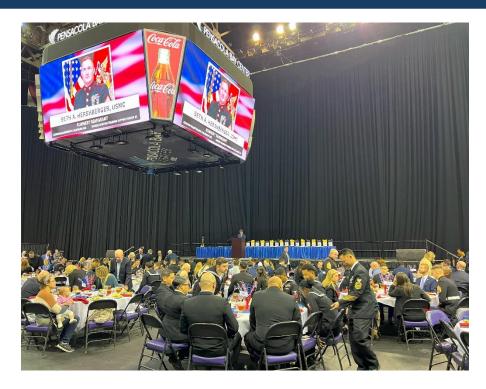
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NEWS FROM THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES PENSACOLA COUNCIL







Military Recognition Day

Military Recognition Day honors military members who have demonstrated significant community service. The Pensacola Council recognized those members during a luncheon and ceremony, most recently held on February 27, 2025 at the Pensacola Bay Center. Each year honorees are nominated by their commands and each nominee is recognized, with one outstanding military community service leader selected for the prestigious Margaret Flowers Civic Award. Margaret Flowers was a retired civil service employee who left a legacy of service to both the U.S. Navy and her community. This year the committee selected Petty Officer Austin D. Reneau, USN, Naval Aircrewman (Operator) First Class (Naval Aircrew/Aviation Warfare), Avionics Training Department, Naval Air Technical Training Center. Petty Officer Reneau is a Course Supervisor, directing and mentoring eight instructors delivering the AWO Acoustic Strand to new accession Sailors. He is an Assistant Command Fitness Leader and coordinated 10 physical training events and five physical readiness tests. He dedicated 205 hours to the community, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to making a difference. He volunteered at People's Hospice and Palliative Care and Pensacola Emerald Coast Hospice Care Center. He is the Crisis Text Line Operator, responding to 142 calls to provide critical assistance to individuals in distress. In addition, he organized 120 personnel for NATTC's Gulf Beach Highway clean up. He is a volunteer instructor for CPR and Basic Life Support training. Well Done Petty Officer Reneau!

A Word from our Council President

Greetings Friends and Members of the Pensacola Council Navy League. The first quarter of 2025 has been busy for our council. Quick highlights since the new year include: Three Board of Director's meetings, a Coast Guard unit return to port and a dual Sailor of the Quarter and Sailor of the Year ceremony, our Military Recognition Day Luncheon (a.k.a. Margaret Flowers Award), and participation in the Japanese U.S. Military Program Day. I would especially like to thank ALL of our membership for their immense volunteer contributions throughout the past year, which drove key items in our annual report to National. For those keeping score, I am confident and proud to report that we are engaged ALL YEAR LONG! What's next? During the National Convention in June, the results will be announced for those councils that surpassed the minimum requirements of: Citizens in support of our Sea Services. Enjoy the articles and photos that are contained herein, and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Evan

Very Respectfully Yours, CDR Evan A. Hipsley, Jr., 1813, USN, Ret.

USCG Search and Rescue Event

On 12 Jan 2025, USCG Station Pensacola received a distress call from F/V OUR MOTHER, a 75' shrimping vessel, for a crewmember suffering from a significant chest injury. The vessel was located 15 NM east of Pensacola approximately four miles offshore. While attempting to adjust the anchor line in 8-10' seas, the crewmember lost their balance and fell, resulting in a heavy impact to their sternum onto the vessels starboard cleat. The impact collapsed and separated his sternum and punctured his right lung. A crew from Station Pensacola and NAS Pensacola Fire Rescue launched onboard CG45673. Given the severity of the prevailing conditions, the decision was made to have the vessel transit closer to Pensacola Pass to facilitate a MEDEVAC to avoid having to transfer the individual at sea and risk further injury during the transfer or ride back on the smaller vessel. Once on scene with F/V OUR MOTHER, the coxswain maneuvered alongside and kept station allowing for a boarding team and EMS personnel to board the vessel and assess and stabilize the victim. The boarding party utilized a stokes litter to safely lower the injured crewmember onboard CG45673. CG45673 immediately departed and delivered the victim to USCG Station Pensacola, where an ambulance was waiting to rush the individual to surgery at Baptist Hospital. The surgery team commented that they were surprised the individual was alive upon arrival, but underwent successful surgery and lived. The actions taken by the crew of CG45673 and NAS Pensacola Fire Rescue directly resulted in saving their life.





Foiling Event

The world-renowned Foil Week made a splash for the first time in Pensacola, Florida running from February 24 – March 2, 2025. The event was the first and only global event of its kind dedicated to a range of foiling boats and boards, bringing together athletes, designers, and manufacturers from across the globe. The Pensacola Navy League participated in the celebration on Saturday and Sunday, March 1st and 2nd, 10 am – 5:30 pm, at the Community Maritime Park.





Coast Guard Cutter Walnut

Pensacola's own - Coast Guard Cutter WALNUT - was recently selected as the Coast Guard's 2025 Medium Morale Programs of the Year. This award recognizes the ship's focus on the readiness, retention, and resiliency of the Coast Guard family. Each command will receive recognition at a suitable award ceremony.

CGC WALNUT has consistently prioritized enhancing crew morale and well-being through a variety of recreational and support initiatives, such as attending Pensacola Blue Wahoo's games, Ice Flyers games, and hosting weekly sports days. Recently, WALNUT has also established teams that compete in several Navy MWR leagues, including football, basketball, and golf, providing an excellent opportunity for the crew to bond outside of work. One of the most notable events was WALNUT's role as the centerpiece for the Blue Angels Airshow, drawing 270 visitors over three days. These activities have helped foster a strong sense of community that extends well beyond the Cutter; strengthening engagement and camaraderie aboard the Cutter and with families and friends.





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