



# Savannah Steamer

**Founded May 15th, 1957**

June 2009

Volume 35 Issue 6

## Savannah Council United States Navy League A Word from the President



### Now Hear This,

“Bravo Zulu” is a nautical term often used to express appreciation for a job well done. In keeping with this tradition, a hearty Bravo Zulu is extended to Phil Kirk for his consistent excellence as editor of the *Savannah Steamer*, our monthly newsletter. Additionally, Bravo Zulu to Aunette Shipes and Sybil Cannon for the work they do taking reservations for our monthly dinner meetings. Savannah Council greatly benefits from the behind the scenes efforts of these individuals. Please express appreciation to Phil, Aunette and Sybil the next time you see them.

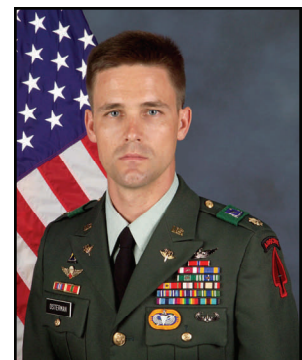
Appreciation also goes to Jim Morison for arranging a tour of Southern LNG on 19 May. Charlie Johnson, the Company’s Compliance Officer, did an outstanding job of explaining the properties and safety aspects of LNG. We also received a guided tour of the company’s extensive Elba Island facility. Many thanks to Southern LNG for helping to educate the public about the importance of having such a facility in the Savannah area.

As a follow on to the conversation with the CO and XO of USS Samuel B. Roberts at our dinner meeting on 26 May, Savannah Council is scheduling a trip to Mayport in mid-July. The purpose of our trip is to recognize Sammy B’s Sailors of the Year (2008) and Sailors of the Quarter (2009). These recognition ceremonies are an integral part of the relationship which has been established with our adopted ship. Details will be forthcoming as soon as they are available.

***Please see Now Hear This, Continued on next page***

**June 23<sup>rd</sup> Dinner Meeting  
6:00 P.M., Hunter Club**

**MAJ Bradley D. Osterman, USA  
Executive Officer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR (A)**



***For more details and reservation instructions, please turn to page 3 . . .***

## Upcoming

June 23  
Dinner Meeting  
MAJ Brad Osterman, USA  
Nightstalker Squadron

July 7  
Board of Directors

July 28  
Dinner Meeting  
CAPT Donna Cotrell,  
USCG  
Air Station Savannah

August 4  
Board of Directors

August 25  
Dinner Meeting  
CAPT Kent Flowers, USN  
Savannah State University  
– NROTC

## Membership Corner

Remember to renew your Navy League of the United States membership. Your membership and assistance to support our sea services is more important now than ever.

Thanks to all who so generously responded to the second notice request for Savannah Council dues. All of this money stays right here in Savannah and helps us fund the programs for our adopted units.

A warm welcome is extended to new member Dennis McBroom.

We extend a very special thank you to Frank and Shirley McCarthy for hosting a wonderful new member reception at their lovely home June 14.

Membership information is available at every dinner meeting at Hunter Club, and I will be more than happy to send it directly to you. I can be contacted at [dtkeller29@aol.com](mailto:dtkeller29@aol.com) or 912-598-0940. Debbie Keller, Membership Chair.

## Now Hear This, *continued from front page...*

Savannah Council members, an opportunity exists for us to recognize the contributions to the Savannah community made by our five local Coast Guard units. On 12 August the Council is sponsoring a picnic and night at a Sand Gnats baseball game. The all-inclusive price for Council members is \$17; children will be admitted for \$12. More details to follow but please mark 12 August on your calendar.

For those of you traveling this summer, please have a safe journey. I hope to see many of the rest of you at our dinner meetings during June, July and August. Tom Latham, our Program Chairman, has lined up a panel of very exciting speakers beginning with Army Major Bradley Osterman on 23 June. Please join us at the Hunter Club beginning at 6:00 PM. Reservations should be made by Friday, 19 June. Thanks for your cooperation.

That Is All. Carry On.  
Jim Keller, President

### IN MEMORIAM

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David O'Leary  
William Shortt



## Our Next Speaker

June 23<sup>rd</sup> Dinner Meeting  
6:00 P.M., Hunter Club

**MAJ Bradley D. Osterman, USA**  
Executive Officer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR (A)

Our June dinner speaker will provide a rare glimpse into the world of the Nightstalkers, a U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Regiment made famous in the book and movie, "Blackhawk Down."

MAJ Bradley D. Osterman hails from Blue Earth, MN. He was graduated from the University of North Dakota and received his commission in 1993. In addition to numerous stateside assignments, MAJ Osterman has also served overseas in Germany, Korea, and Afghanistan. MAJ Osterman has received a chest-full of service and campaign medals. His next adventure will take him to the Naval Command and General Staff College in Newport, RI in October 2009.

## Reserve Your Seat Today!

**PLEASE NOTE THAT A NEW RESERVATION CUT-OFF DATE IS IN EFFECT!!**

**Reservations must be made by Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> by contacting Sybil Cannon at 912-964-5366 or RSalty2@att.net.**



**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Annual Savannah  
Council  
Christmas Party  
will be held**

**Friday, December 11,  
2009**

**at the Savannah Yacht  
Club**

**ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED  
BY  
SAVANNAH STEVE**

## Navy League Cruise Time to Sign Up – New Prices!

Join your Navy League friends for a Caribbean cruise aboard Celebrity's newest ship – the *Solstice*.

Sailing from Fort Lauderdale on January 31, 2010, you will be enjoying Navy League events and going ashore to visit some of the Caribbean's best ports.

Cabins are being held for Navy Leaguers at new, lower favorable rates. As there is a July 15 deadline to take advantage of the cabin arrangements, please act soon. The earlier you sign up – the better choice of cabins.

For more information, call Susan at Edgewood Travel – 351-0570. This is unique vacation for all – Come on aboard!



## From Our May 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting

President Jim Keller welcomed 49 members and guests at the May 26<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting (reservations had been made for 60!). Among those recognized were Guardian of the Quarter and special guests from our adopted ship, USS *Samuel B. Roberts*, that included Commanding Officer Chuck Sellers; Executive Officer, Jorge Flores; Master Chief Sean Carolan and a number of crew members, a couple of them with wives and children. Following dinner CDR Sellers reviewed recent deployments of the *Roberts*. Activities included an at-sea change of command, drug interdiction and humanitarian assistance carried out both in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of South America and in the Caribbean.

He was followed by guest speaker for the evening, COL Gregg W. Brinegar, USMC, Commanding Officer of Marine Air Group 31, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, SC. He began with a salute to service wives and then told about an exciting experience as a passenger on a Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornet. He recalled the history of MAG 31 from its beginning with 6 squadrons of F4Us at a Marine Corps Air station in California. He reviewed recent deployments to Afghanistan and present deployment plans and the units involved. Recent innovations he mentioned include a space age helmet that enables a pilot to look at a target and lock on.

(Clockwise from right) Council President Jim Keller presents a small thank-you gift to COL Brinegar at the end of Brinegar's presentation on May 26th; Col. Gregg Brinegar enjoys dinner at the head table; CDR Jorge Flores, Executive Officer of the USS *Samuel B. Roberts*, and CDR Chuck Sellers, Commanding Officer



## Recognition Awards Honor Sea Service Members

Savannah Council is proud to be presenting recognition awards on a regular basis to the fine young men and women of our sea services. Recent awardees include:

MST1 Michael S. Rohland  
Enlisted Person of the Sector  
USCG Marine Safety Unit

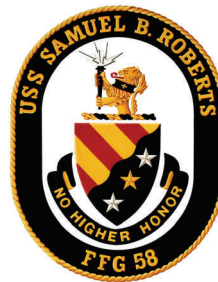
BMCM Peter Desillier  
Commanding Officer  
USCGC Tarpon

AET2 Matthew Olsovsky  
Guardian of the Quarter  
USCG Air Station Savannah

LT Kyra Van Echo  
Commanding Officer  
USCGC *Sea Dragon*



(at right) AET2 Matthew Olsovsky and his wife Shelly



These outstanding sailors from our adopted ship, the *USS Samuel B. Roberts*, attended our May 26th dinner meeting: (Clockwise, from above) MR1 Boykin - Sailor of the Year; BMCS (SW) Jackson; FC2 Mann, Junior Sailor of the Year



## Treasurer's Report

### 2009 Officers And Directors

President  
Jim Keller

Vice Presidents  
Tom Latham  
Bob Gephart  
Jim Morison  
John Innes

Secretary  
Virginia Latham

Treasurer  
Cliff Angers

Judge Advocate  
Ed Robb

Directors  
Philip Kirk  
Sam McLaughlin  
Michael Jordan  
Debbie Keller  
Warren Onken  
Don Civitanova  
Frank McCarthy  
Larry Wills

First Past President  
Gary Johnson

Newletter Editors  
Phil Kirk  
Michael Jordan

Photographer  
Lynn Wright

Through the first five months of 2009, Savannah Council has generated income of \$ 8,402, with total expenditures of \$ 6,809, yielding a gain of \$1,593. Our cash position remains strong with approximately \$ 25,000 in the bank.

We had an attendance of 49 members and guests at last month's dinner meeting. Guests from the "Sammy B" as well as MSU and the Sea Cadets were hosted by the Savannah Council. Unfortunately, we had made reservations for 60 people. Again, we want to emphasize the need for members to make sure they **make and keep** their dinner reservations.

--Cliff Angers

Best wishes to longtime member Ellen Snedeker for a speedy recovery from her recent bypass surgery at Candler Hospital. We're keeping you in our thoughts and prayers, Ellen!



**The Navy League of the United States** is a civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that its national defense and economic well-being are dependent upon strong sea services-United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard and United States Merchant Marine.

Check our website at <http://savannah.navyleague.us>

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