

Anchors Away!!

Totem Report August 2, 2017

By Mike Colbrese

Prior to the meeting, the Navy Band performed several numbers from Souza Marches to waltzes. **President Mark Wright** opened the meeting by ringing the bell and introducing **Anna Liotta** for the Inspiration of the Day. Anna spoke to the celebratory nature of Seafair and the value of the event to the Seattle area and encouraged each member to keep that spirit alive throughout the weekend.



US Navy Musician Second Class Doug Weber sang “O Canada” *a capella* and was joined by the club when he sang the National Anthem.

The attendees remained standing while **David Endicott** spoke in memory of recently passed member Ken Schubert. He spoke of Ken’s ready smile, community service and closed by remarking that...”if you missed meeting Ken, you missed a great one.”

Services will be held Saturday, August 5 at 1 PM at University Congregational Church.

President Mark welcomed all guests and then he welcomed **Rob LoBosco**, who introduced prospective members.

The attendees provided a warm round of welcome when President Mark introduced **Tom Jaffa and Bill Center**. Bill spoke warmly of the work that Tom and his wife Diane have taken on for the last 17 years to make this day a special day for Rotary and our service people. Tom then introduced visiting military including Vice Admiral Tyson, Rear Admiral Hitchcock, Rear Admiral Tammen, Rear Admiral Throop, and **Rear Admiral Mayes**.

Past President Center introduced Capt. Greg Huffman, the Commanding Officer of the USS John C. Stennis, a Nimitz-class nuclear-powered supercarrier. Captain Huffman leads more than 5,000 men and women who live and work aboard the Stennis conducting sustained air operations, maritime command, counter-piracy operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. Retired Admiral Center explained the diversity of assignments, backgrounds, cultures, and ethnicities on board the ship and commended Captain Huffman for his leadership.





Captain Huffman thanked the club for the invitation to be a part of the Seattle 4's on-going commitment to discussions about leadership. Following a video about the personnel aboard the ship and the ship itself, the Captain launched into a presentation about his mission of motivating those under his command and maintaining their morale. He explained that a key leadership tool is communication. He described the motivation behind those who serve is their desire to

serve, to contribute to the greater good; therefore, he tries each day to tap in to that directly and indirectly by focusing on the big picture and then describing how each one fits in to that.

He uses mass communication by providing updates each day about what is on the horizon using the ship's public address system. He also meets with small groups and repeats the messages, ask questions, and asks for input. Lastly, through an internal process, a "Sailor of the Day" is selected, and Captain Huffman meets with this sailor one-on-one. Huffman concluded by explaining that he spends a great deal of time walking around the ship, being visible, talking and listening.

During a brief question and answer period orchestrated by mic holders **Heather Fitzpatrick** and **Laurel James**, he explained that he fosters responsibility by empowering his sailors. "They know their jobs. I just let them do their jobs." When asked where he received his training, he smiled and said, "On the job." The gathering gave him a rousing round of applause.

Seattle Rotarian and CEO of Seafair, **Richard Andersen**, highlighted how Seafair has embraced the past while leading the festival into the future. By speaking to the memories created through the years of Seafair events, Richard spoke to the new features of this year's airshow, music, BMX, professional water polo, and water boarding competition. He closed by stating that the affordable, exciting events create memories of a lifetime for everyone and then called this year's royalty to the stage.





King Neptune (John Roderick) and Seafair Queen Alcyone (Angela Shen) knighted Rotary President Mark Wright with much fanfare and to the delight of the entire club.

Jaimie Mendez invited everyone to the Evening Edition, which will be held at the Triple Door from 5:00-7:00 pm for drinks and a conversation with Stephen Salamunovich, the well-known casting director. Learn the ins and outs of public speaking, casting, and the little-heard details of what happens behind the scenes of your favorite flicks.

President Wright thanked the meeting participants and wished everyone a great week and asked that the club once again show their thanks to those who serve our country!

After the program, a Search and Rescue demonstration was performed followed by the parade of ships.

