

# Compass Points

VOL 18

January-February 2021

ISSUE 1

*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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## President's Message

David B Smith –

Greetings Navy Leaguers and Welcome to New Year 2021,

I am humbled plus exceedingly honored that the Greater Chattanooga Navy League membership has put their trust in me to become the Council President on December 3, 2021 at the Annual Membership Dinner Meeting.

For 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Council under current circumstances will continue to face many challenges affecting our daily lives in many ways and our Council will need to be ready to make rapid adjustments and pivot quickly in the way the Council conducts its business operations. I genuinely believe with the support of the new Council Board and our loyal members

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Member Dinner/Zoom Meeting .....	Feb 18
Treasurer Election.....	Feb 18
CAVC Awards Meeting.....	Feb 28
Next Member Meeting.....	Apr 15
Armed Forces Parade .....	May 7
Memorial Day.....	May 25

## Member Meeting

### & Election Feb 18th

Based on the success of our December dinner meeting at the Walden Club, we are going ahead with our February 18 meeting. (Much thanks to Stacy Kehoe for organizing the Zoom aspects and the activities at the December meeting.) This notice is going to read much like the alert put out for the December meeting.

It will be a combined Zoom/in-person meeting. We have an Election event as part of it because we are needing to fill the Treasurer position. More on that in another article. We need members to vote either at the dinner or online.

As we did in December, when we get closer to the meeting date, we will send

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## February 18 Dinner Meeting.....

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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/from others are acceptable. During the mask-off period, diners will be seated at group tables with other Navy Leaguers.

### Dues are Due

The 2021 Year is here. Yeah! 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. We already have plans for supporting the Sea Cadets and the NJROTC groups. In hopes of a new year, please plan to support our youth programs by paying your local dues — early in the year. We count on YOU to assist us. Thank you.

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

### A note from the Editor

As you can tell, we are doing our best in arranging for an in-person indoor dinner meeting and, alternatively, a way to attend by Zoom. This is a difficult time. How strongly do we promote the indoor meeting? Many organizations have ceased having indoor lunch or dinner meetings. We have taken the path of going ahead on the basis that members can make their own choice between Zoom and in-person with full awareness of the arrangements and the pros and cons. Members can choose what is best for them and fellow attendees.

On another, perhaps, less controversial topic: Which do logo do you prefer: **the new or the old?** Write me at ..... [wkrice@aol.com](mailto:wkrice@aol.com)

**Willard K Rice, Jr - Editor**

out the details of how to log on to a 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. You are encouraged to log in before that time – say 6:15 so we can be ready to do the voting right at the start.

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 but many will find staying on-line rewarding. Guest speaker Erin Cranes promises to make the evening memorable. Check bio on page 7.

We realize that there won’t be a large number of attendees due to the on-going-Covid pandemic but we appreciate how those who did attend the December meeting respected the safety limits that were in place. Keeping our tradition of being a social organization alive is important, though difficult, under present circumstances. With the vaccine starting to make its impact, there is ‘light in the tunnel’.

For those attending in person, there will be a “plated” dinner at group tables. During the dining period, masks can be off. People are encouraged to sit closely only to those in their “household” group. During other periods, masks will need to be on. It’s the new reality for enhancing health safety for oth-

**The new  
‘Official’ Navy  
League logo**



**The “old”  
logo**





**Nominee for Council Treasurer**  
**Pam Ann Morgan**

## **New Treasurer Election Feb 18**

We are pleased to announce that Pam Ann Morgan has accepted nomination to be our new treasurer. Her election is set to be accomplished at the February 18th member meeting.

She brings superb experience, talent and enthusiasm to this important position

**A short message from Pam Ann Morgan ---**

”.....Graduated High School in Ooltewah, TN and then joined the Navy as a Nuclear Rated Machinist Mate. Since then, I have sold my real estate practice, previously owned an ASME ‘R’ Stamp Code Welding Mechanical Contracting Company with a Mechanical Contractors Association membership. Currently, I am a fully licensed building contractor in the State of Tennessee with an Associated General Contractors Membership completing commercial, residential, and industrial work.

I joined the Navy for travel, experience, and education. The comradery I experienced there has been unsurpassed by any experience since. Volunteering with Aid A Veteran and the National Veteran’s Coalition has led me to The Chattanooga Navy League.

I hope to gain a better knowledge and understanding of nonprofit innerworkings with more local community comradery experiences via the Treasurer position with the Chattanooga Navy League.

—Pam Ann Morgan

Note: Pam Ann holds a position as Operations Manager— Accounting & Estimating at AT Construction Services, Inc.

### **Officers/Directors Elected at Dec meeting**

**David Smith - President**

**Stacy Kehoe - Director & Immediate Past President & Programs/Fund Raising**

**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**

\*Note: Sean McMahon resigned in December (due to relocation). **Shane Pilcher continues on as Acting Treasurer.** Pam Ann Morgan is pending election to Treasurer at February meeting

## December Annual Dinner meeting

### A Special Time

We hosted at the Walden Club our first “inside” member meeting in many months conducting our annual election with a combination of present and on-line attendees. Thanks to the efforts of Stacy Kehoe and David Smith the wrinkles of doing that were worked out. From all reports of those attending in-person, it was a real success with much enjoyment for a return to true social contact. The holiday spirit was sparked by guest entertainer Tracy Coates



David Smith– “What am I supposed to do with this? “

Though attendance was limited, it was supplemented by a number of members who logged in by Zoom, as this writer did. For those Zoomers who did not hang in there to the end, they missed the growing intimacy and joy that emanated from the comradery of the group assembling gift stockings for the Coast Guard and peaking toward the close in carol singing. It was a good time. It was good to have new members Ray Alexander and Pam Ann Morgan there.



From the right, that’s Pam Ann Morgan, Mickey McCamish, Ray Alexander, Larson Mick, Jim Fields, Stacy Kehoe, David Smith, Tracy Coates and Kamilla Pendington



Tracy Coates, the evening’s chief entertainer

## Navy League in the community

As already cited in David's letter, Navy League has been active in the community even though the pandemic made it difficult to gather in groups or even to meet with the people we were assisting or supporting in one way or another. Much thanks to Stacy Kehoe who carried the ball.



The crew at the Coast Guard's Quachita Station receiving the gift stockings Council members assembled at our December meeting.



Mickey, David and Stacy You can be sure ..they won't !



Behind those masks, that may be Stacy Kehoe and Dirk Ames .. But I'm not sure!

This was a reverse: Actually NJROTC Senior Science Instructor, Lcdr Dirk Ames, USCG (RET) and NL Council member donated 3 NJROTC t-shirts to Council members Mickey McCamish, David Smith, and Stacy Kehoe. for their support of NJROTC

The NJROTC is one of two youth programs that we support. Right now, the NJROTC program is fundraising for their AMI preparations. Click on this link to purchase a t-shirt or to purchase a box of chocolates and help support Howard High School NJROTC.

<https://www.ebay.com/str/tigerbattalion>

In early Dec, Council member Stacy Kehoe organized and implemented a free coat, toys, and cookie giveaway. Once this event was over, Lcdr Dirk Ames, USCG (Ret) drove the Howard High School van over to the Avondale Center to pick up the remaining items. The coats, in particular, were given to the Howard High School students and their families. Our members are continually giving back to our community.

*Continued page 6*

## Navy League in the community ...continued

This year the public participation in the Wreaths Across Chattanooga event at the Chattanooga National Cemetery had to be greatly reduced due to Covid. However, Navy Leaguer Mickey McCamish was once again Co'Chair. All military branches sent one representative who, along with many civilian and veteran volunteers, to the National Cemetery for a ceremony on Friday, December 18th to lay wreaths at thousands of grave markers.

Individually, Navy Leaguers were among the contributors to the fund that financed the purchase of the wreaths. Following the ceremony, a smaller group met at the **Wreath of Honor Memorial** at the Riverpark adjacent to the Tennessee River to present wreaths in honor of the "Fallen Five". NOSC Chattanooga personnel were present to lay a Wreath on each pillar.



The Navy was there at the Fallen Five



Navy Leaguer Mickey McCamish saluting the Fallen

### Coffee and Goodies to the troops

On December 22nd, Council President David Smith and Immediate Past President Stacy Kehoe delivered coffee bags, donated by Starbucks on East Brainerd and manager Seth VanHines, as well as coffee grinders from our Council, to both the Navy and Marines units located at NOSC Chattanooga and a few gifts for some of the family members. Left to Right: David Smith, Capt Tallo, USMC, Stacy Kehoe, and Cdr Jones, NOSC Navy Commanding Officer.



L/R David Smith, Council President, Capt Tallo, USMC, Stacy Kehoe, Immediate Past President, and Cdr Jones, NOSC Navy Commanding Officer.

## Navy League in the community *-continued from page 6*

**And wait.....there's still more!**

On December 8th, Council members Mickey McCamish and Stacy Kehoe attended the MOAA dinner at the Walden Club. They awarded Capt Tallo a **Quilt of Valor** along with Fran Randolph, the Quilt of Valor representative. Capt Tallo is the Commanding Officer for the Mike Battery, 3rd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment here in Chattanooga.



**Fran Randolph, Capt Tallo & Stacy Kehoe**



At close of the meeting, Stacy Kehoe and Mickey McCamish stood for photo with Capt Tallo and 1st Sgt Myers as they donated toys for the **Toys for Tots** Marine Reserve organization.

### Note from Feb 18th Dinner speaker, Erin Crane

“—Cruzan. Military Brat. Daughter. Sojourner. Sailor. Bartender. Wife. Marketer. Master-at-Arms. Mother. Domestic Engineer. Reservist. Veteran. Graduate. Insurance Agent. Entrepreneur. Foster-mother. Philanthropist...and now, Public Speaker.

I was born in the US Virgin Islands. I've lived in Puerto Rico, Florida, Texas, Illinois, Texas again Maryland, Florida again and now North Georgia. My Dad was a Bubblehead, but he got out of the service before I was even a twinkling in his eye. I joined the Navy because he never spoke about it. He served during a time when the military was less than celebrated.

I signed my contract on April 23, 2004. I was 20. I tried the college route first and I gave it a solid year before the wanderlust began. You might say wanderlust is in my DNA though, since I come from a long line of sheep herders and ship wreckers (more on that later). I spent some time overseas as a Master-at-Arms. I graduated with my Bachelor's degree the same year I got married and had my first baby, while simultaneously working full-time and serving in the Reserves. My second child was born in 2011. I sepa-

rated from service in 2012 as an E-6, much to the dismay of my Commanding Officer. It was simply time for my family to move forward with other plans.

My husband followed an employment opportunity to North Georgia and we've put down roots here to raise our children. I opened up my Agency in 2015 and since then have served on the Board of Directors or similar for The Children's Advocacy Center of the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit, the Christian Women Job Corps, my children's Parent Teacher Organization, the Local School Governance Team, and our local Domestic Violence shelter. We were also foster parents from 2016-2019 for a specific sibling group. I'm currently on the Board for Flourish Foster Care Closet and Support.

I've never been able to sit still very long, and I'm sure there's a name for that in a book somewhere. I was raised to work hard and give back and that's what I intend to keep doing”.

**Note from Editor:** If you haven't already Googled it, a “Cruzan “is a native of St Croix. I have no idea what she will speak about ...but it will be exciting!

## Sea Cadet Report

Sea Cadet Lt Leigh Ann Beesley, Commanding Officer of the Sea Cadet Chattanooga Division 089-CTN, provided an extensive report to the Navy League board in early January. Here is a highly edited/shortened version of the report. We thank Leigh Ann for all this information about the Sea Cadets and see this as a promising new opening for our Navy League Council to increase our knowledge of and engagement with the local Sea Cadets. One of our most key missions is support of youth programs .

### 2020 –A challenging year for all ...

.....But we continued to thrive and worked to reach our members' personal goals. Eleven cadets and one adult achieved advancements. Together, our cadets and adults completed 50 courses.

The Chattanooga Division completed against all the Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville Sea Cadet units in regulation and knock out drills, knowledge bowl, line heaving, medical relay, knot tying, color guard, personnel inspection, quarterdeck bell ringing, and physical readiness test scores. Our cadets scored first place!

Cadet Gage Neudigate was promoted to chief petty officer at a "pinning ceremony" in which **his father, a chief at NOSC Chattanooga and mother, Heather**, pinned and capped the cadet. This was a special honor for the cadet and his parents as well.

Though being in Covid stand-down, our members attended Regional training in July. Seven officers served as Escort officers. Our cadets completed



**CPO Gage Neudigate getting "pinned" by Dad, NOSC Chief Scott Neudigate**

both online and in person training. We had multiple cadets complete recruit, culinary, basic and advanced medical training. Several cadets completed the Petty Officer Leadership Academy and courses in Naval History and Heritage, marine mammal research, Public safety/Homeland Security.

Sea Cadets provided color guards at the Armed Forces Salute at River Front Nights, the Armed Forces parade and Wreaths Across America events. Three cadets have graduated out. Two have enlisted in the US Navy and one is awaiting her "ship date" for US Air Force enlistment. While we lost some cadets (mostly due to moving away), we have gained five new cadets.

### Goals for the Upcoming Year 2021

Our primary goal is to recruit new members. We have not been allowed to enter schools to promote our program due to COVID-19, but we hope to in-



**Sea Cadets at the Wreath of Honor**

*Continued page 9*



## Sea Cadet Report....continued from page 8

crease our cadet membership and retention, as well as welcome new adult leaders. If provided with greater funding, we would be able to allow lower-income cadets to join the USNSCC as well, which would further increase our numbers and give them better opportunities than they could have at home.

Because five cadets will graduate out, preparing our current cadet leaders to take on new responsibilities is key. We will include a focus on volunteer opportunities such as “damage control” programs with the fire dept. We will be at our state-wide inspection/flagship competition and hope to win again against all the other Sea Cadet units. Fund raising during the Thunderbirds airshow in Smyrna, TN will be exciting.

We aim to help the community celebrate at events such as the Armed Forces and, Veterans Day parades. Participating in the Navy ball, which we have attended every year that it has been available, is always a highlight. We hope to continue providing color guard services for the Memorial and Veteran’s Day programs, as well as assist in the Navy League. We will strive to promote the sea services and Navy heritage ideals within the Chattanooga area. We, as always, strive to prepare the cadets for their futures in the military or as community leaders. Finally, we hope to work with the new CO at the NOSC Chattanooga.

**Lt Leigh Ann Beesley—Commanding Officer—Chattanooga Division**



**From left front: CPO Josiah Burnette, CPO Joshua Sliger, back: CPO Jeremiah Burnette. J. Sliger graduated, now at Great Lakes Training!**

**Alert** to members and others: Contact with Navy League of the United States, our national organization is easy.

Web site is [www.navyleague.org](http://www.navyleague.org) and e-mail is [info@navyleague.org](mailto:info@navyleague.org)

### AF Construction Services, Inc of Chattanooga—New Corporate Supporter

New member (and nominated treasurer) Pam Ann Morgan told the story of Navy League to AT Construction Services and, behold, they have made a contribution of \$1000 to our Council Thank you Ann Pam Together with Lockheed Martin, we now have two.

And Valued Supporter.....



these challenges can and will be met to carry out the mission of our organization. As many of you know, most of my Naval career was served with the Naval Construction Force, referred to as the "Seabees" and our moto is: Construimus Batuimus for We build, We Fight; "Can Do". Therefore, I affirm that I have an unwavering commitment to carry forward our mission in face of the adversity of this coronavirus crisis.

I want to take a moment to thank Stacy Kehoe for her outstanding leadership these past two years for all the accomplishments which our Council achieved under her guidance. Many of these accomplishments have been highlighted in the 2019 and 2020 Compass Points Newsletters to the membership. Stacy has kept the Council's business operations and activities moving forward, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic that began last March.

To say the least, 2020 brought on many challenges and culture changes such as, wearing masks, social distancing, virtual media zoom meetings to conduct business, quarantines (isolation), lockdowns of businesses, cancellation of the Navy Ball, fund raiser affairs, and a few board meetings and membership dinner meetings.

Also, COVID-19 limited our Council's participation in events such as Armed Forces Day Parade, Veterans, Day, Memorial Day, USMC Toy for Tots Drive, support of the USS Tennessee Blue and Gold Crews, and Wreaths Across Chattanooga at the National Cemetery.

On the upside, our Council did continue to triumph in 2020 and to support, as well as participate in our local sea service organizations as follows: The Howard High School Naval Junior ROTC, Tullahoma Naval Junior ROTC, Chattanooga Sea Cadet Division, [USCG Chattanooga Quanchita Station](#) Unit, plus the USMC and Navy Units at the Chattanooga Naval Operational Support Center.

Shortly after putting on the hat as president, my feet got thrown into the fire pit when I received an email

from our newly elected Treasurer Sean McMahon saying he had accepted a new job in another state and therefore, respectively, with regrets, was resigning his position as Treasurer. I immediately called Shane Pilcher to see if he would continue as acting Treasurer until the Nominating Committee could find a replacement Treasurer. Thankfully, Shane agreed.

Next step was to contact the Nominating Committee Chair Stacy Kehoe. The nominating committee was in the process of recruiting a new Director for the Board and planned to submit the lady's name to the Board members at the January 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Once approved by the Board, the lady's name would go on an election ballot for the members to vote on the nomination at the February 18<sup>th</sup> Membership Dinner Meeting. Per future discussion with Stacy, I learned the candidate had approximately ten years of accounting experience and might accept being nominated as the new Treasurer. Based on this information, I called the candidate to determine if the lady would be willing to come on the Board as the new Treasurer provided the membership election could be conducted on February 18<sup>th</sup>. The lady accepted and her name is Mrs. Pam Ann Morgan. For more information on Mrs. Morgan see her picture and background information in this issue of *Compass Points*.

At the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Dinner meeting the guests included entertainers Kamilla Pendington and Tracy Coats plus guests RADM Ray Alexander and Pam Ann Morgan (a friend of Mickey McCamish). On December 16, 2020, I along with Stacy Kehoe, made a trip to the local USCG Chattanooga Quanchita Station to present 20 donated Christmas stocking (assembled at the December 3 dinner meeting) plus a few extra gifts to the crew members and some small gifts to OIC Boatswain Mate Senior Chief Cy Kruithoff for his family.

On December 21, 2020, I again with Stacy Kehoe, made a trip to the USMC and Navy units at the Chattanooga Naval Operational Center to present to Capt. Nicholas Tallo, CO, USMC Mike Battery

and Cdr William Jones CO, USN, NOSC, coffee beans donated by Starbucks and a coffee grinder for each command plus we presented small presents to each CO. Also, on December 21<sup>st</sup>, I met with Mickey McCamish and Stacy Kehoe for a group picture wearing The Howard High School NJROTC Tee-shirts presented to the group by Lcdr Dirk Ames for our support to the cadet program.

Meanwhile, I have managed to send out the following: (1) December 16, 2020 Letter to Commanding Officer Navy Sea Cadets-Chattanooga Division to provide my contact information and to reestablish a working relationship to support the unit in 2021, (2) December 26, 2020 Letter of introduction to our Council members along with an invoice for remitting local dues, optional donation for General Fund and Navy Ball., and (3) January 2, 2021 Letter to Council Members that hold Annual Membership as a reminder that, during the year, it will be necessary to renew an individual's membership based on the month/day/year the member originally joined (Attached to Letter was a Membership Form.). I have also made several phone calls to certain individuals at National headquarters to establish contact and gain insight for communication purposes.

To prepare for the January 6, 2021 Board meeting I (1) Developed and wrote 15 Goals for the Board to achieve during 2021, (2) Developed a list of Annual Events with scheduled dates for 2021, and (3) Prepared the Board Agenda to conduct our January 6<sup>th</sup> board meeting. All this preparation for the January 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting allowed the Board to successfully to complete a large agenda in a hour and a half.

On a good Note: **CONGRATULATIONS** to Billy Hewitt and Stacy Kehoe for their acceptance to the position of United States Navy League as National Delegates.

David B. Smith, President

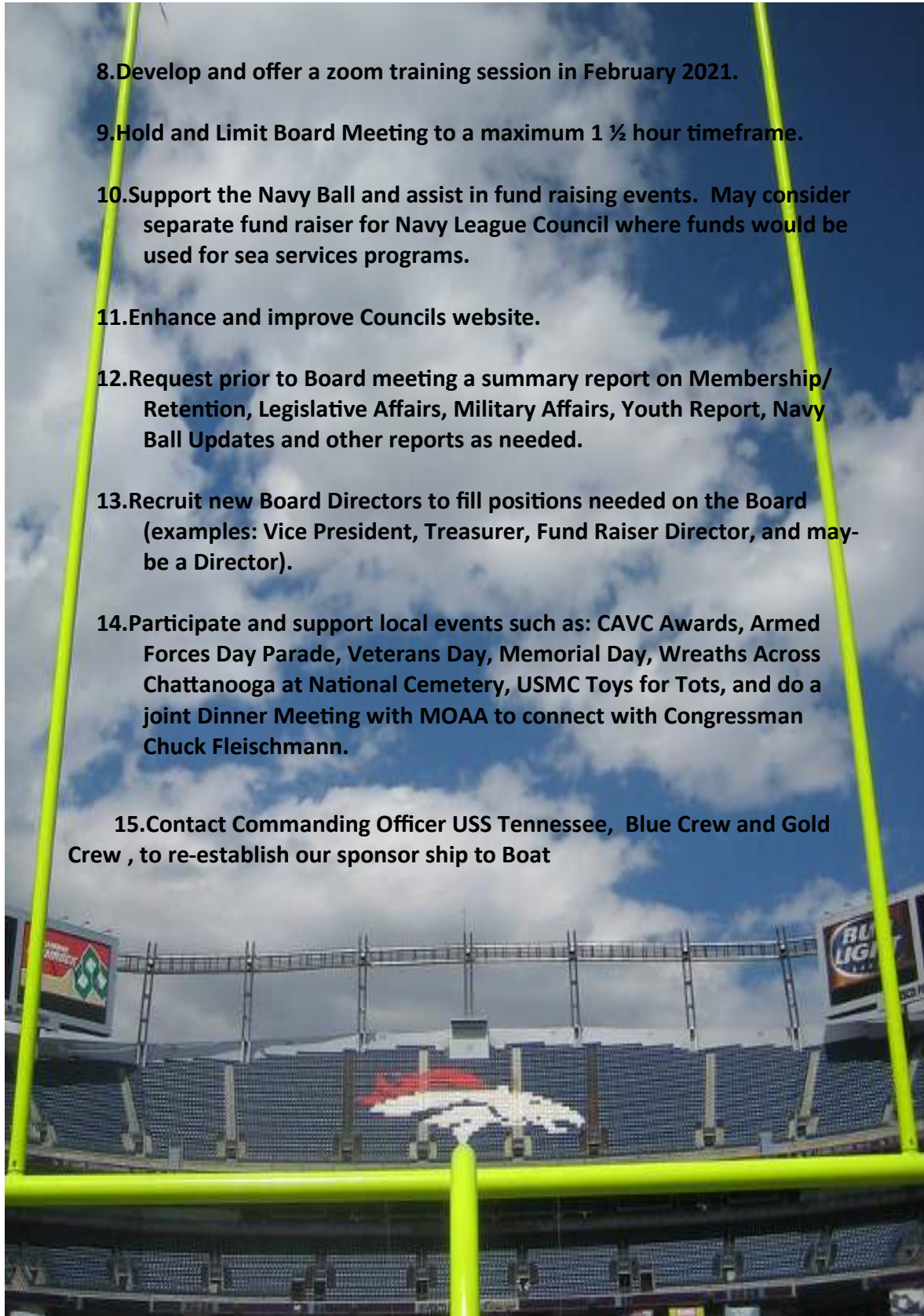


# **2021 GOALS FOR THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES GREATER CHATTANOOGA COUNCIL**

- 1. Due to Covid-19 Pandemic virus, Council is challenged to find ways to continue business operations to support (a) educating our community leaders about the importance of Sea Power to our nation's survival and continued prosperity, (b) our men and women serving in the local Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard, (d) our Sea Services family members (parents, spouses, children, and other relatives of service members), (d) the youth of our communities by giving time, talent, and money to Naval Sea Cadet Corps and Navy & Marine Corps Junior ROTC units.**
- 2. Membership: Work with National Headquarters to determine (a) an accurate local Membership List, (b) identification of past members who have let their membership lapse, (c) an additional list of prospective people to recruit as members, and (d) a current member list that will during the year need to be notified to renew their annual membership.**
- 3. Issue a Verification Form to each member to be returned to the Council President whereby the information may be compared to Nationals Membership spreadsheet.**
- 4. Membership Local Dues: Send out an annual notification invoice to Council membership to remit local dues, donation to general fund, and donation to Navy Ball fund during month of January 2021.**
- 5. Develop and issue an annual budget for 2021.**
- 6. Prepare and distribute an annual proposed program schedule.**
- 7. Complete and submit the Council Annual Report to Nation Headquarters in February 2021.**

## 2021 GOALS ...continued

Con-



8. Develop and offer a zoom training session in February 2021.

9. Hold and Limit Board Meeting to a maximum 1 ½ hour timeframe.

10. Support the Navy Ball and assist in fund raising events. May consider separate fund raiser for Navy League Council where funds would be used for sea services programs.

11. Enhance and improve Councils website.

12. Request prior to Board meeting a summary report on Membership/ Retention, Legislative Affairs, Military Affairs, Youth Report, Navy Ball Updates and other reports as needed.

13. Recruit new Board Directors to fill positions needed on the Board (examples: Vice President, Treasurer, Fund Raiser Director, and maybe a Director).

14. Participate and support local events such as: CAVC Awards, Armed Forces Day Parade, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Wreaths Across Chattanooga at National Cemetery, USMC Toys for Tots, and do a joint Dinner Meeting with MOAA to connect with Congressman Chuck Fleischmann.

15. Contact Commanding Officer USS Tennessee, Blue Crew and Gold Crew, to re-establish our sponsorship to Boat

## This article is meant for people who really care about this topic!

Those with short attention spans (or something else to do today) .....**BEWARE!**

### What is the Eisenhower CVN -69 ?

CVN-69 does indeed refer to "USS Dwight D Eisenhower". The second Nimitz class carrier, 69 is the hull number for the ship and CVN indicates that the ship is classified as a Nuclear Powered Aircraft Carrier. What people get wrong is trying to explain CVN as an acronym. Each letter being the abbreviation of individual words. This is what is wrong. Some people (including those in the Navy military) try wrongly to claim that CVN means **Carrier Vessel Nuclear**.

No... it does not! Though some assert the C stands for **Capital ship**, much like the cruiser's designation

The individual letters are not abbreviations for three separate words. The three letters are taken as a whole to mean Nuclear Powered Aircraft Carrier. The letters together are a **SYMBOL**, not an abbreviation. **CV** means **Aircraft Carrier not Carrier Vessel**. The V for the Symbol for carrier comes from the French word "Voler". to fly. **CA** was the Symbol for **Cruiser**.

During the birth and infancy of the Carriers, they were envisioned as Aviation Cruisers. So they took the C and the V for Voler and made the Carrier Symbol to be CV.

The basic hull types were all double consonants: DD for Destroyer, BB for Battleship,. FF for Frigate. SS for Submarine. As more types of ships were created the symbols became widely varied.

There are several suffixes added to the base hull symbol. N denotes that the ship is **nuclear powered**. But N is not a direct abbreviation for the word Nuclear. G denotes that the vessel has as its primary weapon, long range precision guided missiles .. be that an area defense anti-air missile system, or long range cruise missiles.

So...an **SS** is a **Submarine**. Not a **Submersible Ship**. **SSN** is a **Nuclear Powered Submarine**. Not a **Submersible Ship Nuclear**. **SSGN** would be a nuclear powered guided missile submarine. The Russians have a number of subs of this type, meant for making massive missile attacks

against a US carrier battle group. The US had no such subs until the first four Ohio class SSBNs were converted to SSGNs. Speaking of... SSBN is a nuclear powered ballistic missile submarine. An SSB would be a conventional ballistic missile submarine. The US never had any such subs, but that would be their symbol if we did.

In short... these letters are not individual abbreviations for individual words. The letters are a symbol taken as a whole to refer to a specific ship classification. Because the letters chosen for the symbols were chosen for ease of memorization and are related to the intended meaning of the symbol, they do appear to be an abbreviation, an acronym. But they are not.

Because of this, many people have tried to "backronym" meaning into the individual letters.

For example, claiming CVN means **Carrier Vessel Nuclear**, when in fact it doesn't.

Another example is claiming that **FF**, which means **Frigate**... stands for **Fast Frigate**. It doesn't. So in direct answer with the code CVN-69...The first part is a Hull Classification Symbol which tells you the type of ship. The second part is the hull number.

Regarding hull numbers. There is some misconception and false information about them. Several people have claimed the hull numbers are all sequential and thus CVN-69 is the 69th carrier built. While that does happen to be true in the case of full sized Fleet Carriers (CVs and CVNs) and does not include the Light carriers and escort carriers (CVL, CVE)... It does not hold true for all hull numbers.

Hull numbers will be sequential within a single class of ship (class being all ships of a certain hull classification which are built to the same plans). But there can be gaps in the sequence between the ships of one class and the ships of the preceding or following class. Sometimes this is because a class of ships was approved and ordered but then cancelled before construction. This happened a lot post -WW2.

## Eisenhower CVN-69 ?.. *Continued from page 14*

Other times they are done for political reasons. SSN-21 is not the 21st attack submarine built for the Navy. The previous class of SSN was the Los Angeles class. It went from SSN-688 (Los Angeles) to SSN-773 (Cheyenne).

The new Seawolf class should have started with SSN-774. But Seawolf was the new advanced submarine for the 21st Century. So hull numbers started with 21.

After the overly expensive Seawolf class was cancelled after only three subs (SSN-21, SSN-22, SSN-23), the numbers started again with the Virginia class with SSN-774, "USS Virginia".

Hull numbers can use the same number on different types of ships, but do not repeat within the same type. CV-63 is "USS Kitty Hawk". BB-63 is "USS Missouri". There is also a CG-63 - "USS Cowpens".

But there can never be two CG-63's. There can never be two CV-63's.

A Ship's name can also be reused. But never at the same time. Take the "USS Halsey CG-23". She was a Guided Missile Cruiser of the Leahy class. While she was in commission as an active warship there could never be another "USS Halsey". But after she was decommissioned and scrapped, another warship was given the name - "USS Halsey DDG-97" - an Arleigh Burke class Guided Missile Destroyer.

So the combination of hull classification symbol and hull number becomes a singularly unique identifier for a single specific ship of the US Navy.

If a person served on "Enterprise", does that mean the old and famous WW2 carrier, or the world's first Nuclear Carrier? If a person served on "Halsey", does that mean the Leahy Cruiser or the Burke Destroyer? But when an individual says CG-23, that can only be one ship - the Leahy class cruiser named "Halsey"



## WORDS ...In case you didn't know.....

**Ditty bag** – bag for stuff, originally “ditto” bag which had 2 of each item

**Cumshaw** – term for getting on the side -- originally Chinese beggars “kam ssa’ for thank you

**Deck ape** - now any deckhand but originally a sailor working ship's the topsails

**Gangway** - originally the plank that extended midships from stem to stern on slave galleys where the whip-master paraded to spur the oarsmen

**Grog** - derived from the cloth “groggam”, a cloak of 50/50 wool/silk worn by British Admiral Vernon who ordered that the rum be diluted with half water.

**Head** – originally the toilet was on a beam that projected from the bow

**Larboard** side (port) - the “load side” to tie to docks as the huge steering oar was on other side

**Leatherneck** -- 1812 US Marine uniform included an uncomfortable leather-lined collar that was finally abolished a hundred years later -- but the term lives on

**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, 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

**Our Supported Units**



**You are invited to**

**Annual Member Meeting**  
**6 PM Thursday, February 18, 2021**

Walden Club

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

*Plated dinner with 2 sides rolls dessert, tea and coffee*

Social Time .....	6:00 PM
Welcome (Members & Guests please take seats)....	6:30 PM
Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance .....	6:35 PM
Election & Installation of Officers & Directors.....	6:40 PM
Plated Dinner .....	6:50 PM
Guest Speaker—Erin Crane.....	7:30PM
Valentine Surprise .....	8:00 PM
Adjournment.....	8:30 PM

**Reservation Form**

*Council Dinner Meeting- Thursday February 18, 2021*

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 February 15.**

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](http://www.chattanooganavyleague.com/paypal.html)

—No walk-ins—

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