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# The Rope Yarn Gazette

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
**Navy League of The US Yuma, AZ**



**Yuma's Navy League**

**Proud Sponsor:  
Wreaths Across America 2024**

***2024 - A SEASON OF REFLECTION, HONOR, AND JOY***







DEC 2024

**2024 Council Officers**

*President*

Dean 'doc' Hager

*Vice President*

Nancy Ramsey

*Treasurer*

Rochelle Thompson

*Secretary*

Winnie Moir

*Judge Advocate*

Bob Engelhardt

*Membership*

'doc' Hager

*Community Liaison Team*

Dean Hager (Chair)

Arlyn Duval

Mike Swift Jr. & Sr.

*Scholarship Committee 2024*

Completed

**Questions / Comments?**

**Letters to the Editor?**

**Please contact us at:**

**NLUS Yuma Council**

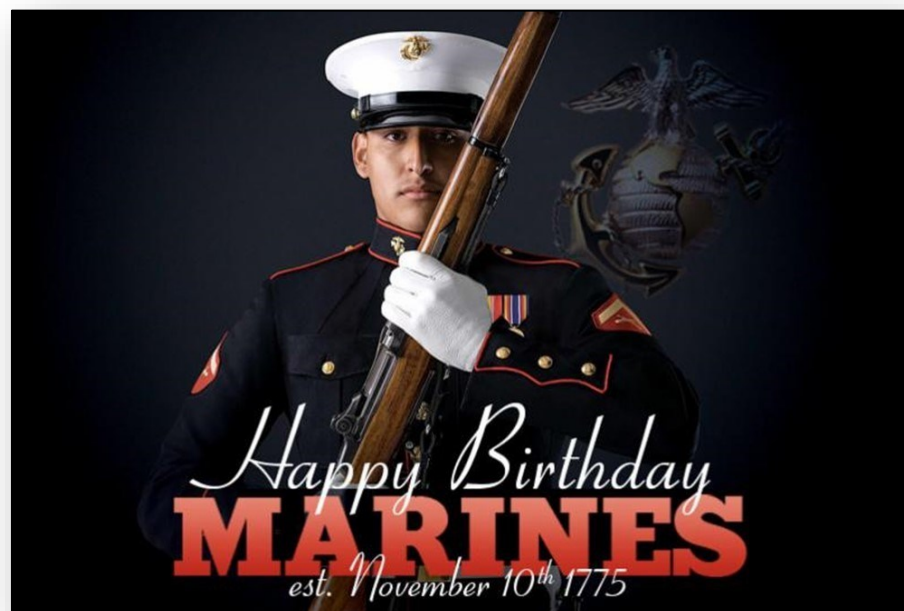
**PO Box 393**

**Yuma, AZ 85366**

**U.S. NAVY LEAGUE**



As we reflect on a successful 2024 season meeting all Council objectives, we can take pride in fulfilling our League's mission here in Yuma - once more. 2025 brings new challenges. Our USNS Yuma ship replica project is being well received throughout our community with funds either received or being pledged. The return of the Tunnels to Towers 9-11 Museum display (this time at the MCAS Yuma Air Show in March) is a testament to our Councils commitment to assisting our active duty and civilian community's patriotism flourish. RECRUITMENT IS A PRIORITY this year and will be our primary focus throughout all 12 months. As we finalize details for our annual car show in just a few weeks, we can be assured 2025 wont be boring. Semper fi!



**ATTENTION MEMBERS!**

**NEED TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP?** Don't let your membership expire. Checking your date is easy. You can log in to NL National's web page to check. ...even RENEW on-line right there!

**QUESTIONS?:** Email us via yumanavyleague.com or even attend a general meeting, they're open to the public. Meetings are always emailed to council members and advertised on our Facebook page. Current member renewal question?: contact 'doc' Hager.



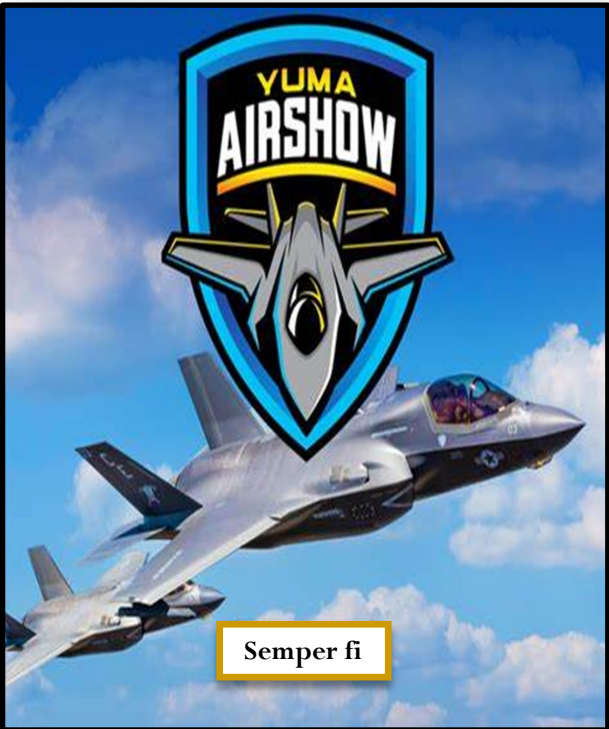
**COUNCIL EVENTS**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD HE 2nd THURSDAY AT THE YUMA AIRPORT BOARD ROOM, 2ND DECK, 1200-1330.**

JAN 09	1200-1330	GENERAL MEETING	YCAA BOARD ROOM
FEB 13	1200-1330	GENERAL MEETING	YCAA BOARD ROOM
MAR 13	1200-1330	GENERAL MEETING	YCAA BOARD ROOM

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

JAN 13	1000-1100	VIET NAM VETERANS RECOGNITION EVENT YUMA AZ VETERANS HOME (NLUS CO-SPONSOR)	
JAN 18	0800-1430	ALL COUNCIL MEMBER VOLUNTEER FUND RAISER NAVY LEAGUE'S "CRUISIN' YUMA" CAR SHOW	
MAR 15	0900-1500	MCAS YUMA AIR SHOW, 9-11 DISPLAY SUPPORT & INFO TABLE	





## FOUR NEW AMPHIBS PROPOSED

By Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor, Sea Power Magazine

WASHINGTON – The secretary of the Navy has notified Congressional leaders that the Navy will pursue a block buy of four amphibious warfare ships — one America-class amphibious assault ship (LHA) and three San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ships (LPDs) — through fiscal year (FY) 2029.

The move potentially would save U.S. taxpayers “nearly \$1 billion through additional efficiencies,” said U.S. Senator Roger Wicker, R-Mississippi, the highest-ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, who released the following statement in response:

“Today is a great day for American shipbuilding and our Navy’s ability to deter China in the years ahead,” Wicker said. “As I have long noted – including in my recent “Peace Through Strength” report – the multi-ship buy of warships is a cost-effective way to provide stability for the industrial base on key shipbuilding programs. I look forward to seeing these contracts through to their execution, and I believe that additional benefits could be obtained if we increase funding for material procurement in bulk.”



Specifically, the block-buy would encompass the following ships:

- LPD 33 in FY25
- LPD 34 in FY27
- LHA 10 in FY27
- LPD 35 in FY29

Paul Roden, chairman of the Amphibious Warfare Industrial Base Council, issued the following statement regarding the block-buy decision:

“Today is a historic day for the amphibious warship industrial base. Our suppliers have been advocating for a multi-ship buy for years. So, we are thrilled to see lawmakers, the Navy and Marine Corps listen to our concerns and reach this deal, which will provide the predictable funding that our suppliers urgently need. Not only will this block buy save the taxpayers nearly \$1 billion, but it will provide over 650 companies across 39 states with the stability we need to invest in our skilled workforce, get ahead of inflation and ensure on time deliveries. The companies of the amphibious warship industrial base are extremely proud of their contributions to our national security and will deliver the highest quality parts and services for these future amphibious warships.”

The three LPDs would be built in the Block II configuration, which features the Raytheon-built SPY-6(V) 2 Enterprise Air-Search Radar.

The four ships in the procurement would be built at the HII Ingalls Shipbuilding shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

*COUNSEL HIGHLIGHTS*

**HONOR AND REFLECTION**

**OCTOBER:** Our fall season as usual was a busy time. Council members attended the Yuma Navy Ball and were not disappointed. Ceremonies were well done, professional, and struck a good balance between honoring our Naval Service and reflecting on past sacrifices by fellow sailors in times of conflict. Next was a visit to the MCAS Chapel and donating funds to assist junior Marine families vetted by the base chaplain, CDR Potter, USN - providing Thanksgiving food baskets for up to 40 families. And a big thanks to “Cee Cee” who helped us get 'er done!



**US NAVY BALL  
YUMA 2024**

## What an outstanding November!

### General Meeting:

- Our thanks to our guest Greg McShane, LtCol USMC ret for a great overview of MCAS Yuma operations and its value to our nation.
- Also, a shout out to League member Shelly for a heads up on a potential new horse & saddle therapy local opportunity for veterans.
- And...it was our honor this fall to donate \$2,000 to *Wreaths Across America* too!

### Gold Star Families Memorial Dedication:

- The Council was glad to support the Yuma Orchid & African Violet Association in the public dedication of Arizona's first Gold Star Family roadside marker.
- Thanks to our own Council President 'doc' Hager as the event's Keynote Speaker.

### Veterans Parade:

- Once again, council members joined in and received lots of waves from the crowd. Top it off w/a great brunch at the Yuma Landing! Thanks Nancy, Gloria, Bob and Winnie for representing!





*COUNSEL HIGHLIGHTS*



**DECEMBER:** Our Naval Sea Cadets came through once more and assisted Council members ring the bells for Yuma's Salvation Army red kettle drive. Our thanks to Cadet parents who supported this effort - plus Sea Eagle Squadron leaders, Gordon and Arlyn who made this another very successful event. Our Christmas social was well attended with a pot luck dinner and our annual tree ornament gift exchange. Thanks to Gloria who shared her home (and all the Santas surrounding us!). Well wishes to all and a Happy New Year!



**NLUS YUMA  
COUNCIL**

PO Box 393  
Yuma, AZ 85366



## USNS YUMA Project 2025

*The Yuma County NLUS Council invites you to be a Legacy Sponsor of our latest Community Patriotism Project: the USNS YUMA Replica.*



The USNS Yuma replica will be a detailed mahogany ship model, approx. 3 feet in length with its own display case, representing all of Yuma AZ. Our council is planning on fabrication to begin this Spring with delivery within four months of our order. A dedication ceremony downtown is planned (tentatively) for October 2025.

E-mail:

nlusyuma@  
nlusyumacouncil.org

American liberty is built on a  
strong national sea service.

"Speak softly and carry a big stick;  
you will go far"  
US Pres. T. Roosevelt

We're on the web!  
www.nlus-  
yumacouncil.org

"LIKE US" on Face Book  
www.facebook.com/  
navyleagueyuma

Legacy Sponsors names will be engraved on a brass plate within the display. We request donations of \$500 to be pledged or received by March 01, 2025. Any funds remaining at this project's completion shall be used in direct support of Yuma Veterans Charities or JROTC Youth Leadership programs.

The Navy League of the United States Yuma Council is a not-for-profit 501c3. EIN letters of donation receipt are available upon request.

CONTACT OUR TEAM at tel: (928) 3042239 and  
say its for the YUMA SHIP PROJECT!

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# Happy Holidays!