

Savannah Council, Navy League of the United States

President's Message



When the mission is important and an excellent team works hard and well, you can expect good things to happen. That certainly has been the case throughout 2013 for Savannah Navy League.

Thank you to the many members who have stepped forward time and time again to keep our regular support programs running smoothly and to effectively develop some exciting new ways of supporting our sea services.

With my health issues keeping me on the sidelines much of the time, it has been just great to see this dedicated and motivated team of Navy Leaguers pull together and make Savannah Council truly outstanding.

Incoming President Pat Yovich has been extremely important to that effort. With her creative leadership, I am sure that 2014 will be even better.

Best wishes for the new year.

Tom Latham, President 2013

January Speaker

CAPT Ron Davis, USMC



Our January speaker is Captain Ron Davis, USMC. He is the Assistant Director, USMC Drill Instructor School, Parris Island, SC

Capt. Davis is a native of Raeford, NC, and is a graduate, *cum laude*, of Chaminade University. His degree is in criminology

and criminal justice. He received his commission following graduation from the Officers Candidate School at Quantico, Virginia. Prior to receiving his commission, he had several years of enlisted service.

Capt. Davis' tours include an assignment in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. His combat tours include service in Afghanistan with the 3rd Division. On return from Afghanistan in 2013, he was selected to serve in the 3d Recruit Training Battalion.

He has served in his current billet since April 2013. His awards include the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Capt. Davis and his wife have three young children.

His presentation focuses on the training of Marines who will become drill instructors at this time-honored institution.

Johnny Harris

Restaurant &
BBQ Sauce Company

January 28th
Dinner Meeting 5:45 pm,
Johnny Harris Banquet Center

located at 1701 East Victory Drive

Reserve your seat today! Reservations are due no later than close of business on Friday, January 25th.

The cost is \$22 per person.

Please contact Aunette Shipes: Foxy1931@gmail.com
or call 912-330-0932 to reserve your place.

Sammy B Returns from Six Month Deployment



Our adopted surface ship, USS *Samuel B. Roberts* (FFG 58), returned to home port Mayport in October following a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea. *Sammy B* provided extensive surveillance using the new unmanned drone helicopters, FireScouts. She is already preparing for her next deployment to the same area and

is scheduled to leave in mid-June. Between now and then, *Sammy B* will be training, including a three-week trip to England for a joint exercise with our allies. Savannah Navy League is looking into opportunities when we might be able to visit *Sammy B* and her crew.



2013 Year End Treasurer's Report

Cliff Angers, Treasurer

I am happy to report that 2013 has been a very successful year financially for your council. Due to the generosity and hard work of you, the members, we have ended 2013 with a slight gain of \$ 1711 and a cash balance of \$ 20,267 (2012 ended with a cash balance of \$ 18,787). We were virtually on budget for our planned/ordinary income target (-\$ 576) and our planned/ordinary expense target (- \$521). Special events accounted for nearly all of our annual gain.

	2013 Budget	2013 Actual
Planned/Ordinary Income	\$ 20,000	\$ 19,424
Special Event Income	2,500	16,355
Total Income	22,500	35,779
Planned/Ordinary Expenses	19,750	19,229
Special Event Expenses	2,500	14,839
Total Expenses	22,250	34,068
Net Gain	250	1,711

Dues and Special Contributions

We are off to an encouraging start with our 2014 local dues drive. Especially encouraging is the number and amount of contributions that have been submitted.

Please make every effort to be timely with your dues payments and generous with your contributions. We have very ambitious plans in serving the sea services in the next 12 months and we would like to hold our dues constant going into next year.

Pat's Tidbits

Pat's Learning Curve - *Navy League membership has enabled me to become familiar with Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps terminology, as well as visit places few civilians get to go. Here are a few "tidbits" of info that I have learned over the past few months (and needless to say, I have a lot more to go!):*

MSU - Marine Safety Unit - A unit of the USCG with their office in the Federal Building, Downtown Savannah. Our present Commander of the Savannah Port is CDR Joe Loring. His boss is the NEW Commander of the USCG District 7, CAPT. Ric Rodriguez, based in the Charleston Harbor

ANT - Aids to Navigation Team - A unit of the USCG at Tybee Island. This is a crew of several guys/gals who maintain/fix the buoys and navigation markers in our various channels, including all the rivers

Eagles and Anchors - The "special" terminology used by the USCG, with Eagles being the Officers and Anchors being the Crew

Medal of Honor Museum - A Medal of Honor Museum is located on the USS *Yorktown* which is anchored in the Charleston Harbor (Patriot's Point) and open for tours

Submarine Museum at St. Mary's, GA - A wonderful history museum of Navy submarines

Kings Bay, St. Mary's - The base that houses our adopted nuclear sub, USS *Alaska*, which has two distinct crews, the Blue Crew and the Gold Crew

SOQ, SOY - Awards for the US Navy and USCG- Sailor of the Quarter, and Sailor of the Year . . . **OR**

EPOQ, EPOY - Enlisted Person of the Quarter, Enlisted Person of the Year

Pinning Ceremony - A Navy promotion of a petty officer to Chief Petty Officer. This is a big event and formal ceremony in the life of an enlisted Navy person.

Major Bruce Hemphill, USMC Retires



Savannah Navy Leaguers joined in celebrating MAJ Bruce Hemphill's retirement from active duty. MAJ Hemphill had been Inspector/Instructor of the USMC Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 45 located on HAAF, for the last couple of years and had been very welcoming to Navy Leaguers at various USMC functions.

OCTOBER

Our October 22 dinner meeting at Carey Hilliard's featured a presentation by Special Agent Jeff Jenkins, who recently retired after over 28 years serving in the U. S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). Jeff, a native of Savannah, provided us with an overview of the NCIS mission in support of the U.S. Navy and the U. S. Marine Corps. We also cut a birthday cake in honor of the U. S. Navy's 238th birthday.



DECEMBER

Savannah Council celebrated the Christmas Season with a December 13 gathering at Billy's Place in downtown Savannah. This event, organized yet again by Mick McCay, was a happy end to our 2013 year of supporting local sea services, and included a large donation of toys to the USMC sponsored Toys For Tots Program.



NOVEMBER



Our November 19 dinner meeting at Carey Hilliard's incorporated a celebration of the U.S. Marine Corps Birthday as well as election of the 2014 Officers and Directors of our council. Our speaker was MAJ Barry S. Arnwine, USMC, the current inspector/instructor at the USMC Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 45, located on HAAF. MAJ Arnwine gave us a very interesting and entertaining account of his challenges to joining and subsequent service in the Marine Corps.



USCG Air Station Savannah Celebrates 50 Years

The U. S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah celebrated 50 years of service to Savannah and surrounding areas at their facilities on HAAF on December 12. Key speakers were Rear Admiral John H. Korn, 7th Coast Guard District Commander, and CDR Greg Fuller, Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Air Station Savannah. Presentations covered the growth of Air Station Savannah and the hundreds of lives saved by these crews over the last 50 years. They have certainly earned their nickname of “Low Country Life Savers.” Savannah Navy League’s Sybil Cannon assisted with the refreshments served during the subsequent reception.



Station Tybee Receives a New Boat



Coast Guard Station Tybee received a new 45-foot RB-M, on November 5, replacing their well utilized 41-footer. Station crews are undergoing extensive training with their new vessel to become familiar with all of its advanced features. Captain Ric Rodriguez, Commander of USCG Sector Charleston, visited Tybee to join in the new boat reception, and Tybee OIC, Senior Chief Ron McCready, and his crew provided a grand welcome to all in attendance.

Sailors of the Quarter

Savannah Navy League continued its practice of joining with local Coast Guard units in recognizing their outstanding performers. Each unit selects their Sailor of the Quarter based on that Coastie’s performance, and we present that individual with a reading book from the Coast Guard reading list, a gift catalog so they can pick a gift of their choice, and we invite them to be our guest at our dinner meeting. The cost of this award program is covered using Savannah Navy League’s local dues payments. Winners this quarter were:

- Coast Guard Station Tybee -
MK3 Nelson Hoofard
- USCG Marine Safety Unit Savannah -
YN1 Justin Goodrum
- USCG Air Station Savannah -
SK2 Andrew Jeskey



Top Left: YN1 Justin Goodrum and Tom Latham. Top Right: SK2 Andrew Jeskey and CDR Greg Fuller. Left: MK3 Nelson Hoofard and Bob Gephart.

First Navy League Thanksgiving Dinner for Coast Guard & Marines



What started out as seven or eight ladies of our Navy League members coming together in a brainstorming session to see how we could help our Coast Guard and Marines that work on the holidays turned into “*We can cook for them and their families and share Thanksgiving with them!*” The rest is history!

We secured the Gunny Shack of the USCG Air Station unit on HAAF, received the go-ahead from the Coast Guard and, within 3 weeks, planned, secured donations, cooked, decorated, and hosted a wonderful Thanksgiving Day Dinner with approximately 80 (60+ Sea Services and families and 20+ NL members/families) in attendance at the Gunny Shack, **AND** we delivered food, including **all** the dessert to feed the crew at Tybee (approx. 100).

A huge THANK YOU to all that donated cash, prepared food, secured donations from businesses, helped in the setup/cleanup, and all the other “logistics” of putting on a Thanksgiving Dinner for our military friends! This *WILL* be a continued event!

A special Thank You to our NL member, Terry West, his wife, and his entire family of mom, dad, brothers, children, etc., who helped with the large servers, special platters, tables, wine and beer, and setup, and took charge of our NL “kitchen help” that day AND prepared his special “family recipe” famous truffle dessert both for Tybee and our main “kitchen at the Gunny Shack.”

The Coast Guard Crew and Marines that attended were “blown away” by all the food, special door prizes (donated from our Affiliate, The Navy Federal Credit Union) and, most of all, the *friendships of our Navy League members!* AND they received the leftovers for the next day!

Needless to say, this coming Thanksgiving of 2014, there will be another dinner with double the attendees! The word is getting out: Be with the Savannah Navy League!

NOTE: The cash donations exceeded our expenditures and have been placed in a special account for our newly formed Family Services Programs (to help our Sea Services AND their families).

Pat Yovich, Mary Jo Crowe, Patti Zureick, and the entire Volunteer Crew



Dinner Meeting Schedule

NOTE that our 2014 Dinner Meetings are rotating between Carey Hilliard's Banquet Center and Johnny Harris Banquet Center on the following schedule:

Jan 28, 5:45pm Johnny Harris
Feb 25, 5:45 pm Johnny Harris
Mar 25, 5:45 pm Johnny Harris
April 22, 5:45 pm Carey Hilliard's
May 20, 5:45 pm Carey Hilliard's



Carey Hilliard's Banquet Center is located at 11111 Abercorn St. Ext.

Johnny Harris Banquet Center is located at 1701 East Victory Drive

Johnny Harris
Restaurant & BBQ Sauce Company

NOTE: Regular Monthly MEETING RECEPTION TIME is now 5:45 pm. Please keep this schedule handy.

Savannah Navy League - Support Your League!

Logo Merchandise Sales



Sorry, however Logo Merchandise Sales products are currently being overhauled for a new sales opening at our March 2014 dinner meeting. While some products lines created in 2013 will either be continued and/or discontinued. I promise you our new products lines will encourage you to buy and wear with pride in support of our League!

I would like to thank the Savannah Navy League (SNL) membership for a successful season of Logo Merchandise Sales. In 2013, we exceeded Logo Merchandise Sales from the previous year. This has resulted in members proudly wearing their logo products at: SNL meetings, events, and throughout the community. This free advertising has increased the SNL awareness in and out of our community and resulting in an increase of membership. Your support in Logo Merchandise Sales helps our mission in supporting the men and women who faithfully serve in the various Sea Services.

During our January and February dinner meeting please stop over to the Logo Merchandise Sales table for a "Big Sale" of some remaining products which must go with discounts for some items up to 50%. Remember all items can be obtained through Bruce and Ann Ellis at upcoming dinner meetings and/or just call or email us. Contact info: email address baellis60@gmail.com or call (912) 660-5125.

Pear Harbor Remembrance - December 1 Mighty 8th Museum

The National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force held its annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on Sunday, December 1st, sponsored by the Savannah Council, Navy League of the United States, and the Fleet Reserve Association. The program is in its 13th year. Over 150 people attended this year.

Chairman of the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Ceremony Gary Johnson said that the event serves as a reminder of the significance of World War II and brings into focus the history and heritage for the military and civilian population alike.



Ten World War II veterans were in attendance.



Change-of-Command Ceremony Submarine Group 10

Alan Yovich

November 22nd, 2013 – Alan and Pat Yovich, Tom Latham, and Bob Gephart traveled to the King’s Bay Naval Base for the change-of-command ceremony where Rear Admiral Joseph E. Tofalo was relieved by Rear Admiral Charles A. “Chas” Richard.

The Savannah Navy League has adopted the submarine USS *Alaska*, which is one of four subs in Submarine Squadron 20. These along with the four subs in Submarine Squadron 16 comprise Sub Group 10.

Following the ceremony we were invited to attend a formal reception to thank outgoing RADM Tofalo and to welcome RADM Richard.



Submarine Group 10 Holiday Celebration

December 12th, 2013 – Alan and Pat Yovich, along with Bob Gephart, once again traveled to King’s Bay to the Sub Group 10 headquarters for a holiday reception hosted by RADM “Chas” Richard. It was quite a surprise to be met at the front door by RADM Richard who was dressed in civilian attire. We were welcomed and ushered in to what can best be described as an elegant meet-and-greet. We were surrounded by food and drink. All this plus a Navy band ensemble playing Christmas music. Wow! These admirals really do things first class.



Golf Outings

Joe Tillman continued his organization of golf outings with two tournaments this quarter. On October 21 Joe arranged for a team from our adopted submarine, USS *Alaska* (SSBN 732), to participate in a tournament at the Savannah Harbor course. The *Alaska* team finished a strong second in the tournament and enjoyed a nice day on the course. On November 8, Joe arranged for a golf tournament in celebration of Veteran’s Day at the HAAF course. There were several participants from our local sea services in that outing.



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Savannah Steamer Newsletter
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Layout Mick McCay
Photographer Lynn Wright

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 full-color printed edition of the Savannah Steamer is published quarterly .Additional news to the members is posted via emails and updates to the Savannah Council's website and FaceBook page.

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

Upcoming Events

January 28	5:45 PM	Dinner Meeting at Johnny Harris
February 4	5:30 PM	BOD Meeting at USCG Air Station
February 14	10:00 AM	USS Alaska Gold Change of Command, Kings Bay
February 25	5:45 PM	Dinner Meeting at Johnny Harris
March 4	5:30 PM	BOD Meeting at USCG Air Station
March 6	TBD	USS <i>Samuel B. Roberts</i> Dinner, Jacksonville - Venue TBD
March 25	5:45 PM	Dinner Meeting at Johnny Harris
April 1	5:30 PM	BOD Meeting at USCG Air Station
April 22	5:45 PM	Dinner Meeting at Carey Hilliard's
April 26	5:30 PM	Submarine Ball - Hyatt Regency, Jacksonville, FL
May 6	5:30 PM	BOD Meeting at USCG Air Station
May 20	5:45 PM	Dinner Meeting at Carey Hilliard's

Support Our Navy League Community Affiliates . . .

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