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

VOL. 16 JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2018 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

2018 Council Officers and Directors

Mickey McCamish President

Stacy Kehoe
Vice President, Secretary &
Youth Program Director

Mark Parks Treasurer

Jim Fields JAG

Ron Galante Director & Immediate Past President

Willard Rice
Director & Editor of
Compass Points

David Smith Director

Larson Mick Director

Billy Hewitt Director, Legislative Affairs

Joseph Holloway Director, Membership & Retention

Alden Perry Director, Military Affairs

> Dan Saieed Director, Programs





I hope that all of our Naw League members enjoyed the holidays and had a productive and a prosperous 2017. Certainly hope that 2018 is a very special year. As a result of our December 14, 2017 member election, it is my special honor to continue to serve as president for 2018 along with Stacy Kehoe - Vice President/Secretary/Youth Program Director; Jim Fields - Judge Advocate; Mark Parks - Treasurer; Billy Hewitt - Director Legislative Affairs; Ron Galante - Director and Immediate Past President; Dan Saieed - Director Programs; Willard Rice - Director Compass Points; Joseph Holloway - Director Membership and Retention; Alden Perry - Director, Military Affairs; Larson Mick - Director; and David Smith -Director.

One major change for 2018. After several years at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo, our member meetings will move to The Walden Club located at Republic Center (633 Chestnut Street); very important, parking is in the adjacent garage and at no cost. Our first meeting at The Walden Club will be on Thursday, February 15, 2018. So that we may provide an accurate meal count, **PLEASE MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF OUR MEETING.** This location change is necessary as a result of the Choo-Choo getting out of the "banquet" business.

Another first of the year friendly reminder is payment of local membership dues of \$15.00/individual or \$20.00/couple. The local dues and the national membership rebates enable us to carry out the three pronged Navy League of the United States mission at a local level. Of particular importance is the local Naval Sea Cadet Programs in our community and the Navy Reserve Junior Officer Training Corp (NJROTC)

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Here is some exciting news! We have a new place for our Navy League dinners - the Walden Club in downtown Chattanooga. As reported in the last issue of *Compass Points*, the Choo-Choo announced that they will no longer be in the "banquet" business. They have been an excellent

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The December member meeting is when we elect the next year's members of our Board. The to-be nominated members were listed in the previous *Compass Points* issue so all could see who they were. Members present at the meeting unanimously nominated and elected the following individuals to the Officer and Director positions indicated for 2018:

Mickey McCamish President Mark Parks Treasurer

Stacy Kehoe Vice President, Secretary,

and Director Youth
Jim Fields Judge Advocate

Billy Hewitt Director Legislative Affairs
Ron Galante Director & Immediate Past

President

Willard Rice Director Compass Points
Alden Perry Director Military Affairs
Dan Saieed Director Programs

Director Membership and

Retention Director Director

Larson Mick David Smith

Joseph Holloway



Navy League National Chooses Chattanooga

No, Amazon won't be selecting Chattanooga for their 2nd headquarters and Huntsville may have landed a new Toyota auto plant but the Chattanooga Nawy League Council received a huge Christmas present from the US Nawy League's national print publication, *Seapower* Magazine!

Before you totally clean out debris from the holidays, grab your December 2017 issue of *Seapower* and turn to page 52 & 53. With a headline of "Greater Chattanooga Quenches Thirsts to Raise Nawy Ball Funds." *Seapower* reprinted (with improvements and additions!) the article we ran in the September *Compass Points* telling the story of our summer of volunteer effort --- putting Chattanooga Navy League on the national map! Surely, the attractive graphic design that Mary Dall imparted to that issue helped Nawy League headquarters to spot our article.



(L/R): Mark Parks, Pablo Mejia, Gary Coles, Leigh Ann Beesley, Akela Barkley, Donnis Barkley, Patricia Cerantonio, and Larson Mick. (Seapower ran this photo along with their article).

Featured left are newly elected board members. Left to right, back row: Joe Holloway, Larson Mick, Willard Rice, Mickey McCamish, President; Ron Galante, and Dan Saieed. Front row, left to right, Billy Hewitt, Mark Parks, Dave Smith, and Stacy Kehoe.



This is not strictly "Navy League news" but, since it involved a couple of members who read in *Compass Points* how much fun it was to spend an evening serving beer, etc. to Chattanoogan partiers/ revelers this past summer at the Riverbend and River Front Nights music festivals, why not jump in the pool and do it on New Year's Eve? We are blaming the Navy League.



Plus, without this story, we wouldn't have had an excuse to show you the photo of the stilt walkers who enlivened the evening.

That's how Ed Shropshire and wife, Euretha, and Willard Rice found themselves working at the "1st Annual Block Party in West Village." That's a real estate developer's name for a newly rebuilt downtown block close by the new Westin Hotel (close to our new Walden Club dinner site).

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February 15, 2018 Dinner Meeting

Continued from page 1

host for us for years, always cheerfully and professionally accommodating our needs. But, this ending of access to the Choo-Choo has required us to find a new location.

And the best news out of this is that we now have arranged with the Walden Club to be our host. It meets all of our key requirements: {1) a reputation for good food (2) convenient central location (3) space for podium/speaker/presentations (4) quiet room where we can hear each other! (5) flexibility to accommodate varying numbers of guests. Plus, as an added bonus, there is <u>free parking</u> included in our dinner ticket. Location is the Republic Center, 633 Chestnut Street, 21st floor, The parking garage is on the right side of the building.

We weren't looking for it but we got the best view in Chattanooga. If you have never been to the Walden Club, it will be worth coming to dinner just for that experience. However, we are hopeful you will also find much of interest in the presentations and reports each meeting includes and comradeship with fellow Navy Leaguers. Our February 15th dinner speaker will be Capt Patrick Sansbury, USMC, who will update us on the Marine Corps.

So mark that calendar: **Thursday, February 15 at 6:00 p.m.** *Note:* it will be necessary NOT to cut it as short as we have been, in order to accommodate planning at the Walden Club. Please get your reservation in to Mark Parks no later than **2 DAYS before** the meeting. Details are in the Form on the last page.



December Meeting ... A Full Plate

For those Navy Leaguers who made it to our December dinner, it was surely a great kick-off for their holiday season. Though there was definitely some formality in the portion that involved nominating and electing our Council's 2018 Directors and Officers and the presentation of the **Sandy McMillan Award**, the remainder of the meeting was truly "fun & games" — and singing! More on that later.

The business portion of the meeting confirmed the election of the Officers and Directors to serve the Council for 2018. We especially welcome new member Joseph Holloway to the Board. His special focus will be on membership. Full election results are posted in an adjacent article.

The other highly important official act was the announcement that Mary Dall was awarded the "Sandy McMillan Award." Sandy McMillan, a long-time member of our Council, suddenly passed away in the spring of 2016. Sandy McMillan served the Navy, the Chattanooga Navy League Council, and countless other organizations and the community with compassion and care.

Patty Parks, who had much interaction with Sandy over the years, set the stage for the award with her recollections of the wonderful impact that Sandy had made – making us fully aware that we could not possibly bestow a higher honor on the recipient, Mary Dall. It was so fitting that Mary be the first recipient because Sandy, who was Editor of *Compass Points*, and Mary collaborated on making *Compass Points*, our key communication. Another article in this issue covers the presentation.

Now... Back to the... "Fun & Games"

No one knew what was coming next, except that when you see a table piled high with more fancy gift bags than there are people in the room, you know you are not going home a loser! Stacy Kehoe orchestrated a melee in which everyone got a gift bag and then, depending on how one answered a question such as "have you ever been on a ship," was required to exchange it with someone else ... not knowing whether the new bag contained a step up, down or sideways. The enterprising among us tried, but mostly failed, to get back some treasure previously passed onward.

And then there was the need to chime in on a roving microphone with a verse or two of a holiday song like

"Jingle Bells." This was all done without benefit of any spirits, we being in the Choo-Choo's bar-less Event Center hall. We were not glued to our seats and more Navy Leaguers talked with their fellow Navy Leaguers than they ever did before.

The highlight of the evening was entertainment by Bo Cox. Bo generously visits veteran hospitals all over the region enlivening the vets with beautiful singing. Stacy Kehoe had heard her at a local function and invited her to our dinner. She showed up with a professional-level electronic music accompaniment kit that transformed our after-dinner period into a stage show. What a surprise it was for us to be on the receiving end of her performance – but she also made us perform with all that Jingle Bell stuff! Kudos to Stacy for sourcing the gifts, the decorations, the game and the entertainment, making it a memorable evening for everyone.



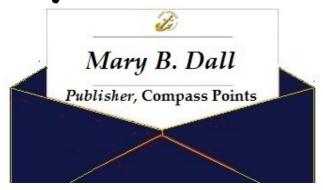
program at Howard High School.

Thank you for being a member and looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming February 15, 2018 meeting at the Walden Club.

Mickey McCamish President

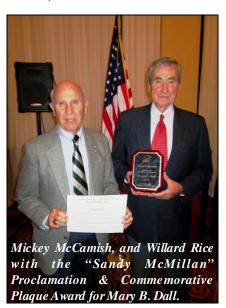


Sandy McMillan Award



As reported in the article covering our December member meeting, we had the pleasure of announcing that Mary Dall is the recipient of the "Sandy McMillan Award." We could not have had a more deserving person for this first-time ever award. Mary has been the backbone behind our *Compass Points* newsletter for many years, building it with Sandy McMillan into a strong source of information on all things Navy League Chattanooga. The presentation of the award was made by Mickey McCamish, President, and accepting the award for Mary (who was not able to attend the meeting) was Willard Rice, *Compass Points* Editor. In addition to a commemorative plaque, there was an award document that read as follows:

"Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council — Sandy McMillan Award is hereby awarded to Mary B. Dall — In appreciation for her many years of service in uplifting the quality of the Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council newsletter. This award is in memory of CDR George "Sandy" McMillan, who gave freely of his time and talents to the Navy League of the United States and to the Greater Chattanooga Navy League Council. We hereby award Mary Dall the "Sandy McMillan" in recognition of her creative energy in graphic design and inspiring contributions to Compass Points, the council's newsletter."



In accepting the award for Mary, Rice described how vital it is that for each Compass Points issue Mary takes an ordinary pile of prose that comes out of the writing/editing process and turns it all into attractive and readable pages. She designs the flow of the articles and the photos, adds inspiring graphics that enliven and often the pages contributes her insight to the content, size placement of headlines. Her creativity and final touches are what makes it come alive.



We checked ID's and made change. Only problem: it got cold, very:

TIME: 6pm 8pm 10pm 12am *TEMP: 27° 23° 19° 17° *Not counting wind chill

Much moola was invested by said developer in music, street entertainers, balloon sculptors, face painters, laser light show, and massive screen with ball drop televised from NYC. Early evening was great for children and led to a "kiddie" ball drop at 7:30. Peets' hot chocolate stand was the busiest. Then the smart people left. Propane heaters and fire drums were lit as, by midnight, about a thousand revelers gradually drifted in huddling by the feeble flames to see the live NY ball drop.

Six outdoor bars were going strong but the lime slices froze solid. "Hmmm.. It's the first decision of the New Year. It's 17 degrees and the wind is howling at 20 mph. Should I have a hot chocolate, a gin & tonic with rock-hard lime slice or a Jack Daniels with frozen coke..?" The Body Politic is in trouble: we went through a lot of Jack, a few limes and not much hot chocolate as the evening drew on.

Yet your stalwart Navy Leaguers were there holding down the fort. The prospect of serving beer at Riverbend when it's 80 degrees warmer looks like heaven to us. We checked off our bucket lists. Don't need to do New Year's Eve again.

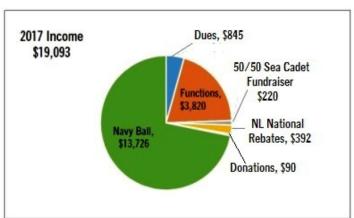


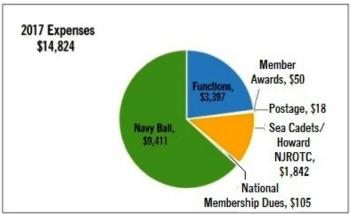
2017 ANNUAL REPORT

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES, GREATER CHATTANOOGA AREA COUNCIL

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

Financial Highlights





Our Council's financial position again strengthened in 2017. As the above charts show, our expenses were \$14,823.84 while income was \$19,093.44 resulting in a gain of \$4,269.60. Much of this gain was achieved because the expenses for the Navy Ball were \$9,411.14 while receipts were \$13,726.44. Inside of those receipts there was a total of \$10,046 raised by the beer tent volunteers' efforts at the summer music festivals. Our year-end cash balance was \$20,292.38 while our year starting position had been \$16,022.78.

2017 Social Gatherings



At the start of the year, we were aware that we would probably not be able to duplicate the tremendous financial boost we got from the previous year's Navy Ball. In 2016, when we stepped in to help, the Ball was in an "emergency" situation and Mickey McCamish, working with Karen Shostak (of Friends of the Festival, the organizers of Riverbend), was able to get the food donated for the 2016 Ball. That was not going to be a repeatable miracle.

This year the Navy Ball committee dug in and found ways to economize in other areas and, most importantly, inspired volunteers, principally through Mark Parks' efforts, to staff the festival beer tents on 14 long evenings.

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2017 ANNUAL REPORT

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES, GREATER CHATTANOOGA AREA COUNCIL

As a result, the Navy Ball was a tremendous success with over 140 attendees. Every aspect of the evening was a step up in quality from what we had done before: the food, the plated servings, the music, the entertainment. Ron Galante demonstrated his artistic and management skills by creating and getting produced the supremely handsome challenge coin that every attendee received as a keepsake.



While the Navy Ball was a lot of work, the Navy League was a lot of fun this past year, too. We held four social dinners at the Choo-Choo, each one with an informative program. Perhaps the most interesting one was the Navy F-35C presentation that Tom "Comet" Halley of Lockheed-Martin's Dallas Manufacturing Operations provided to us at the August meeting.



"Goodbye, 2017!" The year of the "Koozie."

Sea Cadet/NJROTC Support



Our sponsored Sea Cadet divisions and the Howard NJROTC division provided Colors for our dinners throughout the year. The Council provided \$1,842.20 to the Sea Cadets and NJROTC divisions to support their youth training agendas. Among the many opportunities the Sea Cadets participated in were outdoor skills training activities in Jasper, TN and summer training trips for leadership, field medical, culinary and fitness training in Pine Valley, GA; Fort Indiantown Gap in PA; and Parris Island in NC. Council member Stacy Kehoe, conducted specialized Ropes Rescue training during the summer months on Signal Mountain. Cadets from all across the nation came to our area to become a part of the next generation rope rescuers.

Looking To The Future

A goal for the coming year is to increase our efforts to add to our membership. Every member can help. The end of the year brought new resources to our Council. Joe Holloway joined our Board of Directors bringing with him an enthusiasm to focus on building our membership rolls.

Ringing in The Holidays



Ed Shropshire and Larson Mick. "Hey, Ed, want to trade again?"



Juliette Holloway making Dad, Joe, look good.



Bo Cox: "Just what I need, another necklace."

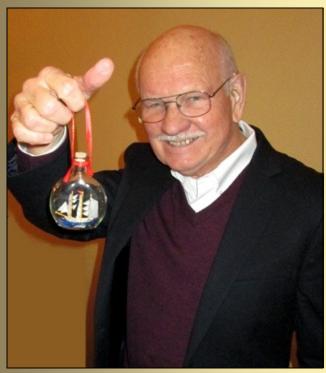


Dirk Ames: "Join the Navy and see the world, NJROTCers."

Ringing in The Holidays



Dave Smith and Billy Hewitt: "We both wanted that mermaid painting but, these doilies will do."



Dick Lewellan's ship has definitely come in.

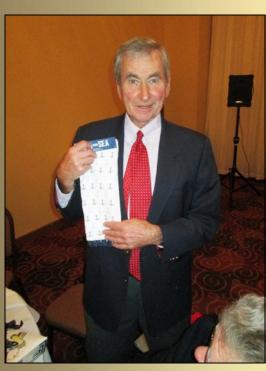


Stacy Kehoe: "Wow! ... my New Year's resolution ... Swimming."



Mark and Patty Parks: "Who took this picture?

Ringing in The Holidays



Willard Rice: "Who got that gift bag with the dinner for two at Ruth Chris?"



Juliette Holloway, sophomore at Lenoir City High School, seems pleased with her treasure.



Mickey McCamish surrounded by the Stars of the Evening: Bo Cox and Stacy Kehoe.



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 Photographer ~ Patty Parks

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

Make Plans Now to Join Us

COUNCIL DINNER MEETING Thursday, February 15, 2018



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

Buffet featuring 2 Entrée selections, sides, rolls, dessert, tea and coffee.

Social Time (Cash Bar in adjacent lounge)	6:00 PM
Welcome (Members & Guests please take seats)	6:30 PM
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance	6:35 PM
Buffet Dinner	6:45 PM
Presentation - Marine Corps Update, Capt	7:30 PM
Patrick Sansbury, USMC	
50/50 Drawing and Announcements	8:15 PM
Adjournment	8:30 PM

Please complete and return the dinner reservation form, below, to arrive no later than Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

RESERVATION FORM

COUNCIL DINNER MEETING Thurs day, February 15, 2018

NLUS Members: ____ X \$30.00 = \$.00Non-Member Guests X \$40.00 = \$.00

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

Reservations may be phoned in to Mark Parks: 423-326-0839, no later than NOON, Tuesday, February 13th. Mark may also be reached at mparks@epbfi.com. Reservations and/or cancellations should reach us NO LATER THAN NOON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018. Mail reservation form along with your check, made payable to Chattanooga Navy League, to:

Mark Parks 6920 Sawtooth Drive Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894

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