United States Navy League Greater Chattanooga Council

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2020

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President's Message

Stacy Kehoe - President

Dear Fellow Navy Leaguers,

It is difficult to imagine that this will be my last letter to you. It has been a true honor to serve as your Council President for the past 2 years. The 2021 year is almost upon us, and I do not know about you, but I am ready for 2020 to be finished. Our Council had to wander through many "unchartered waters" this past year...The Covid-19 virus, springtime tornadoes, flooding, social unrest, the Presidential Election, etc., it is a wonder if we will ever find "Peace on Earth?"

Through it all, we have continued to serve the Chattanooga area Maritime services

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Annual Meeting Dinner & PartyDec 3
Officers & Directors ElectionDec 3
Pearl Harbor DayDec 7
Wreath Laying at National CemeteryDec 19
Wreath Retirement at Nat CemeteryJan 23

Annual Member Meeting & Election Dec 3rd

Get Ready!

We are in the midst of planning our Dec 3rd Annual Member Meeting and holiday/Christmas party. It's a little more complicated this year because we are setting it up to be both "real" and "virtual".

We recently modified our By-laws so that we can conduct official meetings and do voting on-line. That is important because the primary business purpose of this meeting is to hold the Election for the 2021 Officers & Directors. The list of those nominated is elsewhere in this issue. All members are encouraged to vote either at the dinner or online.

As we get closer to the meeting date,

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Annual Meeting Dinner, Election and Party

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Meeting Precautions

The Walden Club is complying with local and CDC guidelines. Each person will need to make his/her own decision on whether the health risks to themselves and possible spread to others are acceptable. During the mask-off period, diners will be seated at group tables with other Navy Leaguers.

we will send out to all the details of how to log on to the Zoom session and how the vote will work.

Though the pre-meeting "social" segment of the evening will begin at 6 pm, we will be starting the official meeting at 6:30. That's when the Zoom session will commence.

First order of business will be the Election. This will not take long but it is very important. After the voting, the "zoomers" can log off. Not known right how long we'll keep the session up. More detail on that when we send a reminder for the meeting a few days before it.

For those attending in person, there will be a "plated" dinner at group tables. During the dining period, masks can be off. During other periods, masks will need to be on. It's the new reality for enhancing health safety for others nearby and, if we all do it, ourselves too.

For excitement and fun there are a number of activities planned including surprise gifts and awards maybe some singing. Those who attended last year can attest to the creativity and enthusiasm Stacy puts into events such as this one.

Though this is the wind-down of her two -year presidency, you can be sure that has not slowed her down. It is unfortunate that that precautions called for by the pandemic situation in the nation and especially in Chattanooga will put a damper on in-person attendance. But you can be assured that it will be the best event under the circumstances.

Register for Prizes

At our December Annual Meeting, we will have a couple of door prizes. How can you enter? Make your reservations to attend, either in person or by Zoom. We want to "see" you, one way or another. Your name will enter the drawing for one of the two door prizes.

For any guests that are present, in person or online, their name will be entered in the second drawing for the other door prize.

Dues are Due

The 2021 Year is almost upon us. Yea! We hope this brings us a new prosperous year. The Annual Local Council Dues are now "due." This is \$15 for individuals and \$20 for married couples. This money assists us in supporting our local youth. Due to the unusual year, we were not able to assist anyone this year as their programs were postponed. In hopes of a new year, please plan to support our youth programs by paying your local dues. We count on YOU to assist us. Thank you.

Mail to Shane Pilcher, Treasurer Navy League at P.O. Box 91104, Chattanooga, TN 37412



the president's message

......Continued

from page 1

with our most recent endeavor with a cake cutting ceremony at NOSC Chattanooga. I was able to meet the new Commanding Officer, CDR William Jones, and some of the sailors. We also decorated our houses with Nautical themes and "Blue and Yellow"

porch lights to celebrate the Navy's 245th birthday.

We also participated in the 71st Armed Forces Parade. This is typically held in May of every year, but again, Covid-19 has made us adapt and overcome. This allowed us to stay within the CDC guidelines and join numerous military organizations or organizations that support our military in every way. I had the pleasure of riding in a 2007 Mustang with my husband in the backseat and a friend of mine driving the Navy League vehicle down the street. It was great to see a number of attendees along the parade route.

In October, we also had a returning member show up to our outside picnic luncheon at the TN RiverPark and RADM Raymond Alexander was also our guest speaker.

Recently, our members were "split in two" as I am also the Chairman for the Daughters of the American Revolution Chattanooga Regent's Council, so I had to lead a special Veteran's Day program via Zoom for the Tennessee Daughters while other Navy League members attended the Veteran's Day Ceremony the TN National Armory.

On December 3rd, whether by "in person" or by "Zoom", we will conduct our Annual Meeting with the election of new officers and directors. After the brief meeting, we will have some holiday fun! We have special events planned so you do not want to miss this last meeting of the year. This will be our only meeting at the Walden Club, so come dressed in your "Merriest" outfit and let's sing some Christmas carols and rejoice in the spirit of the holiday.

Best WishesStacy

Here is how you can help us liven up things for our active duty local Coast Guard Station and Reserve Center personnel

How to get your Stocking and Toys gifts to where they need to go

For those not coming to the dinner on Dec 3rd, Stacy has graciously and beyond-the-call-of-duty volunteered to come to you and pick up whatever you can donate. Contact her a few days before the dinner so to arrange for the pick-up. Her e-mail is: slk40ax@gmail.com

(That "I" is an "el", not a one.)

Thank you once again, Stacy





Growing our Council - Always a Goal

You can help make that happen. We always welcome anyone who is interested in supporting our Maritime Community in various ways. We are a "civilian" organization. No Navy or military credentials needed! Talk to your friends to come and join us."

New Member Special —— You can Help!

The Council Board approved a plan to help bring in more members at our last meeting. Recognizing that many of our members have served in the Navy or other services (although we absolutely welcome anyone who has an interest in the maritime community.) So, if you have a friend or associate whom you think would enjoy being part of the Council, <u>invite them to join</u>. **We'll pay the dues for the national E-membership for their first year.**

The program is this: Any first time member who is a veteran will receive a free, one-year E-Membership. The new member must go to the National Navy League website and sign up for the e-Membership (https://www.navyleague.org/member-resources/login?bm=-1072899817). Upon email confirmation, they should forward the email confirmation they will get back to Mickey McCamish at mickey@riverbendfestival.com

The new member will receive a reimbursement check from the Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council.for the e-Membership. Hopefully, if they have a spouse, they will have their spouse join as well. Kind of like a Buy One, Get One Free Offer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mickey.







Wreaths Across Chattanooga

The campaign to lay wreaths on as many grave markers as possible at the Chattanooga National Cemetery is in full swing. Last year, Navy Leaguers were a significant and measurable factor in providing funds for the wreaths with contributions totaling \$ 2100!

It would be great if we could lift the amount further. In this year of distancing, it is one way to show we care about things beyond ourselves and honor those interred there —-many of whom made great sacrifices, including the ultimate one, for our country.

See page 16 for contribution info (Address, phone detail there)

Wreaths will be placed on grave markers at Chattanooga National Cemetery on Saturday, December 19. Due to Covid 19, only a limited number of volunteers will be needed and the traditional noon program will not take place. On Saturday morning (8:30) Jan 23, the wreaths placed on grave markers will be retired (collected and disposed). Contact Mickey M for volunteering.

Oct 17 Member Meeting

On-line meetings and voting approved Ray Alexander, the highlight

As we all know, it has been difficult to gather together for the past 6 months, so we decided to take advantage of the still balmy weather and meet at the Tennessee Riverpark with a refreshing breeze off the Tennessee river wafting over us.

It worked!

With plenty of space to socially distance, a small but adventurous group of Navy Leaguers assembled under the trees near the Wreath of Honor/"Fallen Five" Monument. First order of business was to vote on and pass an amendment to our By-laws to hold on-line meetings and have on-line voting. This was important because it is becoming obvious that it will be difficult to have large in-person meetings for quite a while.

With that out of the way, we launched into the interesting part of the meeting: an address by Raymond Alexander, RADM USN (RET) Ray kept us spellbound as he described his wide-ranging career in the USN both on active and reserve duty. Having come aboard the Navy via ROTC at Michigan while studying engineering, he soon gravitated to naval construction world, the "Seabees" His career took him to stateside construction at the Naval Academy but then all over the world with projects in Greece, Italy, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and other locations with many associated with assignments during Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

But that wasn't all. Ray has had an extensive career in the nuclear industry via management responsibilities at TVA, Oak Ridge, and projects in Nevada and in the UK. By the time he wrapped it up, we were convinced he has



RADM Raymond Alexander USN

Continued from column

twice as many years on him as he looks – having accomplished so much. We hope he will be telling us more in the future. We are welcoming him aboard as a new member



Stacy Kehoe leading the meeting with **Fallen Five** sculpture in background and Alden Perry
leaning in in the foreground. Good to see you
on your feet again, Alden.

What more appropriate place is there for us to meet occasionally?

More photos from the Oct 17 Member Meeting

As you can see, we had to adapt a bit to stay safe. Up north, they do this for skiing! But they usually have a fireplace and hot grog shortly after



It is reported that (from left) this is Dick Lewellan, Billy Hewitt, Willard Rice, Mickey McCamish, Stacy Kehoe, (Our sign!) Ray Alexander, Patty Parks, Alden and Carolene Perry and David Smith. Any place we go with our sign, we claim it for the Navy League.

That's Mickey McCamish, David Smith and our speaker, Ray Alexander, behind those masks. Those are two Seabees ganging up on a Greyhound.



Navy Birthday Celebration

Well, there really wasn't one— at least not in the manner that Chattanooga Navy League traditionally celebrates it with the Navy Ball. We were all ready to ramp up to put on a spectacular shindig, but you know what happened: Covid 19

That didn't stop Stacy Kehoe however. She made the Reserve Center know that we knew they were doing their job every day showed up with a cake and well-wishes.





Stacy Kehoe, Council President, with the some of the NOSC active duty and reserve personnel

Stacy leading the way with a beautiful home decoration for the Navy's birthday



Legislative Affairs Report from Bill Hewitt, Council Director—Legislative Affairs

Sea-Air-Space Shifting to August

Acting out of an abundance of caution and in order to provide our sea service members, exhibitors, sponsors and attendees the best possible experience, the Navy League is shifting Sea-Air-Space 2021 from April 12-13 to August 2-4. Additionally, the STEM Expo originally scheduled for April 11 will now be held August 1, 2021.

Ask Congress to help build our submarine fleet

Congressman Joe Courtney, Chair of the House Armed Services Sea-power Subcommittee that oversees the Navy called the undersea fleet dangerously small. While the Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Mike Gilday, has stated that if Congress could give him another ship today, any ship, he would choose a second Virginia-class submarine. This makes sense as the SSNs are crucial to implementing the National Defense Strategy. Unfortunately, only the House has so far put a second ship in next year's budget. This leaves many worried that shipyards in Connecticut and Virginia will have to lay off workers next year, potentially delaying work on the Navy's other new boomer submarine--the Columbia.

Ask Congress to reinforce America's tanker fleet

While American forces were able to utilize foreign flagged tankers in the past, the strategic environment has fundamentally changed. China not have had objections in the past, but they may act to prevent foreign flagged ships from contracting with the US when our engagements are in the South China Sea. For this reason, and many more, Congress and the White House must work together to establish and fund a fleet of Tanker Security Program ships capable of meeting the needs of a forward postured American naval and marine presence, Similar to our other U.S. flagged vessels, this program would provide a stipend to tankers in exchange for their commitment to answer the call when America's national security interests demand it.

Military Affairs Report from Alden Perry, Council Director—Military Affairs

The Chattanooga Area Veteran's Council hosted the annual Veteran's Day Observance, normally held at the Chattanooga National Cemetery, at the National Guard Armory on November 11, 2020. Chuck Alsobrook, chairman of the CAVC opened the program, while Charlie Hobbs, Chattanooga Vietnam Veterans Chapter 203 coordinated the program. US House of Representative, Chuck Fleishman, and local dignitaries attended.

General BB Bell was the featured speaker. He highlighted the desperate needs for the preservation of the nuclear family, the Constitutional First Amendment right to freedom of speech, the importance of teaching Government and Civics in our educational systems and the need to become involved in something "bigger than ourselves".

Appropriate patriotic music by a duet of bagpipers played outdoors as attendees arrived. A 21 Gun Salute ended the gathering.



A lasting scene at Chatt Nat Cemetery, final resting resting place for "Jack Spittler who reestablished the Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council along with the initial directors listed on our letterhead.

US Navy League of Greater Chattanooga

2021 Nominees for Officers & Directors Election -- 3 December 2020

David Smith - President

Stacy Kehoe - Director & Immediate Past President

Vice President – Open

Sean McMahon - Treasurer

Dan Saieed - Secretary

Jim Fields - JAG

Keith McLeod - Chaplain

Shane Pilcher- Webmaster

Bill Hewitt - Director- Legislative Affairs

Mickey McCamish – Director – Membership & Retention

Alden Perry - Director- Military Affairs

Willard Rice - Director & Editor of Compass Points

Bill Conner- Director- Youth Programs

Voting will be at 1830 December 3

either in person at Walden Club Dinner or by Zoom



Armed Forces Day Parade Navy League was there!

This was the parade that almost didn't happen. Post-poned from May, the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council (CAVC)organizers sought a time, a place and a format that would balance the need to honor our Armed Forces with the reality of the Covid surge. They found a date: Oct 24, a place: Main Street and a format: all vehicles with no marching groups. They upheld the tradition for those who have attended for years and for an enthusiastic member of the new generation.



That's Stacy Kehoe in the Navy League hot rod waving the US flag.



If you have Big Decals, you need a Big Truck.



And that's Mickey McCamish with the US flag on the All Services float



With school out, a few youngsters with careful masking got to see the impressive display by local organizations keeping the tradition going.



And Mark Parks of CAVC & Navy League & Navy Leaguers Patty Parks, Billy Hewitt, Stacy Kehoe and Miickey McCamish, also of CAVC at CAVC's celebratory BBQ for those helping to get the parade off the ground

Meet David B Smith

Secretary of Greater Chattanooga Navy League Nominee for 2021 President

Continued from column 1



David B Smith

Approximately twelve years ago, I joined the United States Navy League Greater Chattanooga Council as an annual member and later up graded to a Life membership. Presently, I am completing my second year on the Board as Secretary and prior to this position I served four years as one of the Directors on the Board.

During this time, I have served on several committees and fund raisers to achieve the Councils missions and goals. As of December 3, 2020, the Councils nomination committee will present a slate of Officers/Directors for approval by the membership present to be effective at the end of the dinner session. If the nominations are approved, I will be the 2021 Board President.

Civilian and Military Background

I was born and raised in Hamilton County, TN and at 17 graduated in 1965 from Red Bank High School. In June 1968, I graduated from Chattanooga State with an Associate Engineer degree as a Civil Engineer and in June 1978, I graduated from University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) with a B.S. degree in Engineering. In the fall of 1965, I began taking classes at Chattanooga State majoring in Mechanical Engineering and worked part time in a cabinet shop.

By summer of 1966, I was hired for a summer job by Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to work on a survey crew routing high voltage Transmission Lines. On summers end, I returned to Chattanooga State and changed my major to Civil Engineering.

At the beginning of the Summer of 1967, I accepted a three-month surveying job at Pierce Surveying and Engineering Company. At end of August 1967, I returned to continue classes at Chattanooga State.

Since I was age18, I needed one year to compete my classes at Chattanooga State and the Military draft came knocking at the door in September 1967. One of my teachers suggested that I con-

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Meet David Smith—Continued

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sider joining the local Naval Reserve via the Navy's two by six program. This program (six-year contract) allowed that I could attend drills at the Chattanooga Reserve Center for at least one year and then go on active duty for 2 years.

Upon my return to Chattanooga, I would be able to complete my contract obligation in the reserves. This program allowed me to continue my education at Chattanooga State and graduate in June 1968. During this year, the Navy arranged between school quarter breaks for me to attend boot camp at Great Lakes, IL and take my training cruise on the destroyer USS 700 Haynsworth based at Charleston, SC.

Upon returning from the cruise on the destroyer, I requested to be transferred to Seabee Naval Construction but was told I would have to apply to go to a construction "A" School and that the Engineering Aide Rate was closed and I would have to either select the Builder "A" School Rate or the Equipment Operator "A" School Rate.

Since the Builder Rate covered general construction such as: wood framing, roofing, rebar and concrete work, and masonry (brick and block) work my choice was easy to make and I even agreed to sign a three month extension to get the Builder "A" school. Just prior to graduating from Chattanooga State, TVA came calling the school to see if I would accept a Civil Engineer Associate position in the Division of Power in the Civil Engineering Transmission Design Branch.

I explained to the TVA personnel person that I was awaiting Navy orders to the Builder "A" School at Port Hueneme, CA and would be called up for two years of active duty. His reply was: if I wanted the job come to his office to sign the ac-

Continued from column

ceptance papers which I did quickly. I was also informed that TVA would hold my job while I was on active duty.

This started my 42-year TVA career and my Navy Reserve career (28.5 years Active and 12 years inactive retired years to carry me to age 60 for

full Navy retirement).

During my career at TVA my job titles included: Civil Engineering Aide (4 yrs.), Civil Associate Engineer (8 yrs.), Power Sup-



ply Engineer (15 yrs.), and Civil Engineer (15 yrs.). Most of my work was dealing with high voltage transmission line design projects except In the position of a Power Supply Engineer, I had the privilege to work with 160 power distributors and

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If you were in it, most likely David and his buddies built it

Meet David Smithcontinued

Continued from page 13

TVA's corporate offices.

In 1972, I married Debra Lynn Ward and our family expanded with the birth of three sons. Unfortunately, my wife passed in 2013.

In 1969, I received my two year active duty orders to join Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 40 (NMCB 40) and was released in November 1970 to return to Chattanooga Naval Reserve Center where I was assigned to reserve battalion RNMCB 24 for nineteen years.

During this period, my career took off from Builder 3rd Class to Builder Master Chief. Major Job Classification included: Seabee Military Instructor, Company Chief Delta and Hotel Companies, Battalion Safety Chief, Battalion Command Career Counselor, and Battalion Training/Intel/Embarkation Department Senior Chief.

For my last seven years, I was assigned to the 3rd Reserve Navy Construction Regiment (3rd RNCR) where my job classification was Regimental Training/Intel Department Master Chief. During my service time the schools I attended included: Builder "A" School, Marine Corp Field Radio Communication School, Marine Corp Amphibious School, CEC

Continued from column 1

Officers Operation Management School, OSHA Safety School, and Career Counselor School.

Also, during these years, based on the Seabee mission to defend what we build, there was a requirement to take military combat training from the Marine Corp. Looking back, my records show I received active duty orders to: Camp Lejeune four times, Camp Pendleton once, Little Creek Naval Base once, and Camp Shelby once. Additionally, I received active duty orders for construction projects to: Fort Jackson, Fort Benning. Roosevelt Naval Base Puerto Rico, Gulfport Naval Base, Pensacola Naval Station, and Port Hueneme Naval Base.

Navy Awards and Decorations: Silver Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist Pin, Navy Achievement Medal (3), Navy Unit Commendation Medal, National Defense Medal with Bronze Star, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Hour Glass, Navy Reserve Meritorious Service Medal with Silver Star, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy "E" Ribbon with Wreath, Rifle Marksman Medal with Silver "E", and Pistol Marksman Medal with Silver "S".



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Valued sponsor of our Navy Ball series

Report from Howard NJROTC

Do you know what "shooting postals" means?— read on!

From: Bill Conner—Senior Instructor NJROTC at Howard School

I'm writing to update the Navy League on what is going on with Howard NJROTC. We started off the year with a very cautious mindset and stance. We were restricted to basically covering academic lessons when the school year first started.

Overtime, we have been allowed to slowly and safely incorporate some of those things we weren't allowed to do at the beginning of the year. We are now conducting PT on a weekly basis, usually Fri-

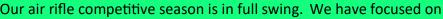
days. Over the summer, we converted our old supply room into a workout room using the (new to us)

exercise machines from the NOSC. It has been a hit!

We have recently begun issuing uniforms also. We did our fitting and tailoring, and have received most of the uniforms back. We are now getting the cadets in the uniform, and settling in on Wednesday

as our normal uniform day for the week.





getting the students through their safety tests, and dialed in on their fundamentals of marksmanship. We are com-

peting against the other JROTC units from around the county. We aren't allowed to transport them to competitions yet, so we are shooting postals (meaning we shoot our targets and mail them in for scoring).

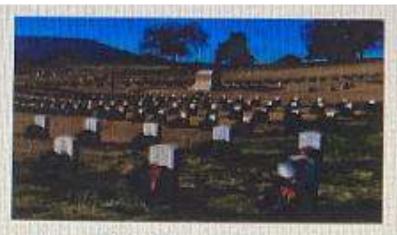




We have been sell-

ing chocolate and recently had some unit t-shirts made to raise funds. We are desiring to purchase an electronic scoring system for our rifle team.

The enclosed pictures illustrate a few items of what I mentioned above. Also, we've just started an Instagram page, username howardnjrotc. Give us a follow to stay up-to-date with what we have going on. Let me know if you have any questions about anything.



WREATHS ACROSS CHATTANDOGA

Wheaths will be placed on graves at Chattanooga national Cemetery on Saturday, December 19, 2020. Due to CDVID-19, a limited number of volunteers will be used and the traditional noon program will not take place. On Saturday morning (8:30 am), January 23, 2021, the wreaths placed on graves will be retired (collected and disposed). Please contact Mickey McCamish at 423-398-0024 if interested in volunteering. If there is a desire to purchase a wreath, the order form is below.

WREATHS ACROSS CHATTANOOGA ORDER FORM Phone Number				
Address	City		State	Zlo
Sponsorship Levels		Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	A DECEMBER	\$10.00		List of the last
Three Wreaths	1 52/68	530.00	DATE OF	TO DESCRIPTION
Small Business = Ten Wreaths	142 3 2 5	\$100.00	Contracts	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.
Large Business = 100 Wreaths	133 mil	\$1,000.00	SHAVEERY	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
Corporate = {number X \$10.00}	199111166	BEST MEST	Light Spile	DI WELDEN
Grave Specific Request: Name on Headstone		Grand Total		Ste
Name on Headstone		Section		Stor
Yame on Headstone		Section		Site
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Please Make Checks Payable to:	OF CASE AND PARTY.	TOTAL PROPERTY.	anooga	
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Chattanoog	a, TN 274	05		
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Compass Points is a bi-monthly publication of the United States Navy League
Greater

Chattanooga Council

Editor — Willard K. Rice Jr

MACKIE AWARD WINNER

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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, souses, 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

Our Supported Units







You are invited to

Annual Member Meeting 6 PM Thursday, December 3, 2020

Walden Club

Republic Center, 633 Chestnut Street, Suite2100 Chattanooga, Tennessee 37450

Plated dinner with 2 sides rolls dessert, tea and coffee

Welcome (Members & Guests please take seats).	4.30 DM
	0.30 FI1
Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance	6:35 PM
Election & Installation of Officers & Directors	6:45 PM
Plated Dinner	7:00 PM
Entertainment, Raffles & Games	7:45 PM
Adjournment	8:45 PM

Reservation Form

Council Dinner Meeting- Thursday December 3, 2020

Please print names of all guests and members					
NAME (S) —	-				
-					
E-MAIL	Telephone				
Dinner Meeting price is \$35 for Members and their guests					
#	Dinners @\$35 =				

RSVP with payment **NO LATER THAN Monday Nov 30th**.

Make check payable Chattanooga Navy League

Mail Payment/Reservation to Shane Pilcher, Navy League Treasurer

P.O. Box 91104, Chattanooga TN 37412

Reservation questions: E-Mail & phone contact; spilcher@outlook.com & 423 910 9724

Optional PayPal Payment

Log on to website www.chattanooganavyleague.com/paypal.html

—-No walk-ins——

If you paid for the cancelled Feb 2020 dinner, note that on reservation for credit