



**Naval Submarine League
Pacific Southwest Chapter
June 2020 Newsletter**

[http://
pacificsouthwest.navalsubleague.com](http://pacificsouthwest.navalsubleague.com)
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**Our Program for June 9th, 2020 at 11:30 am
"The View from Ballast Point And All That Is New"
With Captain Brien W. Dickson, Commanding Officer
Naval Base Point Loma**



Captain Dickson is the Naval Base Point Loma Commanding Officer. He entered the Navy following high school graduation from Casper, Wyoming. He graduated with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering. He has served for over twenty years as a Submarine Warfare Officer.

After basic submarine and nuclear training, his first assignment was onboard the USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSN 642), where he served as in a number of capacities including Damage Control Assistant. While on board, the ship conducted deployments to the Western Pacific supporting various Naval Special Warfare missions as the Pacific's only Dual Dry Dock capable ship. In August, 1997 he reported to the University of Nebraska NROTC Unit as Assistant Professor of Naval Science, where he earned a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering. Following advanced submarine officer training, he reported to the USS OHIO (SSBN 726) (Blue) as the Strategic Weapons Officer. He completed three patrols including the last C-4 Follow-on CINC Evaluation Test before entering shipyard to begin the USS OHIO's conversion to become the first SSGN. He worked as a Submarine Ballistic Missile Planner assigned to United States Strategic Command from January 2004 until December 2005. Serving as the USS LA JOLLA (SSN 701) Executive Officer, he deployed to the Western Pacific in 2006. Following a tour as the Operations Officer for Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, he took command of the USS JEFFERSON CITY (SSN 759). Under his command, JEFFERSON CITY deployed to the Arabian Gulf in 2011-2012 earning a Meritorious Unit Citation and was awarded the Battle "E" for 2012. Following command of SSN 759, he served as the Deputy Commander for Training on the staff of Commander Submarine Squadron ELEVEN and as Director, Operational Support for the Chief of Naval Operations (N2/N6F21).



Captain Dickson is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal. The Naval Submarine League recognized him with the RADM Jack N. Darby award for inspirational leadership and excellence in command for the year 2013.

June Will Be Different—And Virtual

A lot has happened in and around our lives. And in keeping with the guidance from medical and governmental sources, our June 9th Meeting will be Virtual and carried on via the internet.

Oceanview is closed at least through the month of June, but Captain Dickson has offered to be our guest speaker by whatever means is available. In addition, June is the month for our officers election and we have plans evolving that will allow the election to take place. So, on the following pages, please find:

- A Summary of our Fiscal Year (April through March) which was just submitted to NSL Headquarters. A very active year as you will see.
- The Slate of Officers as proposed by the Nominating Committee. This Slate to be voted on during the June 9 meeting.
- The Agenda for the June 9th Virtual Meeting, including some of the preliminary information on the protocol and methodology to be employed for the 11:30 am Virtual Meeting.

Sam Ward, President
(pres@nslpacsw.com)





NAVAL SUBMARINE LEAGUE

Pacific Southwest Chapter

2019-2020 Activities

The Pacific Southwest Chapter continued to be on a "roll" throughout the year, until the COVID Virus changed things, as it did for most of the world. The April 2020 scheduled events got wiped off the slate and the COMSUBPAC Sailor of the Year activities and the Submarine Birthday Ball got re-imagined or cancelled, as did our April Luncheon and Forum. However, before the recent dramatic changes, our luncheons continued to be the high points in our outreach and activities plan. We had an outstanding group of speakers throughout the year that brought with them interesting and professionally related topics for our attendees. Our average attendance was at about 65, but we were pleased to see active duty attendees when they could break from their busy schedules. It was gratifying to see Midshipmen at several of our meetings from the NROTC Unit here which combines the students from five of the local colleges and universities. Our speakers included: Commodore Chris Cavanaugh, COMSUBRON ELEVEN, Retired CDR Ray Ferbrache "China's Submarine Force", CAPT Brien Dickson, CO of Naval Base Point Loma, CAPT Tim Slentz, CO of Naval Base Coronado, CAPT Mike Dowling, CO of the Tactical Training Group Pacific, Retired CAPT Zoltan Kelety, Marine Superintendent, Scripps Institution of Oceanography "Flooding Casualty on USS DOLPHIN", CAPT Eric Cooper, USCG, CO Maritime Security Response Team West, RADM Tom Ishee, Director, Undersea Warfare Division, (N97) and Retired CAPT Charlie MacVean "Admiral Rickover-Up Close and Personal". The Chapter has begun the practice of recognizing a sailor at each luncheon with the presentation of passes to either the MIDWAY Museum or the San Diego Maritime Museum. The sailor to be recognized at each luncheon is selected by the COMSUBRON ELEVEN Command Master Chief.

Tours are always high on the list of "Items of Interest". The tours are always predicated on asset availability. The Chilean submarine CS O'Higgins was enroute to San Diego when she was turned around to return to home port to comply with the COVID guidance from Chile. We were able to tour the USS ESSEX (LHD-2) in the Fall of 2019. Time with the Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing was highlighted with "flight time" in the MH-60 Simulators. Tours of the Submarine Learning Center, the USS ALEXANDRIA and the Marine Mammal Facility rounded out our touring. We participated in the welcoming of USS ANNAPOLIS as she arrived in San Diego and we were also in the send off activities for USS PASADENA. In January 2020 we asked to participate in the grand sail away ceremony for the Peruvian submarine BAP ANGAMOS. Gifts were exchanged and we watched them get underway for their 30 day transit home after their very productive and professional exercises with all manner of US Navy assets in the SOCAL areas.

Although the COMSUBPAC Sailor of the Year activities were scheduled for San Diego, they got realigned into a virtual event which allowed the finalists to remain in their respective homeports. Still, we honored the terrific achievements of the winners as we provided VISA Cards to the COMSUBPAC Ashore and Afloat winners and the COMSUBRON ELEVEN Senior and Junior Winners Ashore and Afloat. The Chapter also honored the 2019 SUBRON ELEVEN Battle Efficiency Winner—USS HAMPTON. In this case we have given money to the submarine's FRG (Family Readiness Group) for them to use as needed. We likewise assisted in the arrival festivities for USS ANNAPOLIS.

The Chapter continues to increase interactivity with the NROTC Unit which is physically located at the University of San Diego. Currently the Sophomore Class instructor is a submarine qualified Lieutenant who served on an SSN in San Diego and so he has been very keen on elevating NSL awareness among his students. And as always, we stand ready to support the Freddie Warder Award as requested.

The Chapter was led during this period by:

President—CAPT Sam Ward, USN, (Ret.)
Vice President—Mr. Bruce Renne
Second Vice President—CMDM JR O'Donnell and Jeffrey
Hiscocks, USN, CSS11
Treasurer—CAPT Keith Fargo, SC, USN, (Ret.)
Secretary—CAPT Charlie MacVean, USN, (Ret.)

CAPT Sam Ward with the CO and XO of
the Peruvian Submarine BAP ANGAMOS





NSLPACSW Proposed Slate of Officers 2020-2021

The following Slate of Officers has been proposed by the Nominating Committee.

The Election shall occur during the June Meeting unless otherwise specified by the current President.

Nominations from the floor may be accepted.

The elected Officers shall serve until a successor is elected.

The Slate of Nominees is:

- ♦ President: Mr. Bruce Renne, currently serving as the Vice President
- ♦ Vice President: CAPT Stephen Andres, USNR, (Ret.)
- ♦ Second Vice President: CMDCM(SS) Jeffrey Hiscocks, USN, SUBRON ELEVEN Command Master Chief
- ♦ Treasurer: CAPT Keith Fargo, SC, USN, (Ret.), currently serving as the Treasurer
- ♦ Secretary: CAPT Charlie MacVean, USN, (Ret.), currently serving as the Secretary

Biographical Summaries for Nominees (Not Including Incumbents Remaining in Place)

Bruce Renne

Bruce was a coop student at New Mexico State University, working for the universities Physical Science Laboratory tracking the Navy's Transit navigation satellites and developmental GPS satellites in Misawa, Japan, the Seychelles, and American Samoa receiving a BSEE in Computer and Electrical Engineering.

He joined IBM in Boulder, CO and worked as a systems engineer on custom microprocessor VLSI and ASIC designs in Tucson, AZ, Rochester, MN, and Kingston, NY. As an IBM executive he ran large multi-location storage programs, including a joint venture with Cipher Data Products in San Diego which he joined in 1989.

He subsequently held executive positions with General Instrument developing HDTV and satellite systems, Comstream and Titan on satellite communications systems, Qualcomm, and Liberate Technologies and Technicolor developing streaming video systems.

He has been a Docent on the USS MIDWAY Museum since 2005, and coordinates the Membership Behind the Scenes tour program. A long time supporter of "All Things Navy", Bruce was very active in the Navy League before taking on leadership roles in the Naval Submarine League. As Vice President of this Naval Submarine League Chapter, he has been essentially solely responsible for our speakers and programs.

Steve Andres

Steve graduated from the Naval Academy in 1967 and served 11 years on active duty in submarines. He qualified in submarines and as an engineering officer aboard USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619) Blue. He served as Third Officer (NavOps, Combat Systems and Overhaul Coordinator) aboard USS Sculpin (SSN-590). He served another five years in submarine intermediate maintenance in the Naval Reserve before becoming an Engineering Duty Officer (EDO) as a Commander. As a Senior EDO, he served in naval shipyards and at Naval Sea Systems Command. He had two command tours both headquarters units at Long Beach Naval Shipyard and NAVSEA. He retired from the Navy in 1997 as a Captain after 30 years of service.

Steve worked at Data-Design Laboratories, Inc. for fourteen years. After two years as Strategic Systems Manager with DynCorp's Norco Division, he joined International Business Machines (IBM) as a Principal and Executive Consultant. He also worked in services sales for five years, finally retiring from IBM in 2006.

Steve is active as a Museum Docent at both the Midway Museum and at the San Diego Maritime Museum. He is currently a watch supervisor in the Midway Docent Program.

Steve is also active in the USNA Alumni Association in which he has held local and national elected offices and supports USNA recruiting as a "Blue and Gold" Officer. He became a Rotarian in 2008 and was a charter member of the Naval Base San Diego Rotary Club of which he was twice the President. He is currently an active member of the La Jolla Sunrise Rotary Club.



June 9, 2020 Virtual NSLPACSW Meeting Agenda

Agenda

This, the first NSLPACSW Virtual Meeting will be conducted utilizing the Zoom Application. The Agenda is as follows:

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

- 1115-1130 Check In and Zoom Setup
- 1130 Meeting Opens and President Calls the Meeting to Order
- 1135-1145 Announcements and Clarification of Procedures and Processes
- 1145 Election of Officers for 2020-2021 (Only NSLPACSW Members may Vote)
- 1155 President Introduces the New Officers
- 1200 President Introduces CAPT Brien Dickson, CO of NBPL
- 1200-1240 Remarks by CAPT Dickson
- 1240-1255 Questions and Answers
- 1255 Closing Comments and Adjournment

Notes on Our Virtuality

1. The Meeting will be conducted using the Zoom Application. You may participate on your computer or on your phone if you prefer just audio. Those needing help or information regarding Zoom, please let us know when you register.
2. NSLPACSW Members, regardless of location, are encouraged to attend.
3. Registration will be required. Registrations are being accepted now. Registrations will close on Wednesday, June 3rd. If you wish to nominate an officer candidate, this nomination must be submitted with your registration. Just send an email to nslpacsw@hotmail.com to register.
4. If there are no nominations from the floor, then one voting session will be for the entire slate as presented. If there are nominations from the floor, then officer positions will be voted on individually.
5. For this first Virtual Meeting, we ask for early registrations as we want to be ready to support you all.
6. Registrations will be acknowledged. Registrations are required prior to COB Wednesday, June 3rd.
7. Final Zoom arrangements and access details for this Virtual NSLPACSW Meeting will be sent to you who have registered on Monday, June 8th.

**Register
Now!
For the June
9th Virtual
Meeting.**

