

# NM Nautical News

Official Newsletter of the  
New Mexico Council  
Navy League of the United States



**NAVY LEAGUE**  
*of the United States*  
“Citizens in Support of the Sea Services.”

**NEW MEXICO**  
**Council**



MARCH 1, 2016

[www.nmnavyleague.com](http://www.nmnavyleague.com)

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Did you know that you can get the latest issues of Sea Power magazine in an App? Go to your mobile device App Store and search on "Navy League".



## Secretary of the Navy visits University of New Mexico



SECNAV at UNM Naval ROTC briefing

(U.S. Navy Photo by Armando Gonzales)

Story By Dick Brown –

United States Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus, brought his vision of leadership to students and toured a cutting edge laboratory during a brief visit to the University of New Mexico campus on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

During his visit, he toured the UNM Center for Emerging Energy Technologies (CEET) and gave a brief presentation entitled Visionary Leadership: Looking Beyond the Horizon, which focused on how his policies and priorities for the Navy and Marine Corps have helped shape the future of this 900,000-person organization and how these lessons can translate to civilian organizations.

The presentation was held in the Centennial Engineering Center Auditorium on the UNM main campus, where the faculty, public and local military members had the opportunity to meet Mabus and ask questions.

**Thank You!** When you keep your dues up to date with the Navy League national office, our council receives a stipend for each active member. This makes a big difference in our ability to support our namesake ships, our youth, and the local active and reserve.

## 2016 COUNCIL OFFICERS

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## NAVY LEAGUE NEW MEXICO COUNCIL

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**Mark Schaefer**

*Newsletter Editor*

## NM Nautical Quiz!

Q1: What is a Pirate's favorite letter of the alphabet?

Q2: How much did the U.S. government pay for the first commissioned submarine, the USS Holland (SS-1) in April 1900?

(see page 7 for answers)



To contact the editor, write to Mark Schaefer at [usnam@comcast.net](mailto:usnam@comcast.net).



## President's Message



**Chuck Vaughan**  
President, New Mexico Council  
(Photo courtesy of Rick Carver)

### Hello Navy League members and friends!

2015 was a busy year for the New Mexico Council and 2016 is shaping up to be another very busy year for the New Mexico Council of the Navy League. On Saturday, April 9th, John "Jay" Donnelly, Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy, retired, will be in Albuquerque as our guest speaker for our observance of Submarine Day. April 11, 2016 will be commemorated by the United States submarine community as Submarine Day; on April 11, 1900 the American Government purchased its first commissioned submarine, the USS Holland (SS-1). We will celebrate Submarine Day on Saturday evening, April 9th; look for additional details in this newsletter.

In addition to the events of April 9th, the New Mexico Council will be giving out twenty awards to Navy and Marine Corps JROTC students this spring. The Council will also be working with the U. S. Navy Office of Community Outreach to celebrate Navy Week in Albuquerque September 12 - 18, followed by participating in a mid-October Navy Birthday Ball. While all this is going on the Council will continue to provide support to the crews of the

USS Albuquerque (the submarine will be decommissioned later this year), the USS Santa Fe (SSN-763), and the USS New Mexico (SSN-779).

I've previously written about two missions, anti-submarine warfare and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance performed by U. S. Navy attack submarines. Today I want to write about another mission performed by U. S. Navy attack submarines; that mission is the projection of power ashore with the Tomahawk Land Attack Missile (TLAM).

The USS Santa Fe and 29 other Los Angeles class attack submarines have the capability, with vertical launch tubes, to launch TLAMs.<sup>1</sup> The USS New Mexico and all other Virginia class submarines have the capability to launch TLAMs from vertical launch tubes or Virginia Payload Tubes.

The TLAM is an all-weather, long range subsonic cruise missile used by the U. S. Navy for land attack warfare. TLAMs have a range of 800 miles or greater;<sup>2</sup> consequently a submerged U. S. attack submarine has the capability to attack land targets many miles ashore - hence the phrase "project power ashore".

Because a TLAM can be launched from an undisclosed location, and flies at low altitudes at high subsonic speeds,<sup>2</sup> its launch and flight will be difficult to detect and defend against.

1. U. S. Navy Fact Sheet: Attack Submarines - SSN. <http://www.navy.mil/navydata/factprint?cid=4100&tid=100&ct=4&page=1>. Accessed 02/15/2016.

2. U. S. Navy Fact Sheet: Tomahawk Cruise <http://www.navy.mil/navydata/factprint?cid=2200&tid=1300&ct=2&page=1>. Accessed 02/15/2016.

Contact me any time at [chuck.vaughan@comcast.net](mailto:chuck.vaughan@comcast.net)

or by mail at the New Mexico Council's P.O. box address.

# Namesake Ships



## USS New Mexico (SSN-779)

### Change of Command

Story and Photos by Dick Brown –

At USS NEW MEXICO's fourth Change of Command ceremony on January 8, 2016, CDR Daniel Reiss relieved CDR Todd Moore as the submarine's Commanding Officer. Due to winter weather, the ceremony took place indoors at the Dealey Center theater at Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, CT. Commanders Reiss and Moore read their orders in the presence of the Commodore of Submarine Development Squadron 12, CAPT Leonard Dollaga, and 200 attendees.

CDR Moore, who assumed command on September 16, 2013, had the once-in-a-lifetime experience of participating in under-ice operations (ICEX 2014) and made history when NEW MEXICO became the first VA-class boat to surface at the North Pole. Then in 2015, CDR Moore guided the boat on her second 6-month deployment in European Command's Area of Responsibility where the boat's assigned missions included testing experimental gear and supporting various fleet exercises. CDR Moore explains, "It is a difficult and dangerous business to take a submarine to sea, but we have the finest sailors in the world who make it look easy every day." Guest speaker, CAPT Michael Brown, USN(ret), mentioned that Sixth Fleet Commander, VADM James Foggo, is calling NEW MEXICO's deployment the best in 2015.

CDR Dan Reiss already has valuable VA-class experience. He served as Operations Officer and Navigator aboard USS VIRGINIA and is a USS MISSISSIPPI plank owner where he served as the Executive Officer. He is looking forward to his NEW MEXICO command and acknowledged the crew rising to every challenge under CDR Moore's leadership. "That is a tradition we will carry on as we face new challenges, so Todd and every other sailor who has served on this boat can continue to say proudly, 'I am a New Mexico Submariner!'"

CDR Moore's next duty assignment, beginning this Spring, is at the Naval War College in Newport, RI. In the meantime he will be doing operations planning at COMSUBDEVRON12 for two months.



CDR Dan Reiss delivers his remarks at the Change of Command ceremony.



NM Council President CAPT Chuck Vaughan presents engraved pen set to CDR Moore, a change of command gift on behalf of our local Navy Leaguers.



Commanders Moore and Reiss shake hands in front of the ceremonial cake.

## USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) reports in from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard



The Commanding Officer of USS Albuquerque sent us an update via email about the status of the Albuquerque going into inactivation.

CDR Don Tenney says, "The boat still looks like a submarine but we are getting more and more temporary cables and lines every day and

eventually we will barely be recognizable. The crew is now down to about 110 but they are working effectively and I am confident that we will be able to keep up with the pace of the inactivation."

"Because we have had some extra time on our hands (waiting for 3 months for the inactivation to start) the crew has gotten involved in some community service. We have been working with a local women's and family shelter and with Habitat for Humanity."

We can certainly be proud of the fine sailors on the Albuquerque. Thanks for your service!

If you would like to learn more about our **Namesake Ships** named after New Mexico Cities, Counties, Tribes, Rivers, and Regions, then go to

**NMNAVYLEAGUE.COM**

## Make plans to join Admiral Jay Donnelly in Albuquerque for Submarine Day on April 9th

You are invited to our 11th Event ...

# NETWORK NAVY!

Navy League of the United States  
New Mexico Council

Invites you to celebrate  
**National Submarine Day 2016**  
**Special Reception & Dinner**  
**Saturday, April 9, 2016 5-9 pm**  
**Sheraton ABQ Airport Hotel**  
2910 Yale Blvd SE



**Guests:** VADM John 'Jay' Donnelly USN (Ret)  
Navy League of the United States VP & National Director  
VP of Program Integration & Assessment for Huntington Ingalls Industries  
U.S. Naval Academy Graduate 1975 \* Served 35 years in the U.S. Navy  
Final Assignment Commander Submarine Forces

**USS New Mexico (SSN-779)** CDR Daniel Reiss, crew & wives  
**USS Albuquerque (SSN-706)** CDR Donald Tenney & crew

\$40.00 per person / Make reservations and pay online at [www.nmnavyleague.com](http://www.nmnavyleague.com) or send check payable to NLUS New Mexico Council to PO Box 91554, Albuquerque, NM 87199. Or email John L. Jones at [entranso@aol.com](mailto:entranso@aol.com)

Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_  
Alcoholic Beverages available (separate purchase) / Business Casual

The Navy League, the civilian support organization for our nation's sea services, is classified by IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization so your contribution may be tax-deductible. Navy League of the U.S. New Mexico Council, P.O. Box 91554, Albuquerque, NM 87199

See the special "Network Navy!" insert to this newsletter, fill it out, and plan to come to Albuquerque's Sheraton ABQ Airport Hotel for the night of Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Guest speaker VADM John 'Jay' Donnelly will be in town, and the topics are sure to be enlightening.

We plan to have the Sea Cadet Triton Battalion perform the ceremonial duties, we will have some special guests from the USS New Mexico (SSN-779) and the USS Albuquerque (SSN-706), and there will be what we have been told is a "fantastic" chicken or vegetarian dinner and a new challenge coin to add to your collection, all for just \$40.

Please plan to join us. As usual, we look forward to seeing you all there!

## Index of New Mexico Ships - 31 Total

### State

USS New Mexico (BB-40) Commissioned 20 May 1918

USS New Mexico (SSN-779) Commissioned 27 March 2010

### Cities

USS Santa Fe (CL-60) Commissioned 24 November 1942

USS Albuquerque (PF-7) Commissioned 30 December 1943

USS Alamogordo (ARDM-2) Commissioned 5 June 1944

USS Gallup (PF-47) Commissioned 29 February 1944

USS Los Alamos (AFDB-7) Commissioned March 1945

USS Tucumcari (PGH-2) Commissioned 15 July 1968

USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) Commissioned 21 May 1983

USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) Commissioned 8 January 1994



## Navy League New Mexico Council Needs Your Help to Present 2016 Youth Awards



Grants High School JROTC Cadet Alexis Preable was presented the Theodore Roosevelt Youth Award at her school's awards ceremony last May by CAPT Tom Gutierrez and Rebecca Vigil. (*Photo from Rebecca Vigil*)

Story by Mark Schaefer

Each year in April and May, the Navy League New Mexico Council presents the Navy League's Theodore Roosevelt Youth Award to outstanding Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) cadets and Naval Sea Cadets. The award consists of a medal, ribbon bar, certificate, and pamphlet about President Theodore Roosevelt whose visage is on the medal.

If you would like to help present these meaningful awards to our high school graduating seniors, then contact Victor Mendoza ([vmen686@gmail.com](mailto:vmen686@gmail.com)).

Our Council supports 20 Navy and Marine Corps JROTC units throughout New Mexico, and each unit requires a presenter. Thank you!



## Albuquerque Chosen as Navy Week Host 12-18 September, 2016

Albuquerque Journal Staff Report

Albuquerque has been announced as one of 15 U.S. cities selected this year to host a Navy Week, one of the Navy's signature outreach programs. Albuquerque Navy Week is scheduled for Sept. 12-18, which also coincides with the New Mexico State Fair. The program is designed to give area residents an opportunity to learn about the navy, its people and its importance to national security and prosperity, organizers said in a news release.

Navy Week's week-long celebration will include events featuring:

- Navy divers and Navy explosive ordnance disposal teams;
- Sailors from USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world;
- Navy band musical performances;
- Senior Navy leaders, who will engage with local corporate, civic, government and education leaders;
- Navy simulator(s) and other interactive displays; and
- Community service projects, visits to area schools and visits with local veterans.

"Navy Weeks are designed to help Americans understand that their Navy protects and defends America on the world's oceans, that their Navy is deployed around the world around the clock, and is ready to defend America at all times," said John Wallach, deputy director of the Navy Office of Community Outreach.



(Photo courtesy of archive.defense.gov)

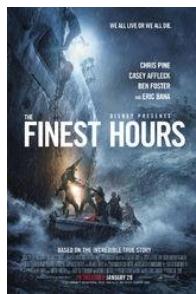
## Congratulations to our 2016 Council Officers    Coast Guard Movie Review – "The Finest Hours"

The results from your ballots were counted on a snowy day in early December during the Council's annual meeting. Congratulations to 2016 Navy League of the United States, New Mexico Council officers:

President Chuck Vaughan  
Vice President Victor Mendoza  
Treasurer Shannon Kawane  
Secretary Kris Vaughan

Thank you, all, for your votes. A special thank you goes to Angie McKinstry for preparing and mailing the ballots.

I'm hearing great things from friends about the new Coast Guard movie called "*The Finest Hours*" that is in theaters now. You might want to check this one out for yourself. Here is the Fandango synopsis....



*This docudrama depicts the incredible true story of a daring Coast Guard rescue operation off of Cape Cod during a ferocious storm in the winter of 1952. When an oil tanker splits in half, trapping its crew aboard the sinking vessel, four brave Guardsmen set out to save them.*

## Awards for Our Namesake Ship Crews

Congratulations to CDR Poe, CDR Foret, LCDR Carter, Chief Gonzales, and the officers and crew of the USS Santa Fe for winning the prestigious 2015 Submarine Squadron Seven Battle Efficiency "E" award. The Battle Efficiency Awards recognize sustained superior performance in an operational environment. Eligibility for these awards demands day-to-day demonstrated excellence in addition to superior achievement during certifications and qualifications conducted throughout the competitive period. Personnel of ships and units that win the Battle "E" are authorized to wear the Navy "E" Ribbon and Battle "E" device on their uniforms. The USS Santa Fe also won the Navigation green and red "N", the Weapons white "W", and the Golden Anchor award for retention!



Congratulations to the USS Albuquerque's LTJG Lemons, LSC(SS) Reynoso, CSC(SS) Venegas-Ramirez for winning Submarine Squadron Eleven's 2015 Supply Readiness blue "E" award. Great support to our namesake ship!

## Index of New Mexico Ships – 31 Total

### Counties

USS Bernalillo County (LST-306) Commissioned 11 December 1942  
USS Eddy County (LST-759) Commissioned 25 August 1944  
USS Sandoval (APA-194) Commissioned 7 October 1944  
USS Torrance (AKA-76) Commissioned 18 November 1944  
USS Catron (APA-71) Commissioned 28 November 1944  
USS Valencia (AKA-81) Commissioned 9 January 1945  
USS Hidalgo (AK-189) Commissioned 4 August 1945

## Cavalcade of Wings Needs Your Help

For the Naval Aviators out there, or for anybody with an aviation interest, the Navy League has been asked if we have any volunteers to help out the Cavalcade of Wings at the Albuquerque airport. I'm sure you have seen this fantastic collection of detailed model airplanes on the ticketing level. Here's more from Dick Brown on the need:

Hi Navy Leaguers,

Not all of you know LCDR Harry Davidson, USN(Ret). This former Navy Leaguer is responsible for the 900 airplane models you see at the Sunport main terminal (where we have our exhibit). Harry started Cavalcade of Wings over 40 years ago and built all the exhibits at his own expense. I wonder if he's ever been recognized or honored for all he has done to educate the traveling public about NM aviation.

Harry has moved to an assisted living facility in Rio Rancho and is selling his ABQ house. His wife is in Ruidoso recuperating from an illness. Harry is rapidly losing his eyesight so he is unable to drive or work on models or use computers. During the state centennial he donated dozens of models of NM namesake ships to cities throughout the state.

Cavalcade of Wings is a 501(c)3 with a BOD and Harry heads up the organization. He is looking for an assistant chair and a chairman to take over. He's asking me if we know anyone who might be interested in taking over this organization.

He has models of the frigate USS Gallup and the WWII diesel submarine USS Raton (pronounced Ray-tawn). I offered to find homes for these in Gallup and Raton.



If you know anyone or any organization that might be interested in maintaining the Cavalcade of Wings models and running the organization, let me know and I'll connect you to Harry.

There is a great Cavalcade of Wings website. Go to [www.albcow.com](http://www.albcow.com).

# Nautical Items of Interest

NEW MEXICO  
Council



## Rocky Mountain Region News - Naming another 4 corners submarine - USS Utah (SSN-801)



Besides visiting the UNM campus on his trip to the Rocky Mountain Region, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus travelled to our sister state of Utah. While in Salt Lake City, Secretary Mabus announced the naming of our next Virginia Class fast attack submarine to be USS Utah.

The USS Utah will be SSN-801, and that aligns with the area code for Utah's capital of Salt Lake City (801).

The New Mexico Council congratulates Utah for this great honor. Let us know how we can help!

(U.S. Navy Photo by Armando Gonzales)

## United States Naval Academy STEM camp 2016

Consider asking the teenagers you know to sign up for the U.S. Naval Academy's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics seminar this coming summer. Open to rising 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> graders, this is a great introduction of science majors to your young family members. The picture shows a high school group on a yard patrol boat studying sonar. The cost is a fraction of most STEM camps, the USNA campus is a beautiful place to visit, and this looks great on a college resume. See [www.usna.edu/admissions](http://www.usna.edu/admissions) for more on the STEM camp and the dates in June of 2016.



## Index of New Mexico Ships - 31 Total

### Tribes

- USS Apache (1889) Commissioned 11 June 1898
- USS Acoma (SP-1228) Commissioned 18 October 1917
- USS Navajo (AT-64) Commissioned 26 January 1940
- USS Zuni (ATF-95) Commissioned 9 October 1943
- USS Jicarilla (ATF-104) Commissioned 25 February 1944

### Rivers

- USS Cimarron (AO-22) Commissioned 20 March 1939
- USS Rio Grande (AOG-3) Commissioned 10 April 1943
- USS Caliente (AO-53) Commissioned 12 October 1943
- USS Tularosa (AOG-43) Commissioned 10 January 1945
- USS Gila River (LSMR-504) Commissioned 24 March 1945
- USS Cimarron (AO-177) Commissioned 10 June 1981
- USNS Pecos (T-AO-197) Commissioned 23 September 1982

### Regions

- USS White Sands (ARD-20) Commissioned 1944

### Honorary

- USS BULLHEAD (SS-332) Commissioned 4 December 1944

Quiz answers from page 2 →

## Answers to NM Nautical Quiz!

Q1: What is a Pirate's favorite letter of the alphabet?

Ah, ya might think it's the "R", but it's really the "C" that he loves... shiver me timbers!

Q2: How much did the U.S. government pay for the first commissioned submarine, the USS Holland (SS-1) in 1900?

Costing less than some sports cars of today, the Navy paid \$150,000 for the USS Holland in April 1900. She was later sold for scrap in 1913 for \$100.

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES  
NEW MEXICO COUNCIL  
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Navy League of the United States New Mexico Council, P O Box 91554, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87199-1554. The Navy League is classified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax-deductible.

## 2016 Upcoming Events for Navy League, New Mexico Council

Mar 19	USNA Admissions Forum – La Cueva High School
Apr 1	First day for USNA applicants to apply to Class of 2021 on-line @ <a href="http://www.usna.edu">www.usna.edu</a>
<b>Apr 9</b>	<b>NM Council Network Navy Submarine Day Event in Albuquerque w/ VADM Donnelly</b>
Sep 12-18	Navy Week in Albuquerque
Oct 1	Navy @ Air Force football – Colorado Springs, CO
Oct (date tbd)	Navy Birthday Ball in Albuquerque
Nov 5	Navy / Notre Dame football – Jacksonville, FL
Nov 11	Veterans Day Celebrations
Dec (tbd)	Annual Navy League of the United States New Mexico Council Meeting
Dec 10	Army-Navy football – Baltimore, MD – 1 pm Mountain time