

**Navy League of the United States
St. Augustine Council, Inc.**

**MINUTES
SANL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
January 9, 2012**

Call to Order– President Zollar opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. He led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Marziani led the group in prayer.

President’s Message (Zollar) – President Zollar informed the group of a recent phone call from Jim Woods. Jim had undergone a kidney biopsy and wouldn’t know the results until later this week. President Zollar asked the group to keep him in our prayers.

New Member / Guest Introduction – No new members were present. Dave Sullivan reported that a guest of Florida Regional President Dudley, Jim Faulkner, was expected but was not yet present. New member Willard Gale was also expected to arrive later.

Minutes of December Meeting (Proffitt) – The minutes of the December meeting were reviewed and were accepted as corrected.

Treasurer’s Report (Jean Hammer) – Jean Hammer presented the Treasurer’s Report for the period 12/01/2011 through 12/31/2011:

Total receipts:	\$2,669.00
Total Disbursements:	\$4338.53
Overall Total	-\$1,669.53

Jean explained that money for the Christmas Party also came in during November and was not entered in the December receipts. The Christmas party was self-supporting. It was mentioned that if both husband and wife are members, there is only one charge for local dues. The year-end total was not reported because the bank starts mailing statements today.

The Treasurer’s Report was accepted as presented.

Financial Committee Report (Dean Smith) - Dean Smith spoke on the budget. He reported that in 2011, \$3151.00 in local dues was collected, not \$280 as in the preceding year. Social events were self-supporting during 2011, and, thanks to Past President Korach and his sponsorship of Heritage Dinners, extra contributions were made to events income. Budgeting for 2012 has been planned, and will be submitted to the Board of Directors at their next meeting.

Report from Liaisons (Frank Hunt) – President Zollar called on the liaisons. He welcomed the late arrival of Willard Gale and mentioned that Frank Hunt was now site manager for VR-58 and would be available for events in that area.

VR-58 (Hunt) – President Zollar reported that two SOY awards would be presented to reservists in January. Late arrival Frank Hunt supplied the date as January 21.

HITRON (Hunt) –President Zollar said there is still no liaison for HITRON. Frank Hunt is still managing that position and will report. Currently he is working with details so a Cub Scout group from Palm Coast gets to camp on the base at Mayport.

Hue City (McFee) – Dave McFee was absent. No report was given.

Navy Surface USS Klakring (Korach) / USS Farragut (Gregory/Teehan) – There was no report on the *Klakring*. Capt. Ian Pollitt is now at home recovering from his recent surgery. Jana Teehan reported she and President Gregory presented SOQ awards on the *Farragut* on Dec. 15, the morning of the Christmas Party. They met the new CMC. Former CMC Mitchell was unable to attend the Christmas Party, because the movers came to his house that evening.

DESRON-14 (Grech) –George Grech reported starting an effort to have the sailors of the *Klakring* build a playground at Gamble Rogers Middle School in St. Johns County through the ship's Community Affairs Program. George mentioned that his son Robert, who has been stationed in Jerusalem, has now been assigned to Mexico City.

Marine Corps BIC (Teehan) – Jana Teehan reported the CO of BIC is not available to make plans to come to St. Augustine. It has been decided to have the NCO of the Year as the guest for a March luncheon in St. Augustine. Jana asked for ideas for a venue for the luncheon. She asked SANL members to help themselves to calendars on the table by the door.

Sector Jacksonville (Peggy Warner) – Peggy Warner introduced her liaison, Tammy Delaporte, whose son is in the Coast guard at Kings Bay. An awards occasion is being planned for all five units in May. Guardsman of the Year will be recognized. A liaison for the *Kingfisher* is still needed. Group discussion revealed uncertainties in the relationship between Sector JAX and SANL. NEFA President Sullivan and President Zollar will investigate the matter.

Youth Programs (Hamm) – Bill Hamm reported the Sea Cadets marched in the St. Augustine Christmas Parade. They received many compliments for their participation. He heard one lady remark that the sailors looked very young. Many applications to join the Sea Cadets have been received. Currently, those who have applied are being tested, examined and screened as to their fitness and sincerity, in order to retain a top-ranking group. Eric Johnson is the new CO of the Sea Cadets. Bill has resigned as XO but will still work with the group. Members are moving from the younger group into the Sea Cadets. The Sea Cadets will be commissioned as a unit when they have 25 members. Plans are being to form a rifle team. Three more adults have joined as instructors. George Grech remarked on the excellence of the Sea Cadets when they presented the colors at the Christmas Party, and complimented Bill Hamm on his work. The group applauded his remarks.

Publicity/Public Relations/Speakers Bureau (Caviness/Ballinger) – Claude Caviness has three articles pending with the *Record*. Jared Whetstone, grandson of Henry and Esther Whetstone who is stationed on the *Maria Bray*, has been accepted in the Coast Guard rescue swimmer program. He will go to Savannah in February to start a three-month training program.

Rob Ballinger spoke about the book *Pacific Air*. It tells how fearless flyboys, peerless aircraft and fast flat tops conquered the skies in the war with Japan. Author David Sears also wrote *Such Men as These*, which was reviewed in a previous report. U.S. fighter pilots and a Japanese Zero pilot were profiled in the book. It also talked about Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation. President Zollar thanked Rob for his report.

Membership/Retention (Figliuolo/Mehling) – Lee Figliuolo reported membership was 185. It was 189 on that date a year ago. President Zollar mentioned that the complete membership roster and the minutes of the meetings are posted on the website. He asked members to read the minutes on the website so fewer copies can be made for the meeting. More good information and pictures are also posted. Lee Figliuolo said that information posted on the website is now in .pdf files and can be accessed by computers that previously had trouble reading the information.

Sunshine Committee (Price) – Deloris Price was absent. No report was given.

Report from Legislative Affairs/ NE Florida Area (Sullivan) – NEFA President Sullivan reported working with the installation of officers in the Councils of the Northeast Area. Installation has been completed and the participation of the Councils is expected to be excellent, with more support for IA luncheons. In addition, the Rotary Club of Jacksonville has pledged support for the IA luncheons. NEFA President Sullivan noted that the number of IA's would decrease as troops withdraw from Afghanistan. Defense budget cuts will be 100 billion yearly, starting in Oct. 2012. SANL members were asked to push for defense dollars at every chance. The budget is such that two major wars cannot be fought at once. The NLUS Convention will be in Hawaii June 20-24, 2012. Information on the Convention is now on the website.

Report from Florida Regional President (Dudley) – Florida Regional President Dudley was absent. He was in Tallahassee working with Veterans affairs.

New Business – George Grech told the group he was in the fight scene of the movie “*The Bridges of Toko Ri*.” Volunteers from the group took nametags and certificates to deliver to new members. Lee Figliuolo said the sub trip is on for Jan. 26. The *Bosun's Locker* would be emailed on Jan. 10. Lee asked the liaisons to start getting coins for the golf tournament trophies. Bill Korach said the purpose of the Midway essay contest was to educate young people about the great naval battles. Plans for the contest are being formed. Sea Cadets and JROTC members in North Florida and Kings Bay will be invited to participate. Judges will be chosen from active duty and reserve Navy, possibly people with literary or historical background, and named journalists. Laura Ingraham has been invited to be a judge, and the name of Peter Guinta, has been suggested. Groups will be designated by age, and first, second, and third prizes will be awarded to each tier. Pre-screeners of the essays were

asked to volunteer. President Zollar thanked Bill for sharing tentative plans for the essay contest.

Ian Sutherland brought Royal Navy publications for the group. Dave Sullivan said SANL members should read the January issue of *SEAPOW*, the 2012 Almanac. It lists the ships and pictures the flag officers of the Navy. A discussion ensued as to how the Navy made the count of its number of ships. Members were asked to bring issues of *Seapower* to the next meeting.

President Zollar discussed the Christmas Party. He remarked that it was touching when Faith Miller sang, and thanked Claude Caviness and his committee for their work. Claude will present a written report at the next Board meeting.

President Zollar continued with plans for 2012. He encouraged members to know the theme from NLUS: Every member get a member involved. He discussed the activities of 2011: over 30 award and COC events; 5 social events; 10 opportunities to support JROTC events and appearances. He plans to have guest speakers at meetings, including military people from units to discuss their mission. He asked for suggestions for venues for meetings and social events.

Lee Figliuolo said there are currently 18 members without email. He asked Council members to share information about SANL if they are acquainted with these members.

The meeting was adjourned at 1930 hours.

The next membership meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2012, at the Southeast Library.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Anita Proffitt**