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PRESS RELEASE

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! 2009 Fleet Week San Diego Events A Success

SAN DIEGO, November 10, 2009 –The nation’s largest salute to the military has concluded this year with its operation completed. The San Diego Fleet Week Foundation dutifully honored our military again with much more than a “Week” of celebration, thanks to our corporate sponsors. Servicemen and women from the U.S Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, as well as the general public and the local community, enjoyed a wide variety of activities over the past few months. Read on for several highlights.

August events –

Star Spangled Salute: The inaugural event, sponsored by the Port of San Diego, took place at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in picturesque downtown San Diego. The eighth annual black-tie gala offered a chance for the community to enjoy a night of food and music. State Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher, representing California’s 75th District, and the first combat veteran of the Global War on Terror to serve on the state legislature, was the keynote speaker.

Fleet Week Baseball Game: Bank of America again partnered with the San Diego Padres and the Fleet Week organization to sponsor active duty military personnel and their families for a night of baseball at Petco Park. The bank donated over 3,000 tickets to local servicemen and women to cheer on the Padres, the self-proclaimed “team of the Military”.

September events –

All Enlisted Golf Tournament: The tournament, held at Admiral Baker Golf Course, hosted over 250 enlisted military men and women. In fact, select Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen competed in the InterService Challenge, with the Marines winning the competition. With the help of our volunteers and sponsors, prizes were awarded worth over \$15,000.

Enlisted Recognition Luncheon: The Enlisted Recognition Luncheon, held at SeaWorld, brought together the city’s business leaders with more than 240 Sailors, Coast Guardsmen and Marines, and featured special celebrity guests, Adam Jamal Craig and Peter Cambor, from NCIS: Los Angeles. This luncheon honored enlisted guests who have distinguished themselves in their service and within their various commands.

Coronado Speed Festival: Fleet Week San Diego’s marquee event was held at Naval Air Station North Island, and hosted over 22,000 people over the course of the last weekend in September. Active duty military and their direct dependents were again admitted free this year, and the weekend had over 8,000 individuals come through the gates. Highlights included 9 race groups on the tarmac, with over 240 cars racing – including stock cars on track racing this year, drifting exhibitions, military flyovers and the Navy’s Leap Frogs parachuting onto the tarmac and delightful entertainment and shopping in Vendor Village. The Navy’s Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) fund will receive a donation from Fleet Week to support their programs in San Diego.

October event –

Fleet Week Foundation Breakfast: The final event of this year's Fleet Week celebration was held at Admiral Kidd Club, and the Foundation was proud to feature keynote speaker, the Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy. During the morning, Mabus spoke of his top three priorities for the Navy and stressed that these factors will be crucial in keeping the Navy at the forefront of military expertise and technology. He spoke to over 400 local elected and military officials, defense industry leaders, educators and community representatives.

We need your help and donations!

The San Diego Fleet Week Foundation still needs your support to continue their mission in 2010. There are over 100,000 active duty military living and working in the San Diego area alone. A tax-deductible donation of any amount will help sustain our efforts to produce events at little or no cost for the men and women in uniform. As a Public Benefit Corporation, the San Diego Fleet Week Foundation donates proceeds in excess of operating expenses from Fleet Week San Diego to charities that provide critical support to military families. Please visit the following link for more information: <http://www.fleetweeksandiego.org/donate.html>.

About Fleet Week San Diego

With a range of major corporate sponsors that include the Northrop Grumman Corporation, the Port of San Diego, TriWest Healthcare Alliance, Raytheon, Cubic Corporation, General Dynamics, The San Diego Padres, SeaWorld, USA Federal Credit Union, BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin, Solar Turbines, General Atomics and a host of others, the Fleet Week San Diego Foundation produces events that entertain and thank our military service members and their families for their extraordinary sacrifice and selfless dedication.

Thanks to the overwhelming support from regional businesses and the people of San Diego, our Fleet Week has become the largest "thank you" to the military in the nation and has adopted the tag line, "Fleet Week San Diego, Honoring the Military throughout the Year".

Fleet Week San Diego is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation. In addition to honoring the military services through the annual Fleet Week events, the Foundation's goals are to foster awareness of the contributions made by enlisted military personnel and their families, to enhance relationships between the civilian, business and military communities, to provide events that Military personnel and their families can attend at little or no cost, and to raise funds for charitable efforts benefiting enlisted service members and their families. For more information, or for a complete listing of all of the Fleet Week events, please visit www.fleetweeksandiego.org.

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