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President's Message

Mickey McCamish, President

As we enter the fall of the year, it's a very exciting time in our Navy league of the United States-Greater Chattanooga Area Council as so many activities get underway. It's such an active time as football returns to Tennessee, as the school year begins for our young people and a lot of fall activities fill everyone's schedules. Therefore, this time of year serves as a reminder of one of our missions and that is the support of our Naval Sea Cadets and Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps programs.

In my research I found that the Navy League has proudly served as an exclusive sponsor of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps programs, since its inception, over 55 years ago. Over the years, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps has grown, to presently, nearly 9,000 young men and women in 385 units

around the nation. Locally, another extremely important program that serves our youth is the Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps program at Howard High School. These are premier programs that offer many benefits to the youth in our community.

Our local funding for both of these programs is primarily through our local dues. By many, and even though reminders are sent, these dues are overlooked. The annual local dues amounts are small with \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a couple. Please make an extra effort to remember these dues as the training and education provided by both, the Naval Sea Cadets and the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Corps programs, provide the foundation of discipline, core values, teamwork along with seamanship and seagoing skills for whatever career field they may choose.

Thank you for being a member of the Navy League of the United States - Greater Chattanooga Council - and please do come to the Navy Ball. You will be glad you did! It's a great celebration of our "Navy community."

Mickey McCamish
President



We're
rolling out
The Red Carpet for
The 24th
Navy Birthday
Ball

Saturday, October 14, 2017
Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel

*An elegant evening of dining, dancing
and entertainment.*

Look throughout this issue for
specific details.

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Professional Entertainers Headlining Ball

There still is time to get reservations in for the October 14th Navy Ball. **Reservations** need to be in **by October 7th** ... so you still have a few days to get on the list. The reservation form on the last page of this issue provides all necessary information.

The Navy Ball is sure to be an enjoyable event ... starting with the fact that it draws together the Chattanooga "Navy community" in a way no other activity does. Going by last year's celebration (after all, the Navy Ball is the Navy's Birthday party counting at 242 years this year), attendees then and surely will this year include local active duty Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard members, reservists and veterans of all services, Sea Scout supporters, Navy Leaguers and families and friends of all of the above.

Last year was the first year our Navy League Council took on the responsibility for the Navy Ball. We pulled it off with help from the entire local Navy community. This year we built on that foundation and now, as the official host of the ball, this year's ball promises to set a new standard. With volunteers from a cross section of those mentioned above, we have raised a significant amount of money through "beer tent" sales during concerts at Riverbend and River Front Nights this past summer --- proceeds that offset part of the ball's cost and enabling price reductions - as can be seen in the reservation form.



The elegance and pageantry of the Navy Ball makes the occasion rank as one of the most special events of the year in Chattanooga. The dinner itself is a step up from last year's in that it is "seated" ie: servers will deliver your choice of three dinner plates (See the reservation form ... 3 delicious choices). This means no long "congo" line to interrupt your conversations and fun.

Entertainment: A ball wouldn't be a ball without dancing. There will be after-dinner music by DJ Gene Lovin for the adventurous and energetic -- That is for those people who are not completely exhausted from laughing so much after being entertained by Sheila Van Dyke, our evening's featured speaker.

Sheila, known as the "Ambassador of Laughter" has performed for our military all over the world. With her innovative style and versatility, Sheila maintains an original, provocative satire that landed her on Nick@Nite's Funniest Mom In America 3. She is one of the few female comedians to earn the honor of performing multiple times for military troops stationed overseas and has also opened for the bands "Staind" and "The Happenings."

In 1997, she began performing for comedy club audiences on a regular basis. Her act is smooth, confident and sassy, reflecting her personal experiences growing up in the mountains of Virginia, Army Boot Camp, marrying a Polish man, moving north, kids, performing comedy in a war zone, life around us and unusual observations.



Challenge Coin Gift:



As a special gift to attendees, each will be receiving a newly created "Navy Birthday Ball" Challenge Coin commemorating the event. Much thanks to Ron Galante for coming up with the idea, designing it and getting it produced. The only way to receive this collector's item quality coin is to come to the Ball.

So.. Navy Leaguers ... Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate with others our Navy's birthday. Act now ... time is short.



Navy Ball Fund Campaign

Fundraising has brought in \$10,256 this year!

As readers of *Compass Points* over the last few issues can't fail to notice, our Council is the official host of the upcoming Ball. What you may not have noticed or been fully aware of is all the planning and effort that has been going on.

The Navy Ball planning committee and the fundraising group consist of reservists, active duty Navy members, Navy Leaguers, Sea Cadets supporters, spouses and friends. The planning committee has been meeting tirelessly for many months devoting many Sunday afternoons to ironing out all the details and arrangements for the Ball. Billy Hewitt, Ron Galante, Mark Parks, Stacy Kehoe and Mickey McCamish have been the primary Navy Leaguers participating in the planning efforts.

Behind the scenes, in some respects, has been the fund-raising campaign. Its goal is to provide the money needed to get the (pun not-intended) ball rolling and to enable us to lower the cost for attendees. The fund raising campaign has brought in \$10,256 and this is all going to reducing the individual's cost of coming to the Ball. You will see in the reservation form that the ticket is as low as zero for lower ranks. We want the Navy Ball to be as broad and diverse as our interest in the Navy is strong.

How did we raise all this money? The answer may be politically incorrect but it is: ... **Beer!** Yes, quenching people's thirst when it is in the high 80s or 90s down by the steamy Tennessee River might run afoul of some people's standards but also can be described as a charitable act.

We staffed "beer tents" for the American Dream Concert, 7 nights at Riverbend in June, and then 6 more Saturday nights at Riverfront Nights during July and August. And, if that wasn't enough, we served about 3,000 people at the North Georgia Amphitheater in Ringgold on Sept 2nd. The 52 people who gave up their Saturdays volunteered approximately 1,266 hours of work over the 15 events. Patrick Abercrombie, Bobby Rivers, Mark Parks and Alan Stephenson were there almost every night. Our volunteers were Navy Reservists, Navy Leaguers, Sea Cadets supporters, spouses and friends. Twenty-six people staffed on 4 or more evenings. The Sea Cadet

supporters and reservists were the mainstay of the effort. In addition to Mark Parks, Navy Leaguers putting in many shifts were Billy Hewitt, Stacey Kehoe, Larson Mick and Willard Rice.

Was it worth it? Certainly ... from the effect of the result: a large portion of Navy Ball's cost was under-written by the funds raised. This makes the Ball more affordable and enables it to draw in an increased number of people from our "Navy community" and that has to be good!

Also, being at the beer tent evenings brought our volunteers from all the different segments of the Navy community in touch with each other -- all working on a shared goal, being resourceful in the chaos of loud rock or country music blasting over everyone ... "was that 1 or 2," ... and ..."was it a Lite, Shocktop, Heinken, Corona ... etc." And "... how about a Navy League koozie, we're raising money for the Navy Ball, gotta keep that beer cold ... donation appreciated..."

Try getting all that out while serving each person as fast as possible! "Oh, all you have is a \$100 bill and you want a single \$5 beer!... Sure (ugh) we can make change." Then the next person shows up with NO money at all! Wants to buy a beer (or a bottle of water) with a credit card. Now, who goes out to a rock concert with absolutely no money in their pocket and expects to buy a beer, popcorn or a pretzel from a street vendor/tent with a credit card ... or else starve? Apparently, a lot of people. It's a new world. We point them to an ATM just 100 feet away and they come back, thirstier.



Left to right: Mark Parks; Pablo Mejia; Gary Coles; Leigh Ann Beesley; Akela Barkley; Donnis Barkley; Patricia Cerantonio, and Larson Mick .

Selling ice-cold beer when it is 90 degrees out is absolutely no problem.

There is a phrase about "selling ice-boxes to Eskimos" being easy. Don't understand that. It should be "selling fur-line gloves to Eskimos..." People are so happy to get their beer and we are so happy to accept their inflated payment of \$5 or \$6 per can that makes the evening go by in a flash. At the end in the dark, we clean up and count the money. Tips, water and koozie sale/donations usually made up the lion's share of our evening's take.

Continued ~ page 5

Social Gathering - October 19th 6 PM



Boathouse Rotisserie & Raw Bar
1459 Riverside Drive (Amnicola Highway)
Chattanooga, TN

This month, instead of having our usual Council dinner at the Choo-Choo, we are planning a casual get-together at the Boathouse at 6 pm on Thursday Oct 19th. This is right on the heels of the Navy Ball and having two events in one week at the Choo-Choo would be a bit much for those Navy Leaguers who are also going to the Ball – and we hope that a lot will!

Since we are a bit land-locked here in Chattanooga, the Boathouse is about as good as it can get for us nautical-oriented people: ... boat (house), river ... water in view.

So the get-together at the Boathouse is a completely different thing than our dinner ... no ceremony, no speaker, no set meal, no reservation. It is just an opportunity to gather, mingle and talk. Have a drink, an iced tea or a coke ... and stay if you wish for an appetizer or something more substantial. Everyone is on their own (ie: you pay for whatever you order).

Although there is no reservation, it would be good to have some advance alert if you plan to come --- so those who get there first can capture some space/tables for the likely number who may show up. But if you make your mind up at the last minute, don't be concerned, come anyway!

You can issue that alert by telephoning Willard Rice at 603-557-7224 (leave a message if I don't answer) or e-mail: wkrice@aol.com when you decide to come.



Highlights from August Dinner Speaker, Tom V. "Comet" Halley, Jr.

Navy Leaguers attending the August dinner meeting at the Choo-Choo were treated to an inside look at the Navy's newest aircraft, the Lockheed-Martin F-35C, by Tom V. "Comet" Halley, Jr., Business Development Program Manager for the F-35C. He came to us from Lockheed-Martin's F-35 production headquarters in Dallas. Through a combination of video, graphical slides and personal remarks, Tom made the F-35C come alive before our eyes. He explained how all new aircraft programs are controversial due to the trade-offs the designers must make to accommodate the ever-increasing range of requirements, some of which are in conflict with each other.

For example, with the F-35C, the goal was to design an aircraft that handled not just the Navy's need to have it carrier capable (with folding wings), but also the Air Force's need to extend payload and range by not having the weight imposed by the folding wing feature, and the Marines extra need for close ground support capabilities. Problem was solved by having relatively easy-to-modify versions of the same design.

It was a complex subject and Tom could have sunk us in an alphabet soup of military acronyms but never did. He always took care to expand the inevitable abbreviations into understandable phrases.

At the end of the presentation, it was accurate to say that everyone gained a new and appreciative understanding of the monumental effort it takes to bring modern weapon systems to life. The only thing missing from the evening's presentation was Tom talking about Tom. He could have thrilled us all if he just spent the evening telling us about his own illustrious Navy flying career.

Koozies for Everyone!

Be the first on your block to have one

You may ask: "What the heck is a "koozie"? Who came up with that?" It is presumed to be a contraction of the word "cool" and some other word. Fact is: NO ONE KNOWS! It is a great impenetrable mystery. The only solution is to get your own and ponder the question as you sip your favorite beverage.

If you haven't figured it out by now, your editor has a new title: "Mr Koozie." This is a down-grade from the title he preferred: "King Koozie." All summer long it has been the passion of the King/Mr to get a maximum number of these drink coolers into people's hands at our beer tents --- raising money and Navy League visibility. Over a thousand are now gracing new homes!

But joking aside, these coolers are really useful ... they are durable, the graphics and color are handsome. Every Navy Leaguer should find them handy to brag about the Navy League with friends and family! Though people got them at our tent to keep their beer cool, they are equally capable of keeping your water, juice, and soda cans or bottles cool.

Profits from sales will bolster our Chattanooga Navy League accounts. Price: \$1.50 each ... but a single koozie would be very lonely! Better to get a set of 4 for \$5, or 8 for \$9. **Prices include mailing to you!**

Think ... parties, holidays, ... any day ... grandchildren!

Send your order request (check to NLU S Chattanooga or cash) to: Willard K. Rice, Jr., 8662 McKenzie Lane, Ooltewah TN 37363. Any questions: Home phone 423-910-1787, Cell phone 603-557-7224; e-mail: wkrice@aol.com .



Front and back views.



Back row: LCDR Dirk Ames, USCG, RET, Senior Naval Science Instructor at The Howard School with Color Guard from the Howard School NJROTC unit at the August 24th dinner.

(Front row (l/r): Cadets ENS Maria Pascual, LCDR Latricia Hood, LCDR Jose Juarez Gamez, and ENS Kevin Pascual with Tom "Comet" Halley, Jr., Lockheed Martin F-35C Business Development Manager.

Navy Ball Fund Campaign

Continued from page 3

This article can't be ended without a plug for the koozies (ie: container coolers). We noted during Riverbend that some people wanted/pleaded for an insulated can holder ... but we had none. By Riverfront Nights time, Willard Rice found a source, designed a koozie with prominent graphics identifying the Chattanooga Navy League, got it produced and had a supply ready. This killed two birds with one stone:

- We got "donations" for each koozie that were anywhere from 2 to 5 times the cost of the koozie.
- We were able to use the koozie as a way to identify that we volunteers were associated with the Navy in some way and that we were raising money for a worthy cause. Surprising how many people lit up when we told them we were Navy associated. Now over 1,000 people have a Chattanooga Navy League koozie for their beer, soda, juice or water bottle!

Every Chattanooga Navy Leaguer should have some koozies ... They do what they are supposed to do: keep drinks cool and your hand dry. See article about how to acquire one. They're great for gifts to friends, co-workers and ... grandchildren.



Please Join Us

Saturday, October 14, 2017

Chattanooga Choo - Choo Hotel

Imperial Ballroom

Chattanooga, Tn 37402

Social Hour - 5:00p.m. ~ Ceremony / Dinner - 6:00p.m.

In Celebration of The

242nd Birthday Ball

Of

The United States Navy



Our local Navy League Council is proud to again serve as the host of the U. S. Navy's 242nd Birthday Ball in the Chattanooga Area.

For the past thirteen years, a Chattanooga U. S. Navy Birthday Ball has been held to show appreciation to our Navy heritage and to display pride and professionalism in the naval service. Dinner, music and dancing will make this evening a delight for all. Suggested attire is U. S. Navy Service Dress Blues or coat and tie for men and evening wear for ladies. Reservation Pricing: Active/Reserve/Veteran - E1-E3 Free; E4-E6 \$20; E7-E9 \$25; O1-O9 \$30; Sea Cadet/NJROTC Student - \$20; / Parents and Leadership \$25; Military and their date pay same price; Civilians \$40. Please mail reservations to Mark Parks, 6920 Sawtooth Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894. Questions: Contact Mark Parks at: parks8192@gmail.com or call 423-326-0839.

Make Check Payable To: "Navy League Chattanooga."

RSVP by 07 October 2017



The Sea  *Is Ours*

1775

2017

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

Editor ~ Willard K. Rice, Jr.

Publisher ~ Mary B. Dall

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• MACKIE AWARD WINNER •

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Follow us on Facebook: Chattanooga Navy League

- OUR MISSION -



Educate community leaders about the importance of Sea Power to our nation's survival and continued prosperity

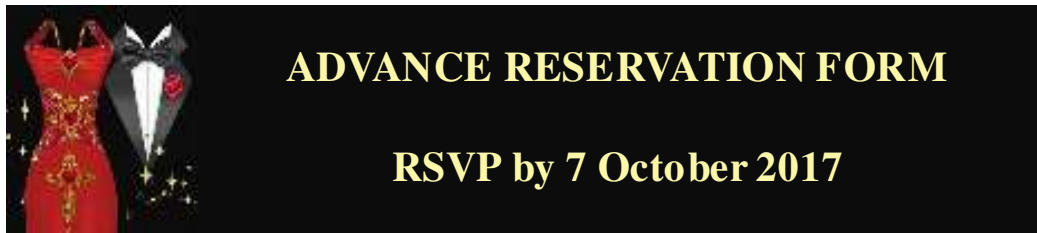
Directly support the men and women serving in the Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine

Support Sea Service family members: The parents, spouses, children, and other relatives of service members

Support the youth of our communities by giving time, talent and money to the Naval Sea Cadet Corps and Naval & Marine Corps Junior ROTC units



OUR ADOPTED COMMAND AND UNITS



ADVANCE RESERVATION FORM

RSVP by 7 October 2017

U.S. Navy 242nd Birthday Ball

Hosted by Navy League of the United States-Greater Chattanooga Council

Saturday, 14 October 2017
Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel

Imperial Ballroom

1400 Market St, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Social Hour at 5pm, Ceremony/Dinner at 6pm

Entertainment by comedian Sheila Van Dyke. Sheila, known as the "Ambassador of Laughter," has performed for our military all over the world. With her innovative style and versatility, Sheila maintains an original, provocative satire that landed her on Nick@Nite's Funniest Mom In America 3. She is one of the few female comedians to earn the honor of performing multiple times for military troops stationed overseas and has also opened for the bands Staind and The Happenings. In 1997, she began performing for comedy club audiences on a regular basis. Her act is smooth, confident and sassy, reflecting her personal experiences growing up in the mountains of Virginia, Army Boot Camp, marrying a Polish man, moving north, kids, performing comedy in a war zone, life around us and unusual observations.

Reservation Pricing:

Active, Reserve, Veteran → E1~E3: free / E4~E6: \$20 / E7~E9: \$25/
O1~O9: \$30

Sea Cadet/NJROTC → students: \$20 / parents & Leadership: \$25

Military and their date pay same price / Civilians: \$40

Reservation For: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Entrée: (Please indicate choice):

___ Chicken Marsala ___ Roast Sirloin ___ Grilled Salmon

Email _____ Phone _____

RSVP by 7 October 2017

Make Check Payable To: Navy League Chattanooga.

Mail Payment/Reservation to: Mark Parks, 6920 Sawtooth Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363-6984. Or, make your payment via PayPal to: mparks@epbf.com then email your reservation form to that address.

Questions? Contact Mark Parks by phone at 423-326-0839.