



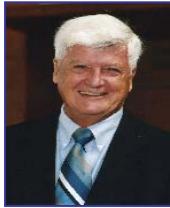
# Savannah Steamer

Navy League of the United States

Newsletter: October 2005

Volume 26 Issue 10

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



A committee of four Navy Leaguers had a meeting with Mayor Otis Johnson in his office on September 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss applying for the designation of *Coast Guard City, USA* for Savannah. Present were John Findeis, Past President, Gary Johnson, Nominated President for 2006, Ray Cuthbertson, liaison to City Hall and myself. We discussed with Mayor Johnson the strength of the various Coast Guard units in and around Savannah and their financial contributions to the area. We provided him with a two-page list of the various affairs that are held in the city involving those units, and the ongoing relationship all the various organizations within the city have with the Coast Guard Units. Our Coast Guard Picnic is just one of them. The Mayor was able to add to this list events that we were not even aware of. We advised him of the procedures to apply for this honor and the research and examination that ensue. The process could easily run ninety days and actually requires an act of Congress before it becomes a fact.

The Mayor's reaction was a simple, "This is a no-brainer!" and his letter, accompanied by our letter and that from the Coast Guard Auxiliary, was sent the following Friday to Admiral Thomas H. Collins, Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. In the meantime, we must all put on our thinking hats and be prepared to make the most of this honor should it occur. Grand Haven, Michigan, the first city to be awarded this honor, has designated a whole week each year dedicated to a series of events involving the Coast Guard including outings, fireworks and recreational boating safety demonstrations for the citizens of their city. The events involving the Coast Guard units in Savannah are spread throughout the year. Which is the better approach? Could we be doing more? We welcome your ideas no matter how "off-the-wall" they may sound.

Hugh L. Robinson, President

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## **October Meeting and Navy Birthday Celebration**

**We will meet at the Hunter Club on October 25th starting with a social hour at 6:00pm. The cost is \$16.00. Call Sybil Cannon for reservations at 964-5366.** Our speaker for October, Rear Admiral D. Brian Peterman, assumed command of the Seventh Coast Guard District June 15, 2004, following a tour of duty in the White House where he served for two and a half years as the Special Assistant to the President for Border and Transportation Security on the Homeland Security Council staff. This was Rear Admiral Peterman's second assignment to the White House, having previously served as a Director in the Defense Policy and Arms Control Directorate of the National Security Council from 1998 to 2000, where he worked on numerous sensitive and high profile policy initiatives.



Raised in Malvern, PA, Rear Admiral Peterman is a 1968 graduate of Great Valley High School. In 1972, he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from West Chester University and entered the Coast Guard through the Officer Candidate program for what he thought would be a three-year tour of duty. That short tour of duty has extended to a more than thirty-one year career.

Also participating in the program will be some of the crew that flew in the Katrina operation, complete with pictures.

## Up-Coming Events

**22-Nov-05 November Dinner Meeting:** Our speaker will be William J. Daugherty; Ph.D. A retired senior officer in the CIA, he served in the CIA Directorate of Operations. He is now a faculty member at Armstrong Atlantic State University. Professor Daugherty is a former Marine Corp aviator with a combat tour in Viet Nam. This is particularly appropriate since we will be honoring the Marines' birthday that evening.

**12 – Nov –05 Veterans Day Reception:** A US Navy Destroyer will visit Savannah for Veterans Day activities. The crew will march in the parade with our Sea Cadets on November 11th. We're planning a reception on board at 6 PM, November 12th. Check back for details.

**Dec- 4 -05 Pearl Harbor Commemoration** We will also welcome a US Navy Frigate for the Pearl Harbor Commemoration at 2 PM, Sunday, December 4th, 2005, at the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum. We're planning a reception and the crew will participate in the Savannah Waterfront Association's *Holidays on the River*. Check website for details.

**16-Dec-05 Christmas Party:** The Navy League will celebrate the Holidays and support the USMC Toys for Tots program at the Savannah Yacht Club on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Membership

Welcome these new members at our October meeting:

- Jimmy O. Gunby
- Pamela A. Gunby
- DaWayne R. Penberthy
- Chris B. White
- Michael D. Campbell
- James P. Doyle
- Douglas O. Felt
- Warren R. Onken
- Sidney S. Weiss

It's great to have these new members with us.

We plan on having a new member orientation before our next meeting on November 22nd. New members will receive an invitation with details soon.

. Please do your share to keep the Savannah Council NLUS a vibrant organization. If you need any information or application forms, give me a call at 598 7969.

Charles Gibowicz

## Nominating Committee Report

Don't forget our elections, which will be held at our November meeting.

### Officers:

President - Gary Johnson, First VP - Betty McCarthy, Second VP - Charles Gibowicz,  
Third VP - Ray Cuthbertson, VP of Legislative Affairs - Gene Buttle, Secretary - Deborah Keller  
Treasurer - Ellen Snedeker and Judge Advocate - Gwendolyn Waring.

### Directors for 2006-2008:

Ed Robb, Bill Edwards, Jim Keller and Aunette Shipes

## Items of Interest

### Navy Birthday to be Celebrated at October Meeting



On Friday, October 13, 1775, meeting in Philadelphia, the Congress voted to fit out two sailing vessels, armed with ten as well as swivel guns, manned by crews of eighty. The vessels were sent them out on a cruise of three months to intercept transports carrying munitions and stores to the British army in America. This was the original legislation from which the Continental Navy grew and as such constitutes the birth certificate of the Navy. This resolution of the Continental Congress marked the establishment of what is now the United States Navy.

Continental carriage guns

At our October meeting we will have CAPT Leonard B. Jones, Commanding Officer, leading our birthday observance, with CDR Joel Reaves, Executive Officer, LT James Emrich, Freshman/Sophomore Advisor, LT Travis Haire, Junior/Senior Advisor, Capt Joey Martin, MOI, ENS Mike Billings, Admin Officer, SKC Curtis Porter, Supply Officer and GySgt Derrick Mays, AMOI.

We will have a traditional cake-cutting ceremony and Captain Jones will give a short talk on the Navy Birthday. Hope you will be there to participate in the celebration

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### Cole Sailors Work on Community Service Project



Under the leadership of Navy Leaguers Joyce Fisher, Betty McCarthy and Ellen Snedeker, ten sailors from the USS Cole performed a community services project by painting a house in Savannah.

All had a good time and the owners of the house were very appreciative. Ships coming to visit Savannah frequently send their crews on projects like this. Joyce Fisher coordinates with the city to find projects which

help local citizens and create good will for the Navy and Navy League.

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### New Port of Savannah Captain

Rear Admiral Brian Peterman confirmed Commander David W. Murk last week as the Commanding Officer of the Marine Safety Unit. Hugh Robinson represented the Navy League.

- **Website**

Be sure to check the website for news and updates. The website gets 600 to 700 hits a month which shows that the members are really starting to use the site.

## Coast Guard Picnic



President  
Hugh Robinson

Vice President, External  
Affairs, Betty McCarthy  
Vice President, Military  
Affairs, Ed Robb  
Vice President, Internal  
Affairs, Gary Johnson  
Secretary  
Debra Keller  
Treasurer  
Ellen Snedeker  
Newsletter  
Gary Johnson  
Judge Advocate  
Gwendolyn Waring  
Past President  
John Findeis

It was a beautiful day for a picnic. About 100 people showed up to enjoy a delicious low country boil. Many of the "Coasties" brought their families and pets. Hugh Robinson gave plaques and gift certificates to three outstanding Coast Guard men selected by their various commands. They are:

- PO1 Charles Hyland from Air Station Savannah
- SN Brian Notestine from Station Tybee
- DC1 Joseph Hodges

All the CO's expressed their appreciation for the Navy League and its support of the Coast Guard here in Savannah.

Here are Cmdr. David Murk, MSO, and Hugh Robinson presenting the award to DC! Joseph Hodge and his family.



Georgia Ports Authority co-sponsored the event and were represented by Kevin Doyle who recently joined the Port as GM of Protective Services.

**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. **Email** [gary.john@comcast.net](mailto:gary.john@comcast.net) **or call Gary Johnson (644-7220) with change of address or email.**

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