



Savannah Steamer

50th Anniversary Founded May 15th, 1957

Newsletter: June 2007

Volume 33 Issue 6

Savannah Council United States Navy League

A Word from the President



Hello Navy Leaguers,

Hello Navy Leaguers, a busy start for the summer. The French warship FS La Fayette will arrive on Sunday morning June 24th. Although we are not hosting the visit we are involved in many of the activities. The Coastal Heritage

Society and the City of Savannah invited the ship to help commemorate the Siege of Savannah and the French sailors and soldiers who fought and died on October 9, 1779. There will be a brief ceremony at Battlefield Park at 12 Noon on Monday June 25th.

We are one of the co-sponsors for a reception on Monday evening to honor the officers and crew of the La Fayette. The Coastal Heritage Society is sending out invitations for this event and although there is not enough room for all our Navy League members we will be well represented. We have also invited

Captain Jean-Philippe Rolland to our regular meeting on Tuesday, so many of us will have an opportunity to meet him.

Our adopted ship, the USS Samuel B Roberts, had some engineering problems and has returned to Mayport for repairs. It will be in port for about 10 days and will have a change of command on Friday June 22nd. Jim Keller, Tom Latham and I are going to represent Savannah Council and to meet the new CO and the rest of the crew. Chief Taylor has informed us that the visit to Savannah for Pearl Harbor Day has been approved. Check our website for the latest news.

The last item I want to mention is our 50th Anniversary dinner on September 25th. The Anniversary Committee is hard at work planning the event so reserve that date on your calendar. See you all soon.

--Gary Johnson

June 26th Dinner Meeting 6:00 P.M. Hunter Club

This month's speaker is Clayton S. Scott, Assistant Director, Chatham Emergency Management Agency in Savannah, GA.

Mr. Scott is responsible for plans, operations, training and the management of the CEMA staff. As a private contractor for the US government Mr. Scott has conducted aviation and port security assessments in Uzbekistan, Romania, Bulgaria, Nigeria, and Indonesia. Prior to moving to Savannah in 1998, Mr. Scott was Director Airport Operations, Australia.

Before his assignment to Australia, he served more than



15 years as Assistant Director-Operations at San Francisco International Airport where his duties encompassed all aspects of airport operations to include, plans, training, communications, safety, security and the operation of the airfield.

Mr. Scott is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel whose military duties varied from conducting combat operations as a Special Forces commander to directing Federal military emergency relief and counter-terrorism operations throughout the 15 western United States. He has coordinated. . . Continued on page 3

Call Sybil Cannon at 964-5366 or reservations@navyleague.us to reserve your seat, by Sun. June. 24th.

Kudos

- Savannah Council Board Member Bill Edwards and his station News Radio 1290 WTKS have been voted Best News Talk Station for Connect Savannah's Best of 2007.

- The Mackie Awards were established in 1964 for the best Navy League newsletter and to encourage more effective communications between Navy Leaguers. This year a website category has been added to the competition. Savannah Council has entered both the Savannah Steamer and our website.

- Here is the photo from our April recognition awards at Beaufort. The recipients were: Marine of the Quarter, William E. Markwood and NCO of the Quarter, Jason J. Roberts. Facing the marine recipients is Tom Latham.



French Frigate Visit

FS La Fayette to Visit Savannah & Battlefield Park

French navy frigate La Fayette will visit Savannah June 24-27, 2007. The La Fayette, named for the French hero of the American Revolution the Marquis de Lafayette, is the namesake frigate in the hi-tech La Fayette class.

The ship is coming to Savannah in response to an invitation from Mayor Otis Johnson and the Coastal Heritage Society, and in recognition of the thousands of French soldiers and sailors who fought here during the Battle of Savannah on Oct. 9, 1779. The French naval attaché from Washington will be here as well.

As it cruises up the Savannah River, La Fayette will receive a cannon salute as it passes Old Fort Jackson from a soldier wearing an historic French uniform like those worn by French troops in the Battle of Savannah. The Coastal Heritage Society is also working with local heritage groups including the Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the

NJROTC

Th Savannah Council participates each year in our local high school NJROTC award ceremonies. The awards presented are a Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Performance and the Theodore Roosevelt Medal for those who "exemplify Roosevelt's values of energy, spirit, competition and fair play."

Both awards are presented to the same recipient. his year CDR Mike Sueirro presented the awards at South Effingham and Jenkins High Schools. The recipient for South Effingham was Cadet Charity Passailaigue, and the recipient for Jenkins was Cadet Renee Green.

Family Members



Savannah Council members Dick and Jan Falcone recently participated in the promotion of their son, Jeff, to the rank of LT COL, USMC in a ceremony held at the new Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, VA. LT COL Falcone is a 1991 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He is currently serving as an Analyst for Marine Ground Forces and based at Quantico.

Up Coming Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 24-25
FS La Fayette (F710) in port

June 26 Dinner Meeting
Clayton Scott
Asst Director, CEMA

July 4th
Aegis Cruiser Visit
Reception and Fireworks

July 24 Dinner Meeting
CDR Jack Vogt
CO, Air Station Savannah

August 5
Coast Guard Week
Sand Gnat Game and Picnic

August 28 Dinner Meeting
CAPT Bernard Jackson

September 25 Meeting
50th Anniversary

October 13
Coast Guard/Navy League Picnic

Coast Guard Week - Aug 3-10

Friday, Aug 3rd

1900 Ship Reception aboard USCG Cutter (Cutter assigned yet to be determined) Fireworks at 2130 to be observed from Fantail

Saturday, Aug 4th

0900 Coast Guard Boats tie up to River Street. Open to Public 1000 to 1200

1200 Rescue Demonstrations by Air Station Savannah, Coast Guard Auxiliary and Station Tybee Booths by Navy League, USCG Recruiting Office and USCG Auxiliary to be manned from 1000 to 1600

Sunday August 5th

1330 Picnic and Ball Game, Sand Gnats, Grayson Stadium. Cost per individual will be \$12.00 which includes Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Potato Salad, pop and a keg of beer, ice cream, and bag of chips. TO BE PAID BY July 29th.

--Hugh L. Robinson, USCG Liaison

Independence Day

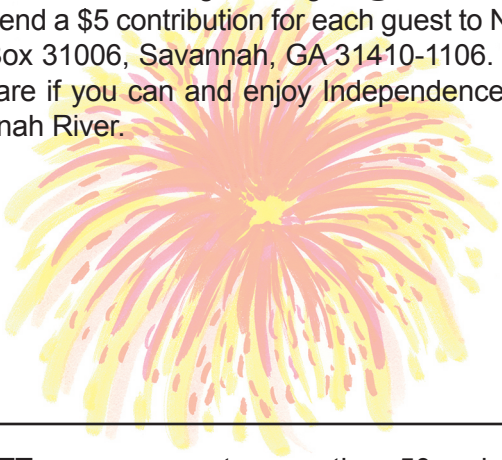
The Navy League will welcome a US Navy Aegis Cruiser to Savannah for Independence Day. Welcome the crew and watch the fireworks at our reception on board at Ocean Terminal, 7 PM, July 4th. Please send guest names to Tom Wright, twright3@hotmail.com, for the security list and send a \$5 contribution for each guest to Navy League Treasurer, P.O. Box 31006, Savannah, GA 31410-1106. Bring some finger food to share if you can and enjoy Independence Day on the Savannah River.

USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG-58)

The frigate Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) is returning to its home port of Mayport, FL to replace damaged screw blades.

The ship's troubles began when it apparently went dead in the water May 11 while returning to port in Argentina after the annual UNITAS Atlantic exercise with other navies. The Roberts experienced "engineering difficulties" and had to be towed into port according to a Naval Forces South spokesman.

Specific information on what caused either the screw blades to be out of specification or other engineering difficulties as initially reported is still the subject of an internal Navy investigation and is not yet releasable to the public. The Roberts is expected to continue its deployment after the ship is repaired in Mayport in conjunction with a previously planned maintenance availability period.



SCOTT . . . response to more than 50 major disasters and emergencies ranging from terrorist incidents to natural catastrophes. He was the Federal military coordinator following the 1980 volcanic eruption of Mount St Helens. As well, he has participated in or directed emergency planning for national and international actions throughout Asia, the Middle East and the littoral countries of East Africa. Mr. Scott has published six articles in international publications and emergency management journals that concern safety and security.

Board Report

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Philip Kirk

First Past President
Hugh Robinson

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John Findeis

Checking Balance 5/3/2007		\$5,465.88
Receipts	Local dues	780.00
	Dinner – May 22, 2007	1,000.00
	National Rebate 1Qtr 07	571.00
	Miscellaneous	25.00
	Total Receipts	\$2,376.00
Expenses	Hunter Club – May 22 dinner	\$1,210.75
	PressWorks – April	124.69
	T. Latham – MALS-31 Recognition	104.43
	Total Expenses	\$1,439.87
	Net May	\$936.13
Checking Balance 6/4/2007		\$6,402.01
CDs MBNA 4.1%, 30 Month		\$9,063.00

--Robert Gephart, Treasurer

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.

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PO Box 31006
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