

# The Rope Yarn Gazette

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

## Yuma Council Members meet our 2024 US Navy Blue Angels for a “Big Steak Night”



MARCH: YUMA COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ENJOYED A GREAT DINNER AND MET OUR LATEST BLUE ANGELS TEAM. OUR THANKS TO OUR HOSTS, THE IMPERIAL VALLEY NAVY LEAGUE COUNCIL.



14 Yuma council members & friends braved the rain and made it the Imperial CA council's "Big Steak Night" to introduce the 2024 US Navy Blue Angels. As is the custom, Yuma members hosted the US Marine Corps C-130 pilots at our tables.

A Fun night!





MAR 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*

Brent Laarman

### Questions / Comments?

**Letters to the Editor?**

**Please contact us at:**

**NLUS Yuma Council**

**PO Box 393**

**Yuma, AZ 85366**

## U.S. NAVY LEAGUE

2

With a network of more than 200 councils representing more than 37,000 members around the globe, the Navy League is the foremost citizens' organization to serve, support and stand with all U.S. sea services - the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S. flagged Merchant Marine. Decade after decade, the Navy League has demonstrated its leadership in advocating superior sea power to safeguard U.S. national security, protect American economic interests and ensure freedom of the seas.

The Navy League has three missions: to enhance the morale of active-duty personnel and their families; to advocate both congress and the American public on the importance of strong sea services; and to support youth through programs such as Yuma's Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Junior ROTC and Young Marines - exposing young people to the core values of our sea services and nation.

Here in Yuma Arizona, our members have always risen to the challenge. These past few months show once again what a small group of dedicated volunteers can do over and above the standard council mission taskings.

This past October saw the successful cumulation of five months work in partnering with city officials in raising the funds to bring the Tunnels to Towers 9-11 mobile museum to town. The first visit to Yuma ever, and hosted by NL volunteers, the 2-day event saw over 3,000 citizens tour the display.

Then before we knew it, our January Car Show was on deck! Supporting JROTC programs, the Navy League's "Cruisin' Yuma" reached a new record for attendance both in vehicles and public participation. 2024 budget needs were met and then some.

But we were just getting started. In March - after three months of hard work - our council successfully partnered with 32 local Vet services agencies, active duty Marine Corps, Army, and VA personnel to host the 6th annual Yuma Military Appreciation Day downtown Main Street. Celebrating Yuma's historic connection with our military, hundreds of veterans and local families converged to peruse VET service and youth leadership info booths, view live K9 and EOD robotic demonstrations, enjoy the block party live music and even stop by our booth to grab our brochures and say "Thank you" for the event. With luck, we may see a few new potential NL members. Our grateful thanks to all our sponsors who provided the requisite funds to make this event happen and a big BRAVO ZULU to our council member volunteers who put in the hours necessary to make it look easy.

A reminder: As Yuma snow birds take flight and events slow down in summer's heat, please take the time to read our National Presidents' Two Year Vision for our League published in the latest CONNECTIONS recently emailed to all members. Looks like we're pulling our weight, shipmates!

Warm Regards,  
*Dean 'doc' Hager, CAPT USNR ret*  
*President, NLUS Yuma Council*

**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.



**2024 DONATION EVENTS**

<b>YUMA YOUTH BURN FUND</b>	<b>MAR 2024 - COMPLETED!</b>
<b>NAVY &amp; MC RELIEF, MCAS YUMA</b>	<b>APR 2024 - COMPLETED!</b>
<b>YOUTH PROGRAMS (3)</b>	<b>APR 2024 - ON SCHEDULE!</b>
<b>SCHOLAR AWARD</b>	<b>MAY 2024 - ON SCHEDULE!</b>
<b>AZ VETS HOME SERVICE FLAGS</b>	<b>MAY 2024 - ON SCHEDULE!</b>
<b>MCAS / SMP / BALL FUND</b>	<b>JUN 2024 - ON SCHEDULE!</b>

**COUNCIL EVENTS**

- 19 APR GENERAL MEETING, 1800-2000, THE CROSSING REST.  
GUEST TOPIC: MC JROTC SCHOLAR WINNER & PROGRAM REVIEW
-  05 MAY NAVAL SEA CADETS - YUMA SEA EAGLE SQUADRON AWARDS EVENT,  
1800-1900, CIELO VERDE CONFERENCE RM, AZ
-  14 MAY MC JROTC AWARDS EVENING - KOFA HS  
1830-1930, JROTC PARADE FIELD, 1830
- 23 MAY GENERAL MEETING, 1800-2000, THE CROSSING REST.  
TOPIC: Celebrating Yuma's USMC Memorial's Two Year Anniversary  
Guest VIP: Sr, USMC official (tbd).
- 08 JUN COUNCIL BBQ & POT LUCK,, GLORIA'S CASITA  
1700—?, YUMA FOOTHILLS
- JULY NO MEETING
- 29 AUG GENERAL MEETING - WELCOME BACK



**YOUR NAVAL TERM OF THE DAY: O Dark Thirty**

A slang term that is used to describe that the commencement time of an operation or exercise is after midnight and before daylight; most typically when people would be deep asleep. It is not a reference to any particular time.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

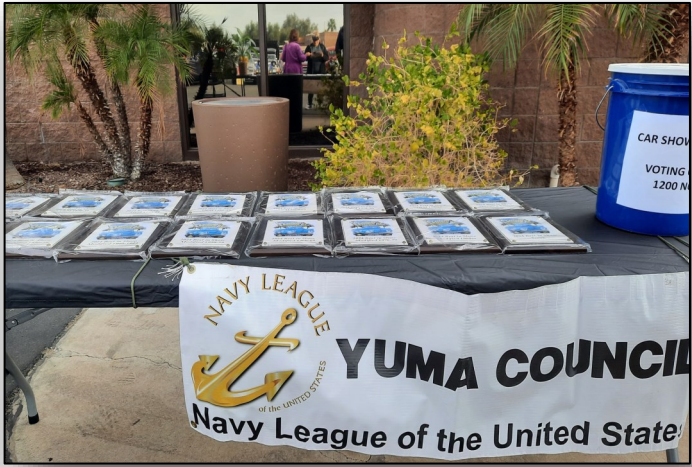
JAN: Opening the 2024 Car Show season, our council did not disappoint! With a record number of custom cars on display, thousands of attendees enjoyed the music, great displays, food, and smooth event operations expected of the Navy League. Smiles all around, our 50/50 and gift basket donation buckets overflowed.



Thanks to the Fortuna de Oro RV Resort and their generous use of their site. Setup was the smoothest in memory. Our team of resort and league volunteers once again ensured vehicle check in and table top sales were w/o complaint throughout the event. Opening ceremonies were greeted with applause as the MC JROTC color guard presented the colors.

An annual fund raiser for college scholarships and sea service veterans in need, 2024's proceeds matched our proposed annual budget easily.

**Can't wait for 2025!**



HIGHLIGHTS



**Yuma Child Burn Survivor Fund receives \$1,000 donation from Yuma's Navy League Council (29 February 2024).**



Thanks to Gowan Company's generous NL Patriotic Event fund sponsorship of last Fall's 9-11 visit, we found ourselves with a small balance from FY2023. With a unanimous vote from members, a donation of \$1,000 was awarded to the Yuma Youth Survivor Burn Fund, keeping funds in Yuma for Yuma.



US ARMY JROTC coming to Yuma High this fall!

Yuma NL Council members received an introductory brief by "Yuma Criminals" JROTC Sr. Instructors, Army Maj James Branch, USA Ret. and 1st Sgt Jeffery Conway, USA ret. at our March general meeting. The council welcomes another JROTC program in town and will pledge to help sponsor skill competitions with our Kofa HS MCJROTC unit.

**Congrats Yuma Criminals!**

**MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY**

MARCH: Taking the lead for 2024, our NL Council assisted the Military Affairs Council in hosting the 6th Yuma Military Appreciation Day downtown Main Street Yuma. Thanks to both our MCAS H&HS Marines and Yuma Sea Cadet Corps for color guard service. With opening ceremonies from skydiving to VIPs from both military bases and our State capital to live demos & free Veterans breakfast & lunch, the crowds has much to see and enjoy.



**OPENING CEREMONIES**

As our nation's flag unfurled overhead, guests, local officials, and Yuma citizens stood tall as our national anthem played.



**MORE HIGHLIGHTS**



MARCH: Council leaders from throughout our region converged on US Naval Base Coronado. In addition to briefings by our National President, members toured historic PACFLT HQ buildings and the USS Carl Vinson.



**Thanks to our regional president, Kevin Button, for making this happen.**



**Elks Lodge 476** receives Golden Anchor Award from Yuma's Navy League Council for sponsoring community STEM activities.



As part of their commitment to our Yuma community, Elks Lodge 476 donated \$2,000 to the Yuma Navy League in support of our sea service youth leader programs. Lodge representatives (L>R) Sean McKeown and Connie Beshears receive our plaque recognizing their gift. Participating were Council VP Nancy Ramsey and Pres. Dean 'doc' Hager.

VP Ramsey stated, "events such as these raise awareness of local Junior ROTC, Young Marines, and Naval Sea Cadet programs. It is a privilege to accept this award for programs that help build the character of our young men and women."

NLUS YUMA  
COUNCIL

PO Box 393  
Yuma, AZ 85366

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



LODGE 476



AMERICAN VETERANS OF YUMA

**Thanks to our 2024 partners in our  
mission to support our sea services,  
veterans and JROTC**



## UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS BATTLE COLOR CEREMONY



**Warm regards and a big BZ to MCAS Yuma for  
another great Commandants Own presentation!**