Wednesday, 5:45pm, Bird Key Yacht Club – Marine Birthday Dinner Note 2

December 16 or ?? -- Holiday Party and Annual Membership Meeting

Note 1: USCG Birthday August 4<sup>th</sup>. Maybe a USCG speaker.

Note 2: This is 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in November, and the week before Thanksgiving.

### Board Meetings

June 22, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library Note

July 20, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library Note

August 24, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library Note

September 21, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library

October 26, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library

November 16, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library

December 14??, Monday, 1pm, Selby Library

Note: Unless we have a specific need, we may not hold a board meeting each month in the summer. Board members, like other members, are often out of area in the summer, and at times we have not even had enough for a quorum.

**SARASOTA MANATEE COUNCIL**  
**of the NAVY LEAGUE of the United States**  
**OUR VISION STATEMENT**

We seek to be a reliable and helpful source of information to the public and governmental leaders about sea service issues and a known and respected civilian supporter and resource to local active duty sea service units and organizations and local sea service youth organizations

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Council's Mission is to support America's sea services: Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and US - flag Merchant Marine in Southwest Florida. We do this through: local programs and meetings where our Council provides a voice to educate the public and local members of Congress on the importance of our Sea Services to our nation's defense, well-being and economic prosperity and :to support to our active Sea services personnel such as the U.S. Coast Guard and their families youth programs such as the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Junior ROTC and Young Marines, that expose young people to the values of our sea services.

**OUR GOALS**

To enhance the morale of local sea service personnel and their families through national and council level programs. We:

- \* Educate national leaders and the nation
- \* Support the men & women of the sea services
- \* Support youth programs
- \* Provide assistance to sea service families

**SARASOTA – MANATEE COUNCIL**  
**2019 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

President

Tim Rocklein

First Vice President & Operations

Dennis Turner

Treasurer

Gerard St. Germain\*

Corresponding and Recording Secretary

Nel Rocklein

Judge Advocate

Steven Horton

Directors

Fundraising and VIP Speakers- John Osterweil

Young Marines and Venice MCJROTC—Al Burda

Membership—Jeannine Rusch

Publicity-- - Bo Hamrick

Youth and Scholarships, and Anchor Line--- Al Burda

Legislative Affairs and Facebook- Roger Betts

NJROTC--- Steve Bartek

Golf/Fundraising - Dr. John Hanna

Chaplain-Don Roser

\*National Director& President of Florida Central Area.

**GIVING CHALLENGE**

This Council participated in the Community Foundation of Sarasota's Giving Challenge sponsored by the Patterson Foundation on May 5 and 6. We were fortunate to have 32 donors make gifts of \$4175 of which \$3275 was matched, totaling \$7450. In addition one donor is making an additional gift of \$1000 by check.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**

Congratulations to this year's academic scholarship winners! They are: Holly Carfley *Maritime Eagles* Sea Cadets, Jonathan Dreier Venice H.S. MCJROTC, Emma Forcier Imagine School Young Marines, and Carson Hurley Venice H.S. MCJROTC. We wish all four of them best wishes and success in college.

**FINANCE**

We have \$10,126.59 in our checkbook and over \$8000 due in from the Giving Challenge. We are well positioned to meet our financial needs for this fiscal year. In addition, at the end of March we had \$103,000.09 in our Endowment.

**MEMBERSHIP**

We have 105 members in our Council. Welcome to our most recent new members S. Jay Plager from Longboat Key and Jonathan Dreier of Venice. !

# NEWS FROM OUR ADOPTED AND SUPPORTED UNITS

## COAST GUARD-CUTTER RESOLUTE

On March 7, 13 Navy leaguers embarked on the Cutter Resolute for a cruise on Tampa Bay. We departed at 11 AM from the South Mooring at Sector St. Pete and returned at about 4 PM. We anchored just south of the Skyway Bridge for a while and a great barbeque lunch was served by the food service staff on the cutter. It was a fantastic day. We learned a lot about the cutter and got to know many members of the crew. Many thanks to Captain Roy Brubaker, LCDR Jake McMillan and the members of the crew for the opportunity for this experience and for being great hosts.



A few days after our cruise the cutter departed for patrol in the Caribbean.

## COAST GUARD-CUTTER BRANT

The crew of the Cutter Brant celebrated the promotion of their Executive Petty Officer (XPO) to E-7--- Chief Petty Officer. Eric Wiczorek is now BMC Eric Wiczorek. Congratulations Chief.



The Brant, since relocating to St. Petersburg, needed a new challenge coin to reflect its new home port. With assistance from our Navy League the ship acquired its new challenge coin as shown.



## COAST GUARD--STATION CORTEZ

Station Cortez has welcomed two new members to the Station. MK3 Ruxton and MK3 Robertson recently reported aboard. The Navy League joins Cortez in welcoming you to our community.

