



Sea service women leaders meet in D.C.

BY GUNNERY SGT. A.C. MINK
Special to the Flagship

WASHINGTON — More than 1,000 Sailors, Marines and coast guardsmen gathered for the 23rd annual Sea Service Leadership Association Women's Leadership Symposium in Washington, D.C., June 2-3.

"The event was a great success," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jean-Marie Sullivan, Deputy Director, Office of Women's Policy.

Themed, "Leading from the Front and Into the Future," the symposium offered motivating speakers from the U.S. sea services, as well as lively panels and civilian speakers for both enlisted and officer leaders.

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead delivered remarks during the symposium, June 3. During his remarks he spoke about women serving on submarines and the impact on the submarine community.

"I think that we have a great group of young officers that will move into our submarine force and change that force for the better," said Roughead. He noted that it is equally important to not only recognize the great contributions of Navy women, but to build on those contributions for the future.

Outstanding leadership was highlighted during the event, as the Capt. Joy Bright Hancock Awards for Leadership were presented to members of the different



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. A.C. Mink

Retired Master Chief Anna Der-Vartanian discusses changes for women in the Navy with Chief Kim Lewis at the Sea Service Leadership Association Women's Leadership Symposium. Lewis, the Navy Career Counselor stationed at Camp David, met Der-Vartanian, who became the first female master chief petty officer in the Navy November of 1959, at the symposium social.

services.

"Today you are recognizing six women, officer and enlisted, for their achievements, their contributions to each of their services. As you recognize the very best of the best, we all know that we are barely touching the very tip of the talent of the women who serve in our military today," said Maj. Gen. Angela Salinas, director of the Marine Corps' Manpower and keynote speaker.

For the Navy, Cmdr. Thurra-

ya Kent, Executive Officer, Navy Public Affairs Support Element Norfolk, received the Senior Officer award. Lt. Cassidi Reese, Line Division Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron 154 was awarded the Junior Officer award. The Senior Enlisted Leader award went to Master Chief Utilities Constructionman (SCW) Jamye Rainwater (SCW) Jamye Rainwater, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion

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Photo by MC2 Kyle P. Malloy

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead delivers remarks and answers questions from Sailors attending the 23rd annual Sea Service Leadership Association Women's Leadership Symposium.



Photo by MC1 Diane Rubin

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead places a wreath during a ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial commemorating the 68th anniversary of the Battle of Midway.

CNO honors the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway

BY MC2 (SW) KYLE P. MALLOY
Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead delivered remarks at the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway commemoration ceremony at the nation's Navy Memorial, June 4.

CNO thanked the Sailors who currently serve for attending the ceremony to help celebrate the service of past Sailors and the Battle of Midway, the decisive Naval battle that was the turning point in the Pacific Theatre of World War II.

"To the Sailors who are here today, who gather to commemorate those who have come before us," said Roughead. "I thank you for being part of this ceremony, this commemoration, this demonstration of respect for these great men, their generation and what they did

for us."

Roughead spoke about the valor and legacy of the Sailors who fought in the Battle of Midway, reminding the audience that many of these Sailors had experienced a variety of attacks on our nation prior to Midway.

"It is (their) same spirit of hope and determination that brought victory to the United States at Midway," said Roughead. "And it's that same spirit that lives on today in the Sailors who serve in the United States Navy around the world."

CNO recognized the Navy ships and crews from USS Benham (DD-397), USS Balch (DD-363) and USS Enterprise (CV-6) for their contributions during the Battle of Midway who then went on to help win World War II.

"These crews earned great notoriety at Midway for an incredible

See MIDWAY, A11



Photo by MC2 Tucker M. Yates

Lt. Cmdr. Ariel Klein, from Norwood, N.J. assigned to the Wizards of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 133, is greeted by his wife and daughter at the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island flight line during a homecoming celebration. The VAQ-133 returned after a six-month deployment supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Support to Navy spouses topic of latest 'Family Gram'

PRESS RELEASE

Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Educational and information resources, as well as support information for spouses are the subject of the latest "Family Gram," NAVADMIN 195/10, released June 2.

Navy spouses, often called the Navy's unsung heroes, endure frequent moves to unknown towns, long deployments and wartime fears.

The Navy provides an array of programs and resources to prepare spouses and family members to meet the unique challenges of military life.

Spouses who are new to the Navy, far from home or starting a new chapter in their life, may be unsure about what support is available or how to take advantage of it.

"Just call your nearest Fleet and Family Support Center," said Kathy Turner, a program analyst at Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC). "Even if you're too far from a base to come in, just

call. The staff will be happy to answer your questions. In fact, when you're sure that there's no help available, that's a good time to call us. We'll get you headed in the right direction."

The Navy's goal is for spouses to be resilient, well-informed and adaptable to the Navy environment.

CNIC helps spouses reach this goal with its Child and Youth Program, Ombudsman Program and Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSCs).

FFSCs assist military spouses in obtaining employment and maintaining a career.

They teach personal financial management, with topics ranging from car and home buying to the financial impact of deployments.

They provide guidance on making permanent change of station moves, helping a family learn about their new duty station, the cost of living, availability of housing, even the cultural changes

See FAMILY GRAM, A11

INSIDE:

CHANGE OF COMMAND

NWS Yorktown says goodbye to a leader
Change of command ceremony was held, June 4, at NWS Yorktown's Cheatham Annex.



A10

FRONT AND CENTER

NMCP holds 'Clean the Base Day'
More than 200 volunteers scoured the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth shoreline for "Clean the Base" Day.



B1

OFF DUTY

Set sail for Harborfest
Harborfest festivities run from noon to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday.



C1

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Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel

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All Navy service members and eligible civilians must now arrange personally procured moves using the Defense Personal Property System which can be accessed at www.move.mil.



Use of DPS mandatory for personally procured moves

PRESS RELEASE

Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO — All Navy service members and eligible civilians must now arrange personally procured moves using the Defense Personal Property System which can be accessed at www.move.mil.

SMARTWebMove, the Navy's legacy system for arranging household goods moves online, is being phased out.

DPS is a centralized, integrated system – a "one-stop" source for managing a household goods move. The system provides convenient access to household goods shipment information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Service members are to use www.move.mil for all household goods move arrangements except for the following categories: joint moves where both adults in a household are service members / Department of Defense civilians, local moves other than personally procured moves and shipments that include boats or mobile homes.

Contact the local Personal Property Shipping Office if a household goods move falls into any of the exception categories.

DPS also serves as a conduit for a direct relationship between DoD customers and transportation service providers throughout the entire moving process. Customers can use DPS to settle claims directly with their transportation service provider. Claims protection includes full replacement of lost items or items damaged beyond repair.

Navy service members are required to complete customer satisfaction surveys related to household goods shipments. The CSS is a critical component of DPS. Your opinion counts;

the survey results help determine which carriers provide best value service, and give program administrators the information necessary to provide the outstanding relocation service DoD service members and civilians deserve. A link is provided in the E-mail sent after a household goods shipment is delivered, or visit www.move.mil and click on the survey link.

E-mail questions or requests for more information to householdgoods@navy.mil.

COMFISCS provides an array of integrated global logistics and contracting services to Navy and Joint operational units across all warfare enterprises.

COMFISCS is responsible for facilitating best business practices and efficiencies across the seven FISCs located in San Diego, Calif.; Norfolk; Jacksonville, Fla.; Yokosuka, Japan; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Bremerton (Puget Sound), Wash.; and Sigonella, Italy; and for optimizing the performance of base supply functions and standardizing levels of service across 11 regions and 77 Navy installations.

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A component of the Naval Supply Systems Command, headquartered in Mechanicsburg, Pa., COMFISCS is part of a worldwide logistics network of more than 22,500 military and civilian personnel providing combat capability through logistics.

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For more news from Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers, visit www.navy.mil/local/comfisc/.

THE FLAGSHIP'S LEEWARD SHOUT

What do you think the Navy could do to recruit and retain good Sailors?



OSSL
Jordan Laplante
USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77)

"I think that the Navy recruits good people, but if they want those good Sailors to stay in they should give members more leave time to see their families."



AO3
Reginald Anderson
USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70)

"If the Navy wants me to re-enlist... I would need more money, because no one would do my job for free. The benefits are great and the time off is good, but I would be more likely to re-enlist if they brought back bonuses."



CS1 (SW)
Carmelo J. Otero
NAS Norfolk Galley

"If I were recruiting, I would target higher educational institutions more. You are more likely to get quality people from colleges than high schools."



AOAA
Diesha Ronaldson
CNATTU

"They need better incentives to give Sailors a good reason to stay. I also think that they should do more extensive background checks on new sailors."



EM3
Ben Holmes
USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)

"I think if they approached jobs more efficiently, then people would want to stay in more. If they just made things run better then I would feel like I'm doing more and be happier."



AOAA
Shaleke Brown
CNATTU

"I think the Navy should only allow the best Sailors to be recruiters. If you put out the best of the Navy, then they will be more likely to recruit only good Sailors."

Photos by MC3 Samantha Robinett

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
84	85	88	89	90	85	85
68	70	72	72	73	72	71

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USNS Comfort recognized for Haiti earthquake response

BY LAURA SEAL
Military Sealift Command
Public Affairs

BALTIMORE — Baltimore-based Military Sealift Command (MSC) hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) was welcomed as an honorary member in the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) at the organization's annual meeting in Baltimore, June 4.

The honorary membership recognizes Comfort's role in international relief efforts following the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti. Comfort spent seven weeks anchored off the coast of Port-au-Prince, where shipboard medical personnel treated nearly 900 earthquake victims.

"It's an honor for the men and women who served on Comfort during the Haiti mission to be recognized as part of the Maryland Hospital Association," said Capt. James Ware, Commanding Officer of Comfort's Medical Treatment Facility. "We are very proud of all of our enduring relationships

with the broader medical community, including partners ranging from other U.S. military services and government agencies to non-governmental organizations and even foreign militaries and health ministries."

Ware and David Lieberman, the civilian officer in charge of the ship, accepted the honor on behalf of the more than 1,000 Navy medical personnel and 79 civil service mariners who coordinated with 170 Navy planners and support personnel and an additional 244 civilian medical volunteers from eight non-governmental organizations.

"Maryland's hospitals and the USNS Comfort share more than a home. We also share a mission of providing care and compassion to all who need it," said Carmela Coyle, MHA president and CEO. "For Maryland's hospitals, that means being there to provide care. For the USNS Comfort, it means getting there to provide care." Lieberman and the rest of Comfort's civil service crew are also happy with the honor.



Photo by MC3 Ryan Steinhour
The Military Sealift Command Hospital Ship Comfort (T-AH 20) was welcomed as an honorary member of Maryland Hospital Association.

"Part of what makes Comfort's hospital so exceptional is the fact that we can take it where it's needed," said Lieberman. "Although the mariners don't treat patients, we are so proud of the role that we play in getting this ship to people in need and ensuring that the hospital has electricity and water."

Ware and Lieberman accepted a plaque that will be displayed aboard the ship. "The people who are Maryland's hospitals are proud to now be associated with the people who man the USNS Comfort in all capacities and we welcome them now as colleagues," said Coyle. Comfort was delivered to

the Navy, Dec. 1, 1987, and arrived in Baltimore July 13, 1988. When not deployed, Comfort is kept pierside where a small crew of civil service mariners and Navy medical personnel maintain the ship and Medical Treatment Facility in a high state of readiness. When activated, Comfort can de-

ploy on a mission in five days.

Comfort is operated, navigated and maintained by a crew of civil service mariners working for the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command while the Medical Treatment Facility is crewed and maintained by Navy medical personnel.

The Maryland Hospital Association is the advocate for Maryland's hospitals, health systems, communities and patients before legislative and regulatory bodies. It's 61 member hospitals include teaching hospitals, health systems, specialty hospitals, veterans hospitals and long-term care facilities.

MSC operates approximately 110 noncombatant, civilian-crewed ships that strategically preposition combat cargo at sea around the world, move military cargo and supplies used by deployed U.S. forces, conduct specialized missions, and replenish U.S. Navy ships at sea.

For more news from Military Sealift Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/MSC/.

Surgeon General highlights the role of Navy medicine during Pacific tour

BY MC3 (SW) DEVON DOW
Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West Det. Japan

YOKOSUKA, Japan — The U.S. Navy Surgeon General visited Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY), June 4, during his tour of Navy medical facilities in the Western Pacific.

Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson held an all hands call with the staff U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, had lunch with enlisted Sailors in the hospital's galley, held media availability with Japanese reporters and met with members of the 7th Fleet staff.

"Yokosuka is a place that is near and dear to my heart," said Robinson. "The hospital and its

staff here is a shining light in our Navy. When I am asked about what has kept me motivated in my 33 year career, it has been the people I've served with. The Navy medicine community has kept me excited, fresh with ideas and always want to do more."

Robinson led the doctors, nurses, corpsmen and civilian employees at U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka from September 2001 to January 2004, serving as commanding officer. As the Navy



Robinson

Surgeon General, he said he enjoys having the opportunity to speak with Sailors about Navy Medicine and offer feedback. He also stressed what he believes makes Navy Medicine the success it is today.

"The greatness of Navy Medicine is not the ships, the airplanes or the submarines. It's not the upper leadership in the Navy, the greatness of the Navy. Navy Medicine is the people in uniform who are taking care of people in need everyday," he said. "Their sacrifice and com-

mitment to duty is what helps make our Navy a more determined and strong force."

Throughout his tour of the Pacific, Robinson is focusing on the valued principles of Navy Medicine and the role of Navy medical professionals as they care for the fleet.

"Aspects important to Navy Medicine are to care for the men and women of Navy Medicine, to do the force health protection mission, which is to have a fit and ready force to care for the war fighters and also take care of eligible family members and those who are our retirees - which is an honor to care for," said Robinson.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Japan Alliance. Robinson said he was honored to be back in Yokosuka during this historical year for the two nations and sees no end in sight to their bond.

"The U.S. Japan Alliance is stronger than I have ever seen it," he said. "It is a critical alliance which has provided not only the basic foundation for our lives in Japan, but has based our security and our commitment to the whole Asian basin and the people in this part of the world."

For more news from Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Det., Japan, visit www.navy.mil/local/mednews/.

Naval War College remembers Battle of Midway

BY MC1 DOUG KIMSEY

Naval War College Public Affairs

NEWPORT, R.I. — On the 68th anniversary of the Battle of Midway, U.S. Naval historian John Parshall told Naval War College students and faculty that “minions” or subordinate commanders played a vital role in achieving the seminal Naval victory.

“You must appreciate the value of good minions,” Parshall said during the June 4 commemoration, 68 years to the day the battle began between U.S. and Japanese forces to control the key Pacific Ocean atoll.

Regarded as the turning point in the Pacific during World War II, the Battle of Midway took place June 4 - 7, 1942. Each year the U.S. Navy renews a commitment to appreciate and preserve the nation’s Midway Naval history and heritage.

Parshall, whose historical book, “The Shattered Sword,” is considered an authoritative account of the battle, urged Naval War College students to “value the contributions and capabilities of your subordinates.”

“Sometimes, and history has proven it, you have to show a lack of ego and

get the heck out of the way,” said Parshall, who offered two examples of how the expertise of “minions” helped win the Battle of Midway.

The first example was that of Lt. Richard Halsey Best, an expert dive-bomber pilot under the overall command of air group commander Lt. Cmdr. Wayne McClusky. Best and his Scouting Squadron Six (VS-6) are credited with scoring hits that helped sink the carriers Akagi and Hiryu after becoming separated from McClusky’s Torpedo Squadron Six (VT-6).

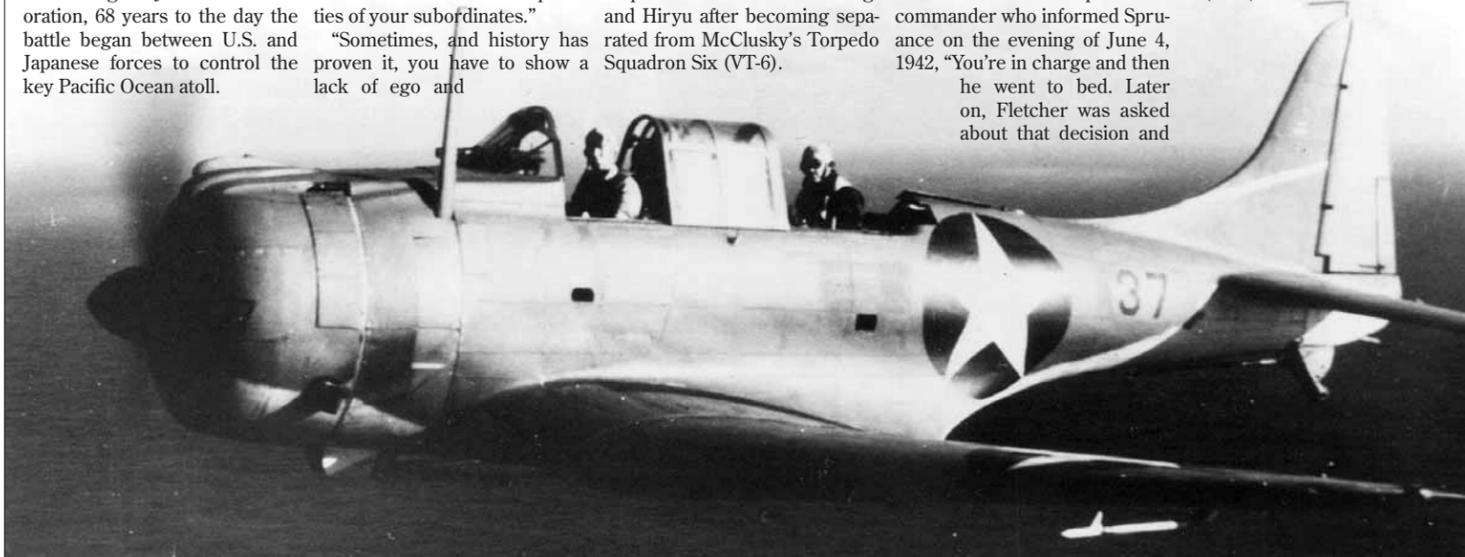
The other example given by Parshall involved Adm. Raymond Spruance, former Naval War College graduate, faculty member and president. Spruance is credited for helping the Americans avoid an all-out Naval surface clash with the enemy during the Battle of Midway, said Parshall.

Spruance was a minion of Adm. Frank Fletcher during the Battle of Midway, said Parshall. Fletcher was the operational commander who informed Spruance on the evening of June 4, 1942, “You’re in charge and then he went to bed. Later on, Fletcher was asked about that decision and

responded, ‘I have good officers under me. They know how to carry on in my absence,’” said Parshall.

Parshall reminded the audience to not only value subordinates, but trust them. “Let us celebrate these people who may have superior knowledge and expertise. Let us cherish and encourage them,” said Parshall.

For more news from Naval War College, visit www.navy.mil/local/nwc/.



Ensign George Gay rests in a hospital after the Battle of Midway. During the Battle of Midway Gay was the first of his squadron to depart on June 4, 1942. Gay’s unit found the main Japanese fleet and launched an attack without any fighter plane support. Although he was wounded and his radioman/gunner was dying, Gay completed his torpedo attack on the Japanese aircraft carrier Kaga. Francis Fabian a Yeoman on the USS Yorktown (CV-5) and another survivor of the battle had an altogether different experience when his ship went down not once, but twice.

U.S. Navy Photo

Veteran reflects on Battle of Midway

BY MC1 DOUG KIMSEY

Naval War College Public Affairs

NEWPORT, R.I. — U.S. Navy veteran Francis Fabian remembers where he was 68 years ago during the Battle of Midway.

“I was floating in the South Pacific Ocean, for 16 hours, hanging onto a life raft,” said Fabian, of Charlestown, R.I. “There were no sharks, but I remember getting hit on the hand by something in the water. It must have been a Portuguese Man o’ War. Whew! I can still feel it!”

Fabian, 94, is a survivor of the Battle of Midway, the decisive Naval battle between the U.S. and Japan, waged June 4 - 7, 1942, for control of the vital Pacific Ocean atoll, 1,300 miles

northwest of Hawaii.

He was a radioman aboard the USS Yorktown (CV-5) and said his job was to be at radio central and stay in contact with the rest of the carrier group.

Incredibly, Fabian abandoned the Yorktown not once, but twice.

“And I’m a non-swimmer, so that didn’t help matters any,” said the retired New England Electric System electrician with a chuckle. “But I managed to survive. I guess it was a case of doing the right thing at the right time.”

Yorktown was hit by enemy aircraft fire on June 6 and the order to abandon ship was given. But the carrier did not immediately sink and it appeared that she may be saved, Fabian recalled.

“I was part of the salvage

crew that went back on board to try to save her,” he said. “But that’s when the Japanese sub torpedo got us. We abandoned ship a second time after that.”

Fabian spent five years in the Navy. “I enlisted in 1939 for one year,” he recalled. “I was a ham amateur operator and the Navy had a program you could enlist for one year. Well, I volunteered for one and ended up serving five.”

Fabian shared one Navy news account of the sinking of the Yorktown:

“Throughout the night of June 6 and into the morning of June 7, Yorktown remained stubbornly afloat. By 5:30 a.m. on June 7, however, the men in the ships nearby noted that the carrier’s list was rapidly increasing to port. At 7:01 a.m., the ship turned over onto her port side and sank in 3,000 fathoms (5,500 meters) of water, her battle flags flying.”

“I’m proud to have served when I did,” Fabian said.

For more news from Naval War College, visit www.navy.mil/local/nwc/.

Bush Sailors observe 68th Anniversary of Battle of Midway

PRESS RELEASE

USS George H.W. Bush Public Affairs

NORFOLK — USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) hosted two World War II veterans and hundreds of Sailors from across Hampton Roads, as they observed the 68th anniversary of the historic Battle of Midway on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier, June 4.

The commemoration, hosted by Commander, U. S. Fleet Forces, Adm. John C. Harvey Jr., was attended by Battle of Midway veterans William Eckel and Howard Snell. Both men served aboard ships during the battle and traveled to Norfolk to attend the ceremony.

The Battle of Midway, which is often referred to as the turning point of World War II, took place June 4 - 7, 1942, when the Japanese sent the majority of their naval force to capture Midway Island, which was being used by U.S. forces as an airfield. The battle was primarily fought by aircraft launched from aircraft carriers. By the battle's end, the Japanese had to retreat after losing vital air superiority. The U.S. lost the carrier Yorktown while four Japanese fleet carriers were lost along with their crew.

The commemoration featured musical selections played by Fleet Forces Band, a moment of silence,



Photo by MCSN Daniel S. Moore

William Eckel, a veteran of the World War II Pacific Naval Battle of Midway, renders honors during a wreath presentation ceremony during the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway commemoration aboard USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77), June 4. George H.W. Bush joined other commands around the world in commemorating the historic Naval battle.

remarks from Harvey and Vice Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline, Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific, and an invocation and benediction led by Cmdr. Cameron Fish, command chaplain. A vintage TBM-1 Avenger conducted a fly over during the ceremony. The Avenger got its combat debut during the decisive battle and is also the same model of aircraft flown by the air-

craft carrier's namesake George H.W. Bush.

The ceremony also featured a wreath-laying presentation, as Harvey was joined by Eckel and Snell to pay homage to the brave men who lost their lives during the battle.

"It was important to me that this event be by Sailors, about Sailors," said Harvey. The event that took place 68 years ago today was done by young American Sailors and pilots wearing dungarees and khakis. So to make that connection with them, we are wearing our flight suits, our flight deck jerseys along with our Navy working uniforms to pay honor to those young Sailors who stared everything in the face, when everything was on the table and rose to the occasion."

Guest speaker Kilcline said, "We come together today to honor the brave men who fought to defend Midway, they were just ordinary Americans who responded to the call to serve their nation, but at

Midway they were heroes."

Fish, whose father served in the Navy during World War II, recalled the huge impact that one Naval battle had on not just the Navy, but countless individuals as well.

"The battle changed the tide of the war," he said. "I remember my father saying that things looked bleak. The success at Mid-

way both halted the advance of the Japanese and lifted the spirit and morale of the whole nation. The Battle of Midway affects me very personally because it affected my father and mother. If it were not for that victory, I might not be here today," he said.

Kilcline said that the victory was not without cost, we lost the aircraft carrier Yorktown, 145 of our aircraft and 307 Americans lost their lives in that battle while paying the ultimate cost for victory.

Fish also explained the significance of having two veterans on board for the commemoration.

"Having the veterans in attendance was absolutely wonderful," he said. "It's an honor and a privilege and extremely humbling to have them. These men were there, during the climax of World War II and now they're here today."

Harvey discussed the importance of the commemoration being held on the Navy's newest aircraft carrier.

"It was important to me that we commemorate this day from the modern version of the Hornet, Yorktown and Enterprise, which struck the decisive blow to the Japanese fleet and tie together what those Sailors did then to what our Sailors are doing now," said Harvey.

For more news from USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77), visit www.navy.mil/local/cvn77/.



Photo by MC3 Nicholas Hall

Sailors aboard USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) watch as a vintage TBM-1 Avenger performs a flyover during the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway commemoration.



Photo by MC2 Jennifer L. Jaqua

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Airman Michael King and Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Airman Kori White present a wreath honoring the heroes lost at Midway during the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway commemoration.

CNO takes up a bike to ... Ride 2 Recovery

BY MC2 (SW)
KYLE P. MALLOY
Chief of Naval Operations
Public Affairs

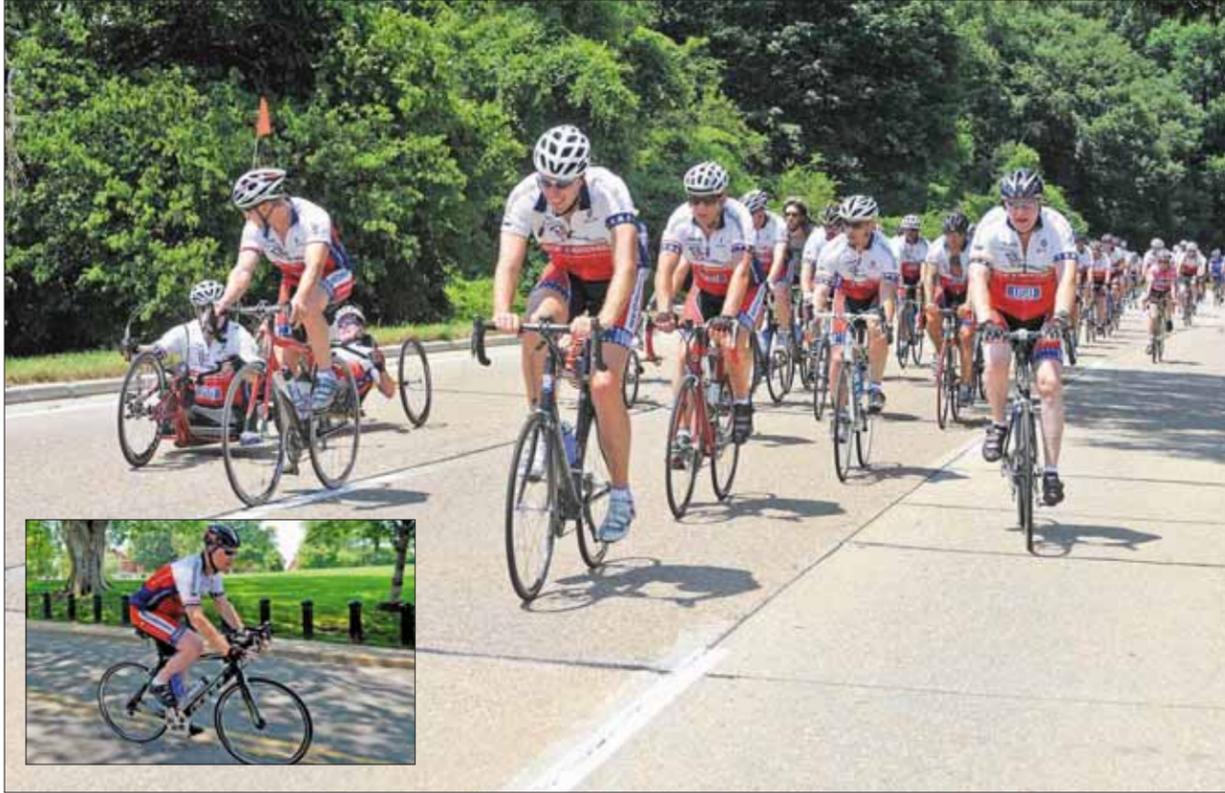
WASHINGTON — Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead cycled nearly 50 miles on the first day of the Ride 2 Recovery Memorial Challenge that began in Arlington, Va., and concluded in Manassas, Va., May 31.

Roughead, a cycling enthusiast, participated in the ride alongside Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey, Jr. and more than 200 injured veterans and supporters to help promote the organization's mission.

"I think it causes people to focus on moving forward," said Roughead. "It's physical, it's mental and you draw energy from the people around you – it's just really great."

CNO said it was an honor to be a part of the event and that he gets energy and inspiration from the extraordinary effort of those who rode with him.

"The example that you set, how you have driven on is just a reminder that life is like riding a bicycle, you've got to keep moving otherwise you won't get where you have to



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead and Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey, Jr. ride with more than 200 injured veterans and supporters in the first 50 miles of the six-day, 350-mile "Ride 2 Recovery Memorial Challenge."

Photo by MC1 Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst

go," said Roughead.

This was Roughead's second Ride 2 Recovery event. He rode in an event in Florida, Dec. 17, 2009.

This is the first Ride 2 Recovery Memorial Challenge that began at Fort Meyer's Whipple Field in Arlington, Va. It concluded

in Virginia Beach, June 5, at the Patriotic Festival. The ride encompasses six days and more than 350 miles. The Ride 2 Recovery

is an organization which encourages both the mental and physical rehabilitation of veterans and active-duty service members while

honoring the sacrifices they have made.

For more news from Chief of Naval Operations, visit www.navy.mil/local/cno/.

NAVELSG center-stage at Memorial Day event in Washington



Bruce Laingen, Rear Adm. Patricia E. Wolfe, Commander, Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group and Rear Adm. Patrick J. Lorge, the commandant of Naval District Washington, lay the ceremonial wreath honoring our Nation's fallen heroes. Laingen, as the U.S. Charge d'Affaires to Iran, was taken hostage along with 52 other Americans in Iran from November 4, 1979 to January 20, 1981, a total of 444 days.

STORY AND PHOTO BY
LT. MICHAEL A. LEACH
NAVELSG Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — May 31 is always a day to celebrate America's military, her veteran's – past and present – and to reflect on what these brave men and women have given in service to the United States. The Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group (NAVELSG) was center-stage at this year's Memorial Day celebrations at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, DC to assist in these celebrations.

"May we never forget those who died ... may we never fail to live up to their standards and may we never falter our fight for freedom at home and abroad," said Rear Adm. Patricia E. Wolfe, commander of NAVELSG, who was the keynote speaker for Monday's events.

Also present with Wolfe was Rear Adm. Patrick J. Lorge, the commandant of Naval District Washington and the Honorable Bruce Laingen, who was the U.S. Ambassador to Malta during the Carter Ad-

ministration. In 1979, as the U.S. Charge d'Affaires to Iran, Laingen was taken hostage along with 52 other Americans. He was held hostage in Tehran from November 4, 1979 to January 20, 1981, a total of 444 days. Wolfe, Lorge and Laingen participated in the ceremonial laying of the wreath next to the Lone Sailor statue in honor of those fallen service members who gave their all in the service of the United States.

A military parade took place along Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, where 33 service members of NAVELSG marched and drove several pieces of command equipment in line with members of the Air Force, Army and Coast Guard.

NAVELSG consists of a full-time and selective reserve support staff, five Navy Expeditionary Logistics Regiments (NELRs) with 11 Navy Cargo Handling Battalions (NCHBs) and a Training and Evaluation Unit (TEU). NAVELSG is located in Williamsburg, at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown – Cheatham Annex.

Service members remembered at NMCP Cemetery

STORY AND PHOTO BY

REBECCA A. PERRON

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
Public Affairs

PORTSMOUTH — Naval Medical Center Portsmouth held its 24th annual Memorial Day observance, May 31, in the historic Captain Theodore H. Conaway Memorial Naval Cemetery, where more than 850 Soldiers, Sailors and Marines are interred.

A light breeze fluttered the flags that Boy Scouts had placed at each grave site, identifying the home nation of the person laid to rest.

The ceremony was conducted and co-sponsored by the Tidewater Area Council of the Fleet Reserve Association and Ladies Auxiliary.

Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks, NMCP commander, welcomed the guests to the ceremony and officially unveiled a new grave marker for a Medal of Honor (MOH) recipient. In late 2009, the Medal of Honor Society (MOHS) determined that Seaman Hendrick Sharp, who died in 1892, had



Ret. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Jeff Christman plays "Amazing Grace" in memory of Seaman Hendrick Sharp during the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth annual Memorial Day ceremony, May 31.

received the MOH for his participation in the Battle of Mobile Bay aboard USS Richmond in 1864. The MOHS commissioned a new grave marker that was installed recently to recognize Sharp for his actions.

Stocks read from Sharp's MOH certificate, saying that he "fought his gun with skill and courage throughout a furious two-hour battle, which resulted in the surrender

of the rebel ram Tennessee and in the damaging and destruction of the batteries at Fort Morgan." Not much else is known about Sharp other than being born in Spain in 1815, claiming New York as his home and dying in 1892.

In addition to the four known MOH recipients, the MOHS believes that as many as 13 others buried in the cemetery received the award and

the society is searching Naval records to confirm.

The ceremony's featured speaker was Capt. Sean Mahoney, Incident Management branch chief for the Coast Guard's 5th District. Mahoney recognized the sacrifice of service members across the generations who paid the ultimate price and told the stories of three Coast Guard members killed in action during three different wars.

"When I speak about these three heroes," said Mahoney. "I hope you will reflect on all of the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen from all of the services who didn't make it home."

Mahoney told about the heroic actions of Petty Officer Douglas Munro, who served as a landing craft operator on Guadalcanal during World War II, helicopter pilot Lt. Jack Rittichier, who flew rescue missions in Vietnam and Petty Officer Nathan Bruckenthal, who served with one of the Coast Guard's Tactical Law Enforcement Teams in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As he concluded his remarks,

Mahoney said, "The nature of the threats to liberty and our nation have changed throughout our history, but our service members across the generations have always risen to the challenge of defending our nation."

At the end of the ceremony, William and Carolyn Combs of the Fleet Reserve Association and the Ladies Auxiliary placed a wreath on the cairn surmounted by a stone pillar and urn honoring the men lost during the Hampton Roads' battle between USS Cumberland, USS Congress and the ironclad CSS Virginia's maiden voyage.

The cemetery is the final resting place of those who served bravely during our nation's major conflicts and wars, including more than 850 fallen Soldiers, Sailors and Marines from seven countries, as well as Union and Confederate service members. Also laid to rest are victims of the yellow fever epidemic that swept Hampton Roads in 1855.

For more news from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, visit www.navy.mil/local/NMCP/.

Sailors, Marines celebrate Memorial Day with parade

BY MC1 W. B. SWOBODA

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element, East

NEW YORK — Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen supporting Fleet Week New York 2010 gathered in the Greenpoint section of Brooklyn to participate in a Memorial Day Veterans Parade hosted by the American Legion St. Stanislaus Post 1771, May 30.

More than 50 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen marched in the parade.

"It's an overwhelming feeling of patriotism as a Navy veteran," said

Jim Feith, co-founder of the Greenpoint Memorial Day Veterans Parade. "For us older veterans, who are now 40-50 years removed from our time of service, it has never left us."

The parade was held in honor of the men and women who have made countless sacrifices in defense of our nation.

"It is a great honor," said Pat Sparano, a World War II Army veteran and the parade's Grand Marshal. "I thank everybody that arranged this for me, it's an honor to have been chosen as today's Grand Marshal."

Veterans, young and old, of all ranks and services participated in the parade.

Some marched and others walked the parade route which ended at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

The parade date fell during Fleet Week. Fleet Week has become a Memorial Day tradition and New York's way of saying "thank you" to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Approximately 3,000 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen participated in the 23rd commemoration of Fleet Week, which continued through June 2.

"I love Fleet Week, I wish I could stay another week," said Intelligence Specialist Seaman Ronald Nepecna of Santa Jose, Calif. "It was a great honor being here, especially being stationed on the USS New York."

Fleet Week has been the city's way of celebrating sea services, nearly every year, since 1984. It provides an opportunity for the citizens of New York City and the surrounding tri-state area to meet Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, as well as see firsthand, the latest capabilities of today's maritime services.



U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Seth Johnson

Members of Coast Guard Sector New York's honor guard and more than 50 Sailors and Marines march in the 10th annual Greenpoint Memorial Day Parade, Brooklyn, N.Y. May 30, 2010.



Photo by MCSN Eric Lockwood

Marines motivate a civilian while he performs some pull-ups in Times Square for Fleet Week New York 2010.



Photo by MG3 Dominique Watts

Rhode Island Sound, a division of Navy Band Northeast out of Newport R.I., plays for the crowd gathered in Times Square during Fleet Week New York 2010.

Fleet Week New York ships out

BY MCSN RICHARD J. STEVENS
Navy Public Affairs Support Element East

NEW YORK — Fleet Week New York came to a close June 2 as ships departed from the Empire State.

The 23rd annual Fleet Week New York saw more than 76,000 visitors this year, with an estimated 47,000 visiting Manhattan's Pier 88.

This year's presence of seven Navy ships included multi-purpose amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) moored at Manhattan's Pier 88.

"I want to thank all of those who represent this fine city," said Capt. Jeffery C. Amick, Commanding Officer USS Iwo Jima. Amick cited an incredible visit for himself and the nearly 2,000 Sailors and Marines embarked aboard the USS Iwo Jima.

"It was a very eventful week," said Master of Arms Petty Officer 3rd Class Monica

R. Martinez, Navy Reserve Naval Security Force and Naval Medical Center San Diego. Martinez guarded the ship in port at the pier.

"This was my first time in New York and I met a lot of hospitable people," said Martinez. "I loved it and I had a great time. It was a good vacation from San Diego. I will come back to visit."

Some of the events this year included; the Parade of Ships entering the Hudson River, the kick-off Hard Rock Party, Iwo Jima Sunset Parade, Greenpoint Veteran's Parade, closing bell for the NASDAQ and NYSE Markets, Memorial Day Parades and a Ground Zero Memorial Run, to name a few. Television shows in which sea service members participated included: CBS Early Show, The View, NBC Today Show and ABC's Good Morning America.

Manhattan resident Matthew Sheller said the military presence in town is good

for the city.

"I think it's encouraging having the (Sailors and Marines) here in town," said Sheller. "I think sometimes New York needs a rejuvenation of American spirit."

"Fleet Week in New York City is a big deal, not just in New York City, but all around the country," said Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic. "This means that all the exposure that the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard gets country-wide this week is really significant."

"The city gets to see the Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who have been doing the job for this nation, this country, this city and around the world for the last 234 years," said Adm. John C. Harvey, Fleet



Forces Commander.

"I think I speak for everyone here when I say it is our fervent wish that all our men and women serving overseas return home safely and soon," said Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor of New York City.



Photo by MC3 Ash Severe

The Leatherneck Pipes and Drums practice before the Sunset Parade held on the flightdeck of the multi purpose amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7).



Photo by MCSN Eric Lockwood

Above: Vice Adm. Mel Williams, Jr., Commander, U.S. Second Fleet, speaks with Capt. Chris Bowers, a pilot, aboard the HMCS Athabaskan (DDH 282) during a tour of the ship for Fleet Week.



Photo by MCSN Eric Lockwood

Left: Sgt. Matthew Waller, from St. Louis, poses for a photo with a civilian in Times Square during Fleet Week.

Good Morning America cook-off Navy vs. Coast Guard

BY MC3 DOMINIQUE WATTS
USS Theodore Roosevelt Public Affairs

NEW YORK — The Navy's Culinary Specialist 1st Class Keith Ombo and Food Specialist 2nd Class Robert Runn of the Coast Guard, were welcomed to the set of Good Morning America in Times Square to participate in the show's Red, White and Blue Cook-off.

"This was the first time I had done anything like this," said Ombo. "It was a great experience."

Creating an original dish that adhered to the red, white and blue theme, proved to be challenging, but fun for each contestant.

"I took the theme literally," said Runn. "I cooked Dijon pork, which is the white when you cut it open; and accompanied it with a red fruit compote and topped it off with blueberry accents. I was able to use great fruit that's in season right now."

Each contestant had the opportunity to practice making their dish before hand and gauge the response by asking their shipmates to taste it.

"I put (my) recipe to the test against my crew yesterday and



Coast Guard Food Service Specialist 2nd Class Robert Runn wins the trophy at ABC's Good Morning America Red White and Blue Cook-off. Approximately 3,000 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsman participated in the 23rd Fleet Week New York, which took place May 26 - June 2.

got great reviews and I got great reviews here today, so I am happy with it."

The downtown throw-down was in celebration of Fleet Week New York 2010. Approximately 3,000 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen are participating in the 23rd Fleet

Week, which continued through June 2.

Though the competition was close, official taste tester Marine Staff Sgt. Derek Moore announced Runn the winner.

"This whole experience has been great," explained Runn. "Everyone has been so supportive."



Photos by MCSN Jennifer Castillo

Navy Culinary Specialist 1st Class Keith Ombo describes the meal he prepared on ABC's Good Morning America Red, White and Blue Cook-off to host Marysol Castro.

Naval Weapons Station Yorktown says goodbye to a leader

BY CHERYLE RIVAS
 Commander, Navy Region
 Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs

Members of Naval Weapons Station Yorktown and Navy Munitions Command (NMC) CONUS East Division said goodbye to their long-standing commanding officer, Captain Babette “Bette” Bolivar, and welcomed a new face to the region Captain Charles Marks III during a change of command ceremony at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown’s Cheatham Annex, June 4.

Guests, family members and service members gathered to witness the traditional ceremony rich in Naval history. Bolivar delivered opening remarks, welcomed the distinguished guests, friends and family and thanked those who helped to mentor and lead her in the right direction during her command of both installations. As Bolivar spoke, she noted that “historically we’ve had this change of command at Weapons Station proper ... of course those of you who know me well, will note that I’ve always been the guy who broke the trend.” She continued, “we need to be different and we need to do it better ... so thanks to team Yorktown, we shifted colors and are providing



Photos by Mark Piggott

Captain Babette “Bette” Bolivar is applauded by Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel, Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, at the change of command ceremony, June 4, onboard Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA) Yorktown-Cheatham Annex. Bolivar was relieved by Captain Charles Marks as Commanding Officer, WPNSTA Yorktown and Commanding Officer, Navy Munitions Command CONUS East Division.

you with a venue here in beautiful Cheatham Annex where you have the scenic backdrop of the beautiful York River.” Those who may not know Bolivar, found out quickly that her spunky personality, drive and determination is what has made her a successful Naval officer.

The guest speaker for the ceremony was Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel. During his remarks he

addressed Bolivar saying, “Bette, you have enthusiasm, a drive and tenacity that is absolutely infectious. You exude a positive energy that immediately impacts all who interact with you – inspiring them to achieve excellence and reach goals beyond their expectations.” Boensel added, “Almost three years ago, you assumed command of not only Navy Munitions Command CONUS East Division, but also Naval

Weapons Station Yorktown. Each of these assignments could (and should) be considered a full-time job by themselves, but through your exceptional leadership and task management, you have excelled at both ... simultaneously.”

Under her leadership and command, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown has received numerous awards including: both the FY07 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and Secretary of

the Navy (SECNAV) Environmental Restoration Installation Award, the 2008 SECNAV Energy (Gold Level) Award, the 2009 Hampton Roads Area Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) “Honor Roll” status award, the FY09 Bachelor Housing Director’s 5-Star Recognition Program Award, the 2009 Department of the Navy (DON) Energy & Water Management Gold Level of Achievement and the 2009 Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Award. She led her team to successfully execute the “phased” transition of 14 additional CNIC Installation Weapons Departments to NMC activities.

Following his remarks, Boensel presented Bolivar with the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from August 2007 to June 2010. Bolivar took the stage and offered her farewell comments. She thanked both team NMC and Yorktown for their support and guidance saying, “team Yorktown did all that stuff you talked about ... they taught me what to say, they taught me what to do ... they taught me when and how to say it and how to do it. They did it all and are truly deserving of this award – not

me.” She recognized members of her team, adding that “these are the ‘can-do’ professionals that continue to make it happen.”

Following the reading of their orders, Marks and Bolivar turned to each other as Marks stated, “I relieve you, Ma’am!” Bolivar replied “I stand relieved!” Marks commented on the positive energy of the command that he is assuming adding, “how incredibly grateful for the warm welcome I have received here, I plan to reciprocate the positive energy exhibited thus far with more in kind.” Marks’ recent assignment was with the United States Joint Forces Command as a deploying team lead for the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command and as both the Chief of Operations, Planning and Strategic Communications.

Prior to officially handing over command, Bolivar addressed her team one last time saying, “thank you for the true shipmates you have been and continue to be ... you’ve made my tour both rewarding and enjoyable – I couldn’t be more proud of what we have achieved together.”

Bolivar’s next assignment will be as Chief of Staff for Commander, Navy Installations Command.



Captain Charles Marks takes his first steps as Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA) Yorktown and Navy Munitions Command CONUS East Division at the conclusion of the change of command ceremony.



Captain Babette Bolivar is “piped ashore” at the conclusion of her change of command ceremony.

FAMILY GRAM: Educational and information resources, as well as support information for spouses subject of the latest "Family Gram," NAVADMIN 195/10

Continued from page A1

they will encounter.

FFSCs also offer clinical counseling and classes on a variety of topics, including anger management, stress management and couples communication.

"A spouse may have effectively dealt with anger, sadness or stress when they lived in a familiar town with family and friends they have known their whole life," said Turner. "But, leaving this personal support system may be stressful and require adjustment. FFSCs offer life skills classes and services that show how to adjust and even thrive in these situations."

Short-term clinical counseling helps Sailors and families obtain the tools necessary to cope with the challenges of daily living. The courses and the counseling are free. People are welcome to come in any-

time, without an appointment or a referral from the command.

For children and youth ages four weeks to 18 years, the Navy's Child and Youth Programs provide high quality educational and recreational programs. Teams of caring, knowledgeable professionals provide developmentally appropriate programs that respond to the unique needs, abilities and interests of children.

"Military children face more than the usual challenges of growing up, such as moving every few years and establishing new friendships, while worrying about family members who have been deployed," said Chuck Clymer, of the Navy's Child and Youth Programs. "We provide children and families with trusted programs and services that assist in coping with these challenges, making the difference between stress and success."

Child development homes offer quality care in a loving, learning home environment for children ages 4 weeks to 12 years old. The flexible hours, 24/7 care, low child-to-adult ratios and convenient locations make this a viable option for families whose "normal" workday is anything but normal.

School-age care programs provide quality before and after-school programs and camps for children ages six to 12 years old in 86 centers worldwide.

Youth and teen programs offer developmental and recreational programs that provide a safe place to learn and grow.

The Navy's Family Ombudsmen are Navy spouses who volunteer to serve as a vital two-way communication link between the command and Navy families. They offer support and guidance to families in their role as the official liaison between

the command and its families.

When families respond to the challenges of deployments, natural disasters or family emergencies, ombudsmen are there to provide guidance and to help them regain a sense of normalcy. Ombudsmen help families find the answers to their questions, promoting their resiliency and self reliance. Ombudsmen serve families of Active duty and reservists, whether they deploy as a unit or as an Individual Augmentee; whether they live right on a base or hundreds of miles from any base.

"They serve with a genuine desire to help," said Kathy Rock, manager of the Navy Family Ombudsman Program. "These are extraordinary times for spouses. Whether it is for surge or Individual Augmentee deployments, or even natural disasters, ombudsmen keep the information moving."

SYMPOSIUM: 23rd annual Sea Service Leadership Association Women's Leadership Symposium

Continued from page A1

40.

All the recipients for the Marine Corps recently returned from Afghanistan and among their other accomplishments, were recognized for their groundbreaking involvement in the Female Engagement Teams. Lt. Col. Julie Nethercot, commanding officer, 9th Communication Battalion, who created the FET training program, received the Senior Officer award. Capt. Claire Henry, Naval Academy graduate, was the FET Company Commander, and received the Junior Officer award. MSgt. Julia Watson, recipient of the Senior Enlisted award, was instrumental in the process that led to the current program and was the SNOIC of the

Afghan team. Their recent deployment to Afghanistan crushed the so-called glass ceiling for women in combat environments, allowing them to be an enabler to the over-all mission.

"We are not called female engagement teams because we are female," said Watson. "We are a team of females who engage people."

Coastguardsmen received leadership awards as well. Yeoman first class Stephanie Winslow of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Tahoma was honored with the MCPO Faurie Leadership Award. Lt. Cmdr. Elizabeth Booker was presented the Capt. Stratton Leadership Award, for her service as the Senior Aviation Assignment Officer at the Coast Guard Personnel

Service Center.

Established in 1987, the Capt. Joy Bright Hancock awards annually recognize the visionary leadership of Navy and Marine Corps officer and enlisted leaders who have shown inspirational, innovative and imaginative leadership demonstrated by example, on and off duty. The Capt. Dorothy Stratton and MCPO Pearl Faurie Leadership awards recognize outstanding female Coast Guard leaders.

Established in 1978, SSLA is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing professional development to women of the three maritime armed forces - United States Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, through networking, education and mentorship.



Photo by MC1 Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead participates in a wreath laying ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial commemorating the 68th anniversary of the Battle of Midway.

MIDWAY: CNO honors the 68th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway

Continued from page A1

ors who fought in the Battle of Midway as a standard to maintain in being a "Global Force For Good."

Roughead encouraged present day Sailors to look to the example of the Sail-

ors who fought in the Battle of Midway as a standard to maintain in being a "Global Force For Good."

"It is our task, now, to write the new glorious pages in our Navy's history and we do so with the

extraordinary example of the great men and women who came before us," said Roughead.

To read more about the Battle of Midway commemoration ceremonies, see A4 and A5.

ROOSEVELT DONATES HELM
GREAT LAKES GETS A PIECE OF NAVAL HISTORY

Theodore Roosevelt broke ground on what is now Naval Recruit Training Center Great Lakes, so it is only fitting that the helm from the ship named after him be displayed there. **B6**

FRONT & CENTER

SECTION B

FLAGSHIPNEWS.COM

June 10, 2010

JEB Little Creek helps keep the bay clean

PRESS RELEASE

Joint Amphibious Base Little Creek-Fort Story
Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH — More than 270 service members and civilians from 11 commands helped the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's "Clean the Bay Day" along 7.7 miles of beaches at JEB Little Creek-Fort Story, June 4 and 5.

The volunteers collected more than 10,000 pounds of trash, the most common of which was cigarette butts. The volunteers also picked up thousands of pieces of plastic, hundreds of pieces of paper and Styrofoam, 75 pieces of furniture, two tires, a full case of beer, a military snake bite kit and a car fender.

"I volunteered to encourage the junior Sailors to join me and let them know it is good to give back and keep our beaches clean," said Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class (SW/AW) Gregory Drerup from USS Oak Hill (LSD 51).

The Navy has been part of Clean the Bay Day since the Chesapeake Bay Foundation started the event in 1989, according to event coordinator Sharon Smith.

"Over the years, over 30,000 Sailors and Marines have given their time to make Hampton Roads shorelines and waterways cleaner and safer," said Smith. "The community is ever grateful for the contributions and sacrifices these men and women make both at home and abroad."



Military volunteers participate in Clean the Bay Day at JEB Little Creek-Fort Story.

Photo by Robin Hicks

Yellow Ribbon Program helps military service members get college of choice

BY MC3 SAMANTHA ROBINETT

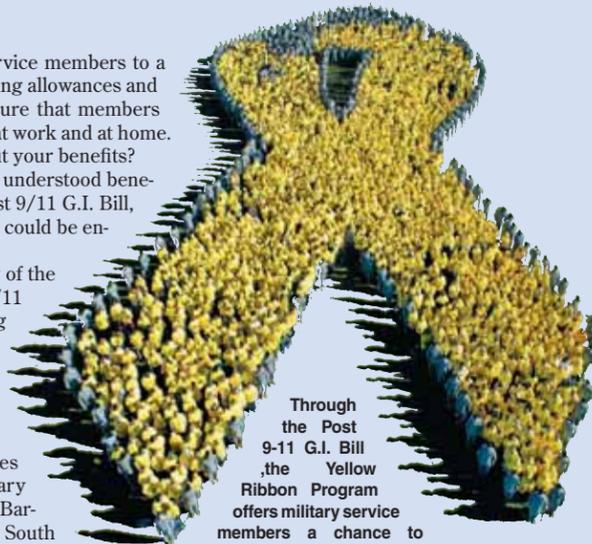
The Flagship staff writer

Military service entitles qualified service members to a lot of benefits – free medical care, housing allowances and many other programs designed to ensure that members are able to successfully lead their lives at work and at home. But how much do you really know about your benefits?

One of the most well-known and least understood benefit service members receive is their Post 9/11 G.I. Bill, so are you really up-to-date on what you could be entitled to?

What you may not know is that many of the people who are eligible for the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill are also eligible for something called the Yellow Ribbon Program – not to be confused with the Yellow Ribbon fund that many support to raise money for disabled service members and veterans.

"What the Yellow Ribbon Program does is makes it more affordable for military students to attend college," said Lamar Barton, the Senior Financial Aid Officer at South University-Virginia Beach (SU). "It takes the



Through the Post 9-11 G.I. Bill, the Yellow Ribbon Program offers military service members a chance to attend a private college free or at little cost to them.

See COLLEGE, B9

NCTAMS LANT looking for a few good volunteers

BY NCC ANTHONY S. DARBY

NCTAMS LANT Career Counselor

The Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic (NCTAMS LANT) located in Norfolk VA is looking for motivated individuals to assist with its 2010 Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) Program. This will be the tenth consecutive year NCTAMS LANT has participated in this highly-successful project.

The Navy's DEFY program targets 9 to 12 year-old children, providing valuable tools to deter "at risk" behavior. The program teaches drug and alcohol awareness and prevention, leadership and teamwork skills, conflict resolution, decision-making and goal setting. DEFY builds self-confidence and self-esteem and deglamorizes "gang mentality." Program funding is provided by the Navy's Drug Demand Reduction Task Force.

DEFY is offered at no charge to dependents of military members and civilian Department of Defense employees and is designed to produce graduates with

character, leadership and confidence to engage in positive, healthy lifestyles as drug-free citizens.

The program consists of two parts:

- Phase I is a two-week summer leadership camp scheduled from July 19 - 30, which includes classroom training and discussions on drug awareness, leadership, conflict resolution, and physical fitness education and various field trips.

- Phase II begins in September (dates to be announced). Mentors meet with the DEFY class one Saturday each month. This Phase supports and reinforces the training received during the leadership camp.

Both phases of the program combine education on health, physical fitness, citizenship and life skills and provide children the skills they need to grow-up smart and strong in a world that can present them with confusing choices.

This year's Camp Director is NCC Anthony Darby, a veteran DEFY volunteer. He states: "Adult volunteers are

See DEFY, B9

SEALs attend Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet

BY MC2 JOSEPH M. CLARK

Naval Special Warfare Group 2 Public Affairs

CARY, N.C. — The East Coast-based Navy Sea, Air, Land (SEAL) and Special Warfare Combatant Craft Crewman (SWCC) Scout Team, including three active duty SEAL operators, attended the 8th Annual National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet, May 28 - 30, in Cary, N.C.

The SEALs spoke with swimmers and coaches from all age groups about opportunities available in Naval Special Warfare Community and challenged the swimmers to a SEAL Fitness Challenge as part of their community outreach initiative.

"Our goal is to plant the seed with the younger athletes and build awareness of the career opportunities available within Naval Special Warfare," said retired SEAL Capt. Dave Morrison, an aquatics instructor and SEAL motivator based out of JEB Little Creek. "This is a community outreach program through which we aim to both grow and diversify our force."

The day before the meet kicked off,

event organizers recognized retired SEAL Master Chief William Goines, the first African-American SEAL, as a pioneer of swimming during the community breakfast.

"I had always wanted to be a SEAL," said Goines, who graduated from Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) training in 1956. "It was and continues to be hard work along with sheer determination that sets SEALs apart."

During a coaches dinner for the event, SEAL Capt. Phillip Howe delivered a few words on the important role coaches play in the lives of youth.

"Life presents challenges at every corner," said Howe. "Coaches, whether in athletics or professional life, are the ones who push us to overcome adversity and achieve our goals."

As the swimmers took to the pool, the scout team maintained a vigilant posture at the pull-up bars, aiming to find swimmers up to the challenge.

An East Coast-based SEAL Master force."

See COMMUNITY, B9



Photo by Neil Wall

More than 200 volunteers gave Naval Medical Center Portsmouth a beautiful shoreline by picking up trash that had washed onto it during the Clean the Base Day.

NMCP holds 'Clean the Base Day'

BY DEBORAH KALLGREN

NMCP Public Affairs Officer

PORTSMOUTH —

More than 200 volunteers endured the heat and humidity, June 4, as they scoured the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth shoreline for "Clean the Base" Day. As an annual adjunct to the "Clean the Bay" Day, the medical cen-

ter staff removed trash that had washed onto the base's beach and rocks.

Volunteers met behind the pool where they donned gloves and grabbed garbage bags. NMCP Commander Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks and Deputy Commander Capt. Matthew Pommer

See NMCP, B9

SPOUSE SPEAK!

'Juicy' houses

BY JACEY ECKHART
CinC^oHouse.com

Terri Barnes, who writes "Spouse Calls" for Stars and Stripes overseas (<http://blogs.strips.com/blogs/spouse-calls>), asked me recently which issues in military life were being ignored in favor of stories about deployment. Terri and I talked about politically relevant stuff like geographic bachelors. The effect of PCS moves on kids. Spouse employment. We were so erudite, I had to go lie down.

But this morning, I'm sitting by my pink peonies, sipping coffee from a blue and white china cup and waiting for the mulch guy. I'm wondering why Terri and I hadn't tackled one of the most significant questions for military families – is your house juicy enough?

Yeah, that's what I'm calling a relevant issue – juicy houses. Talking about houses and military – unless you are talking tragic foreclosures or privatized housing scandals – makes it sound like I'm some kind of dysfunctional hausfrau. Sounds like I'm insisting that we military spouses really must watch less "Dancing with the Stars" and more "Renovation Nation."

I don't mean that at all.

What I mean is that my husband deploys (that word again!) in the fall. What I mean is that I'm in my backyard counting exactly how many days I have before he starts the pipeline again. What I mean is that instead of my home being made home the moment he walks through the door at night, it will be just me and the boys again. These four walls. These maple trees. These peonies dying back into the ground. I know I'm go-

ing to need a really juicy house to get me through all that.

Which sounds so Splenda®, I know. But it is true. Military folks need juicy houses to prop up their lives. Or that's what Maxwell Gillingham-Ryan told me. He is the founder of and author of "Apartment Therapy." The guy is really into design (check his website www.ApartmentTherapy.com), but that isn't what interested me about him. In the whole shelter mag world, Gillingham-Ryan seemed like one of the few who understood that the purpose of a house wasn't to impress people. How the house looked was important, but how the house WORKED was key. "My clients find that the more they create healthy home rhythm, the more that supports their life."

Military life can always use a little more support. So I asked Gillingham-Ryan what he meant by "healthy home rhythm." Marimbas? Bongos? Pickle buckets?

Not quite. Instead he was talking about rhythms that cost no money, like nightly family dinners. Enforced bedtimes. Quiet. Organization. Cleanliness. Completed repairs. Rooms set up around the activities you want to accomplish there. Gillingham-Ryan called this a "juicy" home – one that is being used a lot.

So often our military life means that we live in a place like birds, as if we have alighted there – as if home was a swaying branch, a fluttering twig. We live as if we could shake a home off and build another elsewhere. And when our service member is deployed, so often we avoid home, flitting away from empty rooms and empty chairs.

That may feel natural, but



it isn't juicy. It doesn't fill us up. It isn't the life we military families deserve. I know that for Brad and I, this Summer we need to pump up the juice of our family. This is the time we will indulge in the healthy rhythms of home. We will spend the weekend spreading all that mulch, I know. Brad is sure to do T-bones on the grill. I'll cut

peonies for the table and we will sit on the deck talking long into the evening.

"Your home is your second skin," says Gillingham-Ryan. "It's a place we can have small victories." I know that. And so do you. Because those memories of small victories are the very things that keep our lives so sweet, even from far, far away.

Jacey Eckhart is a military/life consultant based in Washington DC. She is the author of *The Homefront Club: The Hardheaded Woman's Guide to Raising a Military Family* and the voice behind "These Boots." Check out more columns and her speaking schedule at www.jaceyeckhart.com. Write her at Jacey at jaceyeckhart.com



NORFOLK — The grand opening of Norfolk Botanical Garden's summer exhibit, "The Enchanted Storybook Forest" begins at noon on June 20. A ribbon-cutting ceremony opens the exhibit; a magical journey that includes: Custom-built interactive Storybook Playhouses, hopping on the Tree Trek Trail and the Gnome Homes neighborhood, where kid's build and play with natural materials. There is no better way to spend Father's Day than to dress up as your favorite storybook character, bring your Dad and Mom and have some good old fashioned fun.

Grand Opening Activities • June 20 • noon to 5 p.m.

- Explore The Enchanted Storybook Forest
- Meet Alice in Wonderland, Tom Sawyer, Huck Finn and their friends!
- Story times every half hour in the Acom Academy
- Abtrakadoodle@Art Station
- Treeology along the Great Tree Journey
- Color a Gnome Friend
- Take your photo with a Gnome
- Storybook Stage Line-up:
 - Noon – Playhouse Builder Awards and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
 - 1 p.m. – Alice in Wonderland performance by Ballet Virginia International
 - 1:30 p.m. – Hurrah Players perform a scene from 'Tom Sawyer'
 - 2 p.m. – Ballet Virginia performs a Contemporary Dance
 - 2:30 p.m. – A Costume Parade with all kids in storybook character or gnome costumes
 - 3 p.m. – 'Tom Sawyer' performance by Hurrah Players
 - 3:30 p.m. – Read-A-Long – participate in the story telling

THANK YOU ...

on so many levels



BY BIANCA MARTINEZ

Reach out to NewsChannel 3's Bianca Martinez at bianca.martinez@wtkr.com. Be sure to check out "Do My Military Job" every Wednesday at 11 p.m. on NewsChannel 3!

Lately I have likely been depressing you with deployment prep articles. I wanted to have a little fun this week and just

take a second to say thank you. Spouses, those in uniform – you made my career this weekend. I am not even kidding in the least bit.

Every year, broadcast journalists from the Chesapeake Region gather for the Capital Emmys. Yes, Emmys like you are thinking. The big gold statues and a bunch of speeches saying, "I would like to thank the Academy." It is probably where we feel like we can receive the biggest honors. We submit our pieces for nomination and find out who wins. We were all fancied up and having a great time ... and even greater time if you find out you won!

We submitted my "Do My Military Jobs" pieces this year. We suck you in

with the commercials for it and this year, those promotions won! The amazing photojournalist, Wayne Pellenberg, a genius creative services director, William Varnier and I all walked away with a beautiful gold Emmy!

So, after doing the regular round of thank you's, I wanted to let you know – I thanked you. Thank you to the men and women in uniform and the families that support them. Without you all, these stories could not be told. Not just because of the obvious fact that you do the jobs I feature. There are countries where the media is nothing but the mouth of the government. They are told what stories they will do and that is it. There are places where journalists can lose their life because they told a story that HAD to be told. I don't have that fear.

I am lucky enough to come up with an idea and get it done. I am lucky enough to have people like you ensuring my freedoms ... as an American and as a journalist.

MARRIED

to the Military



It's time for you to brag

Every night on NewsChannel 3 we salute those who serve. We respect the honor and the commitment it takes to stand up for this country. There are times when I want to climb a tree and yell out about what an amazing individual my husband is and I know you want to do the same for your loved one. We are proud, proud, proud!

So, we make it easy for you. Send an E-mail with a picture to thosewhoserve@wtkr.com and tell us about your loved ones name, rank and a little bit about his or her service. They don't have to be active duty. We want to feature anyone who has had the courage to put on the uniform at some point!

We will feature them on our newscasts! Send in that info and we will shout it from the rooftop for ya!



You can catch Bianca Martinez anchoring the 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts with Kurt Williams during the work week. You can also follow her laughter, stress and tears as a military wife in her blog, "Married to the Military," weekly in the Flagship.

Local service times

lds programs

JEB Little Creek Chapel Worship Schedule:
Noon — Sun. Worship (Chapel Annex Classroom 4)
8 p.m. — Wed. Bible Study
(Chapel Annex Classroom 4)

NAVAL STATION NORFOLK

ROMAN CATHOLIC	PROTESTANT
<i>Our Lady of Victory Chapel</i>	<i>David Adams Memorial Chapel</i>
<i>Mass Schedule:</i>	<i>Chapel Worship Services:</i>
5 p.m. — Sat.	10:30 a.m. — Sun.
<i>(fulfills Sunday obligation)</i>	<i>Worship</i>
10 a.m. — Sun.	<i>Wednesday Services:</i>
11:45 a.m. — Mon. - Fri.	8:30 - 10:15 a.m. — Bible
<i>(except holidays)</i>	<i>Study Noon "Lunch with the Lord"</i>
<i>Confessions:</i>	
4:15 p.m. Sat.	

For more information call
Naval Station Norfolk Chapel 444-7361

JEWISH PROGRAMS

Commodore Uraih P. Levy Chapel: Jewish services are at Norfolk chapel in Building C7 on the Second Floor every Friday at 7:30 p.m. Building C7 is located at 1630 Morris St. on Naval Base Norfolk. For more information call 444-7361 or 7363.

MUSLIM PROGRAMS

Masjid al Da'wah
2nd Floor (Bldg. C-7): Muslim services are at Norfolk chapel every Friday at 1:30 p.m.

JEB LITTLE CREEK CHAPEL

ROMAN CATHOLIC	<i>Confessions:</i>
<i>Mass Schedule:</i>	3:30 - 4:30 p.m. — Sat.
5 p.m. — Sat.	PROTESTANT
<i>(fulfills Sunday obligation)</i>	9 a.m. — Sun. School
9 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. — Sun.	(4 years-Adult)
11:30 a.m. — Tues. - Fri.	10:30 a.m. — Sun.
<i>(except holidays)</i>	Divine Worship,
	Children's Church
	(Ages 4-10)

PWOC: Bible Study at the Chapel Annex Every Wed.
Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study: 10 a.m. - noon
PWOC: Evening Bible Study Every Mon.: 7 p.m.

Latter Day Saints Coffeehouse
11:30 a.m. — Sun. 6 p.m. — Sun.

For more information call JEB
Little Creek Chapel 462-7427

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Problems may bring hidden opportunities

BY LT. J.G. JOHN D. ROZENDAAL
Provost Marshal's Office Chaplain,
Quantico, Va.

"In 2700 B.C., Emperor Whing Tee asked his wife, Ce Ling Shee, to try to find out what was damaging his mulberry trees. The empress first noticed that a drab colored moth was laying tiny eggs on a mulberry leaf, each hatching into a caterpillar that ejected a thread for three days which it wrapped around its body until it formed a cocoon. She dropped the cocoon into hot water and saw a single thread begin unwinding itself. She had discovered silk. The empress observed the fineness and beauty of the silk thread. She unbound it completely and found it to be a half mile long from that single cocoon. And she thought that these fine threads might be made into cloth.

"Soon a loom was developed on which they could be woven. That silk cloth that was woven on their loom was in such demand that later Romans are said to have weighed the silk before buying it and then paid an equal weight of gold for it.

"For more than 3,000 years, only the Chinese knew the secret of silk. Then in 522 A.D., Roman Emperor Justinian sent two monks to buy silk from China. The monks brought back more than silk. They personally broke the Chinese monopoly on silk by smuggling back into Europe two silkworm eggs and Mulberry tree seeds in their hollow monks' staff. They were apparently the first industrial pirates. From these two silkworm eggs, the Roman Empire acquired enough silkworms to make it partially independent from China.

"Like so many serendipitous events, the discovery of silk came while trying to solve a

problem. Before long the business of growing mulberry trees was for the sole purpose of providing moths with leaves on which to lay their eggs so that the production of silk could be increased ..."

— *Nelson's Complete Book of Stories, Illustrations, & Quotes.*

But what if the empress had simply viewed the silkworms as a problem that needed a solution? What if she had not investigated more carefully, but had instead concluded that no good could ever come from the tiny creature? She would have missed the incredible opportunity that was misunderstood to be a problem. Likewise, when the Lord allows his children to face what we may consider to be problems of various kinds, his intention is not to bring us pain and suffering, but to bring us opportunity.

Consider the biblical account of Joseph, who was mistreated and sold into slavery by his brothers, eventually to be imprisoned in Egypt (Genesis 37-50). Joseph could have certainly become consumed with bitterness and sorrow. Quite easily he could have doubted and questioned the Lord because of his circumstances. Joseph could have turned his

back on God altogether.

Instead, Joseph never stopped trusting and hoping in the Lord, but rather accepted God's will for his life whatever it may be. Because of his faith, the Lord raised Joseph up giving him authority over all the land of Egypt in order to save countless lives from a future famine, thus bringing glory to the God of Joseph. Once again, what was initially thought to be a problem was really an opportunity.

The lesson we learn from this is the same lesson Joseph learned and explained to the very brothers who sold him into slavery years earlier. From (Genesis 50:19-20), "But Joseph said to them, 'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.'" So the question is: Will you seek God's will for your life? Will you allow him to decide your path and guide you along the way? Will you trust him even when times get tough, whether it be a time of personal illness, the death of a loved one, broken relationships, financial hardship, or persecution? Will you look at what might be considered a problem for an opportunity, an opportunity to grow in faith, to help others and to glorify God?



The problem of a small moth led to a remarkable discovery ... Silk.

Joint Task Force checks out Nassau ARG's capabilities



Photo by MC2 Coleman Thompson

Two Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit give a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program demonstration to visiting officers from Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa in the hangar bay of USS Nassau (LHA 4). Nassau is the command platform for the Nassau Amphibious Ready Group and 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, currently supporting Maritime Security Operations (MSO) and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) Operations in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.

BY MC2 COLEMAN THOMPSON
USS Nassau Public Affairs Office

USS NASSAU — Military officers from Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa (JTF-HOA) visited the amphibious assault ship USS Nassau (LHA 4) to witness the combined capabilities of the Nassau Amphibious Ready Group/24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (NAS ARG/24 MEU) team.

The visit included senior officers from several coalition nations including Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Kenya, Mauritius, Romania, South Korea, Uganda, the United Kingdom and Kenya.

During the visit, the nations were able to strengthen their relationships and share lessons that they have learned while operating in the area. The group spent several hours touring the ship and visiting with senior leadership aboard the Nassau.

The visit served as a great opportunity for both the Nassau and the members of JTF-HOA to discuss the unique capabilities of their militaries and to showcase what Nassau and its embarked Marines are capable of offering to the Horn of Africa region.

“It’s only by coming on visits like this and personally seeing the raw power that

the U.S. military can bring to bear that we can understand what can be brought to the table,” said Col. Peter Davies, representing the United Kingdom.

Commanding Officer of the 24th MEU, Col. Peter Petronzio voiced his enthusiasm for visits where the U.S. is able to share their capabilities and lessons learned with partner nations.

“Tours like this really excite me, because it gives my guys a chance to demonstrate what we can do for the area,” said Petronzio.

The Nassau Amphibious Ready Group (NAS ARG)/ 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) is currently supporting Maritime Security Operations (MSO) and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) Operations in the 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

NAS ARG is comprised of ships from Amphibious Squadron Eight (PHIBRON 8) including the Tarawa-class multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Nassau (LHA 4), the San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock USS Mesa Verde (LPD 19) and the Whidbey Island-class amphibious dock landing ship USS Ashland (LSD 48). Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (24 MEU) complete the group.



Commanding Officer 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit Col. Peter Petronzio speaks with military officers from Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa during a tour of USS Nassau (LHA 4).

Mesa Verde Sailors respond to oil terminal fire drill

BY MC1 STEVE SMITH
*Amphibious Squadron Eight
(CPR-8) Public Affairs Office*

USS MESA VERDE — Sailors from the amphibious transport dock USS Mesa Verde (LPD 19) responded to a fire drill on the Al Basra Oil Terminal (ABOT) in the Arabian Gulf, March 23.

The oil terminal belongs to the Southern Oil Company of Iraq and is a main source of income for the country. It delivers millions of gallons of crude oil to tanker ships everyday.

Mesa Verde's rescue and assistance (R&A) team assisted in a firefighting drill aboard the platform. The team has the training and equipment needed to not only fight fires aboard ship, but also aboard other vessels at sea. They can also respond to various disasters and emergencies. The R&A teams train for scenarios at locations such as the massive oil platforms in the Arabian Gulf.

"For the drill, we received a call from ABOT telling us there was a large Class Bravo fire which required our R&A team. We responded by sending over an eight-man team to combat the fire and evacuate injured personnel," said On-Scene Leader, Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Mitchell Pratt.

USS Mesa Verde maintains equipment specifically designed for taking aboard other ships. The team and equipment can be sent out via rigid-hull inflatable boat (RHIB) or with a landing craft air cushion (LCAC).

"The equipment we have out here is limited compared to what we have on ship. Everything we need on ABOT we have to bring with us. The guys out here on the platform let us know what's going on and what they need. We work together to get the job done," said firefighter, Electronics Technician 3rd Class Karl Kraft.

Once the mock fire was under control, the firefighters moved four personnel with simulated injuries out to a staging area where Mesa Verde Sailors were standing by to render medical assistance.

Stretcher-bearer, Yeoman 3rd Class William Viney said, "The difference between working out here and on the ship is the new environment. We know exactly where everything is and what to expect on the ship. Here, we have to take each situation as it comes."

The experience is good for all members of the team, because it gives them all an opportunity to respond to an event away from the ship and help out other personnel, regardless of their nationality.

"It was a unique experience to come out here and do an oil platform R&A and it was also a learning experience for me and for the rest of the team," said Team Leader, Damage Controlman 2nd Class (SW) Howard Ward.

"While we are in the area, Mesa Verde is a vital addition to the firefighting protection system aboard the platform. This drill demonstrates just one more element of the Mesa Verde's capabilities. We are able to support multinational forces on an oil platform, which is vital to the Iraqi people," said Pratt.

The Nassau Amphibious Ready Group (NAS ARG)/24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) is currently supporting Maritime Security Operations (MSO) and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) Operations in the 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

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Photos by MC1 Steve Smith

Left: A Sailor assigned to the amphibious transport dock ship USS Mesa Verde (LPD 19) engages a mock fire on the Al Basra Oil Terminal (ABOT) in the Arabian Gulf. Mesa Verde Sailors practiced fire fighting techniques and provided medical assistance to several simulated casualties during the exercise.

Right: Sailors assigned to the amphibious transport dock ship USS Mesa Verde (LPD 19) cross an elevated platform on their way to a fire drill on the Al Basra Oil Terminal (ABOT) in the Arabian Gulf.



USS Roosevelt donates its helm to the Navy Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes

Recruits currently going through the Navy's only boot camp in Recruit Training Command Great Lakes view TR's helm console during a ceremony aboard RTC's Ship 5 (named after USS Theodore Roosevelt), May 10. The helm console was donated to RTC by TR Sailors so recruits could have a chance to see a real piece of Naval history.



Photos by NCC (AW/SW) Chad Krejcarek

BY MCSA AUSTIN M. ROONEY
USS Theodore Roosevelt
(CVN 71) Public Affairs

In 1905, then President Theodore Roosevelt struck a shovel into a bare piece of land in Great Lakes, which would eventually become Naval Station Great Lakes, the home of Recruit Training Command (RTC).

During a ceremony, May 10, a piece of the aircraft carrier named after the 26th president was presented to the base. The original helm console from USS Theodore Roosevelt (TR) (CVN 71), used aboard the ship since her commissioning in 1986, is now on display aboard RTC's Ship 5 (the recruit barracks named for USS Theodore Roosevelt) to give recruits a chance to see a real piece of

Navy history.

"It's a physical symbol of the hard work that our Sailors do out in the fleet," said Lt. Christopher Gabriel, Ship 5's officer in charge. "The time and effort put in by the (Sailors) who made this happen is remarkable."

At the dedication ceremony, attended by various TR Sailors and members of both RTC and Ship 5's chain of command, the helm was officially presented to RTC by members of TR's chain of command.

"It was a reminder to us here at Great Lakes of the importance of our mission," said Gabriel. "Having a piece of that ship and (its) service here, I think, is a call to duty and a challenge to our new Sailors as they begin their service in our Navy."

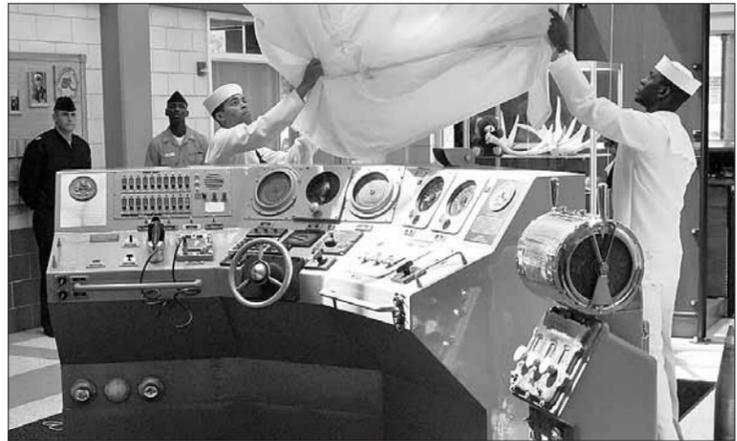
Many of Ship 5's Recruit Division Commanders (RDCs) said the helm console will have an impact on the thousands of recruits who pass through Ship 5 every year.

"When I first saw the helm, it made me want to terminate my orders here and go back to the fleet," said Senior Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Duane Spears, an RDC and leading chief petty officer aboard Ship 5. "Donating the helm to (Ship 5) gives our Sailors a sense of pride and helps them to understand why we are the most powerful Navy in the world."

Spears said he was glad that Sailors from TR took the time to attend the ceremony and meet the recruits, as well as get a chance to



RTC's Commanding Officer Capt. John W. Peterson shakes hands with TR's Command Master Chief (SW/AW) David Stitt to officially turn over TR's helm console to Boot Camp's Ship 5 during a ceremony, May 10.



Recruits currently going through the Navy's only boot camp in Recruit Training Command Great Lakes unveil TR's helm console during a ceremony aboard RTC's Ship 5 (named after USS Theodore Roosevelt), May 10.

see the changes made to RTC over the years.

"It's fantastic when we have fleet Sailors come to RTC Great Lakes and see the many changes that have transpired," said Spears. "This way they can be a part of those changes."

Like Spears, many RDCs said they felt a sense of pride for having served in the fleet while looking at the helm console, but one RDC said it had an even greater meaning to him.

Chief Mass Communication Specialist (AW/SW) Reginald Buggs, an RDC and leading chief petty officer for

unit, said he spent a total of 12 years on TR, including assignments to squadrons attached to the ship.

"I reenlisted on the bridge in front of this same helm in 1996," said Buggs. "Now I get the chance to finish my time in the Navy with my final reenlistment (in a few years taking place) in front of this helm."

Senior Chief Quartermaster (SW/AW) John Eskridge, TR's Navigation Department leading chief petty officer, headed up the effort to move the helm console from TR to the Light Industrial Facility (LIFAC), so Sailors could start

putting it back together. Eskridge said TR will receive a new touch-screen helm console during the Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH) the ship is currently undergoing at Northrop Grumman Newport News Shipbuilding.

"I got the helm console over to LIFAC, but I give full credit to the Sailors there who worked two weeks straight to really bring the captain's dream to life," said Eskridge. "Many Sailors and distinguished visitors have used it over the years. This way we can forever preserve the history of the first 25 years of TR."



Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Cory R. Clark, donates blood aboard the multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) for the New York Blood Center during Fleet Week New York 2010. Fleet Week has been New York City's celebration of the sea services since 1984.

Iwo Jima hosts Fleet Week Blood Drive

STORY AND PHOTO BY MCSN TRAVIS J. KUYKENDALL

USS Iwo Jima Public Affairs

NEW YORK — The New York Blood Center conducted its 6th Annual Fleet Week New York Blood Drive aboard USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7), May 28.

Sailors, Marines and the general public were given a unique opportunity to donate blood in the hangar bay while the ship was open for tours.

"To be able to donate blood on a Navy ship is a cool thing most people often wouldn't get the chance to do," said Alex Brown, assistant director of corporate public relations for New York Blood Center.

Each donor donated one pint of blood, which can now be used to save up to three lives. For most donors, it was the most rewarding 30-minute break in a chair they've ever taken.

"I like the cause and I want to help people, so for me this is a good way of doing just that," said Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class (AW) Cory R. Clark.

"This is my seventeenth time and I plan to keep donating until I'm no longer

able to do so."

This year, New York Blood Center partnered with the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society pledging to donate \$10 for every donor, giving back to the Sailors and Marines for their help.

New York Blood Center processes approximately 570,000 donors a year and produces over 1 million blood-and-blood products. For a blood center that serves more than 150 hospitals in the New York Metro-area, which includes Upstate, New York City, Long Island and New Jersey.

"We are constantly collecting, processing and distributing blood and there are certain times we may fall into shortage and need people to come in and donate more often," said Brown. "It's a constant need and sometimes it's a little more difficult, but we get by with the help of organizations such as the military."

Approximately 3,000 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen participated in the 23rd Fleet Week New York, May 26 - June 2. Fleet Week has been New York City's celebration of the sea

NNOA awards scholarships to local high school students

PRESS RELEASE

National Naval Officers Association

NORFOLK — Four area high school seniors were honored at the Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr. Scholarship Banquet with scholarships presented by the Tidewater Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) recently.

The recipients of the 2010 Vice Adm. Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr. Scholarship from NNOA are:

Chelsea Clark of Suffolk, a senior at Nansemond River High School. Ms. Clark plans on attending Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, majoring in Liberal Arts with an emphasis on Law. Her parents are Anthony and Lisa Clark of Suffolk.

Byron Hayes, of Portsmouth, a senior at I.C. Norcom High School. Mr. Hayes plans to attend Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., majoring in Biochemistry. His parents are William and Jennifer Hayes of Portsmouth.

Doris Woodhouse, of Norfolk., a senior at Bayside High School. Ms. Woodhouse plans to attend the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, majoring in Psychology.

Her parents are Eric and Cheryl Woodhouse of Norfolk.

Britany Thompson, of Suffolk, a senior at Nansemond River High School. Ms. Thompson plans to attend Duke University as a member of the Navy ROTC in Durham, N.C. majoring in Chemistry. Her parents are Tony and Cynthia Thompson, of Suffolk.

The guest of honor and speaker at the banquet was Rear Adm. Arthur Johnson, Commander, Naval Safety Center in Norfolk, who spoke on the topic, "The ABC's of Making Your Educational Dreams a Reality." Johnson, a 31-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, is a 1979 graduate of the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor's of Science degree in International Security Affairs. His recent assignments include

Commander, United States Naval Forces Marianas and U.S. Pacific Command Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Reconnaissance Forces 5th Fleet, Patrol and Reconnaissance Forces 7th Fleet and Fleet Air Western Pacific. Rear Admiral Johnson assumed his current role in 2007 as the head of the Naval Safety Center and is responsible for safety policy advice for the

Department of the Navy.

The Tidewater Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association, headquartered in Norfolk, has over 90 members comprised of active duty and retired U.S. Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps officers. Volunteerism allows NNOA Tidewater Chapter to award over \$5,000 in scholarships each year to deserving high school seniors in the Hampton Roads area. They have continued to stretch its influence in the community by actively engaging youth at their partner school, Campostella Elementary School in Norfolk, working with veterans and donating time and resources to provide food for low-income families throughout the year.

The scholarships are awarded in honor of Vice Adm. Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr., who was the first African American to command a U.S. Navy warship, to be promoted to flag officer rank and to command a naval fleet. Gravelly's military career spanned 38 years and he retired from active duty in 1980. He passed away in Bethesda, MD, on Oct. 22, 2004.

For more information about the National Naval Officers Association, visit www.nnoa.org.

COLLEGE: Making the grade with the Yellow Ribbon Program

Continued from page B1

highest in state tuition and allows students to come in past the amount that is covered by the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill with no cost to them."

The G.I. Bill covers the cost of your schooling up to the highest in-state tuition. But, what if you are attending in an "out of state" status or if you are attending a private or graduate school? Your tuition will most likely exceed the amount that the G.I. Bill has agreed to pay for your school. That is where the Yellow Ribbon Program comes in.

The Yellow Ribbon Program, funded by Department of Veteran Affairs, agrees to match any tuition contribution from the school the service member is attending to help cover tuition that isn't paid for by the G.I. Bill.

"So let's say you have \$400 extra of tuition that isn't covered by the G.I. Bill," said Seth Saunders, the President of South University-Virginia Beach. "SU has agreed to cover 50% of that, which would be \$200 and the Department of Veteran Affairs agrees to match that, paying the other \$200 and leaving the student with no out-of-pocket expenses for tuition."

Although South University chooses to leave their funding for the program uncapped, many schools who do participate in the program cap the amount of students or funds that they will agree to pay for the program. So before deciding on a school, you should ask them if they participate in the program and how many students they allow to use the benefit each school year.

"Every school gets to raise their hand to decide if they want to participate or not in this program," said Saunders. "Those schools that choose to participate are really choosing to help those military students, that is why we do it. Our goal is to graduate all of our students, not just enroll them and the Yellow Ribbon Program ensures that military students can graduate without an extra financial burden."

Barton said that approximately 25% of South University-Virginia Beach's class this year are military members or family members, a record for any SU campus. Out of that amount of students about 10% are already approved for the Yellow Ribbon Program. Once you are approved for the benefit, you can transfer it to any SU campus along with many other schools who participate in the program.

"In order to be eligible for the Yellow Ribbon Program you have to be 100% eligible for the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill," said Barton. "This means you have to have served at least 36 months after September 10, 2001 or have been honorably discharged from active duty for a service connected disability and served 30 continuous days after September 10, 2001. If you are eligible for the Yellow Ribbon Program than you can also fully transfer it to your family members."

For more information on the Yellow Ribbon program contact the Financial Aide Department at your college or visit www.gi-bill.va.gov/gi_bill_info/ch33/yellow_ribbon.htm.

CSC and EWS seminar programs

The College of Continuing Education's CSC and EWS seminar programs for Academic Year 2011 will commence the last week in September. Enrollment requests must be received NLT August 31. We will offer both on-site and on-line CSC and EWS seminar programs this year. To enroll or discuss your particular situation, please contact the CCE Regional Coordinator's office for the Norfolk area at DSN 751-9309 or send an E-mail to: rcamplejeune@cots.com.

NMCP: Personnel remove four tons of debris from shore

So many volunteers showed up for the Clean the Base Day that despite finding and picking up more than four tons of trash the time spent was less than one hour for the cleanup. The annual cleanup seems to be attracting more volunteers each year.



Photo by Rebecca Perron

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came out to thank them for setting an example and pitching in to clean up.

Approximately four tons of debris was removed from one-half mile of shoreline, according to Bob Wall, NMCP Environmental and Natural Resources manager. Because there were so many volunteers, the clean up took less than an hour.

He said the most unusual items removed were a 25-foot, heavy-duty floating oil boom, a creosote telephone pole and several very heavy pier sections and piles. Wall was also encouraged that the event attracted more volunteers than ever before. In 2009, about 150 staff members participated.

DEFY: Help children resist falling prey to drugs

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needed to help make the project a success. It takes at least one adult volunteer/mentor for every eight participants. This program is also an ideal example of what is possible when people unite for a worthwhile cause. It takes a lot of energy, and most importantly, a strong commitment to make a dif-

ference in the lives of our youth." DEFY also relies heavily on the involvement of parents who receive information and resources such as referrals to other youth organizations and Internet safety.

If you would like to become a DEFY volunteer or participate in this year's program, contact Ms. Sharon Shaw (DEFY Coordinator) at 417-6779, DSN

537-6779 or E-mail sharon.shaw1@navy.mil or NCC Darby at 443-9151 or E-mail anthony.s.darby@navy.mil.

Additional information and a mentor application can be accessed on NCTAMS LANT's DEFY website at www.public.navy.mil/usff/nctamslant/Pages/DEFY.aspx

COMMUNITY: Opportunity available for all backgrounds

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Chief, who manned the pull-up bars at the event for his second year, said the community outreach initiative is an important piece in maintaining the elite capabilities of the Naval Special Warfare community.

"We are here because there are great athletes from a variety of backgrounds," said the Master Chief. "In order to maintain our elite capabilities, it is imperative that we diversify our force. We are here to show these athletes that becoming a SEAL is challenging and rewarding, but that the opportunity is available to people from all backgrounds."

More than 700 athletes from throughout the nation participated in the meet.

Morrison said the event has continued to grow and is the ideal venue for getting their message out about SEAL/SWCC programs.

"We want to show them that success breeds success. We have three active duty SEALs available to talk to the swimmers about their careers and the challenges they overcame to get where they are today," said Morrison. "By spending time with the athletes, the SEALs not only create awareness about Naval Special Warfare, they show them with the right amount of determination, anyone can serve. The door is open to everyone."

And for the special operations community, diversity will continue to be an imperative for the force of the future.

"There is still a lot of mystery surrounding the Naval Special Warfare Community, but we are here to show the athletes that they have the opportunity to serve within an elite force," said Howe. "Diversity within the NSW community is essential for maintaining our operational advantage in the future."