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

# COMPASS POINTS VOL. 16 SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2018 ISSUE 5

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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Fellow Navy Leaguers...

Where did the summer go...seems to have passed so quickly as schools are in full swing and weekends dominated with football games and tailgating.

Speaking of going by quickly, we are now about to enter the busiest and very special time of the year. First is the 243<sup>rd</sup> U. S. Navy Birthday Ball, which our Council will host, on Saturday, October 13, 2018, at the Chattanooga Convention Center. Again, this year, Navy Ball Committee Chairman Bill Hewitt and Committee have an enjoyable evening that includes a delicious dinner, door prizes, entertainment and dancing. Also, a photographer will be available for photos and a commemorative coin will be given as part of the evening to remember.

Please don't miss our October 18, 2018 dinner meeting at the Walden Club. Our speaker will be CDR Joseph Tanner, Commanding Officer-Navy Operations Support Center. All of us will want to congratulate Commander Tanner on his recent promotion to Commander.

Moving into November, our November meeting will include a combination of our annual meeting and our Christmas Program at the Walden Club on Thursday, November 29, 2018. The business of the Council will include the election of Board Members and Officers of the Board. Being such a nice Santa last year, Stacy Kehoe has agreed to play the role again this year and has a lot of fun activities planned.

Let me mention a very important community project that the Council has become involved with and that is "Wreaths Across Chattanooga." Since December 2005 wreaths have been placed on gravestones at

Continued ~ page 3

### **Slam-Bang Fall Schedule**

#### **Many Parties - Hardly Enough Time**

s the President's adjacent message highlights, we have a full plate of activities during October and November. We hope you will take the opportunity to gather with fellow Navy Leaguers and with the greater Navy community of Chattanooga at the Ball .

This issue contains detailed information and Reservation Forms for both the October 13th Navy Ball and the October 18th Member Dinner.

<u>Please get your **Reservations** to Mark Parks before</u> the deadlines on the forms



Navy Ball	Oct 13
Member Meeting	
Member Annual Meeting	Nov 29

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### Chief Sean McMahon, US Coast Guard August Dinner Speaker Connects us to Salt Water

The August member dinner meeting lived up to and surpassed all expectations. Coast Guard Master Chief Sean McMahon absolutely wowed us with his presentation that explained what the Coast Guard was doing, here, so many miles from salt water. You can get to the sea from Chattanooga either by taking the Tennessee up to the Ohio and then the Mississippi to New Orleans (nearly 1500 miles) or take the shortcut to Mobile through Mississippi and Alabama on the Tennessee-Tombigbee waterway (710 miles).

Either way, you depend on Chief McMahon (Officer-in-Charge of the *USCGC Ouachita*) and his 18-man crew to make sure all the buoys and channel markers from above us in Knoxville down to the intersection with the Tombigbee are in the exact place they need to be, NO MATTER WHAT. The "WHAT" includes storm-driven torrents from the many creeks that are not controlled by dams, and surging flows through and over the TVA dams (never with notice to the Coast Guard).

Add to those hurtles the numerous anchor draggings and collisions by boaters, barges and tugs, which destroy or move the markers and you can see why they keep their *USCGC Ouachita* in constant motion over the approximate 400 miles that are theirs to maintain out of the 648 mile overall length of the Tennessee. Plus, they somehow keep their 58 year-old ship (built 1960) running.



Chief McMahon—commanding our attention

#### Continued next column



L/R League President Mickey McCamish, new member George Cromie, BMCM Sean McMahon USCG.



#### Continued from adjacent column

BMCM Mahon was a cornucopia of knowledge about the economic and environmental impact of the Tennessee River.

While he and his crew focus on the navigation aspects, his talk opened our minds to the fundamental importance of the river system to this entire region. Without its harnessing and the continued management of the resource, (which all goes on behind the scenes), Tennessee and nearby regions would be vastly different and poorer places.

### CDR Joseph D. Tanner, Commanding Officer, NOSC Chattanooga Featured Speaker at October Member Dinner

Commander Joseph "Monkey" Tanner hails from Ocala, FL. He was commissioned on May 24, 2002 from the United States Naval Academy, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science.

After commissioning, he commenced flight at Training Squadron Three (VT-3) and Helicopter Training Squadron Eighteen (HT-18) -- earning his "Wings of Gold" on October 24, 2003. CDR Tanner continued training at Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light Forty (HSL-40) and was assigned to the Proud Warriors of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light Forty Two (HSL-42).

While at HSL-42, CDR Tanner served as Aviation Safety Officer. He deployed with HSL 42 detachment NINE onboard USS Simpson (FFG-56) for a 6 month NATO deployment and with HSL 42 detachment ONE onboard USS Klakring (FFG-42) to South America in support of counter narco-terrorism operations. From February to October 2008, he executed an Individual Augmentee assignment on staff for the Office for the Administrative Review of Detention of Enemy Combatants (OARDEC) in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Washington, D.C.

Then he reported to Training Squadron Six (VT-6) as a Primary Flight Instructor from Nov 2008 to Oct 2011. While at VT-6, he flew over 1000 instructional hours in the T-34C, served as Assistant Operations officer, and following that served at DESRON 26 from November 2011 until November 2013 as Operations Officer and Air Operations Officer.

CDR Tanner then joined the VT-3 Red Knights in November 2013 for a second tour as a Primary Flight Instructor. He flew over 1250 mishap –free flight hours in the T-6B Texan II. He served as Reserve Department Head, Safety Officer, Operations Officer, and acting Executive Officer. During his combined time as a flight instructor, CDR Tanner guided 32 "on-wing" Student Naval Aviators through their initial flight training syllabus.

CDR Tanner assumed command of Navy Operational Support Center Chattanooga in May, 2017. During his tenure, he has ensured the effective mobilization of 9 sailors and enjoyed an outstanding working relationship with the civilian and military community in Chattanooga. He is married to the former Ashley Kinsey of Ocala, FL and has three sons; Jonah (6), Elijah (3), and Luca (1).

Commander Tanner's military decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2 awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2 awards), and various unit medals and awards.

# the <u>president's message</u> Continued from page 1

Chattanooga National Cemetery around the middle of December. Unfortunately, only about 10,000 gravestones of the 43,000 receive a wreath. This project, "Wreaths Across Chattanooga", is an effort to place a wreath on every gravestone. Donations (wreath cost is \$10.00) can be made via mail to: Wreaths Across Chattanooga, 180 Hamm Road, Chattanooga, TN 37405 with checks payable to "Wreaths Across Chattanooga" and please note Navy League Member in the notation area of the check.

To each of you a special thanks for being a member of our Navy League-Greater Chattanooga Council. Thanks so very much.

Mickey McCamish



CDR Joseph D. Tanner USN

Commanding Officer Navy Operations
Support Center – Chattanooga

# Navy League aids Chattanooga Wreath Project

Leave no Grave Marker Behind



Chattanooga National Cemetery ..... Last December

Many Navy League members are probably aware that, for several years, there has been a growing campaign to put wreaths on the grave markers at the Chattanooga National Cemetery during December. While thousands have been so decorated, many thousands of grave markers are left bare.

If you would like to help, a contribution to the project can be made (see the insert). If you put "On behalf of Navy League" in the remarks section of your check, we'll endeavor to add those up and publish a running total of those donations associated with Chattanooga Navy League. \$10 pays for one wreath but you might want to cover several.

It would be great if our total added up to an inspiring amount.



# **Council Officer & Director Nominations**

At our Annual Meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup>, members will be asked to vote on Officers & Directors for our Council for the upcoming year, 2019. The Council's Nominating Committee is headed by Bill Hewitt. Members wishing to present a candidate for nomination should contact him (e-mail: Bill Hewitt blhewitt@aol.com) no later than October 18<sup>th</sup> so the person can be included in the slate of candidates.

# Info from the "Wreaths Across Chattanooga" project

For the 2018 Christmas season, Chattanooga Area military organizations are joining forces with the Civil Air Patrol to ensure that a wreath is placed on as many of the 43,000 grave markers as possible at Chattanooga National Cemetery. The placement of these wreaths will take place on Saturday, December 15, 2018, at noon.

In many local discussions, there is a perception that a wreath is placed on every grave marker at Chattanooga National Cemetery but that isn't the case. In reality, only enough local funds plus wreaths donated via a national campaign cover, at most, 10,000 of the 43,000 headstones. Since enough wreaths haven't been received for all the grave markers, the Civil Air Patrol works with Chattanooga National Cemetery to prioritize which section or sections are covered; this means that the remaining sections aren't honored with a wreath. Each wreath costs \$10.

The mission of Wreaths Across Chattanooga is to lay a wreath on every grave marker at Chattanooga National Cemetery and in so doing is to simply REMEMBER-All Chattanooga Area Veterans who served our country. HONOR- The lives of those who served and made the ultimate and TEACH- The value of freedom and about those who protected our freedom. This is an opportunity to connect "The Greatest Generations" with the "Generation of Hope" and an opportunity to honor our Chattanooga Heroes

To donate to Wreaths Across Chattanooga, please mail a check payable to: Wreaths Across Chattanooga: ATTN: Captain Mickey McCamish, 180 Hamm Road, Chattanooga, TN 37405. Note in remarks section: On behalf of Navy League". Donations may also be made online at: www.chattanoogaWAA.com and include Group ID TN0156 and Location ID: TNCNCC



#### A note from the Editor......

The national news cycle rushes forward every day to the next most startling story, yet, for a full week, came to its senses and paused to recognize John S McCain III, Captain USN and US Senator. Perhaps, since Pearl Harbor, the US Navy and its highest ideals of patriotism, bravery and courage had not been on the front page for such a long time.

Even though there were differences in political positions, nearly every leader in the country saw that many of the personal characteristics exhibited by John McCain harkened back to the era when military service, patriotism and personal integrity provided inspiration for all. There could hardly have been a better example of the US Navy's guiding principles when the spotlight was turned on for a week. Let's hope it stays lit.

Willard K .Rice, Jr - Editor, Compass Points



Lieutenant McCain (front right) with his squadron and T2 Buckeye trainer, 1965.



The A4 Skyhawk on carrier deck - the model McCain flew when shot down.



### Navy Ball Update.....

Ted Glocke - Radio Personality to speak at Ball

Attendees at the upcoming Ball are sure to be entertained by Ted Glocke who is the Director of Programs at Radio Station 103.1 FM, a station in the Chattanooga area. Having been in the broadcasting business for many years, Ted will enlighten us on a world we only know by chance discovery or faithfully following on the radio dial. Just think of the broad circumstances that have led to his special understanding of the human condition.





# U.S. Navy 243rd Birthday Ball



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

### **13 October 2018**

Chattanooga Convention Center Ballroom H/1
1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37402
Social Hour with Cash Bar: 5:00pm Ceremony/Dinner: 6pm

For the past 14 years, a Chattanooga U.S. Navy Birthday Ball has been held to show appreciation to our Navy heritage and to display pride and professionalism in the naval service. Dinner, music, and dancing will make this evening a delight for all. Suggested attire is U.S. Navy Service Dress Blues or coat and tie for men and evening wear/formal gown for ladies.

Please see <u>reservation form and pricing on following page.</u> Space is limited to 150 people! Don't miss out! Reserve your tickets today.

Great menu:

Choice of Steak or Salmon, Tossed Garden Salad, Oven Roasted Red Skin Potatoes Chef's choice of Vegetable, Rolls & Butter, Chocolate Cake or Cheese Cake, Iced Tea, Coffee





# U.S. Navy 243rd Birthday Ball



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

Saturday, 13 October 2018 Chattanooga Convention Center-Ballroom H/I 1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37402 Social Hour at 5pm, Ceremony/Dinner at 6pm

#### **Reservation Pricing:**

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

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

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

Reservation For:	
Amount Enclosed:	
	rden Salad, Steak and Salmon, Oven Roasted Potatoes, colate Cake or Cheesecake, Rolls and Butter, Ice Tea,
*Vegetarian plate available as well.	
EmailPh	one
RSVP	by 7 October 2018
Make Check Payable To: Navy League	Chattanooga

Mail Payment/Reservation to: Mark Parks, Treasurer,

6920 Sawtooth Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894.

Or make your payment via PayPal to: chattanooganavyleague.org

Email reservation forms to parks8192@gmail.com

FULL PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO ATTENDING THE BALL! **Questions?** Contact Mark by phone at 423-902-3175.

# August Dinner Celebrants



Dan Saieed & Bill Hewitt.



Pat & Tom McGrath.



Linda Rice with Nick & Kitty Bayman.



Dave Smith, Stacy Kehoe & Ed Shropshire.



Vince Patterson & Ron Galante.

# August Dinner Celebrants



Pat & Ron Eytchison



Mark & Patty Parks



Alden & Carolene Perry



John & Pat Niemeyer with Nancy Patterson

Dinner photos ...by 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, October 18, 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
Guest Speaker: CDR Joseph D Tanner, Commanding Officer, NOSC, Chattanooga, TN	7:30 PM
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 noon Tuesday, October 16, 2018.





### **RESERVATION FORM**

COUNCIL DINNER MEETING Thursday, October 18, 2018

NLUS Members:	X	\$30.00 =	\$ .00
Non-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, October 16th. Mark may also be reached at parks8192@gmail.com. Reservations and/or cancellations should reach us NO LATER THAN NOON, TUESDAY, October 16, 2018. Mail reservation form,

Mark Parks 6920 Sawtooth Drive Ooltewah, TN 37363-6894



along with your check, made payable to *Chattanooga Navy League*, to:

Or pay, via **PayPal**, by logging on to our website:

www.chattanooganavyleague.org

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