



Savannah Steamer

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Volume 45 Issue 4

President's Message



2018 was a great year for our Council because of the hard work and dedication of the Officers and Board members and the outstanding support of the General Membership. The Coast Guard Community Ceremony was a milestone for the Chatham County area, we started giving awards to the Marine Corps Parris Island Marksmanship Instructors, both of our adopted Littoral Combat Ships are now at their home in Mayport, FL and a new Community Affiliate joined the SNL Team. I encourage all members to take a look at our many programs and pick one area in which to become involved. You may have ideas and expertise that will enhance our Sea Service support programs. With your help, 2019 will be another outstanding year.

O.C. Fowler - President

Chatham County—an Official U.S. Coast Guard Community



Pat Yovich, SAC Region President, NLUS, led Savannah Navy League in organizing the Chatham County - U.S. Coast Guard Community recognition event that took place on 18 October on the Hutchinson Island Savannah Riverfront. Pat was assisted by Gary Johnson, Hugh Robinson, O.C. Fowler, and others. Pat is shown above assisting Admiral Karl Schultz, Commandant of the Coast Guard, cutting the ceremonial cake.

Many Thanks to Our Community Affiliate Members and Corporate Sponsors!



Crescent Towing



USS Alaska (SSBN 732) GOLD Sailor of the Quarter & Year Awards



On 8 November, O.C. Fowler, Tom Latham, and Bob Gephart travelled to Kings Bay to join with USS Alaska GOLD leadership in recognizing their selected Sailors of the Quarter and Sailors of the Year 2018. A total of twelve awards were presented.

Kings Bay “Trunk or Treat!” Event



Jean McRae, Shirley McCarthy, and Deb Stautberg travelled to Kings Bay on Saturday, 20 October, to support the USS Alaska Family Readiness Groups (FRGs) with their annual Trunk or Treat event. Both the GOLD and BLUE FRGs participated in the Kings Bay wide event, and Savannah Navy League happily donated lots of candy and other treats.

Submarine Squadron 20 Change of Command -18 January 2019



On Friday, 18 January, CAPT Bob Wirth is scheduled to relinquish command of Submarine Squadron 20 to CAPT Craig Gummer. Both CAPT Wirth and CAPT Gummer were previously Commanding Officers of our adopted submarine USS Alaska (SSBN 732) GOLD.



LCS / Mayport Updates

USS Little Rock (LCS 9) BLUE Change of Command



On Friday, 30 November, Pat Yovich, O.C. Fowler, Ed Robb, and Bob Gephart travelled to Naval Station Mayport to attend the USS Little Rock BLUE Change of Command Ceremony. CDR Todd Peters was relieved by CDR Lenard Mitchell. CAPT Shawn Johnston, Commadore of LCS Squadron 2, presided.

Sailor of the Quarter / Year Awards

Following the Change of Command Ceremony, Sailor of the Quarter / Year awards were presented to our other adopted LCS Crews aboard both USS Little Rock and USS Sioux City.



USS Little Rock
LCS 9
GOLD



USS Sioux City
LCS 11
BLUE



USS Sioux City
LCS 11
GOLD



Thanksgiving Day Dinner at USCG Air Station Savannah



Savannah Navy League enjoyed providing a Thanksgiving meal to our Coast Guard and their families at USCG Air Station Savannah and USCG Station Tybee. Many thanks to our sponsoring businesses for their contributions: Carey Hilliard's Restaurant, Sam's Club of Pooler, Miss Sophie's Marketplace - Pooler, USO Savannah, and our Navy League Members. Savannah Navy Leaguers Mary Ellen Sprague and Jan Bell co-chaired this event.

USS Sioux City (LCS 11) Commissioning Ceremony



O.C. Fowler, Pat and Alan Yovich attended the official commissioning of our adopted LCS ship, USS Sioux City (LCS 11) at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD on Saturday, 17 November. CDR Randy Malone, Commanding Officer of USS Sioux City BLUE is shown with O.C., Pat and Alan at the after Commissioning Reception.

Army - Navy Football Party



O.C. Fowler led the SNL cheering section for Navy at the Army - Navy viewing party on 8 December. It was a bad day for the Midshipmen - Army won 17-10.

USCGC Willow Reception



Lynn Wright and O.C. Fowler present mementos to LCDR Margaret Kennedy, CO, USCGC Willow (WLB-202) at Kevin Barry's on 18 October.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 2018

Gary Johnson 1/4/2018

The annual Remembrance Ceremony was held on Sunday afternoon, December 2, at 2:00 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum.



Those participating include: Third ID Band Element, South Effingham NJROTC, WWII Chatham County Veterans and the Sea Cadets.

Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Dwyer was our keynote speaker. He has served in a variety of command and staff positions throughout his career. His operational deployments are many and they include 4 tours to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (2002, 2005, 2006, 2012). LTC Dwyer is Garrison Commander of Hunter Army Airfield.

This ceremony is co-sponsored by the Savannah Council of the Navy League of the United States and the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force.

Dinner Meetings—Navy and Marine Corps Birthdays



The October and November Dinner Meetings are always a cause for celebrating the birthdays of our Navy and Marine Corps. CAPT Chad Falgout, USN, CO of the SSU NROTC was our speaker at the October dinner, and COL Randy Hoffman, USMC, spoke at the November meeting. Far right above, O.C. Fowler, Jan Bell, Ed and Johanna Lavish joined CAPT and Mrs. Falgout at the SSU Navy / Marine Corps Ball.

Savannah Navy League's Family Support



Shirley McCarthy, Jan Bell, Jean McRae, Patti Zureick, and Deb Stautberg organize and host events for our Navy and USCG families. Above is a recent trip to transfer gifts for Single Sailors on USS Alaska. At right is the Christmas Party at USCG Air Station Savannah on 8 December.

2019 Local Council Dues and Contributions

Your Savannah Council is 165 members strong going into 2019. By now you should have received your Savannah Council dues invoice. Local Council dues are \$25 per member and are now due. In order to fully participate as a Savannah Council Member our by laws require membership as a National Navy League Member. If you are not a National member, please send in your membership application available through the National website at navyleagueoftheus.org. You will be billed separately by National on the anniversary date of your National Navy League membership.

To date over 20% of our membership have paid their 2019 dues and over 10% have also included a special contribution and are now members of our Commander's Quarters. Please send in your dues invoice with your check promptly. Many of our programs depend on our dues and special contributions collection.

If you have questions or need help with any of this, please contact Jeff Zureick at 912-450-0521 or at piwi@hargray.com.

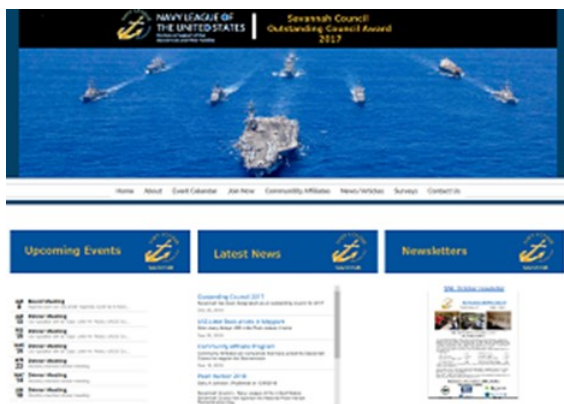
NLUS Voice to Congress

Navy League members and their friends can use the Navy League's Voice to Congress, <https://www.votervoice.net/NavyLeague/home>, to request coordination and support for our Sea Services and their families. The webpage has a list of support issues and draft emails for Senators, Congress and local politicians that members can use in supporting our Sea Services. By filling in the blanks with your name, address and zip code, your email message is directed to the President and VP, your Congressman, two Senators, and state officials from Governor to your local representative. Congressional staffs collate email results and report them – **they do make a difference**. Please take advantage of this easy way to let your elected officials know your opinions. Any member questions or issues may be sent to Tom Wright, twright3@hotmail.com.

Tom Wright
912-429-3350

New Council Management System

Gary A Johnson | Published on 1/4/2019



This new system will replace our current website, Constant Contact and Newsletter systems plus give us the ability to expand with custom pages and unlimited storage and bandwidth. It is a virtual office and will give us one database instead of the multiple databases we have now.

Implementation of the first phase will start in February with project completion slated for the end of the year. You will be receiving more information as implementation progresses

This is a Council Management System (CMS), not just a website, which will help the board run the council more efficiently and provide better communications with the members and friends of the Navy League.

Annual Christmas Party



Savannah Navy League's annual Christmas Party was held at the The Landings' Plantation Club on 9 December. A wonderful selection of hors d'oeuvres followed by a delicious buffet created a great festive atmosphere. We also welcomed both Commanding Officers and their COBs and spouses from our adopted submarine USS Alaska (SSBN 732).— CDR Eric Cole (GOLD) and CDR David Brooks (BLUE).

Coast Guard Quarterly Awards



USCG MSU Savannah EPOQ
ME1 Nathaniel Diaz



USCG Air Station Savannah EPOQ
AMT2 Patrick Farley

Savannah Navy League Supports Veteran Activities



O.C. in Veteran's Day Parade



Vet Council, USO, Navy League
with Buddy Carter



O.C. speaking at Veteran's
Council Meeting 1 October

2018 Officers & Directors

President	O. C. Fowler
1st Vice President	Chuck Towles
2nd Vice President	Mary Ellen Sprague
Vice President	Pat Yovich
Vice President	Bob Gephart
Vice President - Legislative Affairs	Ed Lavish
Judge Advocate	Ed Robb
Treasurer	Cliff Angers
Secretary	Larry Sprague
Past President	Tom Latham

DIRECTORS: Alan Yovich (18); Michael Hall (18); Gary Johnson (18); Shirley McCarthy (19); Tom Nichols (19); Jeff Zureick (19); Jan Bell (20); Jean McRae (20); Vacant(20)

Savannah Steamer Newsletter

Editor Bob Gephart
Photographer Tom Wright
Photo Editor Mick McCay

Treasurer's Report Full Year Actuals 2018

2018 proved to be a very good financial year for your Savannah Council. Due to terrific effort and generosity by many of our members, as well as growing generosity by many of our local community organizations and businesses, we managed to achieve a net gain of \$ 4,730. At the same time, our main efforts clearly went directly to supporting our sea service constituents as 82% of operating expenses were program expenses.

Summary:

Income:

Dues & NLUS Rebates \$ 4,971
Grants, Sponsorships, Contributions 18,152
Special Events 11,268

Total Income 34,391

Expenses:

Management Expenses 4,350
Program Expenses 20,241
Special Event Expenses 5,070

Total Expenses 29,661

Net Gain \$ 4730

The Navy League of the United States is a civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that its national defense and economic well-being are dependent upon strong sea services-United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, and United States Merchant Marine.

The Savannah Council of the Navy League is a 501(C)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Official Business

Savannah Navy League

P O Box 16918

Savannah , GA 31416

Non-Profit Organization

U S Postage Paid

Savannah, GA

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