

# Compass Points

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ISSUE 2

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

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Jim Fields  
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Ron Galante  
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Keith McLeod  
Chaplain



## President's Message

Stacy Kehoe, President

Dear Navy Leaguers

What is the Navy League? Like all organizations, we have a mission and a vision. We have bylaws and rules and we have documentation to support our existence. In our case, we have 16 years of tradition. Our continuous support of the USS TN SSBN-734, the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and the NJROTC program from Howard High School. But the truth is that all of those things are only structure.

The Navy League is and always has been about people. The people who show up and support us through our various service

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NL Board Meeting .....	Apr 8
NJROTC Inspection.....	Apr 9
Youth Award Dinner NL & MOAA .....	Apr 23
Armed Force Parade .....	May 3
NL Board Meeting .....	May 11
Riverbend Navy Ball F-Raiser ..	May 28-June 1
USS TN visit (tentative).....	May 31-June 1
Navy League Nat Convention.....	June 16-19
LST 533 visit .....	Aug 21-28
Navy Ball .....	October ??

## Next DINNER Meeting

Joint Navy League & MOAA

Tuesday, April 23

Mark your calendars and get your reservation in for the next Navy League dinner meeting. It's going to be little different this time. We are combining with the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) to hold a joint meeting with them at the Walden Club on Tuesday evening April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Reason for the joint meeting is that April is **Youth Awards** time for both organizations, and, since we both award to the local NJROTC unit, the thought was.....Why not do it together? The Walden Club will be bursting at the seams and Navy Leaguers will get to see what MOAA is all about.

Now here is the important part: All reservations are to be made through MOAA (see form on last page) and they must

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## February Dinner Report

### An action-packed night

The Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council held its first quarterly, dinner meeting, for the 2019 year, at the Walden Club on February 21 and it had something for everyone (including me, your *Compass Points* Editor. – more on that elsewhere)

We had important business to conduct – starting with a new President!

Acting on his last duty as President, Mickey McCamish pinned the Council President Pin on the newly-elected President, Stacy Kehoe. Stacy Kehoe stated, “I have big shoes to fill and I want to express my many thanks for Mickey’s years of leadership to not only our council but in other organizations that he leads.”

Then, it was building and reinforcing our Board:

Two new board members, Edward Shropshire as the new Vice President and Shane Pilcher as the new Website and Social Media Director, were sworn in by Director Billy Hewitt after the members voted unanimously to accept their positions on the board. (More info on the election of our new Board members follows on page 3.)

*Continued in adjacent column*



**Immediate Past President Mickey McCamish with newly installed President, Stacy Kehoe**



**Mickey doing the honors—pinning the President pin on 2019 President Stacy Kehoe**

*Continued from column 1*

Other business was the presentation of the *Sandy McMillan* award to Willard Rice - more on that in article on page 4. And Ron Galante confirmed to all that the USS Tennessee SBN 734 trip is on the schedule for May 30-June 1. Note: Need more participants - more on that on page 6.

The highlight for the evening was the presentation by guest speaker, Mr. Keith Hardison, the Executive Director of the Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center. Mr. Hardison described how the center will present a national perspective of the Medal of Honor while still having a notable section on Charles Coolidge and Tennessee.

An important, though subtle, shift in the name from “Museum’ to “Center” is core to the plan to make this not some dusty, old history building but to give it a vibrant cultural and educational focus. No one who heard his talk just didn’t want to go down there right now..... oops, got to wait a year.

More info on the election of our two Board members on following page.

**February Dinner Election & Install of new Directors —continued**



*League President Stacy Kehoe introduces new board members Shane Pilcher - Director of Web/IT & Social Media and Edward Shropshire, - Vice President to the members at the February meeting.*

**Now, the 2019 Officers &  
Directors roster  
.....looks like this**

**Stacy Kehoe — President**  
**Edward Shropshire—Vice President**  
**David Smith — Secretary**  
**Mark Parks —Treasurer**  
**Mickey McCamish — Director &  
 Immediate Past President**  
**Jim Fields—JAG**  
**Ron Galante — Director**  
**Billy Hewitt — Director -Legislative Affairs**  
**Alden Perry — Director -Military Affairs**  
**Joe Holloway — Director -Membership &  
 Retention**  
**Dan Saieed — Director -Programs**  
**Willard Rice — Director -Compass Points**  
**Larsen Mick — Director**  
**Bill Conner — Director—Youth Programs**  
**Bruce Weeks — Director -Fund Raising**  
**Shane Pilcher—Director Website & Social  
 Media**  
**Keith McLeod—Chaplain**



*Billy Hewitt congratulates & welcomes Ed Shropshire and Shane Pilcher to the Board of Directors while Stacy Kehoe cheerfully purveys her growing flock*

## And The Award Goes to....

### A thoroughly surprised...Willard Rice!

A crafty plot was hatched at the December Board meeting, when Willard K. Rice, Jr was not present, to surreptitiously select him for the Council's **Sandy McMillan Award**. Our highest award, the "Sandy McMillan" is given in honor of Commander George "Sandy" McMillan, longtime member and Director of the Chattanooga Navy League. He dedicated much of his life to the Navy, our community, and his church and home life. CDR McMillan passed away on April 6, 2016.

Keeping this secret for two months, the plotters unveiled their scheme at the February 21 dinner – not even revealing ahead of time that someone, anyone was going to get this award. So there it was: Stacy Kehoe made a short speech saying that someone had done something beneficial and then segued into "... his outstanding dedication and work on the council's newsletter and always bringing top quality articles and events to our members and other interested organizations about the Naval Sea Services..."—and the cat was out of the bag.

A startled Willard Rice accepted the award noting that "... it was Sandy McMillan and Mary Dall (who had received the first "Sandy" in 2017) who set the standard for what *Compass Points* needed to be... and following their example was downhill sledding..."

The previous year's recipients were Mark and Patty Parks whose contributions were summed up by then Council President Mickey McCamish "The Parks ... have served both the Navy League and veterans throughout the community. The Parks clearly demonstrated the spirit of Sandy McMillan..."

"It's great, but an exaggeration, to be in such company" said Rice.



**League President Stacy Kehoe presenting a pleased Willard K Rice, Board member and Editor of *Compass Points* with the Sandy McMillan Award**

**Next Navy  
League Dinner  
Meeting—Joint  
with MOAA Tuesday  
April 23....**

*Continued from page 1*

be done by postal mail with payment included. Deadline: Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>, no exceptions. Get your letter to RADM Bob Craig by then. Reservations are made directly to MOAA. (NOT Mark Parks or Navy League). Cost is \$35 which is the new Walden Club price going forward this year.

All the mailing instructions are on the last page of this issue

The Youth Awards night is always inspiring as we see the enthusiasm and dedication the cadets have devoted to their activities. Hope to see you there.

## OSCAR Night at CAVC Navy League Steals the Show

If you know anything about the Oscars, you know that there are 3 Big Oscars: Best Picture, Best Actor and Best Actress. Not to be too cynical, but the rest are just filler so more commercials can be aired.

Well, at the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council (CAVC) Annual Award shindig, there were 3 spectacular awards... and Navy Leaguers walked off with 2 of them! The March 1st dinner meeting, attended by over a hundred supporters from the scores of Veteran service organizations in Chattanooga (of which Navy League is an associate member) was lavish in its praise of the contributions Mickey McCamish, Past President of our Navy League Council, and Stacy Kehoe, the current President, had made to the veteran community through their many activities. It would take pages to list them.



***Tijuana Jordan, CAVC Chairman 2019, presents the Charles H. Coolidge Veteran of the Year award to Mickey McCamish.***



***Ray Adkins, CAVC Chair-Elect 2019, presents the Charles H. Coolidge Associate of the Year award to Stacy Kehoe.***

**For Stacy, it appears that she has now won the trifecta in service awards  
– see panel below of current and previous year award plaques!**



## Visit the USS TN SSBN-734

### Trip set for May 30th

Most members have received an e-mail message about the upcoming trip to visit the USS Tennessee SSBN 734 set for May 31-June 1, but , if you haven't, **RIGHT NOW** is an important time to read this article. There still is time to reserve and we need your commitment so that we can schedule everything. Don't hesitate. There might not ever be another such trip. We are getting in the door only through the good graces and inside knowledge of member ex-submariner Ron Galante. We have a few slots left. It is open to both Navy Leaguers and non-Navy Leaguers i.e.: anyone with an interest.

This is a **unique opportunity** to board an active duty ballistic missile nuclear submarine that is one of the world's most powerful warships and speak with its crew in an up close and personal manner, while you learn about the boat's operation, equipment and what it is like to go on a 77-day deterrent patrol to safeguard our country.

**Date: Friday May 31 Saturday June 1 2019.** Depart Chattanooga at 8:00 AM. Return close to midnight Saturday. US Coachways 56 passenger bus (only 36 people to be aboard—plenty of space) rest room, baggage storage, AC, DVD, TVs, etc. A stop for lunch along the way. Snacks and water provided.

**Friday night** we stay at the Kingsland GA Microtel Inn & Suites near the Kings Bay Naval base where the USS TN is located. Group rate incl tax for Double rooms is \$91.43, Single \$84.71. You must secure your hotel reservation by CC by May 1.

**Friday evening dinner** for all at the Millhouse Steak House, with guests from USS TN blue crew.

**Cost per attendee is \$220** including the dinner with the crew at the Millhouse Steak House and the round-trip bus fare, regardless if you drive your own car or are a round trip passenger on the bus. Your Microtel Hotel room and extras are the attendee's responsibility, as are lunch on Friday on the way to Kingsland, lunch on Saturday and dinner Sunday night on the return trip to Chattanooga. Free buffet breakfast at the hotel Sat morn.



USS Tennessee SSBN 734 casting off

*Continued from column 1*

**Saturday morning**, we will travel to the Kings Bay Naval base to **tour the sub**. After lunch, we will either visit the Trident training center, where the crew train for various events, such as fire and flooding. We may instead visit the submarine museum located in St Mary's or visit both if time permits.

Attendees should be able to climb down and up an approximate 20-foot ladder from the deck of the submarine to the control room. For safety reasons, no open toed shoes or high heels should be worn for safety reasons. No taking aboard taking aboard cameras or cell phones for security reasons.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Trip Organizer Ron Galante:** Mobile telephone number 423-595-5153 or e-mail [rongalante@aol.com](mailto:rongalante@aol.com) with questions. 1 Ballard Bluff, Signal Mountain, TN 37377-2288.

**Mail checks to Mark Parks ("US Navy League-Chattanooga") :** Mobile telephone number 423-902-3175 or e-mail [parks8192@gmail.com](mailto:parks8192@gmail.com). 6920 Sawtooth Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894

**Contact & Other Security Clearance information for EACH Trip Attendee is Required at the time you mail in your check.** Provide full name of attendee as it appears on their government issued picture ID they plan to use to gain access to the boat, type of ID to be used (driver's license with state issued from indicated, military, passport, etc.), if the attendee is a US citizen, age of the attendee as of June 1, 2019, mobile and home telephone numbers, e-mail and address to keep attendees up to date on trip details and Navy requirements.

**Microtel Inn & Suites** (912-729-1555, 1325 East King Avenue, Kingsland GA 31548): Group reservation information will be provided to attendees with trip reservations.

*Continued next column*

# Need a FEW GOOD Men (and Women)

## Riverbend Fundraiser for Navy Ball on deck

The most substantial function the Chattanooga Navy League puts on each year is **the Navy Ball**. What makes the Ball a successful event is that the Navy League provides financial support for the evening's activities. And, most importantly, this support lowers the ticket prices enabling as wide a group as possible to attend. The Navy Ball Committee, under Ron Galante's tutelage, is feverishly making plans for the October event. (date not yet nailed down).

The engine that powers this machine is the fund-raising the Navy League has done— drawing on the volunteer efforts of Leaguers, Sea Cadet supporters and Navy Reservists. Back in 2017 led by Mark Parks, we collectively hit it "out-of-the- park"— raising money via staffing a beer bent at Riverbend. That accomplishment has "floated the boat" ever since.. but it is time to replenish the kitty for our 2019 and future Balls

**We have signed up for a Beer Tent at the 2019 Riverbend.** Riverbend has changed to a 4 day event , rather than the previous 9 day run, to focus on higher reputation /higher draw performers Makes it much easier to staff a beer booth. Though a shorter event, we critically **need your help in staffing the beer tent.**

**Dates: Wednesday May 29 –Saturday June 1**

**Hours: about 4 to 10 each day, but starting at 1 on Saturday**

**Also a few from 9 am to 11 am Friday morning to receive/inventory our beer supply**

### Benefits: !

A .Depending on staffing level and the ebb & flo of the evening, you may have chance to take short breaks to see some of Riverbend. You probably will be hearing part of it the whole time.

B. Everyone's happy! Selling cold beer on a hot night to thirsty music revelers is about the easiest & most joyous thing one can do - and at same time generating \$ for the Navy Ball.

C. This funding enables us to reduce the ticket price for the Navy Ball for everyone and with an extra discount for those with a Navy or any military background.

D. Everyone who did this before was exhilarated and enthused by being part of the team. There are multiple roles: Beer server, ID checker, cashier. Do what you are most comfortable with

Now back to the ***Few Good Men and Women – Need message back ASAP*** from anyone who wants to help with any questions &/or times when you can help. Best if you can make contact by April 12 so the best plan can be made.



**Part of the 2017 beer tent crew.**

**US Navy League headquarters thought our effort was so great they ran this photo and our story in the September 2017 Seapower Magazine! That's leader Mark Parks on the left.**

**Contact Willard Rice, Navy League Beer Tent Manager... at cell 603 557 7224 or wkrice@aol.com**

*the  
president's message*

*Continued from page 1*

events through the year. The people who volunteer their time to help us with raising the funds needed to support our many missions. The people who care enough to make a difference in the lives of the Sea Service Members in our area with the generous contributions of time, financial support and energy. Without people, an organization is meaningless.

We had a great February dinner. Willard Rice, Jr., our Compass Points editor was awarded the "Sandy McMillian Award" for his dedication and talents to our newsletter and council. Ed Shropshire was inducted as our new Vice President and Shane Pilcher as our new "IT/Social Media" Director. Many thanks to Billy Hewitt in being our nominating chairman for the 2018 year.

Keith Hardison from the Charles H Coolidge National Heritage Center was our guest speaker and did a great job in explaining the latest developments. Our community will greatly benefit from this when it is open to the public. Ron Galante announced the submarine trip to King's Bay, GA. Above all, we thanked Mickey McCamish for his leadership for the past two years.

The national Navy League organization has two, big events coming up.

Directly from the Navy League website:

**The largest maritime exposition in the U.S.**

Sea-Air-Space is now the largest maritime exposition in the U.S. and continues as an invaluable extension of the Navy League's mission of maritime policy education and sea service support. The Sea-Air-Space Exposition will continue to support the mission of the Navy League and lead the way as "THE" Exposition to attend each year to display the most current information and technology relevant to maritime policy.

*Continued next column*

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The next event is the National Convention held this year in Norfolk, VA from June 19<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>. It would be great to rent a van and have a large group of members attend, together. Who wants to go?

One of our focuses for the past few years has been to make sure we maintain the structure of our Council but that becomes difficult when we do not have the people showing up and participating. We have an organization that on paper amounts to 152 people. Yet less than forty can reliably be counted on to show up and put in the time and effort to support our activities. Don't get me wrong. I am extremely grateful for the help and support of the people who do show up and make sure our programs are faithfully executed.

Every one of them does so with a tremendous amount of energy and personal sacrifice. But they could use your help. I would really appreciate your feedback. What would it take to get you back on board and engaged? What are we missing that might strengthen the organization? What kind of programs would you like to see at our dinner meetings? What would you do differently if you were in the Board's shoes? I am open to your thoughts and hope you will consider helping us with your suggestions but also with your participation.

Thanks ... Stacy





## Short Takes .....

### Here are some items you might want to know about

#### **NJROTC Inspection at Howard High School April 9<sup>th</sup>**

It's short notice but if you have a couple of hours open on April 9<sup>th</sup>, you may find it rewarding to visit the Howard School where the NJROTC unit will be undergoing its Annual Military Inspection. This is the NJROTC unit our Council has been supporting for years. You will find it rewarding to see how participation in NJROTC has meaning for these young men and women.

Military Inspection is taking place at 1300 inside their old gym, which is located behind the main building. It is suggested to arrive by 12:30 to the front office. Please have your driver's license ready so they can scan it and print out a visitor's sticker for you

#### **WW II LST to visit - August 21-28**

Some members may recall that back in 2014, or was 2015, that one of the last WW II LSTs still floating and operational visited Chattanooga. It's coming back! Yes.. In August it will be here for a week approximately starting August 21. Tied up at Ross's Landing, LST 325 is sure to be a hit with nearly everyone.

We don't get to see much (or any) of the **real blue water surface Navy** here – though we do appreciate the local **Coast Guard** station and Master Chief McMahon's briefing us on the Tennessee River, the **occasional naval aviator** who drops by and **Ron Galante's** guided tours to see the sub in Kings Bay. We don't get to see the REAL Navy or a REAL ship and this one is the real McCoy, though retired. So plan your summer around being here then. Bring your children, grandchildren .....and tell them how it was!



#### **ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE Downtown Chattanooga - May 3rd**

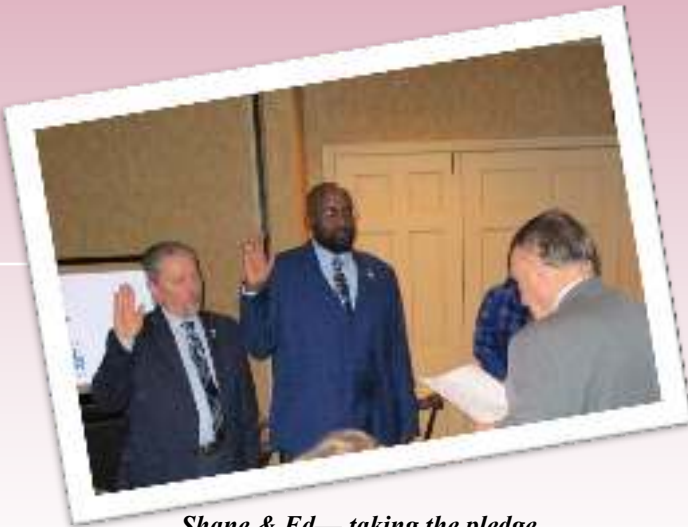
The annual Armed Forces Day Parade features participants from military service units, area veteran groups, high school bands, patriotic organizations and many others. Each year, the parade features a different service branch. For the 2019 parade, it's the United States Army. 10:30 a.m. on Market St. beginning at MLK Blvd.

#### **WEBSITE PHOTO REQUEST - Right Now !**

We have a project underway to develop a new historical section on our website and request that members dig into their photo files to find any Navy Leaguer or event photos that you have and send them on to Shane Pilcher, our Director –IT/Web & Social Media—within the next few weeks.

His address is [spilcher@outlook.com](mailto:spilcher@outlook.com)

# February 2019 Dinner Meeting



*Shane & Ed— taking the pledge*



*Stacy thanking Keith Hardison for an eye-opening presentation*



*Keith Hardison, Executive Director of the Charles H Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center — on a roll*



*Ron Galante describing the exciting details of the upcoming USS Tennessee SSBN 734 trip*



*Karen & Joe Holloway  
—And thanks, Joe, for the great photos in this issue*

# February 2019 Dinner Meeting



*L/R Dirk Ames, Billy Hewitt, Willard Rice, Paula Horne, Linda Rice, Karen Holloway*



*L/R Keith McLeod, Keith Hardison, Shane Pilcher, Dave Smith, Stacy Kehoe, Ed Shropshire, Mickey McCamish*



*L/R Vince Patterson, Larson Mick, Nancy Patterson, John & Laurel Niemeyer, Ron & Sue Galante*



*Is there a better view in Chattanooga?*



*Yes, there are a lot of photos of Stacy in this issue..but the lady is everywhere! However, this one is for husband, Dan Kehoe*

# Make Plans Now to Join Us

**JOINT MOAA –NAVY LEAGUE DINNER**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019**



*Republic Center, 633 Chestnut Street, Suite 2100*  
*Chattanooga, Tennessee 37450*

Join the Navy League and MOAA for a joint "Awards dinner ". Navy League is combining with MOAA on this evening at their annual Merit Award Scholarship dinner. This year it will honor the Col William Ray Scholarship Award winners, ROTC Scholarship winners and US Military Academy nominees. Navy League will honor NJROTC cadets and others.

Social Period...	1800	Mail this reservation form, with check, to arrive no later than Friday April 19, 2019 Make check to: "MOAA, Chattanooga Chapter"
Dinner.....	1845	
Program .....	1930	

## RESERVATION FORM

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_ Mil Rank, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Award Dinner price is \$35 for Members and their Guests**

# \_\_\_\_\_ Dinners @ \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations are due NLT Friday, April 19, 2019. Please mail your reservations and check to **RADM Bob Crates, 3051 Enclave Bay Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37415**

**ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**Compass Points** is a bi-monthly publication of the United States Navy League Greater Chattanooga Council

Editor — Willard K. Rice Jr  
 Photographer — Patty Parks

### MACKIE AWARD WINNER

### STAY CONNECTED

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

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### 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: parents, spouses, children and other relatives of service members
- Support the youth of our communities by giving time, talent, and money to Naval Sea Cadet Corps and Navy & Marine Corps Junior ROTC units

