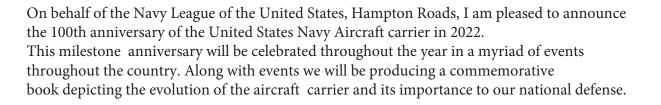


100 YEARS



100 YEARS



Over the past century, U.S. Navy aircraft carriers have been called upon to defend the nation, deter threats, aid allies, and partners, carry out evacuations and humanitarian operations, and surge into areas of conflict across the globe. Carriers allow the nation's leadership to respond to crises within hours or days and without constraints with respect to basing issues. It has been said that the first question in response to a security crisis is often "where are the carriers?" Administration after administration has found that faced with a sudden crisis, aircraft carriers were the only available air bases and the only option that could provide a range of responses. No other instrument of national power can provide the same flexibility.

These mobile air bases allow a spectrum of power and aid to be projected anywhere in the world. From humanitarian aid and disaster response to full-spectrum combat, aircraft carriers provide the nation with flexible platforms able to respond to a vast range of crises. That flexibility extends to the aircraft and weapons carried aboard, evolving over 100 years in ways that would be astonishing to those who served aboard CV-1, the USS Langley, in 1922. The aircraft on carrier flight decks have evolved from biplanes to swept wings, from piston engines to jet turbines, and the munitions they carry have progressed from freefall bombs to long-range guided weapons. In the very near future, some of those aircraft will be unmanned. What has endured over the past century of change is the patriotism, professionalism, service, and sacrifice of those who serve aboard them.

After 100 years, the aircraft carrier remains a centerpiece of the nation's capability to protect, defend, and respond.



In the background is the USS Langley (Cv-1) the first retrofitted US Aircraft Carrier above is a Vought VE-7. The center carrier is the USS Ranger (CV-4) with a Wildcat aircraft that was assigned to the Ranger. In the foreground is the USS Gerald R Ford (CVN-78) with and F35C flying above. On the deck you will find a compliment of aircraft including the H60, F18, E2D, F35 and MQ-25. The seal is framed with 100 stars.

100 YEARS

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Signature memorabilia (t-shirts, lapel pins, coins)
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Donations can be payable to Navy League Hampton Roads

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100 YEARS

THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES HAMPTON ROADS

■ Supporting the Sea Services The Navy League has grown from its roots to become the foremost citizens' organization to serve, support, and stand with all U. S. sea services - the Navy, Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, and the U. S. Flag Merchant Marines Decade after decade, the Navy League has demonstrated its leadership in advocating superior sea power to safeguard national security, protect American economic interests, and ensure freedom of the seas.

Our Mission

- To support the men and women of the sea services and their families
- To support policies and legislation that strengthen the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and the U.S. Flag Merchant Marine
- To educate and motivate U.S. citizens about naval matters
- To educate government officials on important naval issues

Founded in1902, the Navy League supports a strong Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S. Flag Merchant Marine as integral parts of a sound national defense. Through a number of programs, the Navy League educates and informs the American people about sea power in the nuclear age, works to better the conditions under which members of the sea services live and serve, supports the Reserve forces, and educates our youth in the customs and traditions of the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marine through the means of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Navy League Hampton Roads is known for commissionings and funding ship's enhancements which are not funded by the U.S. defense budget. Included in the previous 28 commissionings are 6 aircraft carrier ceremonies. Most recently USS Gerald R Ford (CVN 78) and entering initial planning phase for PCU John F Kennedy (CVN 79).

We take pride in educating the difference between a christening and commissioning ceremony. A vessel is christened with the traditional champagne, she slides down into the water and enters the final phases of construction. After the vessel has completed rigorous testing and sea trials, the shipbuilder then deems the ship capable of perform-ing her designed mission and prepared to join the fleet. Attended by heads of state, dignitaries, public officials and media, the grand commissioning ceremony culminates with raising the commissioning pennant to the masthead. For all purposes of law and tradition, the vessel then becomes a United States Ship. The Commanding Officer and crew come aboard and are entrusted with the responsibility of maintaing and operating their ship in peacetime and under conditions of war. This time-honored tradition for a crew-member to be pronounced a plankowner of a newly commissioned ship is a distinct honor and privilege.





"Founded in 1902, the Navy League supports a strong Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine as integral parts of a sound national defense."



100 YEARS

■ THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES HAMPTON ROADS

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Centennial of United States Navy Aircraft Carriers

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100 YEARS



CENTENNIAL EVENTS

March 2022 **CENTENNIAL GALA** Norfolk, Virginia

This invitation only dinner held onboard USS GEORGE H W BUSH (CVN 77) offers guests from the military, business, and political communities to come together to celebrate this milestone in United States Navy Aviation.

May 2022 VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO Norfolk, Virginia

Invitation to this beloved cultural event featuring an astounding display of inspirational military music, majestic massed pipes and drums, show stopping drill teams from across the globe.



SEPTEMBER 2022 NAS OCEANA AIRSHOW Virginia Beach, Virginia

This coveted invitation to our flight line chalet onboard Master Jet Base Oceana. Witness tactical Air Power demonstration performances, by local Navy squadrons, and worldclass civilian performers and the crowd pleaser AFTERSHOCK Jet Firetruck.