



The PORTSIDE

The Newsletter of the
Northern Virginia Council of the Navy League January 2005 Edition

Next General Meeting 9 February 2005

Where: We will meet at the **Army-Navy Country Club (Fairfax City Facility) at 3315 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax City, VA.** (From intersection of US 50 and US 29 at Fairfax Circle, go southwest on Old Lee Highway approximately ½ mile to Club entrance on the left.)

Time: Please join us for social time (cash bar) at 6:30 p.m. and a chance to meet the other members, with dinner at 7:15 p.m. followed by the Annual Membership Meeting and election of officers and the guest speaker's presentation. **Guest speaker:** Our guest

speaker will be Captain Joseph Gradisher, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Media Center, Washington, DC. Captain Gradisher will demonstrate Navy's new web site, which has a vast array of information on the Navy. **Payment:** Dinner will be \$30 per person

payable at the door, preferably by check to NOVA NLUS. (Sorry, no credit cards accepted)

Reservations: *Please call the VP Programs (Jim Offutt) at 703-691-1260, or e-mail him at JHOFFUTT@aol.com to make your reservation by 6 PM Thursday 3 February 2005.* If

after making a reservation, you find you cannot attend, please notify Jim Offutt by email or telephone of your cancellation not later than 0900 AM, Tuesday, Feb 8, 2005 so that we will not be charged for an unused meal. **Agenda:** Agenda items include the election and installation of the 2005 Council Officers, plus a presentation by the guest speaker.

Future Planning:

Your NOVA Council and the City of Alexandria, VA are sponsoring, with the help of other organizations and individuals, a visit to the City of Alexandria for the Washington's Birthday Celebration for the USS ALEXANDRIA (SSN 757) Commanding Officer, COB and about eight of the crew. The crew members will be honored at several events, including the parade to be held in Old Town at 1 PM Monday 21 Feb. Your Council is hosting the crew members for dinner on the evening of Sunday 20 Feb. This event will be at Pat Troy's Irish Pub in Alexandria (111 North Pitt St., <http://www.pattroysirishpub.com>) starting at 6 PM. All Council members are welcome to attend, on a pay as you go basis, and to meet our sponsored Captain and crewmembers. USS Alexandria recently returned from an exciting around the world trip via the Arctic Ocean, and the crew should have tales to tell.

The Annual Sea-Air-Space Symposium will be held in DC 22-24 March. You can attend – go to www.navyleague.org for information, or call the NLUS HQ at 703-528-1775.

NOVA's next regular meeting will be on 13 April 2005 – mark your calendars.

Highlights of December 8, 2004 General Membership Meeting: A General membership meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday, December 8, 2004 at the Army-Navy Country Club (Fairfax City Facility). **Appointments:** NOVA Council President Stewart Reuter announced the following appointments: Carl Jones has been appointed to serve as Treasurer to replace John Scalzo, who has resigned and has moved to Louisiana. Carl Jones also will continue to serve as Vice President, Military Liaison. Nancy Gorell has been appointed to serve as Vice President, Ship Liaison, replacing John Scalzo. Nancy served as the Chair of the Council's Committee for the Adoption of USS VIRGINIA (SSN-774) and for NOVA Council's participation in the ship's commissioning activities in Norfolk, VA. She also is in contact with our other adopted ships, USS ALEXANDRIA (SSN-757), USS FIREBOLT (PC-10), USS CARDINAL (MHC-60) and

USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44) and will be contacting ASSAULT CRAFT UNIT TWO. **Future Adoption of USCG Boat Force Potomac:** Stew Reuter and RADM John Tozzi, USCG (Ret), NOVA Council Member, are scheduled to visit USCG Boat Force Potomac in the near future to explore the possibility of adopting this small Coast Guard Unit consisting of 28 Coast Guardsmen and two 25 foot patrol boats responsible for security of the Potomac River. **USS VIRGINIA**

Update: Stew Reuter reported that Nancy Gorell, on behalf of NOVA Council, presented a gift of a Play Station II to the crew off the USS VIRGINIA at the adoption ceremony in Norfolk. The Chief of the Boat has reported that the crew is enjoying this gift very much. **USS ALEXANDRIA Status**

Report: The USS ALEXANDRIA returned from a round the world voyage. NOVA Council Director Duane Tollaksen, who also serves as a member of the City of Alexandria Liaison Committee for the USS ALEXANDRIA, updated the Council on planning for a Washington's Birthday celebration in which the CO, Chief of the Boat, and about eight crew members will come to Alexandria as honored guests. See "Future Planning" Section above for additional information. Jim Offutt made a motion, which was seconded and unanimously approved, to authorize the NOVA Council Treasurer to issue a check to \$500 to the City of Alexandria to assist in funding the event.

Resolution to Add Carl Jones to Signature cards for Council Checking Account at BB&T

Bank: A motion was unanimously approved to authorize the Secretary to sign a document adding Carl Jones to the signature card for the Council's Checking account at BB&T Bank to replace John Scalzo. **Nominating Committee for 2005 Council Officers and Directors:**

Stew Reuter announced that we must form a Nominating Committee to identify a slate of Officers and Directors for 2005. In accordance with the Council's bylaws, a Nominating Committee was created consisting of the following persons: Carl Jones (representing the Directors), Jim Offutt (representing the General Membership), and John Camp (appointed by the Council President). Stew Reuter asked John Camp to serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. A slate of officers and directors must be identified and provided to the Council President by January 7, 2005 in order to be presented to the general membership in the January issue of *Portside* for consideration. Election and installation of new officers and directors will be carried out at the Council's Annual Meeting, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 9 February 2005.

Guest Speaker: Jim Offutt, Vice President, Programs, introduced Commander Paul Nagy, USN, Office of Navy Strategies and Fleet Response Planning (N513), Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Commander Nagy gave a very informative presentation on the Navy and Stability Operations. He discussed the multitude of operations around the world in which the Navy has played a major role since the end of the cold war. He also addressed the growing array of challenges facing the Navy in the future. A question and answer session followed Commander Nagy's formal presentation. Stew Reuter gave a miniature Lone Sailor statue to Commander Nagy in appreciation for his presentation. **Recognition of Sea Cadets:** Stew Reuter recognized Naval Sea Cadets Catherine Conroy and Alex Jarra and their leader, Ensign Joe Lamendola, NSSC of the Flying Midshipmen Air Wing Sea Cadet Unit which meets at the U.S. Coast Guard TISCOM Station in Alexandria, VA.

Report of the Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee has placed the following members in nomination for Council Officers and Directors for 2005. Additional Directors can be appointed during the year by the Board. Members – hold up your hand if you are willing to serve your Council. We especially need a Judge Advocate. Additional nominations can be made from the floor at the Annual meeting.

President: Nancy Gorell

Treasurer: Carl Jones

Ass't Treasurer: Stew Reuter

Secretary: John Camp

VP Programs: Jim Offutt

VP Administration: John Camp

VP Military Liaison: Carl Jones

VP Ship Liaison: Fred Gorell

Judge Advocate: Vacant at this time.

Directors: Charles Davis, Roger Hood,

William J. Kastner, Dorothy Harmon,

Stew Reuter, Duane Tollaksen, and

Kristina Peterman

Council President's Column: As most of our readers know, we are trying to rebuild and reactivate the Northern Virginia Council after a few years of relative inactivity. While there are over 1,400 members on the Council rolls, the number of "active" members has been a lot less. We are trying to have regular meetings every second month, with an event on the second Wednesday of those months. We have been very active in our sponsorship of Navy units, providing support to commands such as Sailor of the Year and Sailor of the Quarter Awards. Our Board Members (Officers and Directors) have been carrying the load with only a few additional members helping out. I'm appealing again to your better instincts to ask you to get involved with your Council's work. We are a service organization in support of our Sea Services, a need that is only greater in time of war.

What does your Council need? Let me give you a list.

An Editor for the PORTSIDE.

Committee members to aid in liaison with our sponsored ships and stations.

Committee members to assist in the recruiting of Community Affiliates.

Chairmen for the Recruiting Committee and the Retention Committee.

A Judge Advocate.

The main thrust of this Council has always been support of the enlisted men and women of the US Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. We invite speakers and schedule activities that help educate the membership about the needs and successes of the forces, and work with our National Officers to educate Congress about the needs of our military in a constantly challenging world.

What can **you** do? In a word – **volunteer**. Step forward, meet the other members, decide where in our NOVA organization you can best help out, and let the current leadership know of your interest. You may e-mail John Camp at NOVANLUS@AOL.COM or call him at 703-241-0972 to tell him of your interests. He also is collecting ideas for Council activities, such as field trips, breakfast meetings, etc.

If you would like to receive future issues of PORTSIDE and other NOVA communications via e-mail, please send an e-mail to NOVANLUS@AOL.COM providing your e-mail address, name and telephone number. The potential savings in postage and printing costs would be substantial. We've collected some addresses in the past year, but many of the e-mail addresses provided with your membership application to the League, and other addresses we received have apparently migrated. This edition will be sent to our existing list, but about 50 of the addresses will be returned as undeliverable or refused. Please provide your address again if you receive this by e-mail and are willing to have that form of delivery.



Pictured above (l to r) are guests at NOVA Council's General membership meeting on Dec 8th: Ensign Joe Lamendola, Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Commander Paul Nagy, USN, Navy Strategies and Response Planning Staff (OP-513) (Guest speaker), Naval Sea Cadet Catherine Conroy, Naval Sea Cadet Alex Jarra, and NOVA Council President Stew Reuter.

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