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Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Shooters and Texans hit their stride at NASWF



Cmdr. Sean Maybee, commanding officer Training Squadron SIX, prepares to cut the ribbon to signify the beginning of the T-6 transition for his unit. The ribbon was strung between a T-34C Turbo Mentor and a T-6B Texan II, both of which had been painted in historical schemes to honor the centennial of Naval aviation. The ribbon cutting occurred in March, and the first VT-6 student solo took place Monday, June 6. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

By Ensign Tim Mosso, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Training Air Wing FIVE at Naval Air Station Whiting Field recently passed another milestone in its transition to the high-performance T-6B Texan II primary trainer. Training Squadron SIX is now routinely operating and training students in the new aircraft, and 2nd Lt. Jacob Hempen's June 6 landing marked the squadron's first student to solo in the aircraft. Years of planning, months of training, and inter-squadron teamwork have granted the VT-6 "Shooters" a smooth transition from the T-34C Turbo Mentor to its 21st century successor.

The squadron's preparation for its Texan rollout began in the summer of 2010, when the first two VT-6 instructors joined the base's Fixed-Wing Instructor Training Unit (FITU). That initial step marked the first in a series of landmark events culminating in daily student training activity. As of June 2011, one third of VT-6 student aviators are learning their craft in the T-6, and the FITU is minting "Shooters" at a rate of four per month.

"We've come a long way from the start of the program,"

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Sailors put on new ranks for May 27 frocking

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field recognized the accomplishments of soon-to-be-advanced Sailors during a frocking ceremony Friday, May 27. Ten Sailors were all smiles as they were able to wear the new ranks for the first time.

The frocking ceremony is a Navy tradition that provides the selected Sailors an opportunity to wear the uniform and take on the responsibilities of their new rank before they are formally advanced. Second Class Petty Officers were frocked to First Class, Third Class Petty Officers will be frocked to Second Class and Airmen will be frocked to Third Class.

Each Sailor received a frocking letter from Capt. Pete Hall, NAS Whiting Field commanding officer, which reads in part, "Your appointment carries with it the obligation that

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Capt. Pete Hall presents AC2 Kayleigh Woodfin with her frocking letter and congratulates her on her selection for advancement during the base's frocking ceremony May 27. U.S. Navy photo by ABH1 Cesar Rivera.

Annual drinking water assessment released



Naval Air Station Whiting Field released its annual drinking water quality report recently with the announcement that the drinking water on the base meets all federal and state requirements.

The report has already been posted to the NAS Whiting Field intranet at <https://www2.netc.navy.mil/naswhiting/index.cfm> and internet at https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/@ca/@southe/@whitingfield/documents/document/cnicp_a230692.pdf for your viewing/downloading & printing.

NAS Whiting Field gets its water from three wells which draw from the sand and gravel aquifer. Because the source of the water is so pure, the only treatments required are chlorine for disinfection, fluoride for dental health, and phosphate to inhibit corrosion.

This report is designed to inform the NAS Whiting Field public about the quality water and water services delivered every day. The goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and the Public Works Department works diligently to continually improve the water treatment process and protect water resources.

A hard copy of the 2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be obtained from Mike Pattison at the Public Work Department (Building 1416), phone 623-7017.



DEFY is seeking active duty personnel and/or DoD civilians to serve as Team leaders, Camp Corpsman, and Administrative Assistants for the 2011 - 2012 DEFY Program. Camp will focus on substance abuse prevention, gang resistance, physical fitness, citizenship, conflict resolution, and self esteem development for Youth ages 9 - 12.



Staff Volunteers needed for Summer Leadership Camp 01 - 05 AUG 2011



Persons interested in serving should be:

- Highly motivated
- Interested in positively influencing the lives of military youth,
- Attend day-staff training
- Able to participate Monday - Friday, 01 - 05 AUG 2011
- Have approval from your Command to participate
- Required to be on one week, on cost TAD orders

Pick up an application at <http://www.hq.navy.mil/DEFY> .

Applications are due to DEFY Coordinator no later than 15 JUN 2011. For more information contact ACCS Rowe at (850) 623-7372 or AC2 Brooks at (405)625-7893

News and Notes

Family Pool Opening Delayed - The opening of the Family Pool for summer hours has been delayed. In the interim, families may use the training pool located at the Fitness Center during the below listed hours. All fees will be waived pending the opening. Please be aware that the shallow end of the training pool is 4-feet in depth when planning your outing with the little ones.

Monday - Friday

0600-1000 Lap Swim Only

1000-1800 Lap/Open Swim

Saturday, Sunday & Holiday

1000-1800 Lap/Open Swim

Thank you for your patience as the family pool continues undergoing repairs and cleaning following the demolition of Bldg 1460.

June Lifeguard Class - MWR Aquatics Program is offering American Red Cross Lifeguard Classes this summer. The next classes will be held June 4,5 and 11,12. If you're 15 or older and looking for a great summer job or challenging career that's in demand, the Red Cross Lifeguarding program is the place to start. Through videos, group discussion and hands-on practice, participants will learn patron rescue and surveillance skills, first aid and CPR/AED. Upon completion of the course, participants will receive ARC Lifeguarding certification, ARC First Aid Certification, and ARC CPR for the Professional Rescuer. The cost for the class is \$150.00. For more information please call 850-623-7670.

Blueberry Bash - The ARC Santa Rosa, Inc., 2nd Annual "Blueberry Bash" will be held on Sat, Jun 25, 2011, 0800-1400. They are located at 6225 Dixie Road, Milton. A 5K Fun-Run kicks-off the event at 7 a.m., with check-in at 6 a.m. To register on-line, visit www.imathlet.com. You can also download the registration form at www.thearesantarosa.org/documents. Registration is \$30.00 and includes a "Blueberry Bash" t-shirt. Refreshments will follow the run. This promises to be a family event with many children's activities. A variety of Arts and Crafts and other vendors will be on hand, as well as an array of Fun Food items to enjoy. There will be various local entertainment performing



Serving a Cause

Stan Harper, of the NAS Whiting Field Navy Exchange, holds a certificate of recognition from the Florida Association of Blood Banks he received recently in the mail. Harper was nominated by the Northwest Florida Blood Services as Donor Chairperson of the Year for 2010. Although he didn't win, he was praised for helping to arrange blood drives on the base that may have saved as many as 230 people. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

throughout the day. Blueberry plants and fruit will be available for purchase. For additional information, call Mr. Debbie Goss at dgoss@bellsouth.net or contact The ARC Santa Rosa at 623-9320.

Emergency Preparation Handbook Available - Santa Rosa County Division of Emergency Management's latest all-hazards disaster guide is now available. This annual 48-page guide provides preparation information not only for hurricanes, but floods, tornados, pandemics, wildfires, and hazardous chemical accidents as well. Residents can pick up a free copy of the guide at county offices and libraries, local chambers of commerce, and local retailers including Walmart, Winn Dixie and Publix, or download an electronic version from the county's website today at www.santarosa.fl.gov <<http://www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/disasterprep.html>>. Additionally, each seventh grader in the Santa Rosa County School District will receive a copy to take home. Churches, civic groups, and businesses may also request multiple copies for distribution by calling (850) 983-5360.

Discovery Workshop - Chaplain Summerlin will be offering a Couples DISC personality type workshop. The seminar is open to active duty; reservists; family members; and civilians. If attending, please have your significant other join you. The class will be held Thursday, June 9, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Atrium Bldg., classroom 169. Please come in appropriate civilian attire. To register, or for more information, contact the Chaplain's Office at 850-623-7211 or see the NAS Whiting Field Religious Ministry Team Facebook page.

Starbase Atlantis Registration - NASWF Starbase Atlantis is now accepting applications for their Summer Program, Session July 11-14. There are 25 spaces available so signups are on a 'first come, first served basis.' Completed applications can be dropped off at Bldg. 1907 NAS Pensacola, faxed to (850) 452-8288, or emailed to starbaseatlantis@mchsi.com. Cost is FREE! The program is open to any child 9-11 to include visiting grandchild from out of state, home schooled, etc. For additional information, call (850) 452-8287. Please mention Naval Air Station Whiting Field Program during the call.



Recognizing Top Sailors

Capt. Pete Hall, Naval Air Station Whiting Field commanding officer, presents Aviation Boatswain's Mate First Class Philip Watson the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal at the May 27 award ceremony. U.S. Navy photo by ABH1 Cesar Rivera.

Upcoming Events

June 17, 1000 - VT-6 Change of Command - Atrium
June 17, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
June 24, 1000 - HT-18 Change of Command - Auditorium

July 1, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium
July 4 - Independence Day Holiday
July 15, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center classes

E-Books Workshop - June 13, 1 to 2 p.m. - 623-7177

A new class designed to help you navigate the Navy Knowledge Online program and use the library of free e-books and audio books to your best advantage. It is recommended that you bring your laptop computer or e-reader with you. NKO is not yet compatible with the Kindle e-reader.

IA Discussion Group - June 13, 2 to 3 p.m. - 623-7177

Smooth Move Class - June 16 & 30, 1 to 3 p.m. - 623-7177

Make your next change of duty station move a smooth one. Learn what resources are available to you and five key steps to minimizing stress during the relocation and transition period. For more information, call NAS Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center at 623-7177.

Live to Play, Play to Live 2011

- Naval Safety Center kicks off annual safety campaign for summer



Having fun is what summer is all about. People will be heading off to beaches, cook-outs, and campgrounds. This season, the Naval Safety Center is helping Sailors and Marines take care of each other by encouraging co-workers, families, and friends to make the summer season fun, make it safe, and then, make it home! It's all part of the Live to Play, Play to Live Summer Safety 2011 Campaign.

The period between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day poses the potential for greater risks to Sailors and Marines because it's the time when many schedule vacations and enjoy off-duty activities. It's a period when many service members transfer since school is out (hence, more families are on the road traveling between duty stations); it's when service members visit family and loved ones and often travel longer periods than they should without rest or a break; and it's also a time for beach parties, cookouts and summer parties, which often combine alcohol consumption, hot weather, and high risk activities.

Naval Safety Center statistics from the past decade indicate that in some years, one-half of the total Navy and Marine

Corps traffic deaths occurred during the warm weather months. The following primary factors continue to cause most motor-vehicle fatalities: driving under the influence, excessive speed, not wearing a seat belt or using personal protective equipment, and fatigue.

Sailors and Marines are working hard to change that, and summer 2010 was statistically the safest on record, but there's still more work to do.

Rear Adm. Arthur J. Johnson, commander of the Naval Safety Center, emphasizes that "every Sailor, Marine, and civilian must do his or her part to make this year's campaign a success. Make a plan to stay safe while enjoying recreational and off-duty events. We're counting on you to know the statistics so you don't become one."

Sailors, Marines, and civilians at NAS Whiting Field are encouraging everyone to be aware of summertime risks and incorporate risk management into their plans. The potential for injury often is overlooked in anticipation of beach parties, suntans and cookouts. By reminding our Sailors and Marines of these risks, we help to preserve our most valuable asset: our human resources. Have fun this summer, but prepare for success.

Military service members eligible for additional homestead exemption

In 2010, Florida voters approved a constitutional amendment providing an additional homestead property tax exemption for certain members of the Armed Forces under Section 196.173, Florida Statutes.

Service members owning homestead property in Florida may be entitled to an additional ad valorem tax exemption on their homestead property. Members or former members of the United States military or reserves on active duty deployed overseas, Alaska or Hawaii in support of Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom or New Dawn during the previous calendar year are eligible to receive the enhanced tax benefit.

Letters will be sent from the Santa Rosa County Property Appraiser to every service member owning homestead property in the next couple of weeks with information on how to apply.

Additional information will also be posted on their website at www.srcpa.org.

Frocking

- (Cont. from Page 1)

you exercise increased authority and willingly accept greater responsibility. Occupying now a position of greater authority, you must strive with a renewed dedication toward the valued ideal of service with honor.”

Sailors from NAS Whiting Field selected for advancement including: Air Traffic Controller Airman Kyle Richardson, Air Traffic Controller Airman Brandon Fogle, Air Traffic Controller Airman Eric Anderson, Air Traffic Controller Third Class Kayleigh Woodfin, Air Traffic Controller Third Class Gary Jones, Aviation Boatswain’s Mate Third Class John Dominguez, Aviation Boatswain’s Mate Third Class Knefus Bruns, Air Traffic Controller Third Class Kelsy Balcom, Air Traffic Controller Second Class Karen Slezak, and Master-at-Arms Second Class Scott Grettum.

One-half of the eligible Sailors advanced to third class petty officer. More than 15 percent of eligible Sailors were selected to second class petty officer and about three percent made first class. The advancement rates were close to Navy averages.

The selection for promotion is one of the high points during a Sailor’s career, and it doesn’t come easy according to NAS Whiting Field Command Master Chief Rafael Rosado.

“These Sailors are the future and the future remains bright and boundless,” he said. “Bravo Zulu to all and if you see them congratulate them, their shipmates, and families because no one does it alone.”

This Week in Naval History

June 6

1944 - In Operation Overlord, Allied invasion fleet (more than 2,700 ships and craft) land troops on Normandy beaches, the largest amphibious landing in history.

June 7

1819 - Lt. John White on merchant ship Franklin, anchored off Vung Tau, is first U.S. naval officer to visit Vietnam.

1917 - U.S. subchasers arrive at Corfu for anti-submarine patrols.

1942 - Battle of Midway ends with loss of USS Yorktown (CV-5).

1944 - Construction of artificial harbors and sheltered anchorages begins off Normandy coast.

1991 - Joint Task Force Sea Angel ends relief operations in Bangladesh after Cyclone Marian.

June 8

1830 - Sloop-of-war USS Vincennes becomes first U.S. warship to circle the globe.

1853 - Commodore Matthew Perry arrives at Uraga, Japan, to begin negotiations for a treaty with Japan.

1880 - Congress authorizes the Office of Judge Advocate General.



Cat 98.7 Country Welcomes...

Summer Solute IV

starring... **with Special Guest Walker Hayes**

NAS PENSACOLA

June 14, 2011

The Show is FREE, but you must have a Ticket!

Shooters

- (Cont. from Page 1)



2nd Lt. Jacob Hempen exits the T-6B Texan II he flew for his solo flight. It was the first solo for Training Squadron SIX in the Texan II as the squadron transitions to the plane from the older T-34C Turbo Mentor. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Jenna Bordash.

remarked Training Air Wing FIVE Standardization Officer Cmdr. David Humphreys.

Humphreys emphasized that VT-6's success represents the latest achievement in a transition that is best viewed as an integrated process. A training platform such as the T-6 requires expert instructors, a standardized curriculum, appropriate simulators, and safe airspace usage rules. TRAWING-5's primary squadrons are ensuring the transition builds momentum by pooling their T-6 experience.

VT-6 benefitted from lessons learned during the air station's initial T-6 launch at Training Squadron THREE, the "Red Knights."

"It's a successful picture, we have our second [T-6] squadron online, they have worked closely with VT-3 to take lessons learned and put them to use," said Humphreys.

The value of the wing's inter-squadron cooperation cannot be overstated. Lt. Cmdr. Aaron Shuler, VT-6 Operations Officer for the T-6, was struck by the generous time, openness, and enthusiasm provided by VT-3 personnel.

"It was a great assistance from the whole VT-3 command, from top to bottom, they really went the extra mile."

Texan-qualified Shooter instructors honed their T-6 skills by flying with their Red Knight counterparts. VT-3 gradually relinquished these visitors as VT-6 escalated its T-6 training tempo, and the rising pace of T-6 training has allowed VT-6 to recall all of its personnel to their parent command.

VT-6 plans to complete its transition to the new platform and graduate its last T-34 students by the end of this fiscal year.

The ongoing adoption of the T-6 at NAS Whiting Field brings a host of new challenges and advantages to the student population. The T-6 features more than twice the

horsepower of the T-34, an ejection seat system in lieu of bailout procedures, and a "glass cockpit" consisting of multi-function computer displays. The T-6 integrates aerospace and information technology at a phase of training where previous students would have faced a more elementary aviation learning curve.

"The higher performance of the aircraft, the higher functionality of the avionics, it's going to make it harder for students initially, but I think they will have a leg-up on their T-34 counterparts and an easier transition to the fleet," Humphreys observed.

While the T-6 often is cited as a showcase for next-generation instrument technology and systems integration, its high performance offers students expanded opportunities to practice stick-and-rudder skills as old as aviation itself.

The Texan allows VT-3 and VT-6 to devote more flight hours to training and less to transit. The higher speeds and altitude at which Texans operate allow students and their instructors to reach designated working areas in a fraction of the time required by the T-34.

VT-6's successful transition to the T-6 has been a demanding but fulfilling endeavor for those who spearheaded the effort. Shuler considers it a rare privilege to have been a principal player in the effort to launch "a plane our students will return to fly as COs and XOs."

Philosophy aside, Shuler admits to enjoying the short-term payoff;

"Let's face it; it's almost summer in Milton, and that T-6 air conditioner really works!"

Ec-nomics

Use Caulking and Weatherstripping

Simple leaks can sap home energy efficiency by 5 to 30 percent a year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. That means it pays to seal up gaps with caulking and weatherstripping. Take a close look at places where two different building materials meet, such as corners, around chimneys, where pipes or wires exit and along the foundation. Use the incense test: carefully (avoiding drapes and other flammables) move a lit stick along walls; where the smoke wavers, you have air sneaking in. And heating or cooling sneaking out. In another method, have someone on the outside blow a hair dryer around each window while you hold a lighted candle inside. If the candle flickers or goes out, you need to caulk or weather strip around the frame. Low-income households can qualify for an average of \$6,500 worth of weatherization improvements to their homes through government programs administered by each state. Find out about your state's program by contacting local energy agencies.

See www.thedailygreen.com for more tips.

NAS Whiting Field People and Places



Above: ABH1 Early Mosley walks through the side boys to conclude his retirement ceremony following 20 years of faithful service. His ceremony was held in the Atrium May 20.

Above Right: ABH2 Epiphanie Elam signs her reenlistment paperwork in front of the midfield hangar where she had her ceremony. Elam signed up for four more years.

Below Right: ABH1 Shane Ammons repeats the oath from Lt. Russell Lawrence during his ceremony in the midfield hangar May 6. He reenlisted for six more years.

Below: Lt. Chris Mitchell and AC2 Nakia Jermaine Ewings check out the pen Ewings received as part of his reenlistment ceremony May 17, when he obligated for an additional five years.

