



2024

ANNUAL REPORT



NAVY LEAGUE LEADERSHIP

National President



CDR Christopher "Towny" Townsend, USN (Ret.) began his 22-year United States Navy career as a P-3C Pilot/Mission Commander aboard NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii. During his three overseas deployments, he conducted post-Desert Storm operations and extensive

anti-submarine/anti-surface warfare missions around the globe. He also spent extensive time with DESRON 7 aboard the USS Constellation (CV-64), over 15 years as a Navy Instructor Pilot on various Navy aircraft and finished his career as the Commanding Officer of Operational Support Unit 0355 in Orlando, Florida.

Employed as a Delta Air Lines pilot since 1997, Towny has spent the past 16 years flying internationally on the Boeing 777 and the Airbus A350, Delta's flagship, conducting ultra-long-haul operations throughout the world. In 2021, he upgraded to Captain on the A350 and then as an A350 Line Check Pilot/Instructor. Towny has also worked in Central Florida's Modeling, Simulation and Training sector since 2008 with BGI, LLC, specializing in military aviation training, and is currently the Sr. Business Development Manager for the company.

Towny has served the Navy League of the United States, Central Florida Council since 2009. After serving as the council's Executive Vice President for two years, he began his two-year term as the Central Florida Navy League's President in January of 2018. At the 2019 convention, Towny was elected as a National Vice President of the Navy League of the United States. In January 2021, he was elected as the National Senior Vice President for the organization. At the 2022 Navy League National Convention, Towny was elected to be the 52nd Navy League National President and Chairman of the Board and was installed into office at our June 2023 National Convention in Dallas, Texas for his two-year term in office.

Towny, a native of Virginia Beach, Virginia, is married to Betsy Townsend, Pharm.D., and they reside in Orlando, Florida. They have two daughters - Lauren, who graduated from the University of Alabama and has completed her second year of law school at Stetson University, and Morgan, who graduated from the University of Florida last May and now resides in Charleston, S.C. Their oldest, Connor, graduated from the University of Florida May of 2020, was then commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy, and earned his Wings of Gold in September 2024. He now flies the P-8 Poseidon in Jacksonville, FL.



Mike Stevens is currently serving as the Chief Executive Officer for the Navy League of the United States. He retired from the U.S. Navy in September 2016 after serving as the 13th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.

In his 33-year Navy career, Mike's various assignments included all technical and leadership levels of aircraft maintenance. His assignments included: Helicopter Crew Chief, Navy Recruiter, Officer Candidate School (OCS) Instructor and Class Chief Petty Officer.

He served as the Command Master Chief in a variety of operational commands, as well as Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Atlantic, U.S. 2nd Fleet and U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

Following his retirement, Mike served as the Chief Operations Officer and Chief Executive Officer of Vigtory, a military marketing company focused on veterans' employment.

Mike is presently serving with the National Academy of Sciences as the Vice Chair of the Naval Studies Board. He previously served on the board of directors for the Association of the United States Navy (AUSN) and as the Chairman for AUSN's Anchor Society. He also served as a board adviser for the National Museum of the American Sailor and the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation. Mike has also served as a guest lecturer for the Naval Postgraduate School.

Mike's academic achievements include a Bachelor of Science from Excelsior College, Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government's "Leadership in Crisis," Six Sigma Black Belt, Senior Enlisted Professional Military Education, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education and the National Defense University Keystone course. He is an honor graduate and the recipient of the prestigious Peter Tomich Award for exceptional military excellence from the Senior Enlisted Academy.

His personal awards include Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (six awards) and Coast Guard Achievement Medal (Operational O).

Mike and his wife, Theresa, currently reside in Arlington, Virginia.

CEO



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NAVY LEAGUE of the UNITED STATES

To our Navy League Members, Partners, and Friends,

It is our honor to present the 2024 Annual Report of the Navy League of the United States. This report is more than just a summary of achievements, it is a testament to the passion, dedication, and resilience of our members, councils, and partners who continue to advance our mission in extraordinary ways.

Throughout the year, the Navy League has strengthened its role as the preeminent voice of support for America's sea services. From grassroots activity and youth development to policy advocacy and international engagement, every program, event, and initiative shared in these pages reflects our shared commitment to a stronger maritime nation.

Together, we hosted the most successful Sea-Air-Space exposition in our organization's history, delivered impactful educational programs across our councils, and championed support for the men and women of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. We expanded our reach, deepened our influence, and ensured that the voice of the Navy League remains strong in the halls of Congress and in communities across America.

This report also reflects the outstanding work of our councils, whose local leadership and service are the heart of our organization. Their efforts in honoring service members, engaging communities, and developing tomorrow's leaders through our youth programs continue to be a source of inspiration and pride.

As we look ahead, we do so with a clear focus and renewed resolve. The challenges facing our maritime services are complex, but the Navy League remains steadfast in its mission. With your continued support, we will build on our momentum, advocate with purpose, and remain tireless supporters of America's sea services.

Thank you for standing with us and for being part of this important journey.

With deep appreciation,

Handwritten signature of CDR Christopher R. Townsend.

CDR Christopher R. Townsend, USN (Ret.)

National President
Navy League of the United States

Handwritten signature of Mike Stevens.

Mike Stevens

13th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy
Chief Executive Officer
Navy League of the United States



The Navy League of the United States, since its founding in 1902, has sought to advocate for a strong Navy and over the years has added equal support for the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marines.

We are a nonprofit, civilian organization, and many of our 30,000 Navy Leaguers are active-duty Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Mariners, veterans of the armed services or their family members.

And certainly, many of our members are civilians who have never served. The connection between us all is a deep, abiding commitment to our core mission of education, advocacy and support for those who help to maintain our nation's security through our sea power and consistently reaffirm our identity as a maritime nation.

Yet at its core, the Navy League is an organization focused on people. Our nation, surrounded by water on three sides, is indeed a maritime one. It is vital we maintain our sea power to both protect our country and maintain access to important sea lanes for ourselves and our allies across the globe. But ships without Sailors are useless vessels. Our sea service members are the people who turn those massive hunks of floating metal into burgeoning cities and do the work of maintaining our national defense and economy.

Our Navy League councils, both domestically and abroad, are critical to maintaining our support of the sea services. They improve the lives of our service men and women through sponsoring and supporting ships and their crews; advocacy and outreach; fundraising events; supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and youth programs; honoring veterans; hosting military events, Navy Birthday Balls, dinners and celebrations; and presenting sea service awards.

The Navy League and all its members are honored to be the voice for those who serve, and to carry out our mission of support, education, and advocacy. This annual report details and celebrates some of our accomplishments over the past year.



NAVY LEAGUE FOUNDATION



The purpose of the Navy League Foundation is to honor sea service members and provide financial assistance to children and grandchildren of veteran and active-duty sea service members, children participating in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and military spouses for higher education.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE ANNUALLY

- Alaska Sea Service Scholarships \$1000 (4 Awards)
- Collins Aerospace Scholarship \$2500
- Gladys Ann Smith Greater Los Angeles Women's Council Scholarship \$10,000
- Planning Systems Incorporated and Engineering Scholarship \$10,000

- Subic Bay-Cubi Point Scholarship \$10,000
- RADM William A. Sullivan, USN (Ret.) Scholarship \$10,000
- USS Mahan Scholarship \$10,000
- Navy League of the United States Military Spouse Scholarship up to \$33,245



COUNCILS BY THE NUMBERS

Scholarships to Sea Service Personnel or their Families

Total scholarships awarded: **38**

Total amount: **\$184,291.30**

Sea Service Awards

Number of councils that gave awards: **46**

Total awards: **571**

Total amount: **\$79,567.81**

Ship Commissioning and Decommissioning

Number of councils that raised funds: **13**

Total funds raised: **\$933,409.62**

Council Advocacy and Legislative Outreach*

Letters submitted to members of Congress via Voice to Congress campaigns: **3,186**

Members of Congress briefed on legislative priorities: **226**

** For a full list of all legislative activities, please see the Legislative Affairs section on page 12.*

Fundraising Events

Councils that held fundraising events: **47**

Total net profit from fundraising events: **\$882,528.97**

Events (Homecomings, Fleet Weeks, Airshows, or Balls, etc.)

Number of councils that held events: **30**

Total financial support: **\$500,835.74**

Support for Military Families

Number of councils that provided support for military families: **29**

Total financial support for military families: **\$141,835.80**

Support for Youth Programs

Total number of supported youth programs: **189**

JROTC Programs: 80

Sea Cadet Units: 81

Young Marines: 4

Total financial support for youth programs: **\$494,316.94**



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Supporting STEM

One major function of Navy League councils is sponsoring the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, ROTC units and STEM functions. In 2024, the Cadets of Navy JROTC at Sebastian River High School in Florida received a \$2,000 donation from the **Treasure Coast Council** for five upgraded computers and software.

The Sebastian River JROTC was awarded a \$1,000 Navy League STEM grant with matching funds from the Treasure Coast Council for its CyberPatriot program, which promotes the development of cybersecurity professionals. The main focus of the CyberPatriot team competition is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, which puts teams in the position of newly hired IT professionals tasked with managing the company networks.

“The cadets and I truly appreciate the support of the local Navy League,” said Commander Peter Bissonnette, Sebastian’s senior Naval Science instructor. “Without their support, and the support of our other local community members and organizations, we would not be able to offer these opportunities.”

Meetings and Discussions

Navy League members from councils around the country visited the offices of dozens of lawmakers on Capitol Hill on May 15, 2024 as part of the first in-person Anchors Aweigh Fly-In since 2019.

They came to discuss the needs of the sea services with members of the House of Representatives and Senate and to touch base with lawmakers and staff that represent their council regions during more than 100 meetings.

The messages included calling for funding two Virginia-class submarines in fiscal year 2025 and writing a “SHIPS Act,”

modeled on the CHIPS Act which helped restore microchip manufacturing and production capacity in the United States. The Navy League visitors also called for an annual shipbuilding and conversion budget of at least \$35 billion.

The council members also discussed the need to fund the sea services’ unfunded priorities, including:

- Barracks restoration and modernization for the Marine Corps
- Icebreakers and new cutters for the Coast Guard
- Defending the Jones Act for the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine
- Educating lawmakers and their staff on the need to create future Sailors, Marines and Mariners by supporting the Sea Cadets, Young Marines and funding for the state Maritime Academies’ student incentive programs.

The Corporate Committee of the **Long Island Council** sponsored a special AUKUS/industry roundtable to discuss the relationship and partnerships between Long Island government contract manufacturers and the Australian government in support of its nuclear submarine program.

The event, held in conjunction with Retlif Testing Laboratories of Ronkonkoma, featured a roundtable discussion of government officials, headlined with a keynote address from U.S. Rep. Anthony D’Esposito of New York’s fourth district. The AUKUS roundtable and meeting was first developed and facilitated by Rep. Nick LaLota of the first district.

Moderated by Michael Griffin of the council’s Government Affairs/Navy League Corporate Committee, the objective of the roundtable was to educate the industrial base on AUKUS and its opportunities, present the pillars of AUKUS, and identify next steps for the industry level partnerships and how Long Island contract manufacturers can become suppliers and provide resources.



Celebrations and Birthday Commemorations

Many councils host local Navy Birthday Balls in October, but councils also host events and awards throughout the year, including their own birthday celebrations.

The **Imperial Valley Council** commemorated a significant milestone, reaching its 75th birthday in January. The council received its charter on Jan. 15, 1949, marking an enduring legacy of service to the Imperial Valley community.

This council has remained steadfast in its dedication to supporting the men, women, and families who serve in our sea services — the mission of the Navy League.

This commitment was echoed in the celebration which was attended by Naval Air Facility El Centro, VMFA-214, and the distinguished Blue Angels 2024 Team of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps' Flight Demonstration Squadron.

On May 16, the **Greater Kansas City Council**, with 60 members and guests, celebrated the 80th anniversary of its founding by Captain Ralph J. Holt, USN (retired) in May 1944. The council is believed to be the seventh oldest Navy League council in the United States.

Two standout speakers highlighted the celebration. First, Chris "Towny" Townsend, Navy League national president, recalled highlights from the council's history, including the establishment of the Harry S. Truman Sea Cadet Squadron in 1956.

He also recognized Greater Kansas City council members leading the Commissioning Committees of the USS Kansas City (AOR 3) in 1970, the USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) in 1996, the USS Missouri (SSN 780) in 2009 and the USS Kansas City (LCS 22) in 2020.

The **Annapolis Council** celebrated its December event by hosting the Honorable John H. Dalton, former Secretary of the Navy and Naval Academy graduate 1964.

Dalton spoke to members and guests about his life journey through his naval career, his extensive civilian careers after leaving the Navy and his nomination in 1993 by President Clinton to the prestigious position of secretary of the Navy.

During its local Annual Maritime Week, the **Greater Green Bay Council** helped sponsor two big events celebrating the service of local sea service personnel.

First, the council teamed with the Door County Maritime Museum to host the Sturgeon Bay Coast Guard Person of the Year and Mariner of the Year awards dinner, honoring the best and brightest Coasties and local maritime supporters, on Aug. 5, 2024. The nominees were MK3 Taiten Cogswell, from Station Sturgeon Bay, Chief Luke Berghuis from the Cutter Mobile Bay and MST1 Michael Thacker from Marine Safety Unit Sturgeon Bay. The winner was Boatswain's Mate Chief Petty Officer Luke Berghuis.

On hand to present the award was Rear Admiral Jon Hickey, the 9th Coast Guard District commander, and Captain Parker, commander, Sector Lake Michigan.

The second event was the Annual Maritime Week Coast Guard Golf Outing, where 19 teams of four sea service members and supporters enjoyed a beautiful day of golf, food and prizes.

In 2024, the **New York Council** announced it was resuming the annual John Barry Book Award and held a ceremony at Fraunces Tavern in lower Manhattan.

The Barry award, established in 2013, honors the Irish-born, Revolutionary War-era naval officer widely regarded as the



“father of the American Navy.” It is given to the author of the book deemed the best account of naval matters or history published in the preceding calendar year.

Past recipients include Tim McGrath, Craig L. Symonds, James D. Hornfischer, Robert P. Watson, Nathaniel Philbrick and William Gereoux. The award was last given in 2020.

Honoring Veterans

The Cincinnati Council proudly celebrated the long-awaited groundbreaking of the USS Cincinnati Submarine Memorial at West Chester Township’s Voice of America Park.

Members of the Cincinnati council have been working for more than 20 years to establish the USS Cincinnati Cold War Memorial Peace Pavilion. The Cincinnati Navy League has been instrumental in driving this project forward, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to preserving naval heritage and supporting the local sea services community.

Navy League members have worked tirelessly alongside other veterans’ organizations and community partners to ensure the success of this memorial.

The memorial, which will feature a permanent exhibit dedicated to the USS Cincinnati, is set to be completed in 2025. It will provide a place for reflection, education, and tribute to the rich history of the submarine and its crew.

Hosting Military Events

The Hampton Roads Council organized a Congressional Roundtable Luncheon and welcomed over 250 dedicated supporters of our sea services.

Virginia Reps. Rob Wittman, Jen Kiggans, Bobby Scott and Jennifer McClellan addressed those in attendance and participated in a Q&A session. Admiral Daryl Caudle, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command gave opening remarks.

The Memphis Council and members of the William E. Schmidt Foundation gathered at the home of council member Peter Bray for an evening of gratitude and camaraderie. The event honored the USS Tennessee submarine whose commanding officer and several crew members were visiting Nashville, Tennessee’s capital city. The Memphis Council proudly sponsors the USS Tennessee Blue and Gold Crews and their families.

Sponsoring and Supporting Ships and Their Crews

Navy League councils support ships and their crews by providing care packages to the crews and holding departure and arrival ceremonies, as well as sponsoring the commissioning of ships and hosting “namesake visits” by ships and their crews.

The Wichita Area Council rolled out the red carpet for the crew of the USS Wichita (LCS 13) during a multi-day visit beginning March 4. This was the first namesake visit for the crew of the ship, which was commissioned in 2019 and is homeported in Mayport, Florida.

The crew received a warm welcome from Wichita Mayor Lily Wu and city council members. The three-day visit was filled with visiting local public schools, a children’s hospital, local aerospace industry leaders and museums. The crew enjoyed an up-close tour of “Doc,” a fully restored B-29 Superfortress which was built in Wichita in 1945.

In November 2024, the Minnesota Council had a tremendous weekend with the crew of USS Minneapolis-Saint Paul (LCS 21). It was a whirlwind weekend for Cmdr. Justin Neff, LCS 21 commanding officer and his crew. Among other events, they were recognized at halftime during the University of Minnesota’s Salute to Service basketball game, were interviewed by local NBC and ABC news affiliates and watched the Minnesota Vikings defeat the New Orleans Saints.



The **Sasebo Japan Council** warmly welcomed the U.S.S. San Diego (LPD 22) and its crew and families to Sasebo, Japan on Sept. 19. The Council is committed to supporting all those associated with the ship in any way possible. Upon the ship's arrival, Navy League members gathered to welcome the crew with food, drinks, and support. The excitement was clear as the crew reunited with loved ones and prepared to explore Japan's vibrant culture after their month-long transit across the Pacific.

With a friendly wave, members of the **Kingsville Council** bid farewell to their adopted crew of USS Kingsville (LCS 36) as it left port at the Art Museum of South Texas on Aug. 26. The council also attended the ship's commissioning Aug. 24 to celebrate the latest addition to the naval fleet, selling USS Kingsville merch at their booth to support their council.

Before the commissioning, the council members had the chance to tour USS Kingsville and officially adopt the ship, promising to support the crew. This is the first ship named for Kingsville, Texas.

Awards Presentations

Greater Chattanooga Council presented Dan Saieed with the Lifetime Achievement Award from President Joe Biden. Dan Saieed served on the council's board for more than 15 years and served just about every position. He put his time, talent and treasure to the Navy League and other volunteer organizations, improving these organizations with all his passion.

On Oct. 5, the **Honolulu Council** hosted the annual American Patriot Awards at the Ala Moana Hotel. This prestigious event recognizes leaders who have made significant contributions to Hawaii's sea services and community. Congratulations to this year's awardees: Bob Harrison, CEO of First Hawaiian Bank; Captain Aja L. Kirksey, Commander Sector Honolulu; and the United States Coast Guard - District 14.

The event was chaired by Steven W. Colon, with Jeffery T. Griffin serving as the Honolulu Council president and Jane Ferreira as executive director. Attendees were treated to an engaging evening emceed by Kimo Kahoano, while Admiral Sam Paparo delivered a powerful keynote address and presented the awards. The night celebrated the shared mission of service and leadership that drives the Honolulu Council and its community partners.

The Honolulu Council's ongoing support for service members, families, and the broader maritime community reflects the very essence of the Navy League's mission. Whether through honoring ombudsmen, welcoming Sailors home, or recognizing outstanding leaders, the Honolulu Council continues to strengthen the bond between the Navy and its community.

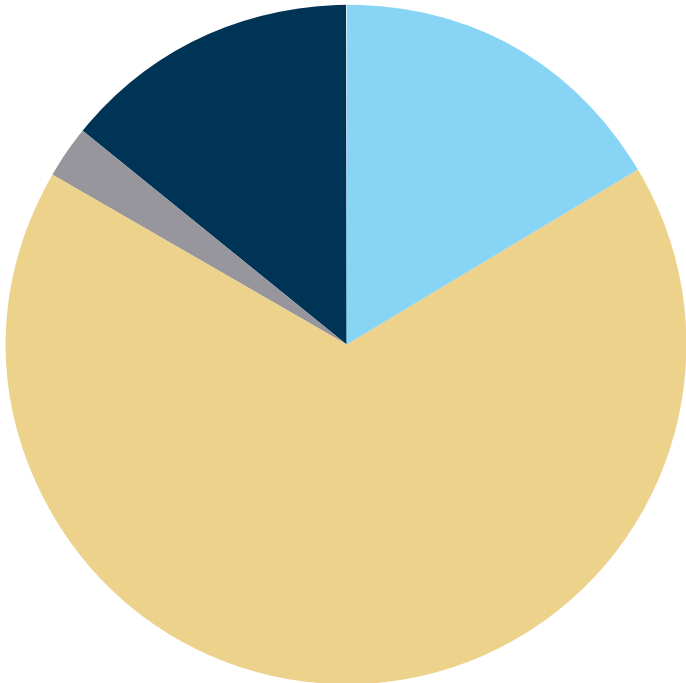
The **Bay County Council** was pleased to host the Sailor of the Year banquet at Captain Anderson's Restaurant on March 5, 2024 in Panama City, Florida.

Congratulations to the Sailors of the Year of Naval Support Activity, Panama City, and associate commands, NSWC, Medical Clinic, NDSTC and NEDU along with USCG Offshore Patrol Cutter and USCG ANT PC.

Many thanks to members of the Navy League Bay County Council, sponsors, and Captain Anderson's Restaurant whose participation helped to make the evening a success.

This Council Digest Roundup highlights some of the exemplary work performed by our Navy League councils, but is only a sampling of efforts from our councils worldwide.

HEADQUARTERS FINANCES

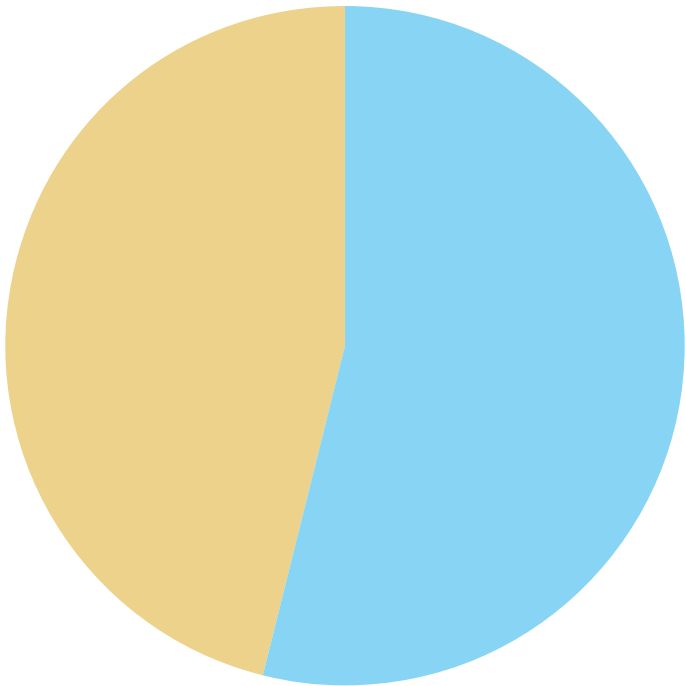


REVENUE TOTAL \$15,232,723

- Grants & Contributions - \$2,573,533
- Programs & Events - \$10,112,749
- Other - \$389,457
- Investments - \$2,156,984

EXPENSE TOTAL \$10,220,281

- Program - \$5,518,952
- Support - \$4,701,329





SEA-AIR-SPACE

Sea-Air-Space has seen steady growth in both attendance and exhibitors over the last six years. The show reached new heights as exhibit space for Sea-Air-Space 2025 sold out by the first day of the 2024 show.

The event and its co-located STEM Expo had more than 16,000 registrants, 462 exhibitors, and an engaged contingent of attendees including flag officers and Senior Executive Service members representing all the sea services and the Department of Transportation. Participation by international delegations continues to be strong and growing through our close working relationship with the Navy's International Program Office (NIPO) and our connections with the Washington, D.C., international military attaches and embassies.

Sea-Air-Space 2024 continued to include Transition Connection, a one-day job fair targeted at helping members of the military plan their transition out of service. Although designed to support our mission, it is open to all in our community including military spouses or anyone seeking employment in the organizations that serve our defense community. This event is highly rated by our corporate members and grows each time we hold it.

Sea-Air-Space continues to be recognized by *Trade Show Executive* magazine as one of the top 50 trade shows of any kind in the United States. It is also North America's largest exposition dedicated to the maritime community, and Sea-Air-Space continues to be the most influential and fiscally successful exposition of its kind.



NAVY BALL

The annual National Capital Region Navy Birthday Ball was held in October to commemorate the 249th birthday of the U.S. Navy. This was once again a sold-out event which drew the attendance of numerous sea service VIPs, including The Honorable Carlos del Toro, 78th Secretary of the Navy, who keynoted the celebration. Other leaders attending included Commandant of the Marine Corps General Eric M. Smith and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy James Honea.

The event honored two former Vietnam prisoners of war, Rear Admiral Robert Shumaker and Commander Everett Alvarez, both pilots who were held in captivity for more than eight years after being shot down over Vietnam.



NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Navy League planned and executed the National Convention in San Diego, California, where over 150 Navy League members spent three days together reconnecting, sharing best practices and celebrating our Council Performance Award and Professional Excellence Award winners. The convention featured several trainings, including the council president's track, a legislative update and an update on the activities of the Center for Maritime Strategy.



FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Navy League updated board members with reports from the CEO and National President, as well as from the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Board members approved the Navy League budget for 2025 and received training on a new database system, the culmination of a two-year project to increase automation and improve efficiency and member experience.





EDUCATORS AT SEA

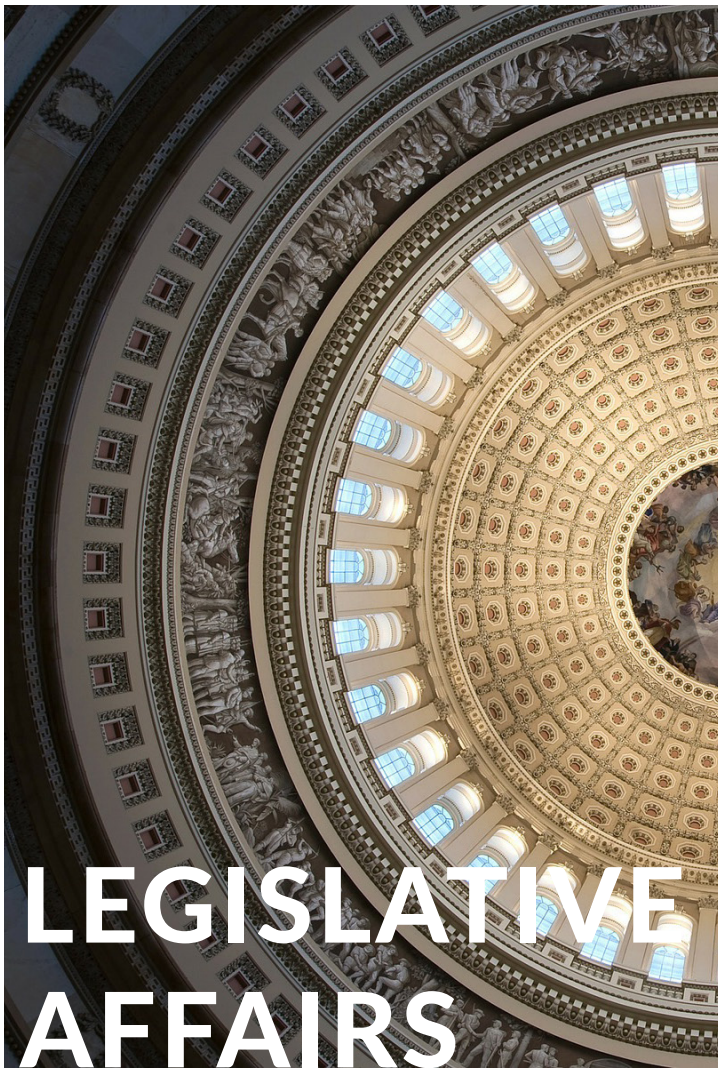
The goal of the program is to identify Navy League regions where polling data indicates knowledge and awareness of the U.S. Navy is low and, through region leadership, identify educators interested in participating in an experience aboard a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier.

The Navy League's Educators at Sea program was very successful in 2024 as one of our most valuable and visible outreach education efforts. The program was created in 2018 as a coordinated effort by the Navy Chief of Information Office and the Navy League. A leading indicator of the high level of interest in the program has been its steady growth.

Beginning with only six participants in 2018, and despite precautionary interruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Educators at Sea program returned to full operations in November 2021 with a group of 12 highly interested and enthusiastic

educators from six states who were included in two Educators at Sea embarks on the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). The success of the Educators at Sea program at that point could be measured by its professional standing among the participating educators, their peer-group teachers/school principals and visibility within several Navy League regions.

As a result of this increased exposure and interest in the program, during 2024 we were able to embark 19 educators from nine states aboard two different Navy aircraft carriers in both the Atlantic Fleet and Pacific Fleet. The outlook for 2025 Educators at Sea embark opportunities continues to be strong, as we look to provide program visibility to additional regions and councils. Educators at Sea program information regarding the cities, communities and high schools represented by the educators continues to be shared with the Navy Recruiting Command to assist in their efforts to reach out to any interested graduating students.



The Legislative Affairs team directs the energy and passion of our members toward producing maximum impact on federal legislation related to the sea services. Our men and women in uniform need committed, informed and organized advocates who can work with Congress to deliver critical resources. When America's sea services need help, Navy League members are the ones who step in to provide it. In 2024, the Legislative Affairs team:

- Conducted Congressional Shipbuilding Breakfast program on Capitol Hill with increased participation and attendance of House Members.
- Conducted Coast Guard-focused Congressional Status Report event.
- Conducted the Congressional Panel at Sea-Air-Space 2024 with five Congressional Members from the House Armed Services Committee.
- Secured participation of House Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee Chairman for additional Sea Air Space panel.

- Conducted a successful "Anchors Aweigh Fly-In" for the first time since the pandemic with 40 Navy League volunteers taking meetings with 112 Members of Congress and staff.
- Restarted Pizza Brief programs to educate congressional staff on relevant maritime issues.
- Successfully advocated for a "SHIPS Act," later named the "SHIPS for America Act."
- Successfully advocated for an anomaly to the continuing resolutions ensuring Virginia-class submarine and Columbia-class submarine programs continued unobstructed.
- Successfully utilized Rapid Response Campaigns to support the Pay Our Troops Act.
- Successfully utilized Rapid Response Campaigns to block legislative amendments intended to undermine the Jones Act.



Navy League corporate members are leading industry experts, responsible for providing the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine with the technology, tools, resources and supplies they need to keep the nation's ports secure, protect the nation's interests overseas, win wars and provide a safe environment for commerce to flourish. Members of the corporate membership program comprise different cornerstones of industry, including multinational manufacturers, companies focusing on specialty technologies, service providers and consultants. The program provides a way for them to demonstrate support for the sea services and opportunities to network with U.S. and allied defense industry leaders, senior decision-makers on Capitol Hill, and the departments of Defense and Homeland Security.

The Navy League offers four levels of industry participation. Foremost is Corporate Gold membership, followed by the Corporate, Business Associate and Small Business levels; and a level for fellow nonprofits, research labs, embassies and nongovernmental organizations.

Throughout the year, members take part in a variety of Navy

League-hosted forums and special events with sea service leadership. All corporate partners are given priority access to all Navy League events, with the most prominent being the Sea-Air-Space exposition.

The Special Topic Breakfast series is another benefit of corporate membership. Featuring distinguished speakers from senior military and civilian program offices, these events give our industry partners the latest information and insights on sea service acquisition priorities and developments.

Members receive the opportunity through a personal liaison to get involved in special events around the country hosted by the Navy League, often in conjunction with local councils. These include receptions on Capitol Hill honoring members of Congress for their support of the sea services, ship commissioning and other unique programs.

All corporate supporters are acknowledged each month on a special page in *Seapower*, the Navy League's flagship publication. Profiles of corporate members are included in the Corporate Directory issue, which is published in November.

2024 CORPORATE GOLD MEMBERS



Accenture
Federal
Services



BAE SYSTEMS



CACI
EVER VIGILANT

CAES PIONEERING
ADVANCED
ELECTRONICS



CURTISS-
WRIGHT



FLUOR



GE Aerospace



GENERAL DYNAMICS



Honeywell



NORTHROP
GRUMMAN

Peraton

QINETIQ



COLLINS AEROSPACE | PRATT & WHITNEY | RAYTHEON



The Center for Maritime Strategy (CMS) is the Navy League’s non-partisan think tank and research institution dedicated to studying maritime issues and their context within wider American national security policy. Through its research and analysis, external outreach, publications, and events, CMS engages key stakeholders across government, academia, and industry.

Its mission is to strengthen American national security through its sea services, conducting policy-driven research, advocacy, and education on the relationship between maritime power and national security policy.

CMS supports all of the nation’s sea services, including the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine, through conducting scholarly research and analysis to drive prudent national security policies. Its inception came in response to several key national security challenges that demand revitalized maritime power:

- The re-emergence of strategic competition with China and Russia.
- The decline of the American maritime industrial base.
- The expense and complexity of maritime platforms and systems which necessitates judicious foresight and long-term force planning.
- Ever-increasing globalization driven by maritime highways and expanding sea-based infrastructure.

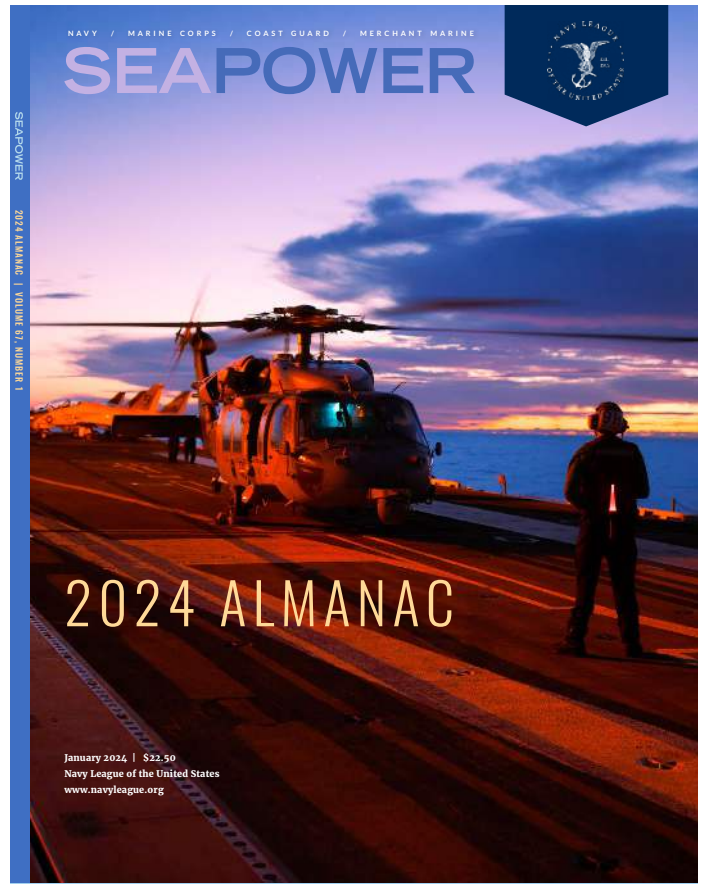
- The difficulty of achieving political consensus on Capitol Hill in an era of heightened partisan polarization.

The Center also concluded work on and recently published its report on illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUUF) and expanded its efforts and influence on national security policy as it relates to the sea services.

The Center hosted numerous events in 2024 ranging from public panels discussions to private roundtable conversations. CMS hosted the third annual America’s Future Fleet, a day-long symposium featuring speakers, including former Admiral Lisa Franchetti, 33rd Chief of Naval Operations, and numerous service and industry leaders. Additionally, CMS welcomed the third cohort of the Congressional Maritime Intensive to take part in a comprehensive course in maritime strategy concluding with a visit to Newport News Shipyard.

CMS continues to provide a critical medium for discussion on issues facing the maritime industry. In 2024, 84 articles were published in *The MOC*, the Center’s online journal. CMS’ podcast *Maritime Nation* featured 12 episodes on a wide range of timely topics.

The Center for Maritime Strategy continues to have an outsized impact on U.S. maritime strategy and policy.



The flagship publication of the Navy League, *Seapower*, continued to publish its unique January Almanac edition, which catalogues all the equipment in the arsenal of the sea services, as well as its regular issues, which highlight the Navy League's support for sea service members and their families. Each issue features short news items as well as longer features and are themed around individual services or issues of importance to the sea services. They often feature extensive Q&As with service leaders and also showcase the activities of Navy League councils and the Sea Cadets. The editorial team remained unchanged for 2024, with Editor-in-Chief Brett Davis working with Senior Art Director Victoria Motsay – responsible for the magazine's look and feel – and Senior Editor Rick Burgess, who is responsible for much of its content. Going forward, the magazine will move into more vibrant digital offerings to expand its role as a voice for the sea services and members of the Navy League.



PHILANTHROPY

Annual Honor Roll of Benefactors Fiscal Year 2024

Navy League of the United States Benefactors by Giving Society

The Navy League is enormously grateful for the many donors who collectively help make our mission possible for so many of our sea service men, women and their families. The following is a comprehensive list of all our generous supporters at the headquarters level and includes donors from our three established giving societies: The President's Circle, Teddy Roosevelt Society and The 1902 Society. Without these generous benefactors, much of the mission of the organization would be challenging

to carry out. These gifts impact our youth programs, STEM and scholarship efforts, support events, councils and more.

Donors at the President's Circle level are invited to the President's Circle reception at the Navy League Annual Convention, hosted in early summer by our National President in recognition of their generosity to Navy League headquarters programs. The 1902 Society gifts, our planned giving society, are those that have been realized in 2024.

On the pages that follow, we list and thank all of those who supported the Navy League last fiscal year. On behalf of Navy League Executive Board and staff, thank you. Your gift makes a difference, and we will continue to work hard to honor your generosity and commitment to our beloved organization.

THE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE



The President's Circle is an elite group of benefactors who help the Navy League maintain its worldwide membership by advocating for sea service members and their families. President's Circle members lead by example and further contribute to the success of the Navy League achieving its mission. President Circle contributions include all gift designations of \$1,000 or more to any Navy League-affiliated programs* at the headquarters level.

**Roosevelt Level (Life Member):
\$25,000 or higher**

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**Navy League of the United States-affiliated programs include ALL gift designations to Navy League headquarters, as well as gifts to the Navy League Foundation and STEM Institute.*

TEDDY ROOSEVELT SOCIETY



Established in September 2020, The Teddy Roosevelt Society celebrates and recognizes Navy League of the United States' loyal donors who have made gifts between \$100 and \$999 to any Navy League-affiliated programs* at the headquarters level.

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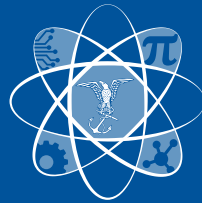


SUMMARY

The year 2024 was a momentous one for the Navy League of the United States and for the sea services. As war raged in Europe and new conflicts broke out in the Middle East, the League worked as tirelessly as ever to fulfill its core duties on behalf of the men and women of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and their families.

Working through our worldwide network of councils, the League carried out numerous and wide-ranging efforts to bolster the sea services. Supported by our generous individual and corporate members, we advocated for greater funding through grass roots legislative support for the sea services, including the increase of the Navy SCN budget, creation of a SHIPS Act, and funding to address Marine Corps and Coast Guard unfunded priorities. These donor relationships further facilitate the League's community activities, including bringing the maritime world together through our annual Sea-Air-Space conference and exposition, Special Topic Breakfasts, ship and unit adoptions, awards and service member celebrations.

Through our publications like *Seapower* and *The MOC*, we have educated the general public on the need for supporting the maritime services and for promoting strength at sea. 2024 was focused on the next generation of Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and Mariners through our support of sea service-focused STEM activities within the communities we serve, and supporting youth programs, including the Sea Cadets.



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