



Annual Report 2013

Executive Summary

In 2013, Navy League of the United States – Eastern Seaboard, Thailand Council was proud to host numerous ship visits from both the US and Australian navies, while coordinating numerous Community Service (COMSERV) projects to benefit US-Thai relations. There were less visits to Thailand this year by the US Navy and Marine Corps; however, the activities remained outstanding for the lucky visitors. The Eastern Seaboard Thailand Council also helped these sailors and marines enjoy their liberty in Pattaya and the Eastern Seaboard a little but more by providing onboard Thai cooking training, welcome receptions with free drinks and food, cooking competitions, as well as the opportunity to perform community service and cultural exchange activities. Thank you kindly to all the sponsors and supporters of the Navy League's work in Thailand.



Members of the EPU 102, New York, Help Child Protection Center ([photos](#))

This Saturday the visiting EPU personal from New York held the first Community Service Project for 2013 at the Child Protection Center in Hua Yai District. Joining were LCDR J Cruickshawk, LCDR J. Siciwski, LT T. Hardy, LT B. Centeno, LSI J. Poon, YWI N. Phillips, YWI J. Franklin, and YN2 V. Pilliza. Everyone who joined the event donated some money to purchase towels, shoes, socks and candy for the kids. The vans were loaded and once the group arrived at the center, the kids were waiting to welcome the visitors. They even presented flowers to one of the visiting soldiers—a very nice gesture. Since it rained the group was not able to perform gardening, so they played games with the kids. Around 11:30, lunchtime came and the volunteers joined the kids for a delicious lunch and Thai coconut ice cream. By 1:00 pm, the time came for the group to depart and good-byes were said to the visitors. It was a very nice gesture by the visitors from EPU 102 to give some of their free time to support these kids.



Royal Thai Navy and US Marines Visit Child Development and Protection Center for COMSERV ([photos](#))

Chaplain Potter from the US Marines and Commander Arnat from the Royal Thai Navy held a community project at the Child Development and Protection Center in Hua Yai Distict. No wonder Chaplain Porter knows how to get things done: he is from the Combat Logistics Regiment



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3, Combat Logistics Battalion 4 Unit 38417, 3D MLG. He arrived with one bus full of US Marines and one bus full of Royal Thai Navy sailors. They came to help dig a trench in the garden, interacted with the kids, and joined them for a delicious dinner. The COMSERV was joined by a busload of Chaplains from different US Marine units, among them Capt. Dick Pusateri CG13 JESG Chaplain and Capt. Terry C Gordon 3rd MEF Chaplain. It was a great effort, and everyone said a big “Thanks to all” for doing this important work.

Royal Thai Navy and US Marines Visit Nikom 3 School ([photos](#))



Commander Arnat from the Royal Thai Navy and Chaplain Potter from the US Marines stationed in Okinawa visited for a day of interaction with the students at the Nikom 3 School near Rayong. Upon arrival, the visitors were greeted by teachers and kids alike, and the students performed a Thai dance for them. In return, the marines showed them drill and how to march with a real Gunnery Sergeant shouting out commands. The students very much enjoyed this and gave a big round of applause. Then, the Royal Thai Navy Commander and the Marine Chaplain presented 10 educational English CDs to the headmaster, which are very useful for the school as English teaching aids.

The kids split into 5 groups of around 100 each and the Royal Thai Navy and US Marines then demonstrated to the students how they prepare MREs and how they taste. The kids loved this and were eating everything, some even mentioned the MREs were better than Thai food—a true compliment! The marines and students played volleyball and basketball until lunch came around. This was a traditional Thai lunch and the marines enjoyed the local cuisine. After lunch, everyone said their good-byes and boarded the bus for the trip back to base. This was a day enjoyed by all and it’s certain that the kids will not forget the marines for a long time.

Third Marine Division Helps Karunyawet Home for the Disabled ([photos](#))

The Director of the Karunyawet Home for the Disabled called on Chaplain Phelps to visit and help clear some underbrush. The chaplain inspected first and told her that the marines would get the job done. Later, he showed up with 26 marines from the Third Marine Division and as soon as everyone was off the bus they went to work. The marines were eager to help and the folks from the



home came and joined by helping remove all the braches and leaves. This was a great team effort and everyone enjoyed the time spent working together. To complement the visit, the residents challenged the marines to a game of lawn bowling. The marines did not win, but the residents



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showed the marines a few tricks how to improve their game. The marines were glad for the help and following this advice improved their score considerably. After a couple of games, it was time to have lunch, and after lunch everyone said good-bye and went their own way. The director and staff as well as the people there were impressed with the effort the marines made to make a difference at the home.

A Great Thank You Note from the Marine Chaplain during Cobra Gold 2013

Dear Nikom School #3, Principal Khun Samat, and Teacher Khun Toy,

Just wanted to say thank you on behalf of the 33 Marines and Sailors of CLR-3, the COBRA GOLD Logistics Combat Element, who got to enjoy such a wonderful day of games and cross-cultural play with all your wonderful students and staff on Tuesday. Many of the Marines said it was one of the highlights of their time in Thailand! Your smiles and hospitality made us feel so welcome and happy even though we are all far from our own home.

Thank you for creating and sending the map and for serving us lunch and coffee and for the wonderful traditional Thai dance. And for letting us win at least one "tug of war" contest and for giving me the chance to play ping pong! Peter Thorand said we would have a great time at Nikom School, and he was right. I will definitely recommend that US and Thai forces try to visit again next year and hopefully Miss Aon and the other English teachers will be available again to help with translation for bus drivers and for the cultural exchange ceremony.

God bless,

John

Chaplain John W. Potter, LT, USN

Camp Samaesan LCE Chaplain

Cobra Gold 2013

USS Frank Cable Crew Visit Banglamung Home for the Aged ([photos](#))

It is always amazing how calm the COMSERV participants are even when nothing works out right. Due to rough seas, it was difficult for the crew to leave the ship via a slow boat to the pier. To make matters worse, the bus was delayed. Regardless, Command Chaplain LCDR John M. Miyahara and a large group of volunteers came to the Banglamung Home for the Aged and helped spruce up the place. Time was short; however, the volunteers managed to complete the task of painting two water tanks so that the surroundings looked much better. This was a great job done by the





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visiting US Navy and everyone at the home appreciated that the sailors gave their precious liberty time to help others. Khun Wandee, the home's director, thanked them all and presented the chaplain with a homemade table cloth made by the residents of the home. A big "thank you" was given to the visitors from the elderly residents.

A Great Reception for AS-40 and SSN-706 (photos)



The Irish pub Dicey Reilly's was packed with Sailors from the visiting ships *USS Frank Cable* (AS-40) and *USS Albuquerque* (SSN-706) for a welcome reception. Singha sponsored the beer and the guests enjoyed the local Thai brew. After 30 minutes the group exchanged a few gifts and Rear Admiral Phil Sawyer, Commanding Officer of Submarine Group 7, presented a great plaque to the Navy League Siam Council. This was followed by a plaque and ball cap from Captain Pete Hildreth, Commanding Officer of the *USS Frank Cable*. Then the skipper of the *USS Albuquerque* presented the Navy League with a plaque from his San Diego-based submarine. The Navy League in exchange presented them all with personalized Thai stamps and a plaque. Challenge coins were exchanged and then the party continued until late into the evening. Again, a well-received event put on by the Navy League for the visitors and thanks to the Marriott Resort & Spa which made this huge success possible.

SSN-706 and AS-40 Officers and Crew Visit the Child Protection Center (photos)

Even though the bus to take the volunteers to the Child Protection Center was delayed, the group made it just in time to join the kids for lunch. First, Khun Ann gave a tour of the facilities and then everyone enjoyed the lunch with the kids and shared sandwiches. After lunch, the group played games and helped out a little with gardening at the center. Chaplain Miyahara donated toys and clothing to the center which was much appreciated. Again, a great event and many friends were made. Thank you all for participating.



A Soccer Match: USS Frank Cable (AS-40) versus Asian University (photos)

The sailors from the *USS Frank Cable* arrived early at Asian University for a little warm up prior to taking on the college students in a game of soccer. The weather was nice and everyone was ready for the big game. The university team put on a strong performance, and even though the sailors played a great game, they were not able to win the match. The sailors from the *USS Frank Cable* promised to return and win one day. This was a great friendship-making event and both sides enjoyed the afternoon together.



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Dacey Reilly's Welcome Reception for the *HMAS Parramatta* (FFH-154) ([photos](#))

On March 15th, Dacey Reilly's Irish Pub filled up with many people from the visiting Australian ship, the *HMAS Parramatta*. The staff at Dacey Reilly's did their best to make everyone welcome and beer flowed freely for several hours. Plenty of finger foods went around and all had a great evening out in Pattaya. During the evening the Navy League and Australian sailors exchanged a few souvenirs to remember the visit. The Australian Navy visits Pattaya only every two years and the Navy League Siam Council is proud to host this reception for such an important partner of the United States.

Reception on the *HMAS Parramatta* ([photos](#))



The Officers and Crew held a great reception on board the *HMAS Parramatta* on March 18th. The food was original Australian dishes consisting of kangaroo, crocodile, and emu meat. Beer, wine, and mixed drinks flowed freely and were enjoyed by all visitors. The Thai Officers came mostly from Frigate Squadron 1, which conducts joint exercises with the Australian Navy. Then, near the end was the

ceremonial Sunset Parade, which is a very nice show by selected officers and crew from the ship. During this ceremony they fire a shot and at the end they take down the Australian flag for the day; only to raise the flag again in the morning. It was a great event and the Navy League was proud to take part. A "Big Thanks" to our Australian friends.

Thai Chefs take over *HMAS Parramatta's* Kitchen ([photos](#))

The two Thai Chefs, Khun Phanita Salapirom and Boonma Intaraksa, from the Marriott Resort & Spa arrived at the visiting *HMAS Parramatta* for a cooking class on Thai Food. On arrival, the Thai chefs were greeted by Petty Officer Aaron Keillor who escorted them to the ship's galley where the event was to take place. In the galley were Leading Seaman Tony Randall, Leading Seaman Stuart Helps, Able Seaman Jai Kinsella, Able Seaman Luke Hartup, Able Seaman Michael Burridge, Able Seaman Valentyna Bezugla, Able Seaman Matthew Bowen, and Seaman Rose Arber waiting for the visitors. Supplies were unpacked, recipe books were handed out, and then the Thai Chefs got down to business. This was the first time the Thai chefs cooked for an Australian ship, so the stakes were high.



By 11 am the *Tom Yam Gung*, Spicy Pork Salad, and Penang Curry were ready to be served. The crew waited patiently and, at 11:30 am meal time, the Thai food was very popular for the day. Then, the certificates were presented to all chefs in the galley and, in return, the chefs each



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received a ball cap from the ship. More group pictures were taken and the Thai Chefs said good bye and went back to the Marriott Resort & Spa in Pattaya. The Navy League Siam Council is proud to be able to set up this culinary exchange for the visiting Australian Navy.

***HMAS Parramatta* Raises Funds for the Karunyawet Home for the Disabled (photos)**



The Navy League Siam Council and the “Spirit to Serve” group went to the Karunyawet Home for the Disabled to accomplish two missions. The first mission was to hand over the funds collected by the visiting Australian ship *HMAS Parramatta*. The funds were well-received since the handicapped women always have special needs. All residents sent a big “Thank You” to the crew of the *HMAS*

Parramatta. The second mission of the day was to provide lunch for the elderly residents at the home. Everyone in the “Spirit to Serve” group who celebrated a birthday this month donated some funds towards this great cause. This was certainly a nice gesture from them and was well received by the residents.

***USNS Amelia Earhart* (T-AKE-6) Serves Thai Food (photos)**

At the request of the Navy League Siam Council, Executive Thai Chef, Khun Phanita Salapirom, and Thai Cuisine Chef, Boonma Intaraksa, from the Pattaya Marriott Resort & Spa traveled early in the morning to the *USNS Amelia Earhart* (T-AKE-6) anchored at Sriracha Harbor for a Thai meal preparation class. The Chefs learned the finer techniques to prepare *Tom Yam Gung*, *Larb Moo*, and *Penang*



Chicken Curry for the officers and crew. Upon arrival, all food was lifted up on deck and by the time everyone came to the galley, all the food was there. The MSC Chefs, Pablito Andrade, Terrence Overson, Fidel Quilon, Sotero Garcia, Orlamndo Orario, Sharon McCormick, and Alma Arce, were waiting and it did not take long before they were cooking up a storm. The MSC Chefs were worried that this Thai meal would not be ready in time; however, the Thai Chefs were done 30 minutes prior to meal time.

After the meals were successfully served, certificates were given to all MSC Chefs from the Marriott Resort & Spa showing stating that they were qualified in preparing Thai meals. Then, Executive Thai Chef Khun Phanita Salapirom visited the Captain in his stateroom and presented to him a Navy League Siam Council plaque as a token for the day’s event. The Navy League Siam Council is always happy to make a ship and its crew’s visit to Thailand a great one.



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LSD46 & DDG 54 Crew Visit the KM 5 School ([photos](#))

Crews from both visiting Ships, the LSD-46 and the DDG-54, joined and went to the KM 5 School near Sattahip. They brought with them Project Handclasp material including skateboards, roller blades, soap, and much more. During their time at the school they spent time teaching English, and once the rain stopped, soccer and other games were played. All in all both students and the US navy were very happy with the afternoon they spent together. Chaplain Townsend received a fruit basket from the Principal for her generosity and visit.

Frigate Squadron 2 & US CARAT Participants Visit Home for the Aged ([photos](#))

Sailors from the US Navy ships participating in CARAT 2013 and the Frigate Squadron 2 visited the Banglamung Home for the Aged. They brought with them the members of the visiting *Orient Express* band and it did not take long before there was a lot of dancing going on. Both young and old people had fun and the time went by quickly. Chaplain Townsend from the *USS Tortuga* presented the home with some much-needed medical supplies and a ball cap from the ship.



LSD-46, DDG-54 & Frigate Squadron 2 Crew Visit the Chuck Samet School ([photos](#))

The kids at the Chuck Samet School really enjoy interacting with visitors, and this visit was no exception. Chaplain Townsend donated Project Handclasp material to them as a swell way to make the visit more special for the school. At the end of the visit, Navy League Siam Council President Peter Thorand presented Chaplain Townsend with a token of the Council's appreciation for the COMSERV Project she has done in the past years during her visits in Thailand. The Siam Council wished her well on her next assignment. Chaplain Townsend definitely has her heart in the right place and the Navy League wishes her the best in her future endeavors.

Japanese Teppan Cooking Competition ([photos](#))



Four teams, two from the Royal Thai Navy and two from the US Navy visiting for CARAT 2013, joined the cooking competition at the Benihana Japanese Steakhouse. The teams worked hard and it took the judges a long time to decide which team should win the competition. Finally, the judges reached a decision on this close competition where all competitors were only a few points apart. The winning team was the *USS Tortuga* team, Demetrous Simmons and Pao Hua Hvang. 2nd place was



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awarded to *HTMS Saiburi*, Khun Pongpat Pianprasert & Khun Kriengkrai Siriamkul, and 3rd place was taken by the *USS Curtis Wilbur* (DDG-54). Everyone received certificates, food vouchers, and other souvenirs. The event was a huge success and members from each ship joined as spectators to cheer their team on.

Award Winning Executive Thai Chef Visits *USS Tortuga* (LSD-46) ([photos](#))

The Marriott Resort & Spa sent their award-winning Executive Chef, Khun Panita, to visit the *USS Tortuga* in Sattahip for a training lesson on preparing Thai food. She prepared with the culinary specialists onboard a 3-course Thai meal for 100 persons. The meal included sweet & sour shrimp soup, otherwise known as *Tom Yam Gung*, as well as spicy pork salad and penang curry. The participants from the ship all received a certificate that they participated in this exciting hands-on training. The food they prepared lasted one hour and then it was all eaten by a satisfied crew. This shows how well the new menu was received onboard the ship. It was a great cultural exchange!



Navy League Siam Council CARAT 2013 Reception ([photos](#))



6:30 pm was the time when the doors opened at Dicey Reilly's Irish Pub and the Navy League sponsored a reception for the CARAT 2013 participants. This again was possible thanks to the supporters, which included Marriott Resort & Spa, Singha, Khun Jib from Blue Bird Thai Massage, and Mr. Chong from World Gems. The Navy League invited officers and crew from every ship and the Royal

Thai Navy Frigate Squadron 2 to join and a total of 300 people answered the call. During the evening, free beer was served along with finger foods. In the middle of the evening the Navy League presented a plaque of appreciation to the Commanding Officer of Frigate Squadron 2. Then, the Navy League presented the Comanning Officer of the *USS Tortuga* and the Commanding Officer of the *USS Curtis Wilbur* with a souvenir as remembrance of their participation in CARAT 2013. In return, the Navy League Siam Council received a generous plaque from the *USS Tortuga*, *USS Curtis Wilbur*, and from Frigate Squadron 2. Many old friends joined the reception for the last time, since next year they will take on new assignments. They will certainly be missed, and their help and friendship made a great event for everybody. A big thanks to all who made this happen.



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USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG-54) Visit the Karunyawet Home for the Disabled (photos)



The 20 COMSERV participants from *USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG-54)* left early in the morning to be on time at the Karunyawet Home for the Disabled where the Navy League Siam Council members and the Marriott group “Spirit to Serve” were waiting for them. On arrival everyone went to work; some volunteers cut grass while others trimmed the hedges and cleaned up the grounds. The people from the facility pitched in and real team work evolved. Then, the DDG-54 crew ate a quick lunch and went back to the dormitory where the “Spirit to Serve” group was busy preparing the meals to be served. The US Navy visitors again chipped in and helped to bring the meals to all people who reside at this facility for the disabled. This was a great joint COMSERV and the Navy League would like to acknowledge all who joined and made it happen.

Sports Day CARAT 2013 (photos)

After 10 days of hard work by all officers and crew in the participating in the joint exercise, CARAT 2013, Sports Day is the time to unwind together and have some fun. There was free Thai food, Hamburgers, BBQ Ribs and free flow of soda and beer. A game of soccer, tug-of-rope, and other games were played.

CARAT Bands perform at the Royal Garden Plaza (photos)

There was a great concert at the Royal Garden Plaza in downtown Pattaya. This was the first time Royal Thai Navy’s band played with *Orient Express* and they opened the performance with a song composed by His Majesty the King of Thailand. All went well and everyone enjoyed the event.



Concert at Aksorn Technical College (photos)

A concert was held at the Aksorn Technical College where 300+ students (aged 16–19) turned out with their teachers to enjoy the *Orient Express* and the Royal Thai Navy’s band. The kids enjoyed themselves very much and all in all a great day of fun was had for both the bands and the students.

The US 7th Fleet Band *Orient Express* Performs at Wat Pho Shool (photos)

The performances at the Wat Pho Shool were the first public concert at this school in Pattaya by the US 7th Fleet Band – *Orient Express*. 900 students came for the concert and the best interactions were when the school band played with the *Orient Express* for the first three song together. After



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the *Orient Express* and the Royal Thai Navy's band came out and gave the audience four Thai songs to finish the concert, both the *Orient Express* and Royal Thai Navy band played a last song together. By request from the large group of youngsters, the bands played an encore of two additional songs. This was the first of four concerts and this performance was a huge success.

The Last Concert for CARAT 2013 (photos)



The last public performance for CARAT 2013 was at the Big C in North Pattaya. This was a joint concert between the Royal Thai Navy's band and the US 7th Fleet band – *Orient Express*. Since it was June in Thailand, the rain was expected. However, both bands moved inside and gave a great performance that the crowd enjoyed. The *Orient Express* traveled to Malaysia for the next concert and the rest of Thailand will have to wait to hear them again during CARAT

2014.

Navy League Siam Council visits Royal Thai Navy Frigate HTMS Bangpakong (FFG-456) (photos)

The Navy League Siam Council President, Peter Thorand, the Marriot Resort & Spa Executive Thai Chef, Ms. Phanita Salapirom – winner of the 2012 Culinary Excellence Award for the Asia-Pacific region, and Chef de Partie, Mr. Boonma Intaraksa, traveled to the Sattahip Naval base and boarded the Royal Thai Navy Frigate HTMS Bangpakong (FFG-456) for a hands-on training session of a selected group of Royal Thai Navy cooks from Frigate Squadron 2.



Commander Dech escorted the group to the pier where the ship is anchored, and everyone was welcomed by the Commanding Officer of the ship. Shortly thereafter, both the Marriot and Thai Navy Chefs were working together as a team and all went smoothly. The galley was small; but was sufficient to prepare a delicious meal for the officers and crew of the *HTMS Bangpakong*.

The preparation and cooking focused on *Tom Yam Gung*, *Lab Moo*, and *Masaman Chicken*. All cooks from the different ships within the frigate squadron were eager to help in the food preparation. By 11 am, all meals were ready to be served and the chefs were ready for a rest from the hot kitchen. The group went to the Officer's Mess where the staff was busy setting the table for lunch for all of us.

Everyone agreed that the food was great and a much-appreciated change from the regular meals. The Marriott chefs then presented the Thai Navy Chefs with certificates stating that they



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have participated in this training session. This is an important step for all in the Thai military and civilian community that allows new friends to be made.

**COMSERV by the VP-26 Tridents from Jacksonville, Florida at Phu Rhu School
(photos)**

The following sailors traveled to the Phu Rhu School at Wat Yan for a community service project (COMSERV).



- LT Notz
- LTJG Baker
- LTJG Balding
- LTJG Solis
- LT Woo
- AWO2 Morrisey
- AWO1 Searfoss
- AWD2 Hernandez
- AWF2 Patterson
- AWVCS Garduno
- AWVCS Reimer
- PRCS Wilde
- AMI Celley
- AMI Tacinto
- AMEI Fisher
- AS2 Muller
- AT2 Flowers
- AE1 Wright

Upon arrival they were greeted by the students with drums and the band was dressed in Thai traditional dress. Then, the headmaster of Phu Rhu School introduced the students to the visitors and gave them some background information of the school. Following this, the volunteers from the VP-26 Tridents went to work and painted the outside walls of the school in a light blue. Once the paint ran out, the group cleaned up and enjoyed some fresh fruit with the students. Prior to a soccer match, everyone went on a tour of the garden and saw firsthand how the kids work to supplement their meals. Around 4 pm we all joined in for a group picture and said goodbye.

A big thanks to the visitors and a big thanks to the school who made this COMSERV happen.



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Reception for the *USS Mustin* (DDG-89) at Dickey Reilly's Irish Pub ([photos](#))



Finally, after many months with no ships visiting the Eastern Seaboard of Thailand, the *USS Mustin* (DDG-89) arrived for a port call. Navy League Siam made sure that they were welcomed in style and held a reception for them. The beer was flowing freely and all had fun.

During the evening, Navy League Siam presented the ship's Command Master Chief, Khun Snyder, with a souvenir of the ship as a remembrance of the visit and recognized the ship's Outstanding Sailor of the Quarter with a little gift from all members of the Navy League Siam Council.

The Navy League would also like to say a big thanks to the Marriott Resort & Spa staff for making it happen and to Singha Brewery who donated the beer for the event, which you can be sure the sailors appreciated.

Marriott Resort & Spa provide a Thai meal for the *USS Mustin* (DDG-89) ([photos](#))

The Executive Thai Chef, Phanita Salapirom, and Chef de Partie, Boonma Intaraksa, traveled to Sattahip's Chuck Samet pier on an early Saturday morning for a Thai cooking class. At the same time, the Marriott cooked a meal for the whole crew on board the *USS Mustin*.



Once all the food containers were unloaded and arrived in the kitchen, the Executive Chef, Phanita, and her assistant went to work.

It did not take long for the Culinary Specialist Chief Simpson, along with CS2 Helom, CS3 Wang, CS3 Crumbly, and CSSN Neal, to work together to prepare delicious Thai cuisine. The meal for the day was *Tom Yam Gung* (Spicy Shrimp Soup), *Larb Moo* (Spicy Pork Salad), and *Masaman Chicken* (Thai Chicken Curry).

As always on such an occasion, the visiting Thai Chefs served the food and trained the culinary specialists onboard. Some of the sailors stepped forward and personally thanked the visiting chefs, a very nice gesture that reflects on the great leadership of this ship.

The culinary specialists onboard the *USS Mustin* received certificates from the Marriott Resort & Spa for their participation. The ship presented the Marriott Chefs with a ball cap and coin of the ship to remember this day.

***USS Mustin* (DDG-89) Sailors visit the Khun Boonchoo Home ([photos](#))**

In the early morning, a group of sailors from the *USS Mustin* (DDG-89) went to visit the Khun Boonchoo home, a place where many autistic children are looked after. LTJG Rush and Chief



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Jason Fuller led the volunteers—Khun Sookram, Khun Himbert, Khun Adams, Khun Post, Khun Dankley, Khun Ziegler, Khun Perez, Khun Talaro, and Khun Regina—to the bus where they traveled to the home which was only a short ride away.

Once the group arrived with the Navy League, they broke the ice by singing a few famous tunes like “Old MacDonald.” The kids participated in a few games of musical chairs. When you have fun the time moves quickly, and soon the group was lining up for a final group picture. Everyone witnessed LTJG Rush receive a small present as a token of appreciation from Khun Boonchoo, and so did the rest of volunteers. The kids put on a dance and the sailors joined the fun.



The press and the US Embassy’s PAO, Khun Pattaro, did their last interview and the group left for the ship. This was again a great day for all the sailors and the kids with many new friendships.

The Navy League would like to acknowledge that this was the best COMSERV Project and interaction done by any ship this year. The *USS Mustin* (DDG-89) is an outstanding ship with a great crew. “Thanks for the visit. You made this a great day for the Kids.”

Reception for the *USNS Tippecanoe* Crew ([photos](#))

The Navy League Siam Council organized a “Welcome to Thailand” reception for the crew of the *USNS Tippecanoe* at the Marriott Resort & Spa’s Irish Pub – Dicey Reilly’s. Everyone not on duty dropped by for a few beers and a chat with the Siam Council Members. It was a great evening for all.

USNS Tippecanoe (T-AO-199) Crew Visit Banglamung Old People’s Home ([photos](#))



The *USNS Tippecanoe* and Navy League Siam Council visited the Banglamung Home for the Aged, which is a government-run facility that takes care of the elderly. The home is well-run and they are always happy when visitors drop by to say hello. The age range of the occupants is 60–99.

The event started off with a welcome speech by the home’s director, and then the *Tippecanoe* crew gave a short speech and presented the director with a box of medicine for the home’s clinic. The home’s director gave the *Tippecanoe* crew a nice hand-crafted embroidery that the elderly residents made.

The volunteers came from every department on the ship:

DECK:



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1. BM Marc Clemmons
2. AB Richard Cline
3. AB Las Dulce
4. AB Anthony Gordon
5. OS Edsel Brandes
6. AB Joel Ilang Ilang
7. AB Rey Fajardo
8. AB Eddie Moore
9. BM J. Cousins
10. CHMATE K. Grubb
11. OPSO Justin Griffith

ENGINE:

1. Wiper Barber
2. Demac Larson
3. E/U Torres
4. ET Ramos
5. 2 A/E Long
6. Pumpman Bisquera

COMMUNICATION:

1. SCO Scott Ekey

USNS Tippecanoe Serves Thai Food (photos)

Khun Phanita Salapirom (Executive Thai Cuisine Chef) & Boonma Intaraksa – (Chef de Partie) loaded up their car with all the ingredients for a 3-course Thai meal (Tom Yam Gong, Lab Moo, and Penang Curry) and traveled to the *USNS Tippecanoe* to prepare a Thai meal.

Their employer, Marriott Resort & Spa, and the Navy League Siam Council sent them to the ship to train the ship's chefs on Thai food preparation. The chefs from the *Tippecanoe* were as follows:



1. Rodrigo G. Eugenio – Chief Steward
2. Eddie R. Alaysa – Chief Cook
3. Ofelia J. Adapon – 2nd Cook



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4. John R. Diaz – 3rd Cook
5. David G. Hickey – 3rd Cook
6. Ernesto C. Alfaro – Cook/Baker
7. Humphrey E. Elemento – Supply Utility

It did not take long and they were working together in harmony like they have been doing this for many years together. At 10:55am, the early birds came for lunch and from there it spread like wildfire that the lunch today was a delicious Thai meal. All came and many had second and third helpings which made all the chefs happy.

The two Marriott Chefs presented the Tippecanoe chefs with a certificate of participation in the training school. Also, there was a big surprise for all the Marriott chefs when the *Tippecanoe* chefs presented them with a cake as a small way to say thank you. This was the first cake ever presented to a Navy League Siam Council sponsor.

If anyone knows how to win the hearts of the locals, it's the *USNS Tippecanoe* chefs. Thanks to the supply officer, Chief Steward and his team, and the officers onboard who made this happen

Cooking Class at the Marriott Resort & Spa (photos)

The Manager of The Marriott Resort & Spa invited four Chefs from the visiting *USNS Tippecanoe* to spend a day in the various Kitchens of the hote;:

1. Rodrigo G. Eugenio – Chief Steward
2. Eddie R. Alaysa – Chief Cook
3. Ernesto C. Alfaro – Cook/Baker
4. Humphrey E. Elemento – Supply Utility



The ship's culinary specialists woke up early in the morning and traveled to the hotel in Pattaya. On arrival they were greeted by the Executive Chef, Khun Tim, and shown different work stations. Some went to the bakery and others went to the kitchen, which prepares 300+ meals daily for the hotel staff. Other culinary specialists from the *Tippecanoe* went to the Garden Café Kitchen. They all rotated so they were able to learn about preparing traditional Thai meals. Thanks so much to the Marriott Resort & Spa to make this happen.

COMSERV at Ban Na School (photos)

The *USNS Tippecanoe* (T-AO-199) crew traveled to the Ban Na School near the port of Laem Chebang to spend time with the students as part of a community service (COMSERV) project. The volunteers were from different departments of the ship and included:



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DECK:

1. BM Marc Clemmons
2. AB Richard Cline
3. AB Las Dulce
4. AB Anthony Gordon
5. OS Edsel Brandes
6. AB Rey Fajardo
7. AB Eddie Moore
8. BM J. Cousins
9. OS Anthony Scott
10. Cadet Jim Hedlund
11. OPC George Moore

ENGINE:

1. ET Ramos
2. Cadet McGann
3. Pumpman Bisquera

COMMUNICATION:

1. CRET Aaron Ng

SUPPLY:

1. Paul Mucci
2. Gerard Kahler
3. Clarence Sealy



The kids were eagerly waiting for the crew to show up and so everything went quickly after arrival. The crew joined the kindergarten team and handed out coloring books and crayons. The crew and students played many games to spend the day together, including a game of soccer. Then, the *Tippecanoe* crew presented the students with some chocolate and cookies from the ship.

A great group picture with the principal, crew, and students was taken and everyone said their good-byes. Time flies when you are having fun. Thanks to the crew of *Tippecanoe* for making this all happen.



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Main Event P-3 Crew (VP-69) versus Banglamung Boys Home ([photos](#))

The visiting P-3 Crew traveled early Saturday morning to the Banglamung Boys home for a soccer match against the boys that reside there. Upon arrival, the young boys were getting ready and two teams arranged for a match, the first team were ages 9–12. The game was a tough fight for the visiting P-3 crew and the young boys won 3-0. Afterward, a group picture was taken and candy was given to all.

The next team that played against the visiting P-3 crew were ages 14–20. The game was fast-paced and it did not take long before the boys had a 1-0 lead. After a few minutes the visitors scored a goal to even the score. However, the boys pressed on and at the end they won with a score of 3-1. The P-3 crew presented the boys of Banglamung Home with a signed picture of the plane as a souvenir. It was certainly a nice way to spend a Saturday!

US Navy Divers visit the Thunggrad School ([photos](#))

US Navy divers brought an assortment of diving gear to give the children of Thunggrad School an insight into what is needed to conduct diving operations in the Navy. The students eagerly lined up to experience wearing a Scuba tank and a deep diving helmet. Many students took this opportunity to have a closer look at the items the divers brought with them. Additionally, a raffle was organized by the divers for a ball cap, t-shirt, and Navy coin with the crest of the divers unit. This was a great event for the kids and they all said “Thank You” to the visitors for their time.



Navy League Presents Citation to the Royal Thai Navy Amphibious & Combat Support Service Squadron a Distinguished Service Citation

Pattaya the 23th of February 2013

The Navy League of the United States, Siam Council take great pleasure in recognizing the superior efforts of the Royal Thai Navy from the
Amphibious and Combat Support Service Squadron

For their efforts and demonstrated support by participating with the US Marines in the COMSERV Project in our community during Cobra Gold Exercise 2013.

The demonstrated and continuous performance of duties both during formal exercises and during off duty cultural events are instrumental in maintaining the strong bond between the personnel of the Royal Thai Marines the United States Armed Forces and the Thai people.

Congratulations.