

ON-WATCH

Flotilla 11-S-16-05

Coronado Bay, California

November 2009



A PARTY FOR EVERYONE!

On the third Tuesday in December we have our annual Holiday Party. This is our number 1 fourth cornerstone event of year. The purpose of this party is to have fun and fellowship. We have a gift exchange and awards ceremony.

Over the years we have had the party in different locations with different prices. In all the years Lee and I have participated in one way or another, mostly by providing the entertainment. When we first started out the price was \$8.00 per person. As the years pass the price has gone up. Our goal is to keep the price affordable price so everyone in the Flotilla would be able to attend.

A few years ago, Jack Swartz decided that we should collect cans and bottles to recycle. Jack said that we could offset the price with the money we collected from recycling the cans and bottles. The plan worked very well over the years. We have been able to keep the price down by \$8 or \$9 dollars per person, depending on how many cans and bottles we recycle. After Jack's passing, the recycling program got somewhat off course. Last year, Andy Anderson kept the recycling on course as best he could, but Andy needs a lot of help with this. Remember that the third Tuesday of each month is our Flotilla Meeting and our Recycling Tuesday. Bring your cans and bottles to the meeting and give them to Andy. If you want, you can turn them in yourself and bring the money to the meeting to give to Andy. By participating in this program we are doing two things; protecting the environment as Coast Guard members, and subsidizing our party. The question always arises; "When you are paying for your dinner are you subsidizing anyone else's dinner?" The answer to the question is, "No."

Submitted by Jim Davis

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Color Guard



In August of 2008 I had the pleasure of meeting Will Tisch, then FC 1-5. Will and his wife Eileen were visiting the Cutter *Eagle* during its visit to San Diego, when I was a docent on board. Will told me about participating with the Coast Guard Auxiliary Color Guard, and I told him that I was interested in becoming involved.

Since then I have joined the group, and participated in three events: the Auxiliary Change of Watch ceremony in February, the Coronado Fourth of July parade, and most recently the presenting of our nation's colors at the [San Diego Padres game](#) against the Washington Nationals on August 31st. It was a great honor and privilege to be carrying our National Ensign, and a thrill to be on the baseball field at Petco Park in front of many thousand of fans.

Commander Will Tisch started the Color Guard in 2006. The Auxiliary Color Guard has performed in the Veterans Day Parade, 4th of July Parade, Chargers Football Game, Padres Baseball Games and funeral services. We have also participated in memorial

IN STEP

services for the sailors of the USS Bennington tragedy held every year at Fort Rosecrans by the Sons of the American Revolution. We have also performed duty aboard the USS Midway for the Military Photo Unit of Veterans.

The active guard also consists of Angie Ginn, Frank Harris and Bill Beacom.
Submitted by Randy Houk





USS Makin Island

The next time you are on patrol; keep an eye out for one of San Diego's newest homeport ships, the USS Makin Island. Makin Island arrived in San Diego in September but was not commissioned until October 24, 2009 in Coronado. The commissioning included the breaking of the commissioning pennant, in which the ship "comes alive" and the crew

run's aboard, and thereafter the ship was accepted as a United States Ship (or USS). She has been dubbed the "Prius of Navy warships".

She is the last amphibious assault ship in the LHD-1 Wasp-class, but is the first built with Gas Turbine Engines and Electric Drive. What is unique, compared to previous LHD class, is that she has no Steam for heating or water production (this no chemicals typically associated with Steam). It is projected that over her lifetime she will save almost \$250 million dollars in fuel costs. In fact, on her voyage to San Diego from Pascagoula, Miss., she consumed 900,000 gallons less in fuel than a steam ship on the same route. That's \$2 million in fuel costs in one trip! Also, keeping with her green reputation, she uses an electric plant to power auxiliaries and uses reverse osmosis water purification systems which negate the need for other chemicals.

The USS Makin Island also contains historical artifacts to remind the crew of their namesake and the importance of the raid on Makin Island in the Pacific, during WWII. Part of the crews mess decks include General Evans F. Carlson's medals and flag, which are from the Naval History and Heritage Command. General Carlson, a colonel at the time, commanded the raid on Makin Island during WWII. They will soon be receiving an original Marine Raider Uniform worn during the raid on Makin Island.

The USS Makin Island also has on loan, some San Diego Naval History. She currently houses the bell from the USS Tarawa, which was decommissioned March of this year at the San Diego Naval Base. The bell was being stored at the Naval History and Heritage Command. When the Makin Island put in a request for a bell the curator offered the Tarawa's bell, which has over 40 years of Naval History. Appropriately enough, approximately 10 percent of the crew from the USS Tarawa was reassigned to the Makin Island.

For more information on the USS Makin Island, see the ships website at: www.makin-island.navy.mil/DEFAULT.htm



Article and pictures from the following sources: www.Military.com, www.makin-island.navy.mil/DEFAULT.htm, www.navy.mil/local/lhd8, www.wikipedia.org, www.navy.mil

Veterans' Salutes

Many members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary are veterans or the armed forces. Did you know that veterans can now salute as if they were still on active duty in uniform? Traditionally, veteran's service organizations were allowed to render salutes during the National Anthem and events involving the Flag only when wearing their organizations official head-gear. But now all veterans can salute regardless of head gear or uniform.



A Federal Law under the Defense Authorization Act of 2008 went into affect which allows for a hand-salute during the raising, lowering, or passing of the Flag. The salute can be offered by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. However, this 2008 version of the Federal Law did not address rendering a salute during the National Anthem.

The most recent change now also authorizes the hand-salute while the National Anthem is playing. This provision, which is a part of the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, was sponsored by Oklahoma Senator and Army Veteran, Jim Inhofe. So the next time you are at an event or in a situation involving our Flag you can offer your salute proudly.

See (US Code Title 4, Chapter 1) and <http://policelink.monster.com/news/articles/124673-new-law-authorizes-veterans-salutes-during-national-anthem>



Nautical Terms

A "Mae West" – the name for a personal flotation device designed for fliers during WWII. It was named after the 1930s actress Mae West because when inflated it resembled her well-known hourglass figure. It is pictured below:



Edited by FSO-PB Kelly Hairgrove



Our Final Holiday Dinner as Flotilla 16-05

******Reservations required by Dec. 6th******



Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2009
Time: No Host Bar 6:30 PM and Dinner 7:05 PM
Place: Coronado Yacht Club
1631 Strand Way, Coronado, CA

Holiday Traditional Buffet

Chef Carved Baron of Beef & Oven Roasted Turkey

**Fresh Caesar Salad & Spinach Apple Almond Salad,
Baby Red Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine, Mediterranean Grilled
Vegetables, Aujus & Creamy Horseradish
Assorted Baked Breads & Rolls, Butter
Gourmet Coffee Station & Iced Tea
Assorted Mini Pastries**

Price: \$29.50 each (includes tax, gratuity & entertainment) Send checks payable to: US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 16-05 C/O John McColly at 621 Cabrillo Ave., Coronado, CA 92118

Entertainment by **J2 (Jay & Janet)
We Will Also Have Door Prizes!**

Gift Exchange, ladies bring a ladies' gift, men bring men's gift marked, "his" or "hers" (\$5 maximum).