



## LT MICHAEL P. MURPHY NAVY SEAL MUSEUM

### VISIT US TODAY!

-  TUES- SUN  
10:00AM- 4:00PM  
CLOSED MONDAYS &  
SOME HOLIDAYS
-  50 WEST AVENUE  
WEST SAYVILLE, NY 11796
-  +1 631-589-7325



[WWW.MURPHSEALMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.MURPHSEALMUSEUM.ORG)

## The 20th Anniversary of Operation Red Wings

The year 2025 represents the somber anniversary of “Operation Red Wings” on June 28, 2005 when nineteen heroes were killed. As you approach the LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum grounds, you are greeted by each one of the fallen by name, on plaques implanted on the “**Avenue of Heroes.**” There will be a special edition of our newsletter in June highlighting each of the servicemen of ORW.

We are proud to honor our fallen warriors every day at the museum where visitors learn about the history of naval special warfare. The exhibit halls are filled with detailed information about their journeys throughout the decades, from WWII to present day. The movie theater, with its robust sound and videos, including one narrated by Liam Neesom with his iconic voice, is exemplary. The films, about the birth of the SEALs, BUDs training and Operation Red Wings bring to life the courageous stamina of these men.



Entrance to the ORW Exhibit Hall



## Museum Director Moderates at the American Veterans Center

LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum Executive Director, Chris Wyllie had the honor of moderating a symposium at the American Veterans Center Conference in Washington, DC, in November. The symposium, entitled “*Special Operations Forces: The U.S. Navy SEALs*” featured the following Navy SEALs (Ret.)

**Jeff Gum** - Class 272, SEAL Team 5. After deploying to Fallujah, Iraq, he was selected for Navy SEAL Breacher and Sniper Schools, and worked with the Secret Service on a POTUS Mission in Hawaii. After a second deployment to the UAE, he began teaching Combatives and Prisoner Handling to SEAL trainees, and helped the Danish Frogmen stand up their own combative program

**Ed Hiner** - Veteran of nine major deployments over a 20 year career as a SEAL Operator and officer, he commanded hundreds of strategic combat missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and across the globe. He was awarded two Bronze Stars w/valor. In his role as a Navy Special Warfare Training officer, he led basic and advanced training of all Navy SEALs on national level.

**Kaj Larsen** - Five year active duty Navy SEAL officer, currently SEAL reserve officer assigned to U.S. Special Operations Command. An award-winning filmmaker and correspondent, he produces documentaries on conflict and national security issues. He went through BUD/s with LT. Murphy.

**Edward . Byers, Jr.** - U.S. Navy SEAL veteran of 11 deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, receiving four Bronze Stars w/valor and two Purple Hearts. He would be awarded the Medal of Honor for actions of saving an American doctor held hostage by Taliban fighters in Afghanistan.

**Thomas ‘Drago’ Dzieran** - Born in Poland under Communist rule, immigrated to the U.S. in 1984 and became a citizen in 1991. As a Navy SEAL, he performed more than 100 combat direct actions missions while deployed to Iraq in 2003, 2004, 2005

**Marcus Luttrell** - Graduating BUD/s Class 228 in 2005 serving with SDVT-2, he was assigned to a mission to capture a high-ranking Taliban leader responsible for killings in eastern Afghanistan - a mission dubbed “**Operation Red Wings**,” the story told in his bestselling memoir and blockbuster film, **Lone Survivor**.

**Moderator Christopher J. Wyllie** - Navy SEAL BUD/s Class 217, one of a handful of SEALs to have completed both SWCC Training and BUD/s Training. Served in Special Boat Unit 12 and SEAL Team 2, with a deployment to Iraq. Received a Masters Degree in Organizational Management and is Executive Director of the LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum and Sea Cadet Training Facility.

## All Pitched in For Toys For Tots Event

The United States Marine Corps and Suffolk County Police officers escorted Santa to the museum on November 30th. Earmarked as an official drop off site for “Toys for Tots,” the museum offered discount coupons to everyone who donated an unwrapped toy that day. Visitors got the chance to tell Santa what they wished for, while officers collected bags and bags filled with toys, for many girls and boys. In addition, members of the Patchogue-Medford High School Lacrosse Team, brought their own decorated drop off box and contributed several more bags of toys. The toys were picked up a few weeks later and distributed to deserving children. The LT Michael P. Murphy Museum staff was proud to be a part of this generous cause. Pictured **L to R:** Santa with Museum Manager Donna Donahue, Staff Member Haley Jones and Toys for Tots Marine representatives, Toys for Tots Crew, Pat-Med Lacrosse team and families and Director Chris Wyllie with some of the donations.



## AMVETS Post #76 of Bay Shore Visit

Members of the AMVETS of Bay Shore visited in January. Eighty six year old Ronald Conroy, a former Navy Seabee, dressed for the occasion. He wore his full navy uniform including his Navy issued pea coat. Mr. Conroy joined the service in 1956 for about two years and re-enlisted eighteen years later for another twenty two years! He was separated at Floyd Bennett Naval Air Station and spent much of his time serving in Europe. Also on hand were past post commanders, Chris Ciejka who generously donated a military satellite radio and Bob Oakes who proudly shared a photo of his time in Viet Nam. Hank Schroeder, 1st Vice Commander of the post and several other veterans attended as well. Thank you for your service and sharing your experience with us.



# The Virtual Skydiving Experience has arrived!

If you are looking for an adventure in skydiving, but are afraid of heights, we've got the experience for you! Jump out of a virtual C-130 aircraft just like in real life and free fall your way to "Statue of Liberty Island." This is not an easy task!



## Special Thanks

We would like to thank **Dano DeMarco** and **Sandy Bagdonas** of **Blacksheep Restorations**, who expertly created structures that display the artifacts in the exhibit halls, throughout the museum. Both men and their crews have spent countless hours at the museum building and installing our works of art.

A very special thanks also to **Mr. Thomas Witkop, Sr.** and **Peconic Propane** for being one of the first of our Platinum Bench Sponsors. The engraved bench will be located in front of the Operation Red Wings monument.

## Flashback

With the shell and roof completed, the concrete floor was poured. The floor was then polished and dyed for the special effects of a shiny yet rugged look throughout the museum. The smooth finish not only looks attractive, it also aids handicapped visitors who rely on wheelchairs and walkers. The surface makes it easier to glide through the museum.



## Platinum Sponsorships Available

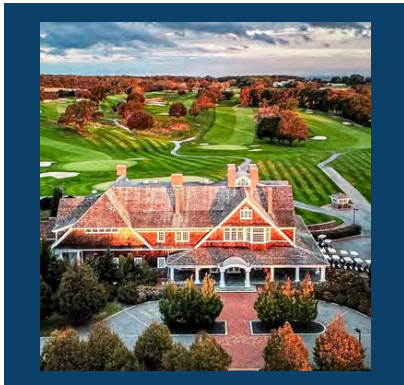
The museum grounds are adorned with prestigious military exhibits and inspirational monuments in a park like setting. We have added benches to enhance the beautiful area. These benches are located throughout the grounds at each exhibit site. A Platinum Bench Sponsorship of \$5,000 includes personal engraving of the bench with a family name, corporate name, in memory of a loved one, or your special everlasting message.

**Call the museum at 631-589-7325 for information.**

Our bricks are also available. The next brick order will be in late spring/early summer.




# Tenth Annual Golf Outing Information



Our 2025 Golf Outing will be on June 17, 2025. The outing will be run differently this year. We have been graced with so many golfers that we have had to make some changes to accommodate everyone. This year, we will be holding the outing at **two golf courses!** Golfers will play at either The Rock Golf Club in Wading River or the Baiting Hollow Golf Club. All golfers will be able to attend the dinner at BHCC. If you would like to place a journal ad, please see information below. Your support is appreciated!


We are fortunate to honor two outstanding individuals, Mr. Daniel DeMarco of DeMarco Associates and Suffolk County Police Officer, Matias Ferreira.



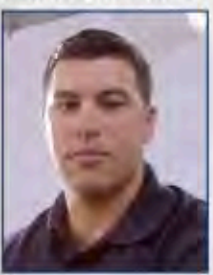
**LT MICHAEL P. MURPHY**  
**NAVY SEAL MUSEUM**  
 SEA CADET TRAINING FACILITY

**10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC**  
**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OPERATION RED WINGS**  
**TUESDAY. JUNE 17, 2025**

**DISTINGUISHED CIVILIAN HONOREE**  
**DANIEL DEMARCO**  
 PRESIDENT & CEO  
 DEMARCO ASSOCIATES



**DISTINGUISHED MILITARY HONOREE**  
**MATIAS FERREIRA**  
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MEDAL OF HONOR CENTERFOLD OR TWO CONNECTING PAGES.....	\$5,000
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Please respond to Dennis J. Shanahan, Journal Chairman: shanahan2@optonline.net  
 Card Payment = [murphsealmuseum.org/golf...register](http://murphsealmuseum.org/golf...register) select commemorative journal and follow prompts.  
 Check Payment PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum.

## Our Online Store is Always Open!

All of our items at the museum store are now available online. Apparel, books and accessories, we've got it all! Go to our website and start shopping!



[www.murphsealmuseum.org/store](http://www.murphsealmuseum.org/store)

## GROUPS WELCOMED!

We provide a group rate for any group of ten or more.

**SCHOOL GROUPS** of up to **135** per day are welcome. We will create a package specific for grade level, including a guided tour, Adventure Ride and viewing of "Lone Survivor" or "Murph The Protector." The LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum has partnered with the Arts in Education Programs of Nassau BOCES, Western Suffolk BOCES, and Eastern Suffolk BOCES.

All groups are welcome! So if you have a special group of ten or more veterans, seniors, scouts, or 10 friends, ask for a group rate. Personal tours are available also, a perfect gift for someone!

For more information about booking a group trip please email us at [newsletter@murphsealmuseum.org](mailto:newsletter@murphsealmuseum.org).

## MUSEUM STAFF

**Christopher Wyllie**  
*Executive Director*

**Paul Racioppi**  
*Assistant Executive Director*

**Donna J. Donahue**  
*Museum Manager*

**Chuck DuVal**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**John D. Murphy**  
*President*

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*Vice President*

**Laura Racioppi**  
*Treasurer*

**Sharon McKenna**  
*Secretary*

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NEWSLETTER!

