



ANCHOR LINE OCT-DEC 2024

This Issue:

SMC President's Update

Partnerships Tiers ****NEW****

Fundraising

Gene Moran Interview

SMC Events

US Coast Guard News

Youth Group News

Moving Forward with Growth and Innovation Supporting our Sea Services and Youth Groups



Throughout 2024, our council has experienced a year of both challenges and remarkable achievements. The devastation caused by hurricanes Helene and Milton tested our resilience, but it also demonstrated the strength of our community. Together, we rallied to support affected Coast Guard members and contribute to the recovery of our area. We sincerely thank you for your commitment and response during this critical time. As a council, we have made significant strides in advancing our outreach programs, enhancing funding efforts for our operations, supporting youth groups, and strengthening our partnerships with USCG units. Notable accomplishments include the adoption of a new grant-funded software platform, which has expanded our ability to discover and connect with new funding opportunities. Additionally, our team's active participation in local events has been instrumental in promoting our mission and vision. Our nine youth groups have embraced the new school year with enthusiasm, welcoming new members and engaging in exciting activities. We anticipate another banner year ahead as they continue to thrive and grow. Looking to the future, our council has selected new board members for 2025, and we are excited about the fresh perspectives and leadership they will bring. We are confident that their efforts will propel us to even greater success in all our initiatives. Thank you all for your unwavering dedication and contributions to our programs. Let's build upon the progress we've made to achieve even higher levels of excellence in the year ahead.

Gene Mora

Council President, SMC of the Navy League



OUR SUPPORTED SEA SERVICES

USCG Sector St. Petersburg
USCG Air Station Clearwater Atlantic East
USCG Cutter Resolute Atlantic East
USCG Station Cortez



OUR SUPPORTED YOUTH GROUPS

NJROTC North Port High School
CGJROTC Pinellas Park High School
US Naval Sea Cadets Maritime Eagles-
Manatee School for the Arts Palmetto
Young Marines Venice Middle School
Young Marines Imagine School North Port
NJROTC Lemon Bay High School
NJROTC Port Charlotte High School
Venice High School Marine Corps JROTC
Charlotte High School NJROTC



SMC announces NEW PARTNERSHIPS programs to increase our funding to Youth Programs, Scholarships, and our Adopted US Coast Guard Units

We invite you to partner with the Navy League Sarasota-Manatee Council in supporting its vital mission to advocate for the Sea Services, Youth Groups and promote the welfare of our nation's maritime forces. We accept all major credit cards, Zelle, Venmo, and Bank Checks. [Click Here to Connect to Our Partners Web Page](#)

Invitation to Partner with Us

We invite you to partner with the Navy League Sarasota-Manatee Council in supporting its vital mission to advocate for the Sea Services and promote the welfare of our nation's maritime forces. By aligning with the Council, you will have the opportunity to contribute to programs that honor and benefit active-duty military personnel, veterans, and their families, as well as foster maritime education and youth development through initiatives like Naval Sea Cadet programs and JROTC scholarships. Your partnership will help ensure that our maritime community remains strong, connected, and prepared for the future. Together, we can make a meaningful impact in honoring and supporting those who serve.

Partner with Us
Let's Make a Difference Together



NLSMCPartnerships@gmail.com
<https://www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org/>



THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
(SARASOTA - MANATEE COUNCIL)

Partnership Tiers

Admiral's Club **Annual Partnership** \$5000 and Above

Benefits:

- Two (2) Memberships to Sarasota - Manatee Council
- Complimentary registration (s) for up to two (2) at all Sarasota - Manatee Council events
- Premium onsite event branding (Table Display) at selected events
- Navy League Admiral's Club Partner Name Tag
- Two (2) Navy League Lapel Pins
- Ten (10) Free Challenge Coins
- Named Scholarship

Acknowledgment for the time of your partnership:

- Main Web Page on the Sarasota - Manatee Council Website
- Anchor Line (Newsletter)
- Emails to membership
- Social media platform (Facebook / LinkedIn)
- Verbal recognition at all events

(Payment plan options available)

Captain's Club **Annual Partnership** \$1000

Benefits:

- One (1) Membership to Sarasota - Manatee Council
- Complimentary registration for one (1) at all Sarasota - Manatee Council events
- Premium onsite event branding (Table Display) at selected events
- Navy League Captain's Partners Name Tag
- One (1) Navy League Lapel Pin
- Five (5) Free Challenge Coins

Acknowledgment for the time of your partnership:

- Main Web Page on the Sarasota - Manatee Council Website
- Anchor Line (Newsletter)
- Social media platform (Facebook / LinkedIn)
- Verbal recognition at all events

Blue and Gold Club **Annual Partnership** \$500

Benefits:

- Navy League Blue and Gold Club Partner Name Tag
- One (1) Navy League Lapel Pin
- Two (2) Free Challenge Coins

Acknowledgment for the time of your partnership:

- Website on the Sarasota - Manatee Council Website
- Anchor Line (Newsletter)
- Social media platform (Facebook / LinkedIn)
- Verbal recognition at all events

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Join the \$25 for 2025: Small Gift, Big Change!

The Shipmate Partnership is a philanthropic initiative created to provide ongoing support for both our active-duty sea services personnel and the youth programs that help develop future leaders. This program invites individuals to become monthly donors by contributing \$25. The goal is to build a dependable stream of funding that supports the unique needs of active-duty sailors in the Sarasota-Manatee region, as well as the families of those who serve. Additionally, contributions will support youth organizations like the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Junior ROTC, and Young Marines—programs that teach young people about the values and responsibilities of our nation's maritime services.

The Navy League of the United States is committed to supporting our nation's sea services, including the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine. The Sarasota-Manatee Council plays a critical role in this mission, particularly with several active-duty Coast Guard units stationed in our region. The Shipmate Partnership unites supporters who value patriotism, community service, and maritime strength, ensuring our active-duty personnel, their families, and the next generation of service members are supported in both their professional and personal growth.

Your monthly donation, whether \$10 or \$25, will help make a significant impact on those who serve and their families, as well as provide life-changing opportunities for the next generation of maritime leaders.

Join us in making 2025 a year of gratitude and generosity.
Together, we can make a real difference!



NLSMCPartnerships@gmail.com
<https://www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org/>

THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
(SARASOTA - MANATEE COUNCIL)

Shipmate Partnership

Monthly Contribution
\$10 or \$25

Sign up once and sustain the giving throughout the year.
Donors have the flexibility to cancel or adjust their participation at any time.

Benefits for Donors:

- **Recognition:** Your name will be prominently featured on our website, showing your commitment to supporting our U.S. Coast Guard and maritime youth programs.
- **Navy League e-Membership:** One-year e-membership with exclusive content and updates.
- **Personalized Navy League Name Tag:** A name tag to proudly display your support for those who serve.

Your contributions have already made a significant impact, funding projects such as:

- **Enhanced Communication for Deployed Personnel:** Providing sailors with access to entertainment and communication while deployed, such as network interfaces for personal devices, helping to maintain morale and connections with loved ones.
- **MWR (Morale, Welfare, and Recreation) Items:** Supplying much-needed resources for ships and Station Cortez.
- **Recognition of Outstanding Service:** Celebrating excellence through certificates for shipwide accomplishments, special dinners for on-duty sailors, and gift cards for exceptional personnel like Sailors of the Quarter.
- **Expanded Programs:** Programs provide young men and women with the opportunity to learn about teamwork, leadership, and service to their country, while also offering valuable skills that will serve them in both their personal and professional lives.

How to Join:

- Visit: Navigate to the Sarasota-Manatee Council's partnership portal.
- Select: Choose the Shipmate Partnership option.
- Subscribe: Set up a recurring \$10 or \$25 monthly payment.
- Connect: Enjoy the rewards of being a dedicated supporter and stay engaged with our activities and community.

Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of our active-duty personnel and the next generation of maritime leaders. Support our sea services and their communities today!

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SMC Received a \$4000 Community Foundation of Sarasota County Grant to assist in Capacity Fund Raising Initiatives

The board now has an active outreach program to canvas local corporations, associations, businesses and individual partners for funding programs. With a funded program the SMC has purchased a professional Customer Relations Management (CRM) system for the engagement committee to conduct outreach programs using due diligence, identifying donor prospects with lead generations, and track all the engagements from beginning to fulfillment. The Engagement team began using this platform in September promoting our new Partnership Program outreach program and we have interested parties close to making commitments. In just the last two months the Engagement Committee Outreach initiatives have received \$7000 through the new partnership program.

Meet Our New Partners



**THANK YOU
TO OUR
ANNUAL PARTNERS**

THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
(SARASOTA-MANATEE COUNCIL)

CAPTAIN'S CLUB

GENE MORAN
CDR. Steve Bartek, USN (Ret.)

**VADM. Doug Crowder, USN (Ret.)
Mrs. Susan Crowder**

**NORTH STAR
WEALTH ADVISORS OF
RAYMOND JAMES**
Chan Sweetser, CFP®, MBA
Jared Sweetser, MBA
www.NSRA-RJ.com
Mr. James Orr

BLUE & GOLD'S CLUB

ASIALINK
ASIA'S 1ST CONNECTION
Mr. Andy Morabe
Mrs. Diana Morabe

**PREMIER DRONE
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Anchoring Our Past: Preserving Maritime Heritage for Future Generations

In honor of Veteran's Day, it feels appropriate to shine a spotlight on a nonprofit organization that many may not know about. The Navy League of Sarasota-Manatee is a vibrant organization dedicated to supporting the sea services, preserving maritime history, fostering patriotism through multi-effort community engagements. With a mission that emphasizes national security and maritime interests, this council also plays a crucial role in connecting local citizens with the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines.



Members of the Navy League of Sarasota-Manatee County include high ranking retired naval officers: Gene Moran, Navy, League President and a retired Navy Captain; Steve Bartek, Youth/Scholarships Director; Robert McChesney, Navy League Trustee and retired Navy Commander; Dick Petrucci, Retired Navy Captain, and Andy Morabe, Logistics Coordinator

The council — one of 180 councils of its kind — actively engages in various initiatives, including scholarship programs for local students. Each year, they award scholarships to outstanding seniors involved in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs and children of sea service veterans. These scholarships not only support education but also encourage leadership and community involvement among youth in Sarasota and Manatee counties. In addition to educational outreach, the Navy League of Sarasota-Manatee is committed to recognizing local Navy League of Sarasota-Manatee is committed to recognizing local service members.

The Navy League of Sarasota-Manatee exemplifies how local organizations can make a significant impact. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed. They were recently won a Platinum Mackie Award in 2023 for their communications efforts. The Mackie Awards are given annually by the Navy League of the United States to recognize councils for excellence in communications. Additionally, the Sarasota-Manatee Council was named an "Outstanding" council in the 2023 Council Performance Awards. These awards recognize councils that "strived for excellence in multiple areas throughout the prior calendar year" based on their annual reports detailing council activities. Receiving both a Platinum Mackie Award and an Outstanding Council Performance Award in 2023 indicates that the Sarasota-Manatee Council was recognized as one of the top-performing Navy League councils nationally.

On Veterans Day, some of the member of the Navy League set up a tent near the annual Parade and offered hand-outs about their organization and speaking with the public about their work in Pinellas, Sarasota and Manatee counties, as well as the nine Sarasota County schools where they promote youth outreach, one of their primary goals. It is through the school's programs that 13-16 year old boys and girls "become inspired," says Gene Moran, President of the Navy League, Sarasota-Manatee and a retired US Navy Captain.

"Our ROTC units provide learning experiences such as flight academy in Pensacola, Florida (simulators), and we support \$1,700 to individuals for them to attend." Moran says the nonprofit historically raised funding they needed through golf tournaments, but now they have introduced "tiered sponsorships" to raise the funds they need to do their good will." We also support two active Coast Guard ships stationed in St. Petersburg," Moran adds. "We buy technology for them and perks such as barbecue grills and other amenities to make the sailors' live enhanced."

Scholarship programs are an integral part of their mission. Locally, they have traditionally offered two, \$5,000 Academic scholarships and two (but last year, three) National Flight Academy (\$1.7k each) scholarships. In addition, they make cash donations to the units' operating funds. Last year that was about \$7,500. They also sponsor an Awards Luncheon in April where they recognize their best students and Scholarship awardees. Steve Bartek, a former US Navy Commander (now retired) oversees the Navy League's Youth programs and scholarships. He says "We worked with Venice High School MOROIC fund raising project, and we delivered them a check for \$12,000. And the VMS unit requested \$1,200 to help with their trip to Costa Rica which we granted. We have opportunities like this pop up ad hoc quite often."

Retired Navy Captain Dick Petrucci has been with the Navy League since 2002. "We are not a military organization per se, but a civilian group that wants to help since there is a lot of commonalities between us. Petrucci adds that they hope to attract a younger membership to raise awareness to the younger generation of how important it is to keep maritime history alive. "Freedom of the Seas is paramount to the safety of our seas and logistics for economies. We want to help people see that broader picture." Their dedication to promoting maritime heritage and supporting those who serve ensures that both current — and future generations understand the importance of our naval forces. For more information about how you can partner with them in celebrating our heroes and fostering a sense of pride within our community: <https://www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org/> Membership is \$25 yearly.

- Andrea Martone

Andrea is Sarasota Event Calendar's

Chief Editor former A & E Editor for Sarasota

Observer Newspapers

currently a public relation

consultant www.insightfulpr.com

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Recent SMC Events

Dec 18th, the Board Engagement Committee of the Navy League Sarasota-Manatee Council gathered for our final meeting of 2024, reflecting on our accomplishments and gearing up for an even more impactful 2025. It's been a year of strengthening connections, fostering community support, and championing the men and women who serve in our Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine. As we close out 2024, we are filled with gratitude for the dedication and hard work of our committee members. Together, we are ready to continue our mission in the new year with renewed energy and a shared commitment to advancing our goals.



Great time Dec 6th at the SMC 2024 Annual Meeting Luncheon hosted at The Lake Club in Lakewood Ranch. Council President Gene Moran, Ph.D., Treasurer Jared Sweetser, Secretary Gerard St. Germain, Vice President for Youth Programs Steve Bartek, Jay Plager JAG, and 1st Vice President Lorna Ow-Elroy were all voted in as the 2025 SMC Board. Guest speaker the Honorable Judge Jay Plager sparked up the crowd with an informative talk on his journey through his Law career, Washington DC, and how our government works inside the beltway.



In December, the Navy League of the US Sarasota-Manatee Council participated in the Sarasota National Cemetery Wreaths Across America to Remember and Honor our veterans by donating to the wreath fund. SMC supported youth groups the US Naval Sea Cadets Maritime Eagles Manatee School for the Arts Palmetto and the Young Marines Venice Middle School joined in laying the remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.



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Recent SMC Events

Super evening at Gecko's November 13 celebrating the USMC's 249th Birthday with the USMC and the SMC Navy League members. Guest Speaker George Thompson from the Young Marines Venice Middle School entertained the crowd with the many virtues of teaching our youth the core values so important in carrying on the strength of our nation. Cake cutting honors was performed by the youngest Marine CAPT. Dean Krom – Head of the Young Marines Imagine School Northport and the oldest Marine present Richard Borkowski. In line with tradition a USMC Mameluke sword was used to cut the cake.



Veterans Day November 11, SMC members were in full force at a promotional stand for the Sarasota Veterans Day Parade center stage. Handouts and interviews about our council's mission for our youth groups and supported Coast Guard units kept them busy throughout the morning as civic leaders spoke to the crowd around the dais. Young Marines Imagine School Northport marched in the parade and provided the color guard.



SMC raised over \$3000 through our web site to support the US Coast Guard families in the area who were directly affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Coast Guard families and personnel suffered damage to their personal homes, property, and vehicles.

A screenshot of the Navy League of the United States Sarasota-Manatee Council website. The page features a header with the organization's name and logo. Below the header is a navigation menu with links to Home, About, President's List, Membership, Support, Scholarships, Awards, News, and More. The main content area is titled "Special Collection to Support Local US Coast Guard Families Dealing With Damaged Homes From Hurricane Helene". It includes a paragraph explaining the purpose of the collection and a note that all proceeds will be administered by local US Coast Guard Commands. Below this is a form for donations, with fields for Frequency (One Time), Amount, and a Comment (optional). A "Donate" button is at the bottom of the form. The page also includes a small "9/1/20" date stamp.

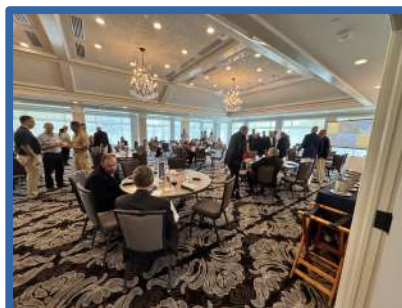
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Recent SMC Events



In October, the SMC Engagement Team participated in the opportunity for fund raising at the Non-Profit Charity Expo at University Park Country Club. Board Members Steve Bartek, Jared Sweetster, Lorna Oh-Elroy and Bob McChesney spoke with many attendees on fund raising and partnering for our mission supporting our nine youth programs, college scholar-ships as well as our support for the adopted Coast Guard Units and Merchant Marines.

Fantastic turnout for the 249th Navy Birthday Celebration Luncheon at the Laurel Oaks Country Club on Oct 03. Bryan McGrath (CDR USN ret) the founding Managing Director of The Ferry Bridge Group LLC, noted navalist and the primary author of the US Navy's 2007 Maritime Strategy "A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower" was the guest speaker. In the audience were honored guests Dionel Aviles former Under Secretary of the Navy, RADM (ret) Rick Buchanan, and Alexander Catechis from Sen Rubio's Office and Edward Valdez from Congressman Buchanan's Office. Cake cutting honors were Richard Plager 96 years old and Abigail Buhr 9 years old. Flag Duties were performed by the Imagine School Young Marines Color Guard. Stay tuned as planning for next year's event as it may turn into a Navy Ball.



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OUR SUPPORTED SEA SERVICES

USCG Sector St. Petersburg
USCG Cutter Resolute Atlantic East

USCG Air Station Clearwater Atlantic East
USCG Station Cortez



It was an honor for SMC VP Lorna Ow-Elroy and Secretary Jerry St. Germain to present our NL awards to the USCG Cutter Resolute's past three Sailors of the Quarter (SOQ) Awardees at the flight deck Quarters 19 Dec.

XO LCDR Panciocco read the orders for the following awardees:

- Jan-Mar 2024: ME3 Nicholas Sweet
- Apr-Jun 2024: MK3 Colton Hardin
- Jul-Sep 2024: FN Steven Underhill

Additionally, congratulations to several other sailors who received designation certificates, promotions, and medals. As the Resolute prepares to deploy to the eastern Caribbean in early January, we wish the crew fair winds and a safe return.

U.S. COAST GUARD STATION CORTEZ HURRICANE CLEANUP

Station Cortez is making steady progress in our recovery from Hurricane Helene. We are incredibly grateful for the support of our Coast Guard community and the tireless efforts of our team as we work to rebuild and restore operations. Together, we're stronger, and we will come back even more resilient. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand during this challenging time. Stay safe, and let's continue to look out for each other!



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OUR SUPPORTED SEA SERVICES

USCG Sector St. Petersburg

USCG Cutter Resolute Atlantic East

USCG Air Station Clearwater Atlantic East

USCG Station Cortez

USCG STATION ST PETERSBURG HURRICANE CLEANUP



In the wake of the recent hurricanes, our crew has come together with unwavering determination to tackle the challenges ahead. They have rolled up their sleeves to clear the wreckage and assess the damage to our station, pouring their time and effort into every detail of the restoration. Together, we are committed to not just restoring our station, but also reinforcing the spirit that defines us. It's a testament to their resilience and dedication to the mission, showing that we can overcome any obstacle when we stand united. Their quick action and hard work ensure the success of our life-saving mission and enable us to provide critical support to the community in this time of need.

U.S. Coast Guard Station Cortez and US Coast Guard Station St Petersburg crews helped two men, Dec 18th, after their boat's battery died, 15 miles off Egmont Key. The men activated a personal locator beacon and sent a satellite text to a friend notifying the #USCG of their location and type of distress. They were brought ashore



It is with great pride that we congratulate MK2 Blanchard on being named U.S. Coast Guard Sector St Petersburg Sailor of the Year—an honor that he has earned through his performance and dedication. Throughout the year, his exceptional work ethic and accomplishments have made a lasting impact. Notably, MK2 Blanchard spearheaded a \$4,000 project to renovate the station's engineering and deck department floors, significantly enhancing the safety and professionalism of our work environment. He also provided invaluable engineering support to the Coast Guard Cutter Sea Devil during its month-long voyage from Washington State to Kings Bay, Georgia, ensuring the crew's safe and efficient transit. In addition, during both hurricanes this year, his quick action and unwavering readiness to relocate the 45' RBM allowed the station to quickly resume operations. MK2 Blanchard has also played a vital role in countless search-and-rescue missions, saving many lives in the process. Through his dedication and outstanding contributions, he has brought immense credit to both the Coast Guard and Station St. Petersburg. Bravo Zulu, shipmate!



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SMC Adopted ship Coast Guard Cutter Resolute crew returned home in October, offloads approximately \$115 million worth of drugs in St. Petersburg. Resolute's crew deployed to the Caribbean Sea for 38 days in support of Joint Interagency Task Force-South (JIATF-South), an interagency and international task force that conducts counter-illicit trafficking and security cooperation operations in the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. During their patrol, the Resolute crew was strategically positioned to deny drug trafficking organizations access to maritime smuggling routes from Central and South America to prevent harmful narcotics from reaching the United States. Resolute is a 210-foot, Reliance-class medium endurance cutter home ported in St. Petersburg. The cutter's primary missions are counter drug operations, migrant interdiction, enforcement of federal fishery laws, and search and rescue in support of U.S. Coast Guard operations throughout the Western Hemisphere. Bravo Zulu Resolute!!!! Welcome Home.



Recently US Coast Guard Station St Petersburg's boat crew responded to an urgent report of a man in distress aboard a disabled vessel. Upon arrival, the crew assessed the individual, who was in and out of consciousness and displaying symptoms consistent with a suspected heart attack, raising concerns. The situation was critical, and U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater arrived swiftly alongside station Saint Petersburg to provide assistance. Our crew members executed a successful hoist operation, safely transferring the patient onto the helicopter to ensure he received the immediate medical care he required.

Council President and Board Members visit USCG Station Cortez Oct 2nd to meet the crews and present Sailor of the Quarter Awards to BM2 Alaina Stonestreet SOQ for the 2nd quarter and SN Kendrick Cannick the SOQ for the 3rd quarter. Well Deserved



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OUR SUPPORTED SEA SERVICES

**USCG Sector St. Petersburg
USCG Cutter Resolute Atlantic East**

**USCG Air Station Clearwater Atlantic East
USCG Station Cortez**



A U.S. Coast Guard Station Cortez boat crew medevaced a woman, Dec 16th, accompanied by her husband, from the cruise ship Serenade of the Seas, 2 miles west of Egmont Key. The female required higher level care & was transferred to awaiting emergency medical services at Station Cortez.

BZ to Coast Guard crew:

- BM2 Phillips
- MK2 Hernandez
- MK3 Lanier
- MK3 Wilcox

A huge shoutout to MK2 Tibbetts for earning U.S. Coast Guard Station Cortez Sailor of the Quarter (SOQ)! His outstanding leadership and dedication as a section leader have truly set him apart. MK2 continues to show exceptional growth, excelling in every qualification and demonstrating what it means to be a stellar shipmate. In addition to this prestigious recognition, he received a Letter of Commendation for his numerous accomplishments. Bravo Zulu, MK2 Tibbetts—keep up the amazing work!



This November, the U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Resolute crew members participated in the Great American Teach-In. The Great American Teach-In provides an opportunity for members of the community to visit schools and speak with students about their occupations. A few of our members talked to 3rd-5th graders about the Coast Guard and even brought our small boat for the kids to tour.

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Charlotte High School NJROTC

November 16th - We participated in Gold Head State Park Orienteering. Cadet Payne received 5th place overall on the "green" course which is the hardest course, Cadet McClanahan received a personal medal for fastest time on the "orange course", and Cadet Clement received a personal medal for fastest time on the "yellow course."

November 18th - Coast Guard Field Trip to Station Fort Myers Beach - 55 cadets attended and received their sea ribbon!

November 23rd - Iron Bear Competition at Central High School. Charlotte High cadets took 2nd place in the tug of war and the 100-yard relay. Great day to be a Tarpon!

December 7th - Field Meet Competition at Gaither High School. We will be entering a Color Guard, Armed and unarmed routines. We are looking forward to a great day!

December 20th - Christmas Party where the Seniors go bowling this year.

Venice High School Marine Corps JROTC

Nov. 5th – CFA for Naval Academy Candidates

Nov. 7th – Color Guard – Venetian

Nov. 8th – Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Class

Nov. 9th – Sarasota HS Marksmanship Comp

Nov. 9th – Venice Viking Football Parking

Nov. 9th – Venice Yacht Club Color Guard

Nov. 10th – Marris Point Color Guard and Flag Folding

Nov. 11th – Heartis Color Guard – 1000

Toscana Isles Color Guard – 1100

Brooksdale Senior Living Color Guard – 1200

Ledbetter Law Group Color Guard – 1600

Nov. 13 – Navy League Marine Corps Ball

Nov. 15 – Football Parking

Football Color Guard

Nov. 20th – ASVAB

Nov. 22th – Football Parking

Football Color Guard

Nov. 23rd – Turkey Trot Parking for TWIG 5K

Color Guard for 5K

Nov. 29th – Football Parking

Football Color Guard

Nov. 29th – Set up for Venice Holiday Parade

Nov. 30th – Staging crew (20) Cadets for getting all floats in correct order for the Parade

DECEMBER

Dec. 3 – Army Recruiters in Classroom

Dec. 4th – Baseball Team – Teach basic drill facing movements

Dec. 5th – Baseball Team – Conduct the MISSION workout

Dec. 6th – Football Game

Football Color Guard

Dec. 6th – HOLIDAY Party Lock-In at VHS for all Cadets

Dec. 7th – Boat Parade Parking Detail

Dec. 11th – HOST Marksmanship Competition

Dec. 11th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

Dec. 12th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

Dec. 13th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

Dec. 14th – Toys for Tots – 9 to 12

Dec. 16th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

Dec. 16th – Booster Meeting

Dec. 17th – Army ROTC & Navy ROTC Representatives

Dec. 18th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

Dec. 19th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

Dec. 20th – Toys for Tots 2:30 to 5:00

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NJROTC Lemon Bay High School

-LBHS completed its Annual Military Inspection on 19 Nov.

LBHS Color Guard:

- Color Guard supported LBHS Veteran's Day ceremony.
- Color Guard supported Englewood Elementary School Veteran's Day ceremony.
- Color Guard supported Englewood's Water-Fest "Block Party" parade on Dearborn St. in Englewood
- Color Guard will support "National Wreaths Across America Day" in Englewood on 14 December

LBHS Honor Guard:

- The Honor Guard will support "National Wreaths Across America Day" in Englewood on 14 December.

LBHS Orienteering Team: (cross country running where they navigate the course with map and compass)

- Nine cadets competed across multiple skill levels at Gaither High School's orienteering meet on 9 Nov. Best student ranking was 6th of 26.

LBHS Rifle Team (air rifle/pellet target shooting):

- NJROTC Rifle Team competed in a competition week of 26 Nov.
- LBHS NJROTC 34 cadets participated in an annual NJROTC multi-event athletic competition called "Iron Bear", held at Central High School (Brooksville, FL) on 23 November. We placed 3rd in two events.

NJROTC Port Charlotte High School

North Port NJROTC continues to be steadfast with activities and events:

- Our Athletic Team participated in Brooksville Florida Iron Bear Competition. Out of 13 events the team placed 1st in two events, 4th in another event, and 5th in two other events.
- Participated in 4 different Veterans Day Events for Brentwood Elementary, Heron Creek Middle, North Port Veterans Park, and City of North Port / North Port Performing Arts Salute to Veterans Presentation.
- Completed Annual Military Inspection for Captain Todd Libby from Norwich University out of Vermont.
- Executed 5 Color Guard Events for Local Organizations (Which one was performed with Venice Young Marine Program)
- Marksmanship Team has competed in Scopus National Air Rifle League...current record is 6-1.
- Cyber Patriot Teams participated in Round 2 of the National Youth Cyber Program.
- Academic Team competed in 2 Brain Brawls located in Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale.
- Participated in 7 community service events.
- Promoted 5 cadets to the rank of Chief Cadet.

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NJROTC Port Charlotte High School

Cadets at Port Charlotte HS have been busy supporting the football team as they entered the playoffs and had a home game every Friday night in November. Cadets provided the Color Guard, Parking Detail, and cannon fire for the team touchdowns.

PCHS Cadets participated in the Iron Bear Field Meet in Brooksville FL placing 5th of 25 schools on the obstacle course.

They hosted a community blood drive and supported Color Guards for Veterans Day Celebrations.

Cadets competed in the Joint Leadership Academic Bowl, Qualifying for the semifinals.

In December we went to the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda, as well as competing in the state marksmanship competition at Brooksville and local Marksmanship competition in North Port FL. We will be supporting a recycling event with keep Charlotte County Beautiful as well this month.

US Naval Sea Cadets Maritime Eagles Manatee School for the Arts Palmetto

14 DEC 24 0700 – 1300 Wreaths Across America Sarasota National Cemetery

02 NOV 24 0700 – 1300 Stand Down, Manatee County Fair Grounds, 1402 17th Street West, Palmetto, FL Gate 3, Parking across the street at Palmetto High School



Young Marines Venice Middle School

-Wreaths Across America – placing them at cemeteries.

-Recruit Promotion

-2nd Quarter Team Building Event (SkyZone) – Field trip

-Color Guards for our events: NPHS/Navy Birthday 03OCT24

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Young Marines Imagine School North Port

- November 1st Block Party for Upper Campus from 4-8pm. Young Marines helped working on bounce houses, helped with games, handed out water and helped clean up afterwards.
- November 6th. We had a Navy Recruiter come by and talk with Young Marines about joining.
- November 8th We helped at LaMarque Elementary at their Fall Festival. Worked bounce houses, sold hot dogs and pizza and water. 4-8pm
- November 16th. Our monthly visit to Gallery of North Port Retirement Home. We visit with the Veterans playing Corn Hole of Bocce Ball the later we have a great lunch with them and talk with them. 10:00am - 1:00pm
- November 19th we had Marine Corps Recruiter come talk to Young Marines about joining.
- December 7th Poinsettia Parade in North Port. Whole Unit will march in Parade.
- December 14th. Wreaths Across America at Sarasota National Cemetery. 7am -1pm
- December 14th North Port Performing Art Center 6-8pm
- 3 Young Marines will be helping Toys for Tots collect toys from people coming in to see the show.
- December 21st. 4 Young Marines we will be visiting the Veterans at the Gallery of North Port. We go there every month for 3 years now.

Charlotte High School NJROTC

- Charlotte High School conducted its annual military inspection on November 4th at approximately 0730
- Throughout the month of December the cadets volunteered more than 60 hours with the Wreaths Across America and the Botanical Gardens helping with the holiday season.
- December 7th - Field Meet Competition at Gaither High School. We placed 5th in academics and 3rd place in unarmed exhibition.
- December 20th - Christmas Party at Bowland which was a resounding success!