

FAQs



WHAT IS THE NAVY LEAGUE?

The Navy League of the United States is a private, nonprofit, civilian organization that serves, supports and stands with the U.S. sea services — the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. It is a patriotic organization founded in 1902 with three missions: to enhance the morale of active-duty personnel and their families; to inform Congress and the American public on the importance of strong sea services; and to support youth through programs that educate them in the customs, traditions and values of the sea services.

HOW DOES THE NAVY LEAGUE ACHIEVE THESE GOALS?

The Navy League has a headquarters staff and more than 37,000 members worldwide belonging to 200 Navy League councils. Education initiatives occur at both the national and local levels, as do the programs to support serving members and their families. The Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Junior ROTC and Young Marines expose young people to the values of our sea services.

WHAT GOALS DOES NAVY LEAGUE HAVE FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS?

To teach the value of good citizenship related to maritime involvement and economic future with meaningful community participation. To educate and develop positive qualities of patriotism, courage, self-reliance and pride in our nation. To develop attributes that contribute to the development of strong moral character, good citizen traits and a drug, alcohol gang free lifestyle.

IS THE NAVY LEAGUE COMPOSED OF INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS?

Both. Nearly 37,000 individuals are members of the Navy League. More than 170 companies and businesses who support the Navy League's goals are corporate members and business associates. They enjoy many opportunities that bring business and industry leaders together to learn more about the sea services and share their resources on behalf of the Navy League.

WHAT DOES NAVY LEAGUE PROVIDE TO MEMBERS?

A sense of contribution and accomplishment in the support of active-duty members and families, and training to enhance members' understanding of Navy League services. Training to enhance a member's personal management and leadership abilities.

WHAT ARE THE "SEA SERVICES"?

The United States is a maritime nation bordered on three sides by oceans. Four services safe-guard the safety and security of those waters and maintain open shipping lanes to ensure free commerce in and out of U.S. waters. Those services are the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WAYS THE NAVY LEAGUE SUPPORTS THE SEA SERVICES?

At the local level, Navy League councils sponsor activities to help boost morale and extend appreciation by adopting ships, units and installations; providing recreation equipment and library books for deploying ships; hosting port welcomes and holiday celebrations; presenting awards to outstanding members of the sea services.

Nationally, the Navy League presents scholarships to children of sea service families; organizes the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, a leadership program for youth that currently has about 10,000 youth enrolled across the country, and in Guam and Puerto Rico. It publishes *Seapower* magazine and sponsors the annual Sea-Air-Space Exposition. The Navy League provides educational opportunities for the public to learn about the sea services. Additionally, it works to educate elected officials about the needs of the sea services and how critical they are to national security, safety and the global economy.

ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON MEMBERSHIP?

Yes. Active-duty members of the sea services may not be members of the Navy League. However, family members of active-duty members may belong to the Navy League, as can retired service members.

HOW IS THE NAVY LEAGUE ORGANIZED?

Elected national officers and appointed national committee members work closely with staff at headquarters. Regional and state officers help the headquarters communicate with the local councils and their locally elected leadership.

WHAT'S THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT CONNECTION TO THE NAVY LEAGUE? I THOUGHT HE WAS A CAVALRYMAN.

Before becoming president, Theodore Roosevelt was one of the two men who organized the First U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, popularly known as the "Rough Riders," which saw action in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. But Roosevelt had a lifelong love of the Navy and ships, and his first book, published in 1882, was *The Naval War of 1812*. He served as assistant secretary of the Navy for a short time in the McKinley administration, and understood the importance of a strong naval defense to the United States. He was a vocal supporter of the need for the Navy League as an advocate for the future of the country's naval interests, and contributed some of his Nobel Peace Prize money to help the Navy League in its early years. (Roosevelt received the Prize in 1906 for his work in negotiating an end to the Russo-Japanese War the year before.) The modern aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt* was named in his honor.

WHAT IS THE SEA-AIR-SPACE EXPOSITION?

It is the largest and longest-running maritime trade show in the United States. This annual spring exposition is held at the Gaylord National Convention Center, located in National Harbor, Maryland, and offers industry the opportunity to show its latest designs, products and services to members of the sea services, members of Congress, defense analysts, foreign military officers and media. A robust professional development program offers ranking members of the sea services the opportunity to share their thoughts about the challenges their services face. Learn more at seairspace.org.

WHAT ARE NAVY LEAGUE'S PUBLIC EDUCATION GOALS?

To educate the American people and the international community that maritime security and economic well-being are dependent upon strong sea services. To improve the understanding and appreciation of those who wear the uniform of our armed forces and to better the conditions under which they, their families and veterans live and serve.

HOW CAN I LOCATE NAVY LEAGUE MEMBERS IN MY COMMUNITY OR REGION?

Visit the council section of the Navy League website at navyleague.org, and use the council locator to find the council closest to you, or in the part of the country or world in which you are interested. You will likely find the name of local presidents and can contact them directly. Alternatively, contact the Navy League Membership Department at 703-528-1775, and ask them for assistance.

WHAT IS SEAPOWER MAGAZINE?

Seapower magazine is a monthly publication of the Navy League and is considered the publication of record for the sea services. Scholars, sea service officers and naval experts contribute to the magazine, making it one of the premiere naval magazines and well-read among defense and security decision-makers. *Seapower* magazine and the *Almanac of Seapower* are included with membership in the Navy League.

WHAT IS THE ALMANAC OF SEAPOWER?

An annual publication of the Navy League, the almanac is a reference that provides current data on the ships, aircraft, weapons, communications systems, and support equipment of the U.S. maritime defense services. It is published each January. To purchase an additional copy of the Almanac, contact the headquarters staff at 703-528-1775.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

703-528-1775

www.navyleague.org