



# Savannah Steamer

Newsletter: June 2005

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## Savannah Council United States Navy league

### *The Rhumb Line . . . . .*

The first of June your president had the honor to represent the membership of the Savannah Council at the national convention of the Navy league of the United States held in Norfolk, Virginia.

Representing the Savannah Council were 6 members: Joost Gompels, our Second V.P. Gary Johnson, Judy Jennings, John Snedeker, the regional member of the Legislative Affairs Committee, Tom Wright, our Georgia President, as well as your Council President.

Gary Johnson is to be congratulated for being elected as one of the national directors of the Navy League, Tom Wright has been moved up to be president of the South Atlantic Region replacing Don Giles.

On Friday morning, June 3<sup>rd</sup> your Savannah Council was presented the *Meritorious Award* presented personally by our National President, Sheila McNeil.



One of the meetings attended by your president was the meeting of the National Public Relations Committee. It was revealed that the Navy League would be using a new logo, which the Board of the Savannah Council has voted to adopt at the June Board meeting. Every council president was supplied with a "Talk in the Box", an accumulation of material to support a Navy League *Stump* speech including a power point presentation that should answer that nagging question, "What is the Navy League?" Your president is personally volunteering to give this presentation to any audience that you members may arrange using the material provided.

We have a busy time ahead of us. Our meeting on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of June will feature Lt. Gen. Tom Burnette, US Army (Retired) who will give a talk concerning his experiences in The Middle East. And be sure to reserve your celebration of the 4th of July by joining the Navy League on the deck of the USS Carr to welcome the officers and crew to Savannah and watch the fireworks provided by the City over the Savannah River. Hugh Robinson, President

### Mav Meeting

**We will meet at the Hunter Club on June 28th starting with a social hour at 6:00pm. The cost is \$16.00. Call Sybil Cannon for reservations at 964-5366.**



**Our speaker will be Tom Burnette, a retired US Army Lieutenant General** who serves as a senior mentor in support of the US Joint Forces Command Joint Warfighting Center and will speak about his recent travels to Iraq and Afghanistan. In this role he provides advice and counsel to the senior commanders and staffs of the combatant commands and joint task forces worldwide during joint training exercises as well as during actual combat operations. He also serves as a consultant for a number of major defense corporations as well as for the Department of the Army and the Department of Defense. He has expertise across the full

spectrum of joint operations and is considered an expert in strategic planning, concept development and experimentation, requirements determination, effects based operations, training and warfighting.. He has had the honor of assisting in the preparation of our joint forces for operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Djibouti, as well as conducting in-country assistance visits during actual combat operations.

He will talk about his experiences, including photos of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and comments on lessons learned. Make your reservations early, as this will be an outstanding program and speaker. We expect a big turnout.

## Ship Visit to Savannah

### Independence Day Celebration



We will welcome a US Navy Warship USS Carr, FFG 52 from Norfolk, with a reception at 7 PM, July 4th, at Ocean Terminal. Check **EVENTS** for details as we complete planning for the visit. There will be a casual gathering starting at 7 PM, presentations and comments following evening colors and then the fireworks starting around 9:15pm. We expect about 150 Navy League guests and Carr's crew/guests. USS CARR was commissioned on 27 July 1985 and made a port call here two years ago. We

hope you will join your fellow Navy Leaguers for a fun night on the Carr

## Membership Report by Charles Gibowicz

A warm "Welcome Aboard" to new members Bob Register, Tonnie and Mort Glick and Jim Innes. Bob is a Tour Guide with Old Savannah Tours, Tonnie and Mort are fairly new to Savannah and live at The Landings and Jim Innes, former Marine, is the third member of the Innes family to join our organization. Give them a warm hello at our next meeting.

The Navy League is "A civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government 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". The Navy League is an essential patriotic organization but it also is an interesting and fun organization to belong to.

For those reasons, in 2005, every member should recruit at least one new member. Our Savannah Council is in good shape with well over 200 members but we need to keep it dynamic with new blood. The best recruiting method is for Savannah Council members to talk to a neighbor, friend, relative or colleague. Tell them that we have interesting speakers, that we support the Sea Cadets, that Navy ships come to Savannah and invite Navy Leaguers to shipboard receptions and that we get to go on cruises. Explaining those benefits gets people's attention.

This Fourth of July, FFG 52, USS Carr will be berthed here in Savannah. Members are invited for food and drinks aboard as well as viewing the city's fireworks from ringside seats. Join in the fun. Bring a potential member as a guest.



### New Navy league Logo

The National Navy League has adopted this new logo and you will start seeing it more and more..

## Items of Interest

- **Thanks for your Hospitality**

Last month's guest speaker, LCDR Chidester, XO of The Sullivans, drove to Savannah from Mayport with his family. The Savannah Council thanks members Marianne and John Innes for providing guest quarters to the visitors during their overnight stay. Thanks also to Audrey and Charles Gibowicz for hosting a luncheon and taking the family on a tour of downtown Savannah

- **Commander Peter Troedsson Change of Command**

Peter Troedsson will be leaving Savannah in July after two years of serving as CO of the Coast Guard Air Station. He has been a good friend and supporter of the Navy League and will be missed by all.

His change of Command Ceremony will be July 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. Hugh Robinson will be making a presentation in appreciation for his work and service here.

- **National Navy League Facts**

The Navy League of the United States was founded in 1902 with the encouragement of President Theodore Roosevelt. Today there are approximately 65,531 members. This is down from 68,381 last year at this time. The Savannah council was chartered in May of 1957 and currently has 272 members. We have had a net gain of about 13 members this year.

John A. Panneton of Virginia Beach, VA, was confirmed as National President of the Navy League of the United States (NLUS) during the League's Board of Directors' National Convention Meeting held in Norfolk, VA, on June 4, 2005. He stated that "Membership recruitment and retention will be among my top priorities when I assume the leadership of the Navy League," Panneton said, "and I will work closely with the Councils -- the backbone of the Navy League -- to help develop more definitive outreach programs."



- **Upcoming Programs**

July- Rear Admiral Loose, Commander NAVFAC

RADM Loose heads up the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps and Seabees. We will have more details next issue.

- **Members in the News**

The Propeller club of Savannah recently honored two of our Council members.

They are: Doug Marchand with its Maritime Person of the Year Award and Tom Wright as Propeller Club Person of the year.

- **Website**

Be sure to check the website for news and updates. You can enter the [member's only section](#) by logging in as member for user name and member for password, In this section you can view and print the member directory.





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