



Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, FL

Forging Wings for the Fleet

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Coughlin takes command of NASWF

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field welcomed their new commanding officer into the fold during a change of command ceremony on the base, Thursday, Nov. 10. With an exchange of salutes to Rear Adm. John Scorby, Commander Navy Region Southeast, Capt. Peter Hall turned the reins over to Capt. Matthew Coughlin, making him the 39th base commander.

Coughlin relished the chance to return to the base where he started his career, and accepted his new duties with grace and modesty.

“Ladies and Gentlemen..... I am absolutely humbled to be standing here today. And I emphasize the word, humbled. It was 22 years ago when a young kid by the name of Ensign Coughlin drove through the front gate of Whiting Field for the very first time,” he said.

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Capt. Pete Hall receives the Legion of Merit Medal from Rear Adm. John Scorby during the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Change of Command ceremony Nov. 10. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

SR County / NAS Whiting Field salute veterans

By Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field teamed with Santa Rosa County to help honor area veterans through the annual Santa Rosa County Veterans’ Day Ceremony Friday, Nov. 11.

Capt. Matthew Coughlin, Naval Air Station Whiting Field’s commanding officer, who assumed command of the air station less than 24 hours prior to the event, was honored as the parade’s Grand Marshal and Keynote Speaker

Coughlin’s public debut as the base commanding officer could not have come under more auspicious circumstances. Accompanied by his wife, Brenda, in the lead vehicle, Coughlin greeted throngs of local residents who lined the parade route from Milton High School to



NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin addresses veterans and their supporters on Friday, Nov. 11. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

downtown Milton’s Veterans’ Memorial Plaza.

The fair weather defied grim forecasts, and a crowd of hundreds assembled to join the Coughlins to honor service members past and present. Veterans of conflicts from World War II to the Global War on Terror were present to show solidarity for the living and honor memories of the fallen.

Santa Rosa County Commissioner Don Salter and City of Milton Mayor Guy Thompson opened the ceremony with a formal expression of thanks to local veterans and the enthusiastic crowd. In addition, the officials extended a special welcome to Coughlin

and affirmed the strength of the community’s relationship with the base.

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MCPON relates “zero tolerance” for drug abuse



MCPON Rick West

Special from Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SS/SW) Rick D. West

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West, released the following message on drug abuse, which focuses on "Spice," herbal products and other designer drugs, to the fleet, Feb. 11:

"Shipmates,

There has been an alarming rise in the number of Sailors who are choosing to use 'Spice,' herbal products and other so-called designer drugs; and this must come to an immediate stop.

More than 150 Sailors are currently being processed for 'Spice' use, possession or distribution, and this is UNSAT.

Overall, the Navy has separated 1,374 Sailors in FY09; 1,308 Sailors in FY10; and 302 Sailors during the first quarter of FY11, for drug abuse. These unexpected losses negatively affect our commands' manning levels, which in turn affects the commands' operational and warfighter readiness. The Navy's policy on drug abuse is simple and clear - zero tolerance, and there are no second chances.

NAVADMIN 108/10 states the following on drug abuse:

'Drug abuse includes the wrongful use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of a controlled substance. Drug abuse also includes the unlawful use of controlled substance analogues (designer drugs), natural substances (e.g., fungi, excretions), chemicals (e.g., chemicals wrongfully used as inhalants), propellants and/or prescribed or over-the-counter drugs or pharmaceutical compounds with the intent to induce intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of the central nervous system, and will subject the violator to punitive action under the UCMJ and/or adverse administrative action.'

Some examples of substances mentioned above where the wrongful use constitutes drug abuse includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Products that contain synthetic cannabinoid compounds, such as "Spice," genie, blaze, dream, ex-ses, spark, fusion, dark knight, yukatan fire, and K2.

- Natural substances such as salvia divinorum and mushrooms.

- Common items abused by inhaling or huffing, such as Dust Off, glue, paint thinner and gasoline.

- Over-the-counter products such as Robitussin and Coricidin HBP.

- Prescription medications such as Oxycodone, Vicodin, Adderall, and Valium.

If you didn't know, 'Spice' is a mixture of natural

herbs and synthetic cannabinoids, that when smoked, produce a marijuana-like 'high' that decreases motor skills, impairs coordination and concentration, and effects short-term memory and senses. The effects of these substance is unpredictable when combined with alcohol, and since the chemical blends are continuously manipulated and the strength of the synthetic chemical used is unknown, there is no way to know what you are getting in the drugs nor what the long-term health risks are if used.

Some of the side effects from these drugs included uncontrolled vomiting, excessive sweating, flushed skin, increased heart rate and high blood pressure, and loss of consciousness. If this sounds like a good time to you, then go ahead and hand over your rank and paycheck, and possibly your life.

Bottom line: The use and even just the possession of 'Spice,' herbal products, designer drugs, chemicals used for huffing, salvia divinorum, or products containing synthetic cannabinoid compounds are prohibited. Leadership, along with Naval Criminal Investigative Service, is aggressively working to catch personnel who are possessing, using, or distributing drugs; and when you get caught, your career will be over.

Drug abuse goes against our Navy's core values and ethos, and it is a threat to lives, unit and mission readiness and morale. It is every Sailor's responsibility to deter drug abuse. If you do the crime, you will do the time . remember zero tolerance and no second chances.

This Week in Naval History

Nov. 14

1846 - Naval forces capture Tampico, Mexico.

1910 - Civilian Eugene Ely pilots first aircraft to take off from a ship, USS Birmingham (CL 2) at Hampton Roads, Va. He lands safely on Willoughby Spit, Norfolk, Va.

1944 - Carrier aircraft attack Japanese shipping in Philippines sinking five ships and damaging one.

Nov. 15

1882 - Lt. Cmdr. French Chadwick reports to American Legation in London as first naval attache.

1942 - Although U.S. lost several ships in the naval battle of Guadalcanal, Naval Force under Rear Adm. Willis Lee, USS Washington (BB 56), turns back Japanese transports trying to reinforce Guadalcanal.

1960 - First Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine, USS George Washington (SSBN 598), leaves Charleston, S.C., on initial fleet ballistic missile patrol.

Nov. 16

1776 - First salute to an American flag (Grand Union flag) flying from Continental Navy ship Andrew Doria, by Dutch fort at St. Eustatius, West Indies.

News and Notes

Sidewalk Sale - The commissary will have a sidewalk sale Friday, Nov. 18. Great prices are available for General Mills products.

Family Campout - MWR is encouraging patrons to join them for their first overnight family campout at beautiful Whiting Park, Nov. 19-20. Located on the Blackwater River just minutes from downtown Milton, Whiting Park is the perfect location for a weekend family getaway. Novices and seasoned campers alike are sure to enjoy themselves. Families will enjoy an overnight stay in a secure environment, and take part in some great family fun. Some of the great activities planned are a scavenger hunt, short canoe trip(optional), nature hike, orientation to Whiting Park, and a good old fashion campfire. A scrumptious chili dinner will be provided, but of course campers are welcome to prepare their own. Camp stoves, and a grill will be available. Gear will be provided for those that do not have what they need. A list of recommended equipment can be picked up from the Outdoor Adventures Program. Cost is \$20 per person for those with their own gear, and \$30 for those that need to borrow some. For more information, and to register, please contact the Outdoor Adventures Program at (850) 623-7670. Space is limited, so sign up soon!

Ice Flyers - The Information Tickets and Travel (ITT) office has tickets for the next home game for the Ice Flyers, Saturday, Nov. 26. Tickets are available through Nov. 23 at a discounted rate of \$8.50. Tickets are available for all other home games as well. Call (850) 623-7032 for more information or stop by the ITT office in the Atrium to pick them up in person.

Ring Those Bells - Santa Rosa's Clean Community System is kicking off the holiday season with a special event for kids to raise money for their new Fireman's Recycling Station. Tickets are \$5, with seating limited to thirty-six at each time. Children five and under must be accompanied by an adult. Each session will last approximate an hour or possibly a little longer. There will be one seating at 11 a.m. and a second at 2 p.m. It will take place in the Clean Community Education building, 6758 Park Avenue in Milton Dec. 10. Children will enjoy refreshments, a hands-on



A Fine Day for Capt. Hall
The Santa Rosa County Commissioners present Capt. Pete Hall with a proclamation announcing that Oct. 28 would be Capt. Pete Hall day throughout the county. Hall received the honor during the commission meeting that same day. Photo courtesy of Joy Tsubouka.

Christmas recycling craft project, favors and will be read the "Fire-fighter's Night Before Christmas" by special guests, Santa Rosa County Judge, Robert Hilliard at 11 a.m. and Milton Mayor Guy Thompson at 2 p.m. Kathy Marshall of the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Department will be available to sign during the 11 a.m. seating only. Additionally, City of Milton Fire Chief John Reble will have some of Milton's finest firemen on hand to show children fire equipment and the city's fire engines.

Looking for a Few Good Men - Did you play baseball in high school or college? If so, the NAS Whiting Field Warriors might be looking for you. The Warriors are looking to add players to their roster for the upcoming USSSA Military Intramural Softball Tournament Series that leads to the Military World Tournament in Panama City Florida. The Warriors have finished third in the World Tournament the last two years in a row. Some players have moved on and it is time to find the next pieces to the puzzle to win it all. Please call Todd at (850) 665-6102 or email him at (todd.mooneyham@navy.mil) to get your information on try-outs for this year's team.



In the Christmas Spirit
Sailors and family members from Naval Air Station Whiting Field gather for a group photo after helping to hang the Christmas lights for downtown Milton. The group spent several hours Saturday, Nov. 5 to set up the displays that will brighten the holidays through Jan. 2. Photo courtesy of CMDCM Rafael Rosado.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 18, 1000 - Christmas Party Golf Tourney - Golf Course

Nov. 18, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Nov. 29, 1400 - TW-5 Reserve Comp. Change of Command

Dec. 2, 1000 - HT-8 Change of Command - Base Auditorium

Dec. 3, 1830 - Milton Christmas Parade - Stewart Street

Fleet and Family Support Center Items

VA Representative - Friday, Nov. 18 from 8 a.m. to noon.

IA discussion Group - Monday, Nov. 21 from 1 to 2 p.m.

Anger Management - Wenesday, Nov. 23, 1 to 3 p.m.

Is anger affecting your health, your relationships or your work performance? Learn to understand the causes and effects of unhealthy anger and how to express and release that anger in a healthy way! Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. Call 623-7177 for details.

How to Apply for Federal Jobs - Tuesday, Nov. 29 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort in searching and applying for a federal job? If your answer is yes, then you need to attend this class in order to learn how to prepare the best application possible. You will learn how to read an announcement, analyze core competencies for language, analyze vacancy listings for keywords, and how to apply for jobs. For more information, call 623-7177.

Holiday Spending - Wednesday, Nov. 30 from 1 to 3 p.m.

It's that time of year when stores display holiday decorations, increase their inventory, and gear up to convince you to spend money. Attend this class to learn techniques to control your holiday spending. Call 623-7177 for details.

For the 13th consecutive year, Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center will hold their Elf Tree program to support children of military families and help ensure all children of NAS Whiting Field have joyful and happy holidays. Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) will put up a holiday display in their lobby for hanging the tags. Parents who need assistance in providing holiday gifts for their children can come into the FFSC and request sponsorship from Nov. 14 to Dec. 2. Confidentiality is strictly maintained throughout OPERATION E.L.F. Tags with "wish lists," age, gender, sizes, etc. will be placed on the tree for sponsors to select. Anyone may be a sponsor, and a \$25 limit per child is advised.

Ec-nomics

Change Furnace Filters

Yes it's easy to forget, but it's important to replace or clean furnace filters once a month during the heating season. Dirty filters restrict airflow and increase energy demand. Here's a worry-saving tip: mark a monthly check on your calendar. Better, consider switching to a permanent filter, which will reduce waste and hassle.

Did you know that disposable fiberglass filters trap a measly 10 to 40% of debris? Electostatic filters trap around 88%, and are much better at controlling the bacteria, mold, viruses and pollen that cause illness and irritation. They cost \$50 to \$1,000 or more. Another good choice is a genuine HEPA filter, which can remove at least 99.97% of airborne particles. HEPA filters are based on Department of Energy standards. But avoid "HEPA-like" filters, which can be vastly less effective.

If your entire furnace is in need of replacement, it will cost a lot more -- but replacing an inefficient burner for a modern machine will save you every month through the heating season. Be sure to take advantage of federal tax credits for new furnaces, which can cover 30% of the cost, up to \$1,500.

See www.thedailygreen.com for more tips.

NAS Whiting Field Christmas Party Golf Tournament

November 18th shotgun @ 1000
4 Person Golf Scramble

\$35.00 per person

Prizes will be awarded

Come on out and have a good time while
supporting the NASWF Christmas Party.

Pay the day of the tournament.

To sign up:

Contact Randy Roy @ 665-6132

Email randy.roy@navy.mil or

Mike Flournoy @ 665-6119

Email michael.flournoy@navy.mil

Salute to veterans

- (Cont. from Page 1)

“In Santa Rosa County, we love our veterans, and we love Naval Air Station Whiting Field,” Salter exclaimed.

He acknowledged that the work of America’s veterans constitutes a living legacy that continues to grow. As a leader of young Sailors and Marines, Coughlin was effusive in his praise of the new generation of war fighters.

“Today, there are 22 million men and women who have served in uniform; our country is defined by the character of its veterans,” Coughlin observed. “The bottom line is this. We are incredibly fortunate because citizens from every generation have volunteered to defend what we hold dear.

“Today, we must also thank those who are standing the watch right now. They are the new generation of veterans; I have served with them, and I like what I see,” he



Cmdr. Jeffrey DeBrine, commanding officer of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN, congratulates the winners of the “Happy Veterans’ Day Card Contest.” U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

declared.

Coughlin emphasized that Veterans’ Day also should be a day to appreciate those who support warriors from the home front. The air station commander extolled the virtues of loved ones and friends who sacrifice and offer enduring support to those who wear and have worn the uniform. The scale and diversity of the civilian turnout for the ceremony compelled Coughlin to express his gratitude.

“To those of you who are not in the military: it is heartwarming to know that you are here to support us,” he said.

The newly-minted commanding officer of NAS Whiting Field embraced his role as a local ambassador for the Navy to the Santa Rosa community. Coughlin explained that the bonds between him and the community will be

- (Cont. on Page 7)

Weekly Spotlight - Lt. Christian Hansen

Branch of service:

U.S. Navy

Hometown:

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Job title:

Fixed Wing Assistant Operations Officer

Command:

TRAWING-5

Years in service:

16 Years

What do you enjoy most about your job?

You never have to ask to fly!

What do you like about your job?

Working with a diverse group of people.

What is the best part of working for/with the Navy?

The opportunity to go places you otherwise would never have gone. Whether that’s upside down a few thousand feet over a section line in Alabama or the streets of Hong Kong, every duty station has offered its challenges and rewards.

What do you envision yourself doing in 5 years?

Hopefully still enjoying what each day brings.



Change of Command

- (Cont. from Page 1)

“At the time, I had a bit of anxiety on what was about to transpire over the coming year of flight school. Yet at the same time, I was truly eager to do something so few in this great country have the opportunity to accomplish. It was tough. It was challenging. But to this day, I have only the fondest memories of my time here at Whiting.”

With shipboard deployments, tours at the Pentagon, a squadron command, and advanced training at the Naval Post Graduate School and the National Defense University, Coughlin has been thoroughly prepared for commanding a military installation.

Scorby, Coughlin’s commanding officer, emphasized the new commanding officer’s experience while explaining that he was hand-picked for the post.

“What is meant by this is that for every great leader, there is another one standing in the wings ready to take over, and Captain Matt Coughlin is that leader. You don’t get this job by seniority but by a proven record of excellence. If you read Matt’s bio, it is clear that he has been given the toughest assignments and performed brilliantly in all of them. So I know that he is more than ready to continue Whiting Field’s record of excellence,” Scorby stated.

His most difficult task will be replacing an effective and popular “Skipper.”

NAS Whiting Field is the Navy’s busiest air station, and despite an impressive list of accomplishments, Hall was quick to deflect praise to his staff and crew.

“Men and women, Sailors, and Civilians of NAS Whiting Field, I have watched and witnessed the long hours and extra days you have put in. You make all that we do here possible,” he said... “I have never been disappointed by this group of professionals. Your expertise at your job, your volunteerism, dedication to your country and desire to excel left me daily shaking my head at what you do every day. I am in awe of you, I am proud of you, and I will miss you. Take good care of your new skipper.”

During his tour, Naval Air Station Whiting Field maintained operations at a peak level, with 15 percent of the Navy’s and Marine Corps’ flight hours flown at the base or one of its 13 outlying fields. Furthermore, the base supported the safe execution of 320,000 aircraft flight hours, and 3.5 million flight evolutions, as well as classroom and simulator training for 3600 student naval aviators. While keeping his sight on the needs of his Sailors and the needs of the Navy, Hall also supported an increase in Training Air Wing FIVE’s flight requirements without an increase to the budget or personnel. This flexibility enabled TRAWING-5 to successfully return to schedule and pilot production months ahead of the anticipated time.



Capt. Matthew Coughlin and Capt. Peter Hall exchange salutes during the Nov. 10 change of command ceremony at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. Coughlin assumed the top spot of the base from Hall and will be the commanding officer for three years. Hall will move on to the Pentagon for his next tour. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

For his leadership, Hall was presented with the Legion of Merit. His next assignment will be in the Pentagon, working in the Navy’s Electronic Warfare/Cyber Warfare department.

ID Card Update

For lost/stolen CAC cards: a police report is still REQUIRED to be presented to the ID Card clerk. The customer MUST also have 2 forms of ID in order for the CAC card to be replaced. Primary form of ID MUST have a photograph on it and can NOT be expired. The secondary form of ID can be either: social security card, voter’s registration, passport, birth certificate, any ID from any city, state, or federal government, school ID, concealed weapons permit, or any other ID listed on an I9 form.

Police reports are no longer acceptable as a second form of ID due to a new procedure. However, it is still required to be presented

Salute to veterans

- (Cont. from Page 5)

forged by shared values.

"My father was a Sailor on destroyers - 'tin cans' - in World War II, he was quiet about his service, but he continued to serve by running for public office and serving the veterans of our community.

"Both Milton and my hometown have a memorial to those who served... ladies and gentlemen, this memorial behind me is beautiful, and you should be proud," Coughlin concluded.



Coughlin and his wife, Brenda, led the Veterans' Day parade from an open

Cmdr. Jeffrey Jeep. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

DeBrine, commanding

officer of Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN, attended as a representative of the air station's Training Air Wing FIVE and presiding authority for a special award presentation. The "Santa Rosa County Happy Veterans'

Day Card Contest" was organized by the Disabled American Veterans to collect Veteran's Day cards for distribution to local veterans' homes and hospitals.

Student naval aviators from DeBrine's squadron were responsible for judging over 1,000 submissions and selecting the best card from each grade. DeBrine personally congratulated each winner and presented commemorative ribbons and certificates to recognize the efforts of Santa Rosa

County's youngest patriots.

The scheduled activities concluded with a presentation of wreaths by local veterans' organizations and a brick dedication to honor area service members who have died in the past year. Bricks bearing the names of Santa Rosa County's fallen warriors were laid with formal military honors and the solemn reverence of the assembled crowd.

The formal program of events was bookended by celebrations of Americana, local color, and patriotic spirit.

The opening parade featured performances by the Milton and Pace High School marching bands and military exhibitions by the Milton High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, the NAS Whiting Field Sea Cadets, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The Santa Rosa Veterans Community Planning Committee, which organized the event, mustered its ranks to salute the crowd from vehicles dedicated to Purple Heart awardees, disabled veterans, and veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima, among others.

Local car enthusiasts from the Emerald Coast Jeeps and the Miracle Strip Corvette Club showcased their quintessential, American machines in the procession. Capt. and Mrs. Coughlin enhanced the preliminary revelries by tossing beads and treats to local children from their seats of honor atop a "Jeepers'" convertible.

A festival atmosphere prevailed after the close of ceremonies. Barbeques and fish fries by the Santa Rosa 4-H Club and Milton High School NJROTC offered complimentary meals to veterans.

The exuberance of the occasion was a worthy tribute to the quality of life enabled by what Coughlin described as "the work of patriots."

Blackwater River Canoeing Day Trip Saturday November 19, 2011 \$10.00 per person

Join us for a day of leisurely paddling down the Blackwater River. We will be paddling down a section of the Blackwater that will take approximately 3 hours to complete. We will be providing all necessary canoeing gear; canoes, paddles, lifejackets and coolers. We will meet up at the drop off site where we will pick you up and transport you to the top with the canoes. Once we have paddled back to the bottom we will load the boats and part ways.

What a nice way to spend a Saturday!

Spots are limited so sign up early.

To sign up or if you have questions contact us at 850-623-7670.