

# COMPASS POINTS

Greater Chattanooga Area/John J. Spittler Council of the Navy League US

*Citizens in Support of the Sea Services ~ U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Flag Merchant Marine*

VOL. 15

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2017

ISSUE 1

## CHATT NAVY LEAGUE TO HOST 2017 NAVY BALL

## LCDR TIMOTHY WHITE RECEIVES RECOGNITION AT STATE CAPITOL



### President's Message

*Mickey McCamish, President*

A belated Happy New Year to Navy League members and friends and welcome to our first program and newsletter (*Compass Points*) of 2017. It is my honor and challenge to be selected as president of our council. I look forward to serving as president and all of us working together, which will bring benefits to the sea services.

Our primary need is membership, for without membership, there can be no benefits to anyone. To our present members, I challenge each of us to introduce the Navy League to our associates and friends as well as maintaining our own membership in the Navy League.

To prospective members, the Navy League is a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 civilian organization that supports America's sea services: U. S. Navy, U. S. Marine Corps, U. S. Coast Guard and the U. S.-flag Merchant Marine. We are the trusted civilian partners of the sea services, supporting their mission, their personnel and their families. The Navy league believes in building a strong foundation for those services through youth programs and locally, our Council sponsors two Sea Cadet Divisions (Chattanooga and Signal Mountain) and the Navy Junior ROTC unit at Howard High School.

As we try to increase our membership in order to carry out our mission in support of the sea services, the sea services struggle to carry out their mission in the face of devastating cuts in funding. Sequestration and continuing resolutions are taking their toll on all services and the security of our nation. It is a time when we are witnessing foreign nations building their militaries, testing nuclear weapons and seeking to destroy our way of life.

*Mickey McCamish, President*



### Council Dinner Meeting

**New Year Kick-Off! Choo-Choo Dinner meeting Feb. 16.**

Our next Council Dinner meeting is set for Thursday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> at the Choo-Choo. It is sure to be an interesting one as we will have as our speaker Charles Alsobrook, Hamilton County Veterans Service Officer.

He has recently taken the reins of this new office which has the formidable task of coordinating and encouraging all the many veteran support activities in the county. These activities touch on nearly every aspect of social, economic, health, and other topics that affect our veterans. There is an "alphabet soup" of agencies and departments that deal with these things but, in their very abundance, there may lie obstacles to delivering the support to where it is needed. Mr. Alsobrook's new office is our hope for progress in this vital area.





## Navy League Challenge Coins ... still available

Last summer, we announced availability of our Council's very special challenge coin. We commissioned a limited edition batch - and there are a few left. If you haven't already gotten one, you shouldn't miss an opportunity to get one or, maybe, more to give to a family member or friend.

Our board approved the design and production of our Chattanooga Council Navy League Challenge Coin. About the size and heft of a traditional silver dollar, this coin has been beautifully manufactured with precise detail. Something any member would be proud to have as a keepsake.

The coin identifies our Chattanooga council on the front border surrounding the Navy League anchor symbol. On the other side, our primary mission of "Citizens in Support of the Sea Services" surrounds the crests of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine sea services.

These 1 3/4" coins will be available at our Navy League dinner meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> for \$10.

### *Chattanooga Navy League Council Challenge Coin (Shown Actual Size)*



*1-3/4" Diameter*



Hamilton County's new Veteran Service Officer, Charles Alsobrook III, is an Air Force veteran, and graduate of Louisiana Tech University. He is the former manager of the Georgia Department of Veterans Services' Lafayette branch, and is accredited by the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs to represent six Veteran Service Organizations, including The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and the Tennessee Department of Veterans Services.

He currently resides with his wife and three children in Trenton, Georgia. The Hamilton County Veterans Services Office is located in the Development Resource Center at 1250 Market Street, Suite 1006, downtown Chattanooga. If you would like to schedule an appointment for VA purposes, please call (423) 209-7884.



## TRIVIA

**Previous Trivia Question:** Which U.S. Military Service has the most 4-Star Generals?

**Answer:** The United States Air Force

**Trivia Question:** What is the oldest American military uniform item in continuous use?

Answer will be in next issue of *Compass Points*, space permitting.

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

## *Annual Dues*

### Dues now Due

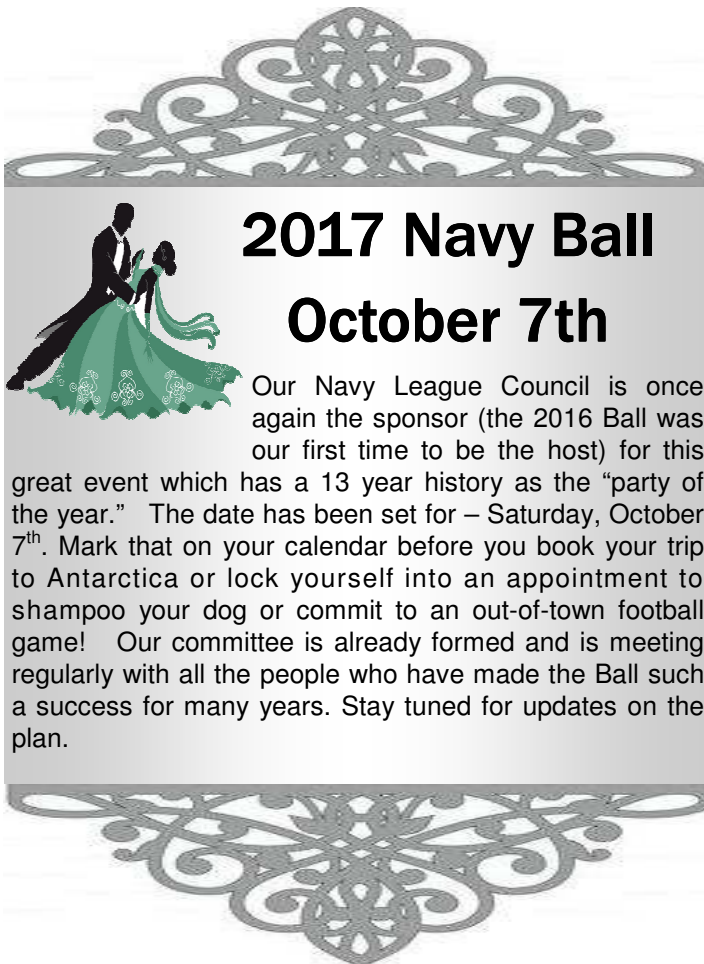
As you probably know, there are two parts to Navy League dues. The main one is the "national" dues which support and are collected by the national organization in Washington DC. They mail annual "re-up" reminders to members in the anniversary month of each member's membership. Those dues fund the national organization's activities in support of the Sea Services.

The other part (and the real reason for this article!) is that "local" dues for 2017 are now due. Local dues are used by our Chattanooga Council to help pay for our operating expenses, support of Sea Cadets, NJROTC programs and support of our local Active Duty Navy and Marine Corps members. Local Dues are \$15 per member or \$20 per couple (if both are members).

You can pay by mailing a check made payable to **"NLUS Chattanooga"** to the following address:

Mark Parks, Treasurer  
6920 Sawtooth Drive  
Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894

A timely inflow of dues helps make our operations run smoother! Thanks go out to these member who have already sent in their **Happy New Year 2017 local dues**: Bobby Crates, Jim Fields, Billy Hewitt, Stacy Kehoe, Gary Meyer, Larson Mick, Kermit Mock, John Niemeyer, Mark & Patty Parks, Alden & Carolene Perry, George Phillips, Willard & Linda Rice, Dan Saieed, David Smith, and Alan Syler.



## 2017 Navy Ball

### October 7th

Our Navy League Council is once again the sponsor (the 2016 Ball was our first time to be the host) for this great event which has a 13 year history as the "party of the year." The date has been set for – Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Mark that on your calendar before you book your trip to Antarctica or lock yourself into an appointment to shampoo your dog or commit to an out-of-town football game! Our committee is already formed and is meeting regularly with all the people who have made the Ball such a success for many years. Stay tuned for updates on the plan.

## LCDR Timothy White Receives Standing Ovation at State Capitol



On Jan 12th, the *Chattanooga Times Free Press* carried a story filed by their Nashville State Capitol bureau reporter about LCDR Timothy White's actions on July 16, 2015. The article revealed details which Navy League-Chattanooga Council dinner attendees first heard directly from LCDR White in October and all members could read in our Nov-Dec *Compass Points*.

The members of the Tennessee General Assembly gave LCDR White, who was delivering the invocation, a standing ovation at their 2017 opening session. It was gratifying to read that he was finally recognized at the state level for bravely confronting the terrorist who attacked the Naval Reserve Center, officially, the "NOSC", killing 5 servicemen.



# Quartet Wows Audience

Our December meeting featured a quartet of important guests: three cadet representatives from the Chattanooga, Signal Mountain and Hurricane Sea Cadet divisions and one from the Howard High School NJROTC -- briefing us on their respective groups' activities for this past year.

They explained how they had grown as leaders due to the training opportunities they had experienced both during the school year and, especially, in the summer. Yes, even Parris Island can be "cool" in the summer if you are a teenage cadet! They related how these experiences built up comradery among their shipmates. We sensed their appreciation for the support of the Navy League and the adult leaders who had provided much personal time to the cadet units.

Representing the Chattanooga Division was Petty Officer Second Class Dane Hamilton. Dane is a junior at the Baylor School, where he is on the Lacrosse team. He has been in the Sea Cadets since July of 2014.

Representing the Signal Mountain Division was PO1 Callie Regal. Callie is the division's Lead Petty Officer. She is an accomplished piano player and has won many awards through district and state.

Representing the Hurricane Division was PO2 Kevin Currie. Kevin is a former League Cadet now Sea Cadet. He attends Ooltewah High School and is also in the NJROTC program there. He is currently the division's Yeoman.

Representing the NJROTC at Howard High School...Cadet Latricia Hood is a second year cadet and currently serves as Operations Officer. She is a recipient of the Military Officers Association of America leadership award and has contributed myriad unit support hours. She was selected to attend Space Camp's Mach III Flight Challenge last summer and will attend Area 9 Leadership camp this summer.

It was thrilling to hear their unique stories of what their respective groups are doing and to recognize how their involvement in Sea Cadets and NJROTC is broadening their worlds.



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1. "Is Sea Cadet Dane Hamilton telling (from left) Kevin Currie, Callie Regal, Latricia Hood, and Larson Mick a sea story?"
2. Featured, from left, are PO2 Kevin Currie, PO2 Dane Hamilton, Outgoing League President Ron Galante, Incoming League President Mickey McCamish, NJROTC Cadet Latricia Hood, and PO1 Callie Regal.

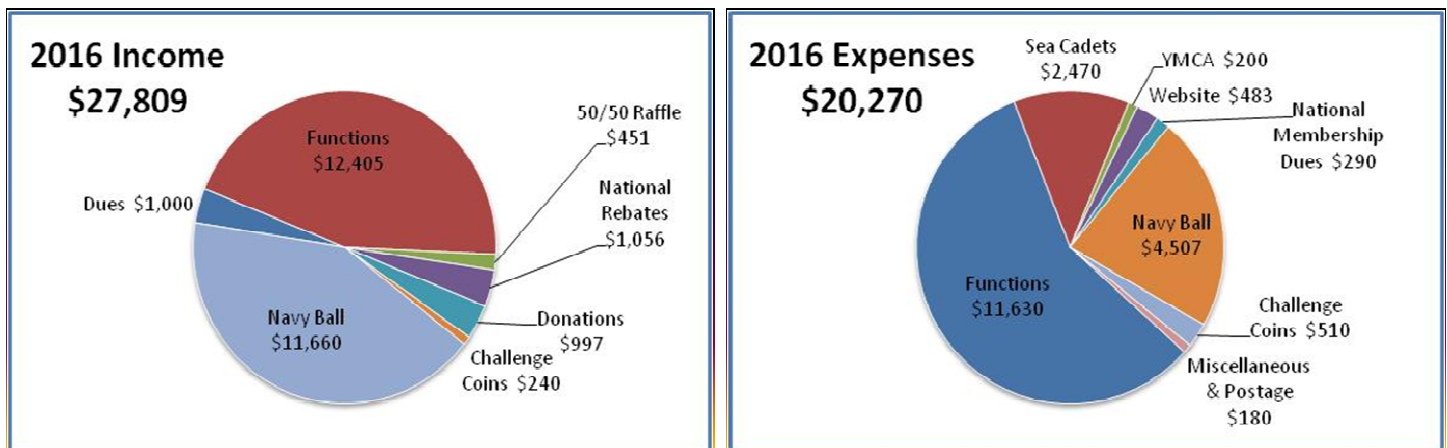


# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

## NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES, GREATER CHATTANOOGA AREA COUNCIL

The Navy League has three missions: to enhance the morale of active-duty personnel and their families; inform Congress and the American public on the importance of strong sea services; and support youth through programs such as the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Junior ROTC and Young Marines that expose young people to the values of our sea services.

### Financial Highlights



Our Council's financial position strengthened substantially in 2016. As the above charts show, our expenses were \$20,269.87 while income was \$27,808.55 resulting in a gain of \$7,538.68. Most of this gain was because the expenses for the Navy Ball were \$4,507.27 while receipts were \$11,659.55. Our year-end cash balance was \$16,022.78 while our year starting position had been \$8,484.10, a net gain of \$7,538.68.

This strengthened position is important because this next year we do not expect that it will be possible to have the dinner donated to us for the ball, as was accomplished by the extraordinary efforts of the 2016 organizing committee.

In reviewing this past year's activities, one would have to say that, when we took on the responsibility for the Navy Ball at mid-year, virtually on an emergency basis, the successful setting up and running of this event was the major highlight of the year. The inspired management of the project by Ball Committee chairman Mickey McCamish supported by committee members Billy Hewitt, Ron Galante, Dan Saieed, Stacy Kehoe and Mark Parks, and, in particular, by Mark's diligent financial oversight, put the Ball on a solid footing. It was a great event and we look forward to continuing to host the Navy Ball for the community.

While the Navy Ball was a lot of work, the Navy League was a lot of fun this past year, too. We held four social dinners at the Choo-Choo – each one with an interesting program. Featured speakers included Dr. Tom Petrilak, Chief Operating Officer of Erlanger Physician Services, who described the programs to reduce

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# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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barriers to care for veterans and Dr. Tom Dooley, Dean of the College of Business at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, who presented detail on the local Veteran Entrepreneurship Program which he had established.

Our sponsored Sea Cadet divisions and the Howard JNROTC division provided Colors for our dinners and they ably provided a review of their 2016 accomplishments at our December dinner. For many, the most meaningful dinner talks were delivered by US Navy LCDR Timothy White in his heartfelt address at the Navy Ball and then his speech at our October dinner where he presented new and vitally important facts about the July 16, 2015 attack at the Navy Reserve (NOSC) Center.

The 2016 Armed Forces Day parade was exhilarating with participation by our Sea Cadet divisions, the Howard JNROTC unit and Navy League members Ron Galante and Alden Perry who drove Navy League placarded cars in the parade. We added to our membership count during the past two years after several years' plateauing. Clearly a goal for the coming year is to renew our efforts in this area. Every member can help.

And for those who climbed aboard, the trip to the USS Tennessee SSBN 734 in Kings Bay, GA was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Ron Galante assured that we all got there and all returned.... and made sure everything in between worked, including the fact that 371 bags of snacks on the bus was exactly the number needed. Plus it turned a profit!

The year was not without its sorrow. The sudden passing of Sandy McMillan, who was a longtime pillar of strength for our Council, was a traumatic event for all who knew him. He is missed. At the same time, we are all heartened by Council "founding father" Jack Spittler's continued resilience in the face of health issues - - not surprising to those who witnessed his building of the Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council.

The end of the year brought change and new resources to our Council. David Smith joined our Board of Directors. Gary Meyer who has moved to northeast TN left the Board. We thank him for his years of service. In proof of the Life Lesson (don't tell your kids) that the reward for successfully carrying a heavy load is .....another heavy load, Mickey McCamish, after the outstanding success of the Navy Ball project, is now our new President.

We are grateful for the enthusiastic, meticulous, and resourceful leadership, with humor, that Ron Galante has provided the Council these past two years. Those beautiful challenge coins were his baby---and will outlast us all.

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# Holiday Dinner Social



1. (L/R): John and Laurel Niemeyer.
2. The newly elected Board, (L/R): Mark Parks, David Smith, Billy Hewitt, Stacy Kehoe, Ron Galante, President Mickey McCamish, Alden Perry, and Larson Mick. Not pictured: Directors Willard Rice and Dan Saieed.
3. (L/R): George Phillips, Ed Lusk, Ron Nudo, Mark Parks.
4. (L/R): David Smith, Carolene and Alden Perry.
5. (L/R): Nancy and Vince Patterson.





# Some Of The Highlights From 2016



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## ARMED FORCES DAY



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1. NJROTC Howard Parade Battalion.
2. Ron Galante at the helm with Sea Cadets (L/R): LC4 Angel Lopez and PO3 Eric Stone.
3. 1stBMCS Sean McMahon Officer in Charge USCGC OUACHITA (WLR-655-1) and his son, LC2 Joseph McMahon (from the Hurricane Division) ready to celebrate the parade.



# Some Of The Highlights From 2016



1



*Featured at the September Council Dinner Meeting are:*

- 1. Gary Meyer and Sue Galante.*
- 2. Stacy Kehoe selling 50-50 tickets.*
- 3. Leigh Althaus and David Smith.*



2



3

# Some Of The Highlights From 2016



*Featured at the September Council Dinner Meeting are:*

- 1. Tom and Pat McGrath, Nancy Patterson, and Lauren Niemeyer.*
- 2. Linda Rice, Ron Galante, and Willard Rice.*
- 3. Vince Patterson with paddle from USS Tennessee SSBN-734.*





# Some Of The Highlights From 2016



*Navy Reservist LS2 Andrew Stephenson gave the Invocation.*



*President Ron Galante with wife, Sue Galante.*



*L/R: Congressman Chuck Fleischmann and Mass Communication Specialist Chief America A. Henry .*

## *241st. Navy Ball Celebration*



*Mark and Patty Parks.*



*LCDR Timothy White with wife, Franicia White.*

*(U.S. Navy photos contributed by Mass Communication Specialist Chief America A. Henry)*





**GREATER CHATTANOOGA  
AREA/JOHN J. SPITTLER  
COUNCIL**  
P. O. Box 151  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377



• OUR ADOPTED COMMAND AND UNITS •

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[chattanooganavyleague.org](http://chattanooganavyleague.org)



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Chattanooga Navy League



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ChattNavyLeague

• MACKIE AWARD WINNER •

*Compass Points* is the bimonthly publication of the Navy League of the United States Greater Chattanooga Area/John J. Spittler Council.

*Editor • Willard K. Rice, Jr.  
Publisher • Mary B. Dall  
Photographer • Patty Parks*



**COUNCIL DINNER MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 16, 2017**  
*Chattanooga Choo-Choo Historic Hotel  
Roosevelt Room  
1400 Market Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402*

- 6:00 PM Social Time (Cash Bar in adjacent lounge)
- 6:30 PM Welcome (Members & Guests please take seats)
- 6:35 PM Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
- 6:45 PM Buffet Dinner
- 7:30 PM Guest Speaker ~ Charles Alsobrook
- 8:15 PM 50/50 Drawing and Announcements
- 8:30 PM Adjournment

**DINNER RESERVATION FORM**

Please complete and return the dinner reservation form, at right, for the February 16 Council Dinner Meeting of the Greater Chattanooga Area/John J. Spittler Council.

Reservations may be **phoned** in to Mark Parks: 423-326-0839, **no later than Noon, Thursday, February 16th.** Mark may also be reached at [mparks@epbfi.com](mailto:mparks@epbfi.com).

**Cancellations should reach us NO LATER THAN NOON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017.**

**FEBRUARY 16, 2017**  
**DINNER RESERVATION FORM**  
*Chattanooga Choo-Choo Historic Hotel  
Roosevelt Room  
Chattanooga, TN 37402*

**Buffet featuring 2 Entrée selections, sides, rolls, dessert, tea & coffee:**

**NLUS Members:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00  
**Non-Member Guests:** \_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00

Please **PRINT** the names of all **guests** and **members**:

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**Reservations should reach us NO LATER THAN NOON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017.**

**Mail reservations and your check, made payable to Chattanooga Navy League, to:**

**Mark Parks**  
**6920 Sawtooth Drive**  
**Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894**

*NOTE: Pay-at-the-door without Advance Reservations is \$45.00 per person. Regrettably, no shows will be charged the full amount for dinner.*