

# Kingsville Council of the Navy League – Quarterly Newsletter

Edition: 2024Q1:1

January to March 2024



## KINGSVILLE COUNCIL OF THE NAVY LEAGUE



### Good Information & Membership

The Kingsville Council of the Navy League (KCNL), as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) civilian organization with over 90 members, was founded in 1955 with a mission to support military members, and their families, of our nation's Sea Services: U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S.-flag Merchant Marines.

The Navy League of the United States, our parent organization with over 30,000 members worldwide, was founded in 1902 with the aid of former President Theodore Roosevelt.

In Kingsville, our mission is threefold: to improve the quality of life of the members and their families of our adopted units, to support youth programs, and to educate the public about the need for our nation's Sea Services. **Educate. Advocate. Support.**

Our 5+1 adopted units (& their leaders) are:

- NAS Kingsville (NASK) (CAPT Eric Bromley, USN)
- Training Air Wing TWO (TW-2) (CAPT Aaron Rybar, USN)
- Training Squadron 21 (VT-21) (CDR W. Rietveld, USN)
- Training Squadron 22 (VT-22) (LtCOL Couvillon, USMC)
- Donna ISD MCJROTC (SgtMaj Jose Romero, USMC, Ret.)
- \*Possible Future Adoption: USS Kingsville (CDR Mann)

If you are not yet a member and would like to join us, please visit the national Navy League website at [www.navyleague.org](http://www.navyleague.org) to start the application process and/or contact one of our elected officers of the Kingsville Navy League for additional information.

- President: Lance Hamm, (361) 720-2795
- Vice President: Charlie Ratliff
- Treasurer: Buddy Windham
- Secretary: Dianne Leubert

### January 2024

The Kingsville Council of the Navy League welcomed in 2024 at the 04Jan2024 Board of Directors/All-Hands meeting. Buddy Windham and Kim Hamm were thanked for their service as outgoing President and Treasurer, respectively.

All meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 12pm noon and held at the Cherry Tree Tea Room Restaurant in downtown Kingsville, Texas.

Other billets held by our members include Barbara Denney (Membership), Kevin Clarke (Legislative Affairs), Lance Hamm (Adopted Unit Liaison), and Charlie Ratliff (USS Kingsville Commissioning Committee Treasurer/KCNL Representative).

January highlights included:

- KCNL provided food/drinks for the NAS Kingsville Pilot-for-A-Day luncheon.
- NAS Kingsville 2023 Sailor-of-the-Year (SOY) Awards were presented to:
  - HM3 Kevin Cronin (Blue Jacket SOY)
  - HM2 Clayton Harrington (Junior SOY)
  - HM1 Emmanuel Busingye-Nkwizire (SOY)
- SgtMaj Jose Romero, Donna ISD MCJROTC Instructor, sent a picture of their 2023 End-of-Year Pizza Party, sponsored by the Kingsville Navy League (photo below).



## February 2024

February highlights included:

- Sponsored food at 01 & 29 Feb Patching Ceremonies.
- Donated \$3,250 to TW-2 Goshawk Ball, including \$1,000 from V2X and \$250 from Fidelity Flight Simulators.
- Sponsored lunch for TW-2 Pilot-for-a-Day.
- TW-2 Goshawk Ball onboard USS Lexington Museum was attended by Charlie/Pam Ratliff, Kim/Lance Hamm, & Bret Bull (Photo below, R to Left). National President Chris Townsend, Lone Star Reg. President Cub Amos, & 10 other NL members from TX Councils also attended.



- Partnered with Corpus Christi and Ingleside Navy Leagues to host Lone Star Regional meeting at the Omni, Corpus Christi. Lance Hamm & Charlie Ratliff attended. TW-2 Commodore, CAPT Rybar, was the guest speaker.
- Dianne Leubert & Roy Medina hosted SNA Social at Elk's Lodge as a welcome to incoming student aviators.
- Sponsored 2 plaques presented by Townsend, Hamm, & CAPT Rybar at Goshawk Ball for 2023 TW-2 Instructor-of-the-Year (Major William Frantz, USMC) and TW-2 LSO-of-the-Year (LT Alex Horton, USN) (Photo below).



## March 2024

March highlights included:

- Sponsored TW-2 Top Hook plaque for LTJG Hunter Jones, presented by CAPT Rybar (01Mar2024 Winging).



- Sponsored TW-2 Top Hook plaque for LT Andrew Delaney, presented by CAPT Rybar (29Mar2024).
- Sponsored food at 28Mar TW-2 Patching Ceremony.
- Internally recognized KCNL donors for the past several events/years, including donations toward the Goshawk Ball, gift cards for Top Hook awardees, and door prizes at SNA Socials. Certificates of appreciation will be presented at future meetings.

A big **THANK YOU** to our donors for supporting our mission and ultimately improving the quality of life of our local Sailors, Marines, and JROTC Cadets:

- Gilcrease Foundation (Yearly Donations)
- Ed Rachal Foundation (Yearly Donations)
- Las Vegas Bingo, Corpus Christi (Yearly Donations)
- V2X, \$1,000 (Goshawk Ball)
- Boeing, \$1,000 (Goshawk Ball & Yearly Donor)
- Fidelity, \$250 (Goshawk Ball)
- Rolls Royce (Corporate Affiliate & Donor)
- Hahn & Oldham, PC (Years of Office Supplies)
- The Tailhook Association (Top Hook Gift Cards)
- Bray's Smokehouse Restaurant (Gift Cards)
- Baffin Bay Seafood Restaurant (Gift Cards)
- Harrel's Kingsville Pharmacy (Gift Cards)
- Kingsville CrossFit (Gift Cards)
- El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant (Gift Cards)
- Young's Pizza and Bar (Gift Cards)
- King Barber Shop (Gift Cards)
- Cherry Tree Tea Room (Use of Venue, Donor)
- H.E.B.
- Discount Liquor
- Wingstop