



**NAVY LEAGUE OF
THE UNITED STATES**

Atlanta
Metropolitan Council

FROM THE QUARTERDECK

**The Newsletter of The Navy League Atlanta Metropolitan Council
4th Quarter 2022**

From The Bridge

Council President- CAPT Chuck McCleskey, USN (ret)

Dear Atlanta Metro Council Shipmates,

Thank you all for your support this year and we hope you had a good holiday season. We closed out a very active year with our Annual Toys for Tots Dinner on December 3rd, and it was a privilege to see so many toys donated for those that might not otherwise experience the joy of the Holiday season. A special thank you to CAPT Harley Jones, USN(Ret), our VP of Operations, who arranges this event for us every year. This year we had the event at the Cross Creek Café' Restaurant in a Private Room and we enjoyed the venue. See photos in this issue.

In December we mailed out the Annual Ballots for the 2023 Board of Directors election and also the Donation forms for annual council dues and the Leadership Fund. Thank you all in advance for your generosity to the Council and the Leadership Fund, all of our funds support our activities to promote Leadership via Youth Programs, support Active Duty leadership development and other programs in support of the Sea Services. Thank you for your support and for returning the ballots and donation by February 1st.

Finally, I would like to thank our Sponsors- Phoenix Air Services, Alexander's of Atlanta, and WorthPoint for their generous support of our Council. These organizations are key to our success and sustainability.

Fair Winds and Following Seas in 2023!

Respectfully,

Chuck



Legislative Affairs

CAPT Don Giles, USN (Ret) - VP for Legislative Affairs

We have seven Senators and 77 Representatives that are newly elected and scheduled to join the 118 Congress on January 3: Two of the new Representatives are assigned to our Atlanta Metropolitan Council: Rich McCormick R-GA6 and Mike Collins R-GA10. If you have interest in participating on our Legislative Affairs Committee as an assigned constituent, please call me at 770-509-3772. We will ask for an office visit with them in February or March to provide a brief that will introduce them to the Navy League, our purpose, mission priorities for our Maritime Services, and our council initiatives.

The House and the Senate have released the final text for the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). It calls for a topline of \$847 billion (\$45 billion above the President's request) and includes a 4.6% pay raise for servicemembers.

Our Legislative Affairs Advocacy Initiatives in the new year include:

1. Establishing rapport and regular office contact with new Members of Congress.
2. Preparing a Budget Priorities Brief for a "Hill Surge" that will occur in April-June with hybrid virtual and in-person district meetings with our Members of Congress. With the President's 2024 Budget expected to drop around the first week of February, we anticipate a frenzy of activity to include the publishing of sea service unfunded priority lists and solicitation by congressional offices for input on appropriations priorities
3. Monthly Legislative Affairs Training every fourth Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m. ET, sometimes rescheduled if coinciding with a holiday.
4. An in-person "Fly-in" in November 2023 during the National Board of Directors Meeting. Details are expected to include a breakfast with the Shipbuilding Caucus, appointments with as many Members of Congress as we can schedule, and possibly a Center for Maritime Strategy War Game event at NLUS Headquarters.
5. Confirming commitment of our volunteer advocates for CY-2023 and trying to find a few new volunteers to ensure that we have at least one Navy League member from each congressional district. We have assigned constituents for eight of 12 Members of Congress assigned to our council.

New constituents are needed for these Members of Congress:

- a. 5th Nikema Williams [D]
- b. 10th Mike Collins [R] New MOC
- c. 13th David Scott [D]
- d. 14th Marjorie Taylor Greene [R]

If you have interest (we need one Navy League constituent in each district). in this important initiative please call me at 770-509-3772.

Remember that our core Navy League purpose is education of our fellow citizens. The purpose of our Legislative Affairs Program is to educate our MOCs regarding our support of our Maritime Services, not just through the annual surge, but continually as new issues emerge with legislative implications. If you have interest in participating or just attending our next meeting with your Representative in the House, or either of our Georgia Senators, contact me at dongiles01@comcast.net.

Sea Cadets Train for Winter Survival

The Atlanta Metropolitan Council provides Training Funds for Seven Sea Cadet Units. As an example of some of the training the Sea Cadets receive, local Sea Cadets from the NARS B-1 Squadron Unit learned the true meaning of Winter Survival as downed aviators. They started fires and built shelters until Search and Rescue (SAR) arrived. These are our future leaders.

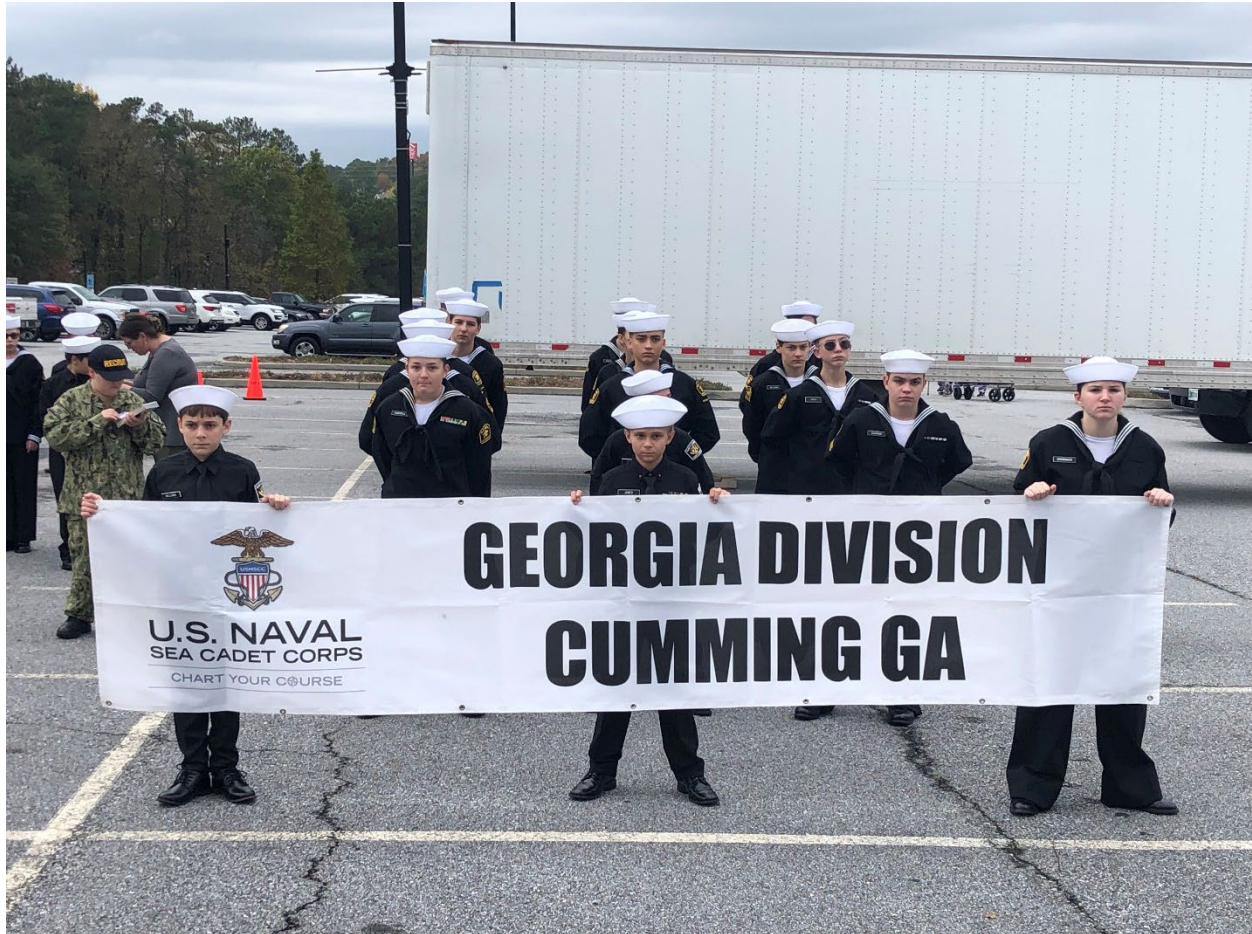


Sea Cadets Train for Winter Survival (CONTINUED)



Veteran's Day Parade- November 12th

Every year the Atlanta Metropolitan Council participates in the Veteran's Day Parades hosted by the City of Marietta and the Georgia Veteran's Day Parade Association. While the City Of Marietta's Parade on November 11th was rained out, we were able to participate in the GVDPA parade on Saturday, 12 November at The Battery. Numerous high school NJROTC, AJROTC, and AFJROTC Units participated in the parade along with the Georgia Division Sea Cadet Unit, one of the 7 Sea Cadet Units sponsored by the Atlanta Metro Council.



The GEORGIA DIVISION US NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS prepares to march in the Veteran's Day Parade at The Battery on November 12, 2022.

Veteran's Day Parade- November 12th (CONTINUED)



Atlanta Metropolitan Council President CAPT Chuck McCleskey, USN (Ret) and his wife Lisa prepare to ride in the Veteran's Day Parade held by the GVDPA on 12 November, 2022 at The Battery.

Toys for Tots Dinner -December 3rd

On December 3rd the Atlanta Metro Council held our Annual Toys for Tots Dinner at the Cross Creek Café. Over 72 Toys were donated in addition to cash donations. The Guest Speaker was Gunnery Sergeant Zack Cleveland of the 4th Marine Logistics Group stationed at Dobbins ARB.



Gunnery Sergeant Zack Cleveland, USMC, from the 4th Marine Logistics Group addresses attendees at the Atlanta Metropolitan Council Annual Toys for Tots Dinner held at the Cross Creek Café' in Atlanta on December 3rd, 2022.



CAPT Harley Jones, USN (Ret)- Council VP of Operations stands with Guest Speaker Gunnery Sergeant Zack Cleveland, USMC and his son Kal in front of the toys collected at the Atlanta Council Annual Toys for Tots Dinner on December 3rd, 2022.

RIP – CAPT Harold R. Wise, Jr., USN (Ret) Atlanta Metropolitan Council Treasurer

Fellow Navy Leaguers,

It is with great sadness, and a devastated heart, that I must report that our Treasurer, Bob Wise, passed away

Please keep his wife Dee and the entire Wise family in your prayers.

It goes without saying that Bob was a true patriot who led a life of selfless, dedicated service to more organizations than I can possibly recall. He has been our Treasurer for many years and a major force behind the success of this Council. His leadership, intelligence, dedication and friendly smile will be sorely missed.

I have taken the liberty of including his Bio here.

Respectfully- Chuck McCleskey, Council President



Bob Wise, Jr.

Captain Harold R. (Bob) Wise, Jr. received his B.S. Degree in Education from West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania in May of 1964 and his MBA in International Business from Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia in December of 1999. He was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy Reserve upon graduation from Officer Candidate School, Newport, Rhode Island in February 1965. After completing studies at Naval Damage Control Training Center, Philadelphia, PA, he was assigned to USS Intrepid (CV-11) where he served as Division Officer, Engineering Watch Officer and Damage Control Assistant. He made deployments in the Atlantic, Caribbean and Western Pacific including duty in Vietnam waters.

In May 1967, Captain Wise reported for duty at Naval Damage Control Training Center, Philadelphia, PA as an instructor. He returned to the inactive Navy Reserve in May of 1969 and retired 1 July 1995. During his 30 plus year career in both active and reserve duty assignments, he served in several leadership positions including Commanding Officer, Auxiliary Floating Drydock Medium 104, Trenton, NJ; Assistant Programs Officer, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Four, Philadelphia, PA.; Plans Officer, CINCEASTLANT 108, Atlanta, GA; Communications Officer, SACLANT Det. 205, Buffalo, NY; Director of Training, Naval Reserve Center, Buffalo, NY; Management Information and Retention Officer, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Eight, Jacksonville, FL.; Commanding Officer, Naval Reserve Voluntary Training Unit 0801, Atlanta, GA; Assistant Inspector General and Assistant Director of Plans for Readiness, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Eight, Jacksonville, FL.; Commanding Officer, Naval Reserve Readiness Unit "C", Atlanta, GA; Director of Selected Reserve Training, Naval Reserve Readiness Center, Atlanta, GA; and Explosives Safety Inspector, Naval Ordnance Center, Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC.

Captain Wise attended the Naval War College, served as a member of the Secretary of the Navy's National Naval Reserve Policy Board for three years, served on the Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Eight, Jacksonville, FL's Reserve Policy Board for three years, completed the Reserve Components National Security Course presented by the National Defense University, attended the Armed Forces Staff College, attended the Naval War College War Gaming course and served on several Navy Reserve Officer line and staff selection boards.

He is the past National President of the National Naval Officers Association, the past National Vice President of the Association of the United States Navy (Naval Reserve Association) and currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer for the Atlanta Council – Navy League of the United States.

Captain Wise's civilian employment included working at IBM for almost 20 years in a variety of technical, educational, marketing and management positions, Regional Sales Manager for Emerson Electric's Computer Power Division, Equifax Inc., where he

served as Director of Sales Training, Director of Data Security, Director of Systems Services and Director of Fulfillment Services, Kennesaw State University as the Director of Development, and the Board of Regents as the Assistant Director of the University System of Georgia's (USG) African-American Male Initiative (AAMI), a state-wide program aimed at increasing the recruitment, retention and graduation of Black males from the USG's public colleges and universities.

Captain Wise was awarded the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy "E", the National Defense Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with two stars, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Expert Rifle Medal, the Sharpshooter Pistol Ribbon and Command Ashore Pin.

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming events include...

Thursday 4 May, 2023- Annual Youth Awards Banquet honoring the top NJROTC Cadets from the 46 High School NJROTC Units and 7 Sea Cadet Units we support will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel Windy Hill Rd. and I-75 in Marietta. Further details will be published prior to the event. POC is CAPT Bill Wilkerson, USN (Ret), William.wilkerson1@att.net .

Thank you to our Sponsors:

