



# Savannah Steamer

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founded May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1957

Newsletter: March 2007

Volume 33 Issue 3

## Savannah Council United States Navy League

A Word from the President



### Hello Navy Leaguers,

Our February meeting was a great success with MC Keith Taylor and ENS Christine Campbell from the USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG-58) as our featured speakers and guests. We had about 70 members

attending and everyone had a good time. ENS Christine Campbell led us in singing our National Anthem and her wonderful voice made even us sound good.

The Roberts is deploying on March 28th for a 6-month goodwill cruise to South America. It's called operation "Handshake" and I suppose it was timed to go along with President Bush's travel to Latin America last week. We are going to be following the Samuel B. Roberts on its cruise via email and pictures sent to us by Christine. We will also setup a permanent web page for the Samuel B. Roberts on our site.

MC Taylor will be retiring when they return, but I hope we will get to see him when we have our adoption ceremony when the ship comes to Savannah for Pearl Harbor Day.

On another subject, as you know this is our councils 50th Anniversary. We are working on a special event to commemorate this milestone in September. We are forming a Commemoration Committee of former presidents, and others, to plan some special activities and mementoes for that time. Thank you to Gene Buttle who researched and wrote a history of our council which you can read on our website. This is a dynamic document, which we hope to add to with your input.

Lastly, thanks to all the volunteers who have stepped forward to help achieve our council's mission of supporting the Sea Services and all the great men and women of our Armed Forces.

--Gary Johnson

### March 27<sup>th</sup> Dinner Meeting 6:00 P.M. Hunter Club

We are please to announce that Captain Cloyes R. "Red" Hoover, USN, Commanding Officer, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston, is our featured speaker at the March dinner meeting.

A native of Flushing, Michigan, CAPT "Red" Hoover is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Flint where he received a B.S in Engineering in 1984. He earned an M.S. in Physics in 1991 from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

CAPT Hoover's sea assignments include service aboard USS MEYERKORD (FF 1058), where he

qualified as Surface Warfare Officer and Engineering Officer of the Watch. He also served as Combat Systems Officer aboard USS ELROD (FFG 55) where he qualified as Tactical Action Officer. He became an Engineering Duty Officer in 1994.



CAPT Hoover's shore assignments began at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1995 as the combat systems project manager for the USS LINCOLN (CVN 72) 1996 complex overhaul. In 1998 he reported to Naval Sea Systems Command, SEA 53, to assist in standing up a new office for managing. . . See HOVER, page 3

Call Sybil Cannon at 964-5366 or [reservations@navyleague.us](mailto:reservations@navyleague.us) to reserve your seat, by Sun. March 25th

## NROTC Savannah State

All Navy Leaguers are invited to the Spring Awards Ceremony of the NROTC unit at Savannah State University. Starting time is 1 PM on Thursday, April 19, 2007 at the T. A. Wright Stadium near the entrance to SSU.



## Beaufort Recognition

Tom Latham and Jim Morison met with the Commanding Officer of MALS-31 and his SGT Major on March 12th to get the Navy League program going. The first award event will be on 6 April in connection with a squadron muster.

Their internal board will pick the Marine and NCO of the 1st Quarter within the next couple of weeks. That will give us time to arrange our recognition awards.

On the day the board does its selection, they notify the two marines at the same time. SGT Major will ask them to select a book from the Commandant's list and will then email us the names of the recipients and their choices. We will order the books and savings bonds.

Tom and Jim plan on attending the presentation.

## USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG-58)

MC Keith Taylor and ENS Christine Campbell from the USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG- 58) at the February dinner meeting.



## Council Goals

On January 13, 2007, Savannah Council's officers and directors met to review our council's strengths and areas needing improvement. As a result of this meeting, a number of *key objectives* were agreed upon for this year. Those goals are listed below.

The goals shown have been assigned to one or more officers and directors, who have agreed to be responsible for their accomplishment. In addition, many others have volunteered to work on various committees that fall within these goals.

Important—there is still room for your involvement. Savannah Council can be proud of its many achievements. With your help, we can do even more. Please consider expanding your involvement—call or email and we will find the right committee for you.

### 2007 Goals

**Meetings and Facilities.** Improve current dinner and board meeting formats, facilities and arrangements.

**Ship Visits.** Strengthen the impact of ship visits in the way of value to the crews and as a vehicle to enhance the Council's public image in support of the sea services.

**Board of Directors.** Improve the Board's effectiveness through better organization and a structure that will take full advantage of the Officers and Directors knowledge and abilities.

**Publicity.** Improve the visibility of the Council and its mission throughout Chatham County and surrounding areas.

**Funding.** Establish more substantial and regular sources of funding.

**Local Sea Services.** Ensure that Savannah Council's support efforts are fully inclusive.

**Membership.** Strengthen membership bonds and increase member involvement.

**Sea Cadets.** Strengthen Sea Cadet program.



USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG-58)

## Up Coming Events

27 March 2007  
March Dinner Meeting  
Captain Red Hoover  
CO, Space & Naval Warfare  
Systems Command

13 April 2007  
Marine Graduation  
Parris Island, SC  
Navy League delegation

April 19, 2007  
NROTC Spring  
Awards Ceremony, 1 pm  
T.A. Wright Stadium, SSU

21 – 22 April 2007  
Air Show – Beaufort Marine  
Corps Air Station  
Navy League delegation

24 April 2007  
April Dinner Meeting  
Captain Annie Andrews  
Commander, Recruit Training  
Command, Great Lakes

22 May 2007  
May Dinner Meeting  
Captain Bernard Jackson  
Naval Personnel Command

Sea Cadets at the February >>>  
dinner meeting.

## Membership Report

Undoubtedly, by now you are aware that 3 United States Coast Guard ships (ELM, MARIA BRAY and TARPON) joined by the United States Navy guided-missile cruiser SAN JACINTO (CG 56) were in Savannah and their respective crews participated in this year's Saint Patrick's Day parade and other weekend festivities.

Included in the last few issues of the Savannah Steamer have been announcements concerning payment of Savannah Council dues for 2007. Thank you to those who have sent checks to our treasurer, Bob Gephart. That's the good news! The not so good news is that there are still over one hundred members who have not yet sent a check to Bob. Folks, we need your support in order to provide quality programs for the Savannah Council. As an added incentive, information recently has been received that in late June a newly commissioned French naval frigate will be coming to Savannah at the invitation of Savannah city officials and the Coastal Heritage Society. This is a BIG DEAL for Savannah. We need everyone's support as we join in the recognition of the thousands of French soldiers and sailors who fought here during the Battle of Savannah on October 9, 1779. Stay tuned for more details.

As always, please contact me if there is any way I can assist you in our collective effort to increase membership and participation in the Savannah Council of the United States Navy League. I hope to see you at our March dinner event at the Hunter Club; it should be an outstanding evening.

--Jim Keller, V.P. Membership



**HOVER continued.** . . combat systems and C4I interoperability. He was responsible for developing the "Deployment minus thirty" (D-30) interoperability baselining process. In August 2001 he reported to PEO Theater Surface Combatants as part of the Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC) program office.

He became the Fleet Support and Aegis Integration Manager for PEO Integrated Warfare Systems Command and Control Directorate (IWS 6N) in March 2002. In June 2004 CAPT Hoover reported to Space

and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston, as Executive Officer of military personnel and Deputy Chief Engineer. In June 2005 CAPT Hoover became the sixth Commanding Officer of Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston.

CAPT Hoover's service decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal in addition to various campaign and service awards.

## Board Report

Still  
^  
Due

### Dues Are ^ Due

A 2007 Budget was approved at the March 1 Board Meeting. The amount approved was \$15,100 which matches almost exactly our 2006 actual spending.

Local dues are still coming in, but rather slowly now. We have received payment from 162 members as of March 13. That puts us 130 members short of our rolls at this point. If you have not yet paid, please send your check for \$15 (\$30 for husband & wife) payable to the **NAVY LEAGUE SAVANNAH** and mail to:

**Robert Gephart, Treasurer**  
**P.O. Box 31006**  
**Savannah, GA 31410-1006**

Local dues are an important part of our budgeted income! Thanks.

--Bob Gephart

**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>**

#### 2007 Officers and Directors

**President**  
Gary Johnson

**Vice Presidents**  
Jim Keller  
Tom Latham  
Sam McLaughlin  
James Morison

**Secretary**  
Debbie Keller

**Treasurer**  
Robert Gephart

**Judge Advocate**  
Mac Storm

**Directors**  
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Pat Lynch  
Betty McCarthy  
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Ellen Snedeker  
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