



CAMDEN- KINGS BAY COUNCIL
Navy League of the United States
NEWSLETTER

<http://www.kingsbaynavyleague.org/>

APRIL 2009

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
2008-2009

Keith Post, President

Mary Smith, Secretary

Hollis Holden, Treasurer

(Vacant), V.P., Operations

Walt Natzic, V.P., Administration

Jack Mead, V.P., Youth Programs

Lou Lambremont, V.P., Legislative

James Steele, V.P. Public Relations

APRIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 28 APRIL

KINGS BAY CONFERENCE CENTER

18:00 Social - 19:00 Dinner

** Menu **

Fresh Garden Salad

Jamaican Baked Chicken Breast

Grilled Center Cut Pork Chops

Baked Pinto Beans and Rice

Baked Cheddar and Shells

Steamed Broccoli ~ Roasted Corn

Lightly Toasted Garlic Bread

Chef Choice Dessert

Coffee/Hot Tea/Cold Tea/Water

Price: \$20.00 per person

Reservations: (912) 729 - SEAS (7327) or e-mail to: navyleaguedinner@yahoo.com
Please make reservations no later than Noon, Thursday, April 23rd. No shows will be billed!

Program

CDR DAVID POLLOCK, Royal Navy
Commanding Officer, HMS Victorious

President's Message . . .

I want to begin this month's column with a special thank you to all of you who came out to support our Youth Programs Bar-B-Que and Dessert Auction Fundraiser last month. Thanks to the skill of our awesome auctioneer Mr. Arlie McNeill and all the good folks who contributed those fabulous desserts, we raised nearly \$900 to help support the various Youth Programs our Council sponsors throughout the year. Those present on March 12th were fortunate to see our guest speaker CAPT Bill Traub give an excellent presentation on his last deployment as Commanding Officer of the USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728). He and his crew have been doing outstanding work for our nation over on the other side of the globe.

Since our last newsletter the USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) has made her way down to her new homeport here at Kings Bay. The Camden County Chamber of Commerce and the Navy League will jointly sponsor a welcoming picnic for the crew and families at the base pool sometime the end of May or beginning of June, once the ship has completed her testing and certifications following her shipyard overhaul. Please watch for more information about this event in our next newsletter and by email. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with the day's activities once we have a firm date for the picnic.

I have also written in past newsletters about our new cutter the USCGC SEA DOG. I am happy to report the cutter will be arriving here in Kings Bay in mid-May. I had the pleasure of talking with the CO, CWO Tyrome Tillett in Tampa last week where he and his crew are putting the ship through its acceptance trials. They are all looking forward to arriving in Kings Bay and joining the USCSG SEA DRAGON and the entire team here that support our strategic deterrent mission in Kings Bay. Commissioning is slated for some time in June and information on the Date/Ceremony will be in our May newsletter. Senator Saxby Chambliss will be the principal speaker at the commissioning ceremony and his wife Julianne will be the ships sponsor. I know all of us in the Navy League and in our community at large look forward to welcoming all the members of these crews who will now call Camden County home.

I hope to see many of you at our next event which is our Annual Meeting/Council Elections on TUESDAY, April 28th at the Base Conference Center. We will be holding elections for Council Officers for 2009-2010 Navy League Year, voting on some proposed Council Bylaw changes (These will be sent out by email prior to the meeting), and awarding our Annual \$1000 College Scholarship. We are fortunate to have as our Guest Speaker for the evening the Commanding Officer of the HMS VICTORIOUS, CDR David Pollock. We also will be hosting Officers and Chiefs from the crew of the VICTORIOUS who are visiting our base. Members of the council have the opportunity to show their support for our good friends in the Royal Navy by 'adopting' an Officer or Chief and hosting them at the dinner that evening. When you email or call in your reservations please indicate if you would like to add one additional and sponsor a British Sailor to join you at dinner. I appreciate your support as we welcome our staunchest U.S. Ally, the members of the Royal Navy.

And finally, as your Council President, I will be in Washington, DC with our Camden County Chamber Group attending our annual fly-in this coming week. Wish us well as we work hard to secure additional missions for our base and all work to improve our community as we meet with our legislators, pentagon and Coast Guard officials. I look forward to seeing you all on April 28th. Please come out and show your support for our good friends, the members of the Royal Navy Submarine Force. Bring a friend who you would like to introduce to our Navy League Council and let them see first-hand the good work we do! Hope to see you there!

Keith

Annual Meeting . . .

Elections will be held at our Annual Meeting on April 28th. The Nominating Committee, as reported on March 12th, has proposed the following slate of officers to serve the council for 2009-2010: President - Keith Post, Senior V-P for Programs – Hunt Thornhill, V-P for Youth Programs – Jack Mead, V-P for Membership – Walt Natzic, V-P for Operations – Rhonda McKinnon, V-P for Public Affairs – Jim Steele, Secretary – Mary Smith, Treasurer – Hollis Holden and Judge Advocate – Charlie Smith Jr. Additionally we will be voting on a few small changes to update our current Bylaws, which have not been amended or changed in over 15 years. The proposed changes will be emailed to all members prior to the Annual Meeting on April 28th. If you have any questions please feel free to email them in!

Youth Programs . . .

Navy League Cadet Middle School Orientation (Connections) Course: Vice President for Youth Programs, Jack Mead, met with the cadet teacher, Joe Arnold, and the Coast guard representative, Ens. Mark Magrino, at Camden Middle School on 24 March 2009 to discuss the third 9 week period of instruction. A total of 143 students completed the Orientation course of instruction during this 9 weeks. The local Coast Guard unit, which has partnered with the League Cadet in school program, was not able to participate during this period due to operational commitments. However, commitments as presently scheduled during the upcoming 9 week period will allow for the Coast Guard to provide guest lecturers and demonstrations.

Camden County High School NJROTC: Thanks very much to the NJROTC Color Guard for presenting the colors at the 12 March council meeting. They did a super job! On March 30, 2009, thirty-eight cadets of the Camden County High School NJROTC freshman class traveled to Summerville, SC for a drill meet with 12 other freshman NJROTC units from the Southeast Region. They were accompanied by Naval Science Instructors Master Chief Petty Officer Robert Chapman and Petty Officer First Class Donna Staveley. Camden County High School Cadets placed first in Physical Training and Academics, and second place in Unarmed Drill Exhibition. Four cadets received individual medals for military bearing. BRAVO ZULU WILDCAT NAVY!

Kings Bay Naval Sea Cadet Division: At the March 12th Youth fundraiser Council meeting, the Kings Bay Sea Cadet Rifle Drill Team put on a demonstration for the Navy League prior to the dinner and meeting. All in attendance were entertained and very much enjoyed the demonstration. WELL DONE!

The Kings Bay Division Sea Cadets also enjoyed several activities during March. They drilled at the Kings Bay Etowah Park working on team-building, navigation, and survival skills. During this drill, they also participated in the St. Marys Waterfront Cleanup project where they, along with about 100 others, helped pick up 150 bags of garbage and recyclables plus bulk items, all with an approximate total weight of 4,125 pounds. Upon completing the cleanup the unit went to White Oak Plantation where they enjoyed seeing the animals and enjoyed lunch from the grill. Plans are being made for two special activities during April.

Welcome New Members. . .

The Camden-Kings Bay Council welcomes the following new members to our organization: Active Duty Spouses Lindsay Peterson and Kristie Cambell (both sponsored by Shelia McNeill); and Regular Members Richard Tyson and Charles Hunsaker (sponsor: Sheila McNeill); Barbara Danielson (sponsor: Georgia Stilson) and Marcie Ness.

Sea Service of the Year Banquet. . .

Our premier Navy League event of the year is fast approaching. On Thursday evening May 14th we will be honoring the top Sailors, Coastguardsman and Marine from our area at our Annual Sea Service People of the Year Banquet. VADM Robert Papp, United States Coast Guard Atlantic Area Commander, will be our Guest Speaker for the evening. This is our opportunity to salute and pay tribute to the best of the best of our military men and women. Our Banquet Committee Chairperson Marcie Parker still is in need of volunteers and sponsors. If you are interested in being a member of this committee and helping with this important event, or in sponsoring one of the honorees and their spouse for the evening, please email or call Marcie at 912-467-1311 or marciep@tds.net . We appreciate your continued support of this important event for our council and the men and women in uniform who call Camden County home.

Base Access for Children. . .

Beginning in January of 2008, NL members were no longer allowed to escort non-military/non-NL members onto the Subbase. Base Security has amended this policy for NL members who wish to bring children under the age of 16 on the Base with them. Effective March 10, 2009, Navy League members can escort children 16 years old and under; the prohibition against escorting any other persons remains in effect.

From Dave Reilly, Georgia Area President. . .

As your Navy League State President and National Director, I am honored to serve on the Maritime Policy Committee. As a member of this committee, I spent a week in Washington this past September with other members of the committee visiting the Sea Service Chiefs and members of their staff to help the committee better understand the needs of the Sea Services while developing the 2009/2010 Maritime Policy. This policy will be provided to every member of Congress and the Senate. We hope that it will help our congressional members better understand the critical crossroads we are at as a country. We are in danger of having too few ships in the future to provide us the Maritime Superiority we must maintain if we want to continue being a factor in controlling the seas. We must build more ships to ensure that USN, USCG and the Marines are able to fulfill their mission in maintaining this critical capability. Simply stated our warfare capability is degraded and immediate action by our congressional leaders is absolutely critical to helping the USA continue as a factor in the maritime environment.

Our National President Mike McGrath has eloquently presented a way forward in a recent letter to Congress published in *SEAPOWER* in which he encouraged members of Congress to use a portion of the economic stimulus package to man our shipyards and build more ships. What a great way to provide employment to our citizens and help us to avoid from becoming a second rate maritime nation.

The 2009/2010 policy is available and I encourage every Navy Leaguer that can to go to www.navyleague.com to do so and to read this policy. It articulates the dangers we face and the actions we must take as a nation to protect the sea lanes. Thanks for taking the time to read this policy and as Navy Leaguers we can be confident in our leadership is ensuring that our congressional representatives do not forget what one of their primary responsibilities is to each of us as citizens of this great country-and that is to ensure our maritime services have the tools necessary to maintain our maritime superiority.

Community Affiliates Honor Roll

Applied Industrial Technologies ~ Bennett Suzuki ~ Camden/Charlton Board of Realtors
Eastern Maintenance and Supply~Express Scripts~Farmers & Builders Supply
Freedom Self Storage~Hargrove & Associates~Landscape Supply~Lockeed Martin Space
Northrop Grumman~QC Management, Inc.~Satilla Community Bank~Securiguard
Sheila's Hallmark~Soncel~Southeast Georgia Health System
Southern Equipment & Services~The Coastal Bank of Georgia
Universal Supplies & Services~VT Griffin