

2021 in Review

Savannah Navy League

Citizens' Support of Our Nation's Sea Services and Their Families



Recognition Programs & Promotion Ceremonies

Savannah Navy League presented more than 80 recognition awards for outstanding performance during 2021 to members of the Navy, Coast Guard, Navy ROTC, Navy JROTC, and Marine JROTC. These award presentations required multiple trips to Kings Bay Submarine Base, GA, Parris Island, SC, and local Savannah area USCG, NJROTC and NROTC units.

- USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) BLUE and GOLD – Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay – Sailors of the Quarter / Year & Submariner Leadership Awards
- USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) Battle E Award Ceremony – Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) - Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay – SUBLANT Sailor of the Year
- Submarine Squadron 20 – Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay – Submariner Leadership Awards
- Submarine Squadron 16 – Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay – Submariner Leadership Awards
- USMC Recruit Depot – Parris Island - Retirement Ceremony
- USCG Air Station Savannah – Enlisted Persons of the Quarter / Year and three Retirement ceremonies - provided ceremonial cakes.
- USCG Marine Safety Unit Savannah – Enlisted Persons of the Quarter / Year
- USCG Station Tybee – Enlisted Persons of the Quarter
- USCG Maritime Force Protection Unit at Kings Bay – Enlisted Persons of the Quarter
- Savannah State University NROTC Annual Midshipmen Awards
One \$500 scholarship awarded to Savannah State University NROTC Midshipman.
- Johnson High School and Jenkins High School NJROTC Cadet of the Month Awards presented at monthly SNL Dinner Meetings
- South Effingham High School NJROTC / MJROTC Annual NLUS Youth Award
- Jenkins High School NJROTC Annual NLUS Youth Award
- Johnson High School NJROTC Annual NLUS Youth Award



Change of Command Ceremonies

- Submarine Squadron 20 – Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- USCG Aids to Navigation Team – Tybee Island, GA
- Submarine Squadron 16 – Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- Commander - Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) GOLD - Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- USS SIOUX CITY (LCS 11) – Naval Station Mayport



Family Support Activities

- Prepared and delivered more than 30 Baby Bags to new Moms at USS ALASKA – Kings Bay, USCG MFPU at Kings Bay, and USCG units in Savannah.
- Traveled to Darien, GA several times to meet USS Alaska's BLUE and GOLD FRGs for lunch and deliver Baby Bags and supplies for Single Sailor Bags.
- Provided various items for approximately 150 Single Sailor Boxes for both of USS Alaska's crews to distribute during their patrols.
- Collected dozens of toys for the USMC Toys for Tots Program and delivered them to the USMC representative in early December.



Dinner Meetings - Guest Speakers

Our nine dinner meetings during 2021 included interesting and informative topics. Each dinner meeting was opened with a Color Guard provided by either Johnson or Jenkins High Schools NJROTC. Both high schools were also invited to recognize a Cadet of the Month at every meeting.

FEBRUARY - Savannah Navy League conducted a hybrid dinner meeting, using ZOOM for virtual attendees and meeting in person, our first meeting since COVID stopped our meetings after March, 2020. Past President, CDR O.C. Fowler, USN (ret.), was our featured speaker. He gave an entertaining presentation describing his Navy career from beginning to end.

MARCH – SNL's first in-person meeting since March, 2021 due to COVID restrictions. Hans Stautberg, graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and currently 2nd Mate aboard a cable laying ship, gave a great presentation on U.S. Merchant Marine Ships and their current operating status.

APRIL – CDR Brandon Hilleary, Commanding Officer of USCG Air Station Savannah, presented details of USCG operations in the South Carolina, Georgia, north Florida area.

MAY – Berry Aldridge, the Director of Ticketing for the Savannah Bananas, spoke on the success this summer collegiate baseball club has enjoyed in Savannah. SNL hosts a Coast Guard Family Night at the Savannah Bananas every summer.

JUNE - SNL President, CAPT Tom Nichols, USN (Ret.), reviewed his recent trip to the NLUS Annual Meeting in St Louis, MO. A number of initiatives were adopted, including a plan to permit active duty military to join NLUS.

SEPTEMBER – Coast Guard Birthday Month - BMCM Eric Risner, USCG, Officer In Charge of USCG Station Tybee, gave a very interesting summary of his USCG career to date, and an update on construction of the new facilities at Station Tybee.

OCTOBER – Navy Birthday Month - RDML Mike Broadway, USN (Ret.) gave a very informative presentation detailing the melding of the Navy's Reserve and Active Duty Intelligence Services and how they jointly support the Navy.

NOVEMBER – Marine Corps Birthday Month - Our guest speaker was MSgt Ramon S. Rodriguez, USMC (Ret.), currently

serving in the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Office of Middle East and Africa.

DECEMBER – Christmas Dinner Meeting – CDR Justin Hardy, USN, Commanding Officer of USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) GOLD, and MTCM Jonathan Van Noy, USN, COB, spoke on their most recent patrol that included a port call at the British base at Gibraltar.



Support Activities & Special Events

Continuous focus of Council support on our adopted ships, their crews and their families: USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) GOLD and BLUE, USS LITTLE ROCK (LCS 9) GOLD and BLUE, USS SIOUX CITY (LCS 11) GOLD and BLUE, USCG Air Station Savannah, USCG MSU Savannah, and USCG Station Tybee, USCGC POMPAÑO (WPB-87339), USCG Aids to Navigation – Tybee, and USCG Maritime Force Protection Units Kings Bay.

- SNL served Thanksgiving Dinner to about 40 USCG family members at USCG Air Station Savannah, and delivered another 30 dinners to USCG Station Tybee.
- SNL organized a Coast Guard Night at the Savannah Bananas baseball game, providing food and drink for over 230 Coast Guard family members, and a fun night for all.
- Organized and conducted a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony, open to the public at the National Museum of the 8th Air Force. Approximately 90 people attended.
- Visited with MOC Honorable Buddy Carter to present NLUS information directly to him.
- Organized and conducted a golf tournament with 21 teams, including 12 sponsored military teams (USN, USMC, USCG, USA) who played at no cost to them.
- Hosted the NLUS South Atlantic Coast Region Meeting in Savannah. Representatives from Coastal Carolina, Hilton Head, Atlanta, Camden Kings Bay, Charleston, and Wilmington Councils attended. Special Guests: Bill Stevenson, President National Navy League - from Arizona, David Reilly, National Present-Elect, Jim Offutt, National Co-Chair Legislative Affairs Committee, and CDR Brendan Hilleary, Commanding Officer of USCG Air Station Savannah.
- Established a Commissioning Committee in October to start raising funds and organizing events supporting the Feb 2022 USS SAVANNAH (LCS 28) Commissioning.
- Participated in the Memorial Day Remembrance ceremony at Mighty 8th Air Force Museum, assisting in planting 26,000 flags remembering the 8th Air Force losses of WWII.
- Provided the keynote speaker, CDR O.C. Fowler, USN (Ret.), for the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 671 Memorial Day Ceremony.
- Provided funding support for the Low Country Chief Petty Officers Association Golf Tournament.
- Supported Savannah area NJROTC Summer Camp for over 20 cadets.
- Presented NLUS Youth Awards to selected NJROTC Cadets at three Savannah area high schools.
- Attended Johnson High School's Annual Military Inspection ceremony.
- Savannah Navy League donated \$500 to the Jenkins High School STEM Robotics program.
- Provided Single Sailor Bags for both GOLD and BLUE crews of USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) for distribution during their patrols.
- Supported the USCG Air Station Savannah Kids' Christmas Party at the Air Station.
- Attended the USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) GOLD Christmas party in Callahan, FL.
- Participated in the annual Army – Navy Football viewing party in Savannah.
- Set up SNL display board and attended the Savannah Boat Show.
- Attended U.S. Army dedication of a USA Survey Vessel.
- Attended the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Division Soldier's Ball
- CDR O.C. Fowler, USN, (Ret.), was a speaker on leadership to USCG MSU Savannah.
- SNL donated funds to both VFW 660 and Vietnam Vets Chapter 671 to support their works.

