



ATTENTION ON DECK

Atlanta Metropolitan Council Newsletter December 2007

Volume 18

PRESIDENT CHUCK STEVENSON MASTER OF CEREMONIES FOR GREATER ATLANTA 232ND ANNUAL NAVY BALL OCTOBER 20

The Doubletree Hotel was the site of the 2007 Navy Ball – “A. Salute to Our Sailors – Past, Present and Future” Council members joined active, reserve and retired Navy personnel to celebrate at 6 PM Saturday October 20. Following the reception, dinner, speeches and toasts dancing continued until midnight.

Captain Charles Mingonet (left) and Council President Chuck Stevenson (right) lead the Toasts for the Navy Birthday. Vice Admiral John G. Cotton, USN, Chief of



Navy Reserve and Commander, Naval Reserve Force the event’s guest speaker was introduced by Captain Charles Mingonet, USN, Commanding Officer Naval Air Station Atlanta. Captain Chuck Stevenson, USN (ret) council president was the master of ceremonies. A committee of 23 NAS enlisted personnel chaired by YNCS Calvin Foster, USN raised funds for and coordinated the Ball.

Council Assistant Judge Advocate Captain Joel Feldman USNR (Ret) coordinated Navy Birthday proclamations from Governor Sonny Perdue; Atlanta Mayor, Shirley Franklin; Cobb County Commissioner Samuel S. Olens, and Smyrna Mayor A. Max Bacon

which were displayed at the Ball and are now displayed on the NAS Atlanta Quarterdeck..

Donations from Lockheed Martin and council members provided seats for sailors from metro area naval commands and Sea Cadets.

2008 ACTIVITIES

1. Election of Council Officers and Directors in January - Contact Past President Harley Jones if you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors next year.
2. USS Georgia (SSGN-729) Change of Command and ship tour in January
3. VADM Adam Robinson (Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery) visit in February
4. USS Georgia (SSGN-729) Return to Service activities culminating in RTS Ceremony in March
5. “Burgers & Beer with the Navy League” at Max Lager’s in April



From the President...

Chuck Stevenson

Your Atlanta Metropolitan Navy League Council continues to actively support and promote the Sea Services in the Atlantic metropolitan area. Some of the many activities since our last newsletter include:

- We bid farewell to Skipper Rick Cline and welcomed aboard Captain Chuck Mingonet, who took the NAS Atlanta helm at his Change of Command Ceremony on August 7th
- Supported the Navy Recruiting District Atlanta Annual Training Conference and Awards Banquet
- Sponsored the annual reception for Georgia Tech and Morehouse NROTC units
- Attended the Navy League National Convention in Palm Desert, CA. Larry Hamilton, VP Public Affairs, was honored at the National Convention by National President John Panneton who presented the Council with the second place award for Public Relations.
- Sponsored the annual NAS Atlanta Navy Birthday Ball
- Participated in the Georgia Veterans Day Parade and Banquet
- Sponsored the annual NARS B Sea Cadet Awards Banquet

I am also very excited about your Board of Directors' recent planning and training session facilitated by Bill Waylett from Navy League HQ. During the event, the Board set the following objectives for 2008.

- Increase Council membership with emphasis on younger members (Phil Sullivan)
- Establish corporate sponsorship program (Chuck Stevenson)
- Reenergize our community education program including Speakers' Bureau (Dave Beasley)
- Expand our media penetration in Atlanta area (Larry Hamilton)
- Increase retention of membership (Phil Sullivan)
- Expand 2008 Council sponsored events to complement Recruitment and Retention initiatives (VP Administration)

The Board identified specific actions required to meet each objective and assigned responsibility for each action to a Board member. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Please contact the "champion" of each objective (listed in parentheses) and volunteer to help your Council meet our 2008 goals.

Additionally, check out our web site (<http://atlanta.navyleague.us>) for more detail on upcoming activities.

I have one last request. This is a very special time of year for many of us. As you enjoy your family and friends over the holidays, please remember the service members who are serving in harms way defending our freedoms and their families.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

DIRECTOR GREG SCHILLO GETS WHITE HOUSE AND TOP MARINE CORPS REGOGNITION FOR 91 YEAR OLD WWII PACIFIC THEATER VETERAN

Greg Schillo, Atlanta Council Director Marine Corps Affairs was instrumental in providing Captain Lewis Werner, USMC, a 91 year old WWII veteran (center) White House and high-ranking Marine recognition of his service on the Marine Corps Birthday. Earlier in the war he was in the Army and was sent home because the Army thought he and others were not needed. He joined the Marines and served all throughout the Pacific Theater.



Gregg was talking with Captain Werner's son Tony, (right), who said he would love to honor his dad's service recognized by the Marine Corps, Gregg immediately took the challenge and asked Chris Roberts, commandant of the Atlanta Marine Corps League to provide a certificate for framing as recognition #1. Gregg then was able to get through to General Pace's office before he finished his term as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and he sent a signed letter as

recognition #2. He then contacted the White House and the President's letter was recognition #3.

On his lap are the Marine duffel he carried, the framed Marine Corps League certificate and letter from the Commander-in-Chief, and the letter from General Pace in the envelope is in Capt. Werner's hand.

Needless to say, Capt. Werner and his family of 20 or more in attendance on 10 November were very impressed, as Gregg shared about the Navy League and as they celebrated him, the birthday of the Marine Corps, and Veterans Day during the noon meal for residents at the assisted living center where he resides.

COMMANDING OFFICER USS GEORGIA (SSGN-729) THANKS COUNCIL FOR CREW AWARDS

Commander Ron Hutton, USN, Commanding Officer USS GEORGIA sent a letter to Council President Chuck Stevenson thanking the council for providing Sailor of the Quarter and Sailor of the Year awards for his crew. Pictures of the presentations were included. Check the Web for pictures <http://atlanta.navyleague.us>.

The Georgia is scheduled to return to service March 28, 2008 at Kings Bay, GA. Atlanta Council is joining with all five Georgia Councils in the planning and hosting of the event. In June past national President Shelia McNeill and Keith Post, President Kings Bay Council met with Harley Jones, Al Mota, Don Giles and Larry Hamilton to discuss the return to service ceremony. Planning is continuing through meetings and email.

ATLANTA COUNCIL PARTICIPATES IN VETERAN'S DAY PARADE AND DINNER



The day was perfect for a parade and Atlanta Council sponsored NARS-B One (Below left) and (Below right) 2745th Seabee Battalion Sea Cadet Units arrived at the Parade route at 9 am to prepare for the Parade start at 11:11 am. The Council also had a convertible provided by Vice

President Administration Chuck McCleskey which carried SA Roberto Valles, USN, NAS Atlanta and SN David Arp, USCG Coast, Guard Reserve Port Security, Savannah and led the units. LCDR Frank Campbell, USN (Ret), Vice President Youth Services, Metropolitan Council was driving. NARS B-1 was lead by Commanding Officer LTJG Bernice Keith, NSCC and 2745th Seabee Battalion Commanding Officer LTJG Charles Holland, NSCC led his unit.

The Parade Grand Marshall was Lieutenant General Russell A. Honore, USA, Commanding General, First Army, Ft Gillem, GA. Vice Marshals were Colonel Douglas Hardison, USMC, Commanding Officer Marine Air Group 42 and Captain Bryan Cutchen, USN, Commander, Tactical Support Wing, Naval Air Station Atlanta.

The Council had a table at the evening Banquet which started with a Social Hour and Silent Auction at 6 pm followed by dinner, speeches and presentations.



Due to space limitations there are many more photos of all the events covered in this newsletter we could not use. Please go to the Website <http://atlanta.navyleague.us/photo.cfm> to view them.

COUNCIL SUPPORTS NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET NOVEMBER 8

Atlanta Council presented awards at the Navy Recruiting District Annual Awards Banquet November 8. Past President Harley Jones, Vice President Legislative Affairs Don Giles and Council Chaplain LT Danny Camp, NSCC among others represented the Council

Chaplain Camp an ordained Southern Baptist Minister, was asked by Commanding Officer CDR Greg LaFave, USN to serve as the NRD Chaplain. He delivered the Invocation and Benediction at the dinner.

As part of the council's continuing Support of Atlanta Area Navy Commands outstanding sailors, we presented 5 \$50 debit cards awards that evening. Recipients were: Customer Service Award MC1 Kirk and AO1 (AW) Merrick; Active Recruiter of the Year FT1 (SS) Cousins; Reserve Recruiter of the Year SK2 Henderson, and CO's Special Recognition PS1 Keel. The dinner was held at the Atlanta Ravenia Crown Plaza.



Captain Wayne Radloff, USN,
Commanding Officer, NROTC Georgia
Tech/Morehouse
Captain Harley T. Jones USNR (ret) Past
President Atlanta Council
Captain Don Giles, USN (ret) Council VP
Legislative Affairs and national Director
Commander Greg LaFave, USN,
Commanding Officer NRD Atlanta

Atlanta Metropolitan Council held the 4th annual NROTC Reception at Morehouse College September 21.

The Atlanta Metropolitan Council of the Navy League sponsors a program to mentor NROTC students and encourage non-scholarship students to pursue careers in the Navy and Marine Corps. The United Services Automobile Association (USAA) was a corporate sponsor again this year. The 4th annual reception for Morehouse and Georgia Tech students was from 6-8 pm Friday, September 21 at the Morehouse College Leadership Development Center. Many of the students at Morehouse participate in NROTC, but are not yet on the scholarship program. It was a great turnout. Council President Chuck Stevenson led Navy League members who joined with Active Duty Navy and Marine Corps Officers and Enlisted Personnel to give the over 85 students attending access to fleet experienced officers that have had successful careers, and discuss opportunities and rewards of a Navy or Marine Corps career. Officers from every specialty and designator attended to answer questions and share experiences related to their warfare specialties.

Atlanta Council member Captain Pete Knoetgen, USNR, working with Captain CAPT Wayne Radloff, USN, Professor Naval Science, Georgia Tech coordinated the event which brought many complimentary remarks from the Midshipmen.

NARS B-1 SEA CADET UNIT HOLDS ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY AND BANQUET DECEMBER 2

As part of its regularly scheduled Sunday afternoon Drill the Atlanta Metropolitan Council sponsored NARS B-1 Sea Cadet Unit held their Annual Sea Cadet Awards Ceremony and Banquet at the Smyrna Community Center. Starting at 2:30 PM, it was an afternoon of food, fun and recognition for a year of hard work.

Max A. Bacon, Smyrna Mayor welcomed the Guests. (Left Photo) Captain Joseph F. Manna, Captain (USN, (ret) Commander DCMA Atlanta was the Keynote speaker and NARS B-1 Commanding Officer, LTJG Bernice Keith, NSCC was mistress of Ceremonies for the afternoon event. (Right Photo) Council President Chuck Stevenson



and his wife Susan (right), joined by Council Vice President Youth Activities Frank Campbell and his wife Jeane (left) were among the Guests. Council Chaplin LT Danny Camp, NSCC (center) gave the Invocation and Benediction.

Guests brought Toys for the Marine Corps Annual Christmas gift giving program. Council Director Rozilyn Coleman was presented a Certificates of Appreciation for her work with the unit as were President Stevenson, Vice President Campbell and Chaplain Camp. The NARS B-1 Musical Ensemble provided music.

Georgia Flag Project USS Georgia (SSGN 729) Return to Service

By Don Giles

As part of the USS Georgia Return to Service Committee initiatives, our Council will be coordinating a "Georgia Flag Project." The purpose is to let the crewmembers and their families know that citizens throughout Georgia enthusiastically welcome them as our State's namesake submarine is reassigned to be home-ported in Georgia.

A Georgia State Flag will travel through all 159 counties in Georgia. Governor Sonny Purdue will present the flag, and a logbook, to the Commanding officer, USS Georgia, at the Return to Service Ceremony in Kings Bay, on March 28, 2008. The logbook will contain entries signed by the Chairman of the County Commission, or a designated representative, at a brief ceremonial signing in each of the 159 counties. We anticipate this project will generate much positive visibility for our Navy. The media will be invited in many counties. **(Continued on Page 7)**

GRIFFIN 1124TH CONSTRUCTION BATTALION PARTICIPATES IN MEMORIAL PARK VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION



Sea Cadets from Atlanta Council sponsored Griffin 1124th Construction Battalion participated in Griffin Veterans Memorial Park special Veteran's Day event this year. The government of the North Mariana Islands created a medallion inscribed (Our Grateful Islands Remember). These medallions were presented to 50 WWII Vets that participated in the liberation of those islands. Retired Army Col. Allan B. Imes did the research, contacted the families, contacted the Marianas Government to obtain the medallions and set up the whole program.

The unit met with the VFW and American Legion at 7:00 am Sunday to help put up flags at the park. In the afternoon the Sea Cadets passed out poppies, took donations and visited with some of the vets present. Cadet Kristen Peavy speaks with a couple of Vietnam Vets.

233rd Seabee Battalion Sea Cadets Assist In Rockdale County Veteran's Day Event



On Veteran's Day cadets from the 233rd Seabee Battalion participated at the ceremony held in Veterans Memorial Park, Rockdale County.

The Cadets drove golf carts to bring guest to the ceremony from the parking area, greeted and assisted guests to seating, and assisted with presentation of colors and drove guests back to parking area at end of ceremonies.

USS Georgia Flag Project continued from page 6

The Georgia Association of Regional Development Centers is assisting with coordination and transportation of the flag and with arrangements in each county. The Association of County Commissioners of Georgia is also helping promote the project through their communications. Navy Recruiting District Atlanta will provide Navy presence at the ceremonies.

We will also have Navy League members present in as many counties as possible. All the Councils in Georgia will participate. Please be prepared to attend one of the ceremonial events if you get a call when the flag is in your county.

DON GILES AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HAVE BEEN BUSY BRIEFING SENATOR ISAKSON AND CONGRESSMEN GINGREY, WESTMORELAND, LEWIS AND JOHNSON



Following an April 10 briefing on the Navy League and our priorities in support of our maritime forces, Congressman Phil Gingrey (Georgia District 11) accepts a copy of the Navy League History Book from Atlanta Council Members Al Mota (left) and Don Giles (right). Representative Gingrey is one of the newest members of the Navy League and our Atlanta Metropolitan Council.



Senator Johnny Isakson accepts a copy of the Navy League History Book presented on behalf of the Atlanta Metropolitan Council by Don Giles, Council VP for Legislative Affairs. Senator Isakson became one of our newest

Navy League members following a briefing on the Navy League on May 30, 2007.



Atlanta Council VP for Legislative Affairs, Don Giles (L) and Legislative Affairs Committee Member, Steve Adams (R) provided a Navy League briefing to Congressman Lynn Westmoreland (Georgia District 3) at a meeting in his Newnan office on November 19, 2007. A Navy League History Book was presented to Representative Westmoreland following the briefing.



On November 26, 2007, Atlanta Council VP for Legislative Affairs, Don Giles (L) and Legislative Affairs Committee Member, Pargen Robertson (R) met with Congressman John Lewis (Georgia District 5) in his Atlanta office. Following a Grassroots Navy League briefing, a copy of our Navy League History Book was presented to Representative Lewis.



Atlanta Metropolitan Council VP Legislative Affairs, Don Giles(L), Congressman Hank Johnson (Georgia District 4), and Legislative affairs Committee member, Bobby Green (R). A copy of the Navy League History book was presented to Congressman

Johnson, following a Navy League Grassroots briefing at his office in Lithonia, November 28, 2007."

Profiles of our Board of Directors

Steve Adams Council Secretary

Steve is a native of Ephrata, WA and joined the Navy in 1964. After completing Aviation Electronics Technician school in Memphis, TN he attended further electronics training in San Diego, as well as Survival School. His first assignment was in VQ-1 in Atsugi, Japan as an aircrewman on EC-121 aircraft. In this three year tour he accumulated 2,500 flight hours and 166 missions against North Vietnam in support of the Seventh Fleet. His next assignment was at the Naval Missile Center at Pt. Mugu, CA. as an aircrewman performing flight testing of various vendor pre-production equipment on the EP-3, EA-3D, C-131, S-2 and F-4 aircraft. Steve left active duty in 1972. His decorations include 8 Air Medals, Vietnamese Air Gallantry Cross, Vietnam Service Medal with 4 bronze stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal-Korea and Navy Unit Commendation Medal as well as other campaign and service awards. He retired as a Naval Reservist in 1990 after service with units located in Brunswick, ME, Barbers Point, HI and Patuxent River, MD.

Steve began his civilian career with Lockheed in 1972 in Burbank, CA as an avionics field service representative. His first assignment was in support of the sale of P-3F aircraft to the Iranian Air Force, where he spent two and a half years in Bandar Abbas, Iran. His next assignment was in support of the U.S. Navy at the NATO base in Keflavik, Iceland. After two years he was transferred to the Naval Air Station, Brunswick, ME in support of the transition to the P-3C Update II aircraft. In this position he provided training on the new avionics systems installed on the P-3C. After three years he next assumed a position at the Naval Air Test Center at Patuxent River, MD working with the tenant commands in support of Lockheed products at that facility. Three years later he was promoted to Senior Representative and moved to Barbers Point, HI as the NAVAIR PMA-240 representative, tasked with providing direct liaison with the P-3 program manager at NAVAIR. From there he moved to Washington D.C. at the Lockheed office in Crystal City and worked directly with NAVAIR personnel on issues relative to modification and retrofit programs on the P-3 aircraft. After two years he moved to the Lockheed facility in Marietta, GA as the supervisor of the Field Modification Department, tasked with providing teams to install/modify systems on various Lockheed aircraft. He was subsequently promoted to Department Manager and in 2000 was selected as Senior Manager of the newly established Modification Retrofit and Overhaul group headquartered in Fort Worth, TX, responsible for those activities at the three Lockheed Martin Aeronautical Systems Company sites. In 2003 he assumed responsibilities for the Technical Support Centers at all three sites. After 33 years of service with Lockheed he retired in June 2006 and resides in Newnan, GA with his wife Anna.

Steve holds a BS degree in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and an MBA degree with a concentration in Human Resource Management from Kennesaw State University.

Atlanta Metropolitan Council Seeking Corporate Sponsors

The Atlanta Metropolitan Council is initiating a campaign to solicit corporate sponsorships for our significant 2008 activities; such as the Youth Awards Banquet and Navy Birthday Ball. If you know of an organization that is a prospect, please contact Norm Berkowitz at norm@powersolutions.com. Norm is spearheading this initiative for the Council.

ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COUNCIL RECEIVES SECOND PLACE PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

**Email lar_babs@msn.com or call
Larry Hamilton (770) 941-4995 with change
of address or email address**

Navy League of the United States
Atlanta Metropolitan Council
6490 Deep Valley Court
Flowery Branch, GA 30542-6635

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