

Whiting Tower

Sixty-Six Years of Aviation Training News



Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, FL

Forging Wings for the Fleet

Vol. 66 No. 29

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

NASWF Sailors of the Quarter Selected



AC1 Cecelia Knight-Holton

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Air Traffic Controller First Class Petty Officer Cecelia Knight-Holton, Master-at-Arms Second Class Petty Officer Adam



MA2 Adam Turner

Turner, and Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third Class Tony Fuller were named Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2010. This honor recognizes the efforts and achievements of exceptional Sailors who have set themselves apart from their peers within their division through leadership, professionalism, technical knowledge, and community involvement.

Knight-Holton is one of the section leaders for the Air Traffic Control division and is directly responsible for the leadership, management and development of 23 Sailors. She is a



ABH3 Tony Fuller

top supervisor for a division that annually overseas about 160,000 flight hours at the base and the outlying fields. Knight-Holton also serves as the Command Managed Equal Opportunity program Assistant.

"Her unmatched technical expertise in all facets of Air Traffic Control was absolutely instrumental in ensuring NAS Whiting Field's mission

- (Cont. on Page 5)

Former Sailor Gives Insights to 70's Era NAS Whiting Field

Editor's Note: Mr. and Mrs. Gene Mignogna visited Naval Air Station Whiting Field for the first time since they transferred from the base more than 30 years ago. He and his wife met on the flightline and they had a chance to see the changes during their June tour.

Here are a few memories of former AMH2 Gene Mignogna, formerly of Training Squadron THREE. He thought you might appreciate the way things change...and sometimes, how they really don't.

As I was thinking back to when I came to Whiting Field in 1975, I realized it had been 30 years since the end of World War II. It is now 2010 and I realize it had been 35 years since I came aboard Whiting Field. I often wondered what it was like for those men who worked on aircraft back in 1945 and I thought it may be of interest to current aviators and support personnel of what it was like to be enlisted 35 years ago at Whiting Field.

I came to Whiting Field on my first tour of duty
- (Cont. on Page 6)



Former AMH2 Gene Mignogna and his wife visit Naval Air Station Whiting Field to recall where they met more than 30 years ago. The two worked on the NAS Whiting Field flightline together in the mid-70's and this was their first trip back. Photo courtesy of VT-3.

DPS Replaces SMARTWEBMOVE and DITY Moves

- Personally Procured Move Process Can Be Used for PCS Transfers

By Henry Bailey

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Jacksonville Household Goods Director

JACKSONVILLE, Fla, June 30 – After extensive testing and evaluation, the military has added to the Defense Personal Property System (DPS) an improved system to better compensate service members who use the Personally Procured Move (PPM) process for their household goods when on permanent change of station orders. This new web based system replaces the former system known as SMARTWEBMOVE, or DITY (Do-It-Yourself Move) move. The new PPM tool may be accessed via the DPS online at: www.move.mil

All services began using the new system for processing PPMs on April 15. Moves initiated prior to that date will continue to process under the terms in place at the time of initiation. The PPM give service members a choice. They may elect to personally move some or even all of their personal property and receive an incentive for doing so. The system calculates for reimbursement using a "best value" method. Most moves will fall into one of three scenarios:

- (1) Service members will receive 95 percent of the "best value" the government would pay to move the goods as an incentive for a PPM; or
- (2) Actual Cost Reimbursement (ACR) will pay service members actual cost not to exceed the "best value" of the move and is used for pre-approved special handling such as assembly and disassembly and packing fragile items; or
- (3) When a government-furnished moving service is not available, ACR pays the actual cost for the entire move subject to service headquarters pre-approval.

Service members are reminded that the DPS online system should be used for setting up their moves, regardless of

whether it is a PPM or a government arranged move. However some moves will not qualify for the new system, so it is important to access the DPS Smart Book at www.move.mil for the rules.

Questions about any of the DPS programs may be directed to the FISCJ HHG Call Center by calling (800) 762-4221, option #2; or by sending an email to: HHG_southeast@navy.mil.



UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA **YOUR COUNTRY 102.7 WXBM** **Chumblers Farmers Op'ry Campground**

Saturday, July 31, 2010 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
\$5.00 Admission
Kids Free

Wildlife Expo 2010
At the UF/PJC Milton Campus For more info visit miltongators.com

FEATURED TOPICS:

- Wildlife Habitat and Food Plot Preparation
- Hunting Highlights and New Products
- Tips for successful Black Powder
- Fishing and Pond Management

Fun for the whole family!

Kids Zone:

- Youth Archery Contest *Guest speaker: Zac Cooper Browning Pro Staff*
- Shooting Sports
- Sports Fishing and Casting contest
- Reno's Reptiles Live Animal Encounters *Live show from 1pm - 2pm*

Come early, Come late, Activities all day!

- A variety of exhibits
- Educational Seminars
- Raffle Drawing - Treestands, Rifles, and more!
- Food and Beverages sold on-site
- Exhibitor Space Available!
- Deer scored by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission

For more information, contact Robin Vickers 850 983 5216 x 113, or 850 393 7334
Located at the UF & Pensacola Junior College Milton Campus, 5988 Hwy 90, Milton FL 32583.

This Day in Naval History

1823 - After pirate attack, Lt. David G. Farragut leads landing party to destroy pirate stronghold in Cuba.

1944 - Invasion and recapture of Guam begins.

1946 - In first U.S. test of adaptability of jet aircraft to shipboard operations, XFD-1 Phantom makes landings and takeoffs without catapults from USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CV 42).

1987 - Navy begins Operation Earnest Will, escorting first Kuwaiti tanker convoy in the Persian Gulf.

For more information on naval history, visit the Naval Historical Center Web site at www.history.navy.mil

News and Notes

DEFY Camp - FREE! The Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) Camp will be held from Aug. 2-6. Space is still available for children from ages 8-13 who would like to participate. Parent orientation will be Thursday July 22 at 4 p.m. in the Operations Auditorium in Bldg 1471. Please go to <http://www.donhq.navy.mil/defy/> to download the application for your child. Send signed applications to room #206 in Bldg 1424 or scan and e-mail them to trevor.rowe@navy.mil or you can come to the participation drive this week in front of the NEX on Wednesday or Friday from 10 a.m to 2 p.m. If you have additional questions, contact Chief Rowe at 623-7045. The group's goal is to produce character, leadership, and confidence in youth, so they are equipped to engage in positive, healthy lifestyles as drug-free citizens and have the necessary skills to be successful in their lives through coordinated community participation, commitment, and leadership.

Navy Ball Theme Contest - It's that time of year again! Entries are now being accepted for the 2010 Navy Ball theme. Please submit your input to the Navy Ball Committee on what you think the 235th Navy Birthday Ball theme should be. Please e-mail your idea to trevor.rowe@navy.mil Entries must be received prior to July 28 as the inputs will be discussed at the next meeting, voted on, and a winner will be chosen. The person who comes up with this year's theme will get one free ticket to the Navy Ball in October.

Lifeguard Training - Morale Welfare and Recreation will hold Lifeguard classes Aug. 21-22 and 28-29. The cost of the class is \$160 and will train participants in Lifeguarding, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, and First Aid. The course is certified by the American Red Cross. For details call Kelsey Holmes 665-6250.

ID Card Appointments - The ID card office is utilizing a new electronic appointment scheduler system. There will be one appt. slot available every hour. Walk in customers will be seen in between appt times. This will shorten wait times for customers who use the scheduler. Please be advised - there will be no same day appointments available. Walk ins are always welcome. Please



Soldier Sailor

Master-at-Arms Second Class Scott Grettum receives the Army Commendation Medal from Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Pete Hall July 2. Grettum earned the award while on an Individual Augmentee tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

go to <https://es.cac.navy.mil/signup.pl> to make your appointment. Click on Naval Air Station Whiting Field ID Office, FL. Then click on the "Make an appointment" button and go from there. You can also "Look up an appointment" or "Cancel an appointment".

Big Band Music - Milton High School will host the Drum Corps International Drum and Bugle Corps show, Thursday., Jul. 29. The show is titled Sounds of the South. For more information visit: <http://www.mhsbandboosters.info/index.php?menu=event4> or <http://www.tealsound.org/drumbuglecorps/events/soundsofthesouth/>. Tickets are \$20 for the Super Section and \$15 for General Admission. There is also a \$5 Military discount with ID at the gates. For additional information, please call 207-8206.

Altered NEX Hours - The NEX Autoport, Package Store, CBQ and Pines Mini Marts will be opening late Tuesday, July 27, so all Associates may attend the Bingham Award Ceremony. Hours of operation will be as follows:

Autoport	10:30-5:30
Package Store	10:30-5:00
CBQ MM	10:30-7:00
Pine MM	10:30-9:00

The NEX apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our valued customer. The Main Store location will open at 8:30 a.m.

Gulf Breeze Zoo - The Gulf Breeze Zoo is open for extended hours Wednesday evenings through July to enable visitors to see the animals when they are most active. The zoo is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. each Wednesday this month. Normal hours of operation end at 5 p.m. Admission tickets purchased during regular zoo hours include the after-hours entrance. Tickets purchased after 5 p.m. are discounted. Call 932-2229 for details.

Shipwrecks of Pensacola Bay - Fort Pickens will be the site for an informational presentation on two shipwrecks from Tristan de Luna's 1559 fleet. An archaeologist with the University of West Florida and the Florida Public Archaeology Network will instruct the session. The program is free, however, there is an \$8 entrance fee to the fort area. Call 934-2600 for more information.



Recognizing Top Sailors

Capt. Pete Hall, commanding officer Naval Air Station Whiting Field, presents a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal to ABH2 Justin Barber during the July 2 awards ceremony at Sikes Hall. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Upcoming Events

July 27, TBD - Bingham Awd. Presentation to NEX - Atrium

July 30, 1000 - CNO Visit - NAS Whiting Field

July 30, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Aug. 13, 1000 - Blood Drive - NEX Parking Lot

Aug. 13, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Aug. 13, 1300 - NASWF Safety Standown - Sikes Hall

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Premarital Interpersonal Choices & Knowledge (P.I.C.K.) - July 21 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Learn about the warning signs of a difficult partner, relationship skills essential for a healthy relationship, five key areas that you need to explore during the dating process, the difference between “acting like a jerk” and “being a jerk”, and how to follow your heart without losing your mind. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Premarital Interpersonal Choices & Knowledge (P.I.C.K.) - July 28 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Learn about the warning signs of a difficult partner, relationship skills essential for a healthy relationship, five key areas that you need to explore during the dating process, the difference between “acting like a jerk” and “being a jerk”, and how to follow your heart without losing your mind. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Consumer Awareness - July 28 @ 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

According to the U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs, fraud cost consumers over 40 billion dollars every year. We are constantly approached by people trying to take our money. Some offers are truly fraudulent and are illegal, most however, are simply rip-offs and misrepresentations. Don't be a victim! Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Home Buying - Aug. 4 @ 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

A home is one of the most complicated and costly purchases you'll ever make. Getting the best deal at the time of purchase can reduce “life of the loan” by thousands of dollars. Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. For details call 623-7177.

Anger Management - Aug. 18 @ 1:00 to 2:00 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 at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

DoD Resumes Military Spouse Career Assistance Program

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Department of Defense announced July 20 the resumption of a restructured military spouse career advancement account program - MyCAA, following a comprehensive review.

The program will be available to spouses of service members in the pay grades of E1-E5, W1-W2 and O1-O2 beginning Oct. 25.

"The changes announced today reflect a return to the original intent of the program, which is to help military spouses, with the greatest need, successfully enter, navigate and advance in portable careers," said Clifford Stanley, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "We fully support the program and are committed to ensuring the program's sustainability. To that end, we are making several critical operational changes."

Amongst these changes, eligible spouses will receive a total of \$4,000 in DoD-funded financial aid, with an annual cap of \$2,000 per fiscal year; funding must be used within a three-year time period from the start date of the first class; and must be used to obtain an associates' degree, licensure or certification. A waiver may be granted when fees for licensure or certification require an up-front fee greater than \$2,000 and up to the total maximum assistance of \$4,000.

"The MyCAA program popularity grew beyond our

expectations and became too expensive to continue. Therefore, we are returning to the original intent of the program in a way that is attainable and fiscally responsible for the Defense Department," said Stanley. "As we look to the future, we envision a program that is much broader than DoD's financial assistance component. Military spouses will be guided along a more holistic approach to career planning."

Under the long-term program guidelines, career counselors will continue to work with all military spouses to help develop career and education goals and plans and assist them in identifying and accessing available federal education benefits toward these goals.

"Families play a crucial role in supporting our men and women on the battlefield. When service members are confident that their families at home have access to resources and support, they are better able to focus on their mission," said Stanley. "The Defense Department is committed to investing in military families. When we invest in the well-being of the family, we invest in the well-being of the force." More information can be found on the MyCAA Web site: <https://www.militaryonesource.com/MOS/FindInformation/Category/MilitarySpouseCareerAdvancementAccounts.aspx>.

Sailors

- (Cont. from Page 1)

readiness...Her devotion to mission accomplishment combined with her extracurricular activities make her a great mentor and role model," Chief Air Traffic Controller Trevor Rowe stated in her nomination package.

Her work in the community included participation with Big Brothers / Big Sisters, the Escambia County Civil Citation program, the Mentoring Moms program, and the Manna Food Bank.

Turner was recognized for his efforts as a security department swing shift supervisor. As the watch commander, he ensures the safety of the base and his crew during their shifts. He is responsible for their performance and their training. Security Officer Ensign Daron Pettus called him a Sailor with "unlimited potential" who is "always the go to guy when a job needs to be completed."

Turner also initiated a community watch program in base house, and is a member of the parent advisory board for the Child Development Center at NAS Whiting Field.

"A dedicated, professional leader with a take charge

attitude and the initiative to job accomplishment which consistently results in a productive output of the highest quality, Petty Officer Fuller has my complete faith and confidence," Lt. Jitindra Sirjoo, Crash Division Officer said.

Fuller is a petty officer who displays the ability to perform at a level beyond his rank. He has already been named as one of the divisions Transient Line Petty Officer, responsible directly to the Operations Duty Officer for support of all airfield operations. This includes supervision of the movement and servicing of visiting aircraft. He also is the CPR Petty Officer for the division, ensuring all required training is up to date for nearly 100 employees.

"These awards provide leadership an opportunity to recognize all of our outstanding Sailors at our command. The competition is always tough but the best candidate gets nominated to represent their respective peer group and division. Command Master Chief Hari Singh said. "These three Sailors are exceptionally hard workers and truly deserved this recognition."

Ec-nomics

For flower beds and gardens, use drip irrigation or soaker hoses instead of regular sprinklers. You can save up to 70 percent of the water you would typically use because evaporation will be minimal and only base of plants will be receiving water as opposed to the leaves and foliage.

Believe it or not, it's been estimated that nearly 17% of cars on the road have broken or missing gas caps. What's the big deal? Escaping fumes not only hurt fuel economy but release smog-causing compounds into the air. Avoid air pollution and improving fuel mileage is as easy as replacing a bad gas cap.

For every 5 mph you reduce highway speed, you can reduce fuel consumption by 7%

Avoiding jack-rabbit starts and stops, and herky-jerky driving will improve fuel economy. Don't believe it? Lousy driving on the highway can add as much as one-third to your gas bill.

For these facts and more visit <http://www.thedailygreen.com/>.

U of F to Hold Wildlife Expo at PJC Milton Campus

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA- A Wildlife Expo is being held on the University of Florida / PJC Milton Campus, July 31, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The University of Florida, West Florida Research and Education Center and the Cooperative Extension Service, along with the help of some other fine contributors will be sponsoring the Expo. Chumuckla's Farmers' Opry, Scott's Outdoor Sports, Kingline Equipment, Farm Credit of Northwest Florida, Southeast Ag Net, National Wild Turkey Federation, Florida Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Commission will be just a few of these contributors.

This year's event will include helpful information and activities for the entire family. Various vendors and informational topics will provide a true outdoor experience for guests. This will include opportunities to gain insight into food plot preparation, fishing and pond management, and archery safety.

Demonstrations will be ongoing throughout the day and will include a reptile show, equipment use and correct scoring of antlers. The kids will have a lure casting competition in the afternoon.

Come out and meet the speakers, including: Zac Cooper, from the Browning Pro Staff. Everyone is welcome to attend, so bring the family, learn a lot more about the outdoors, and just have a good time.

Schedule includes: Fishing and Pond Management at 9:30 a.m.; Wildlife Habitat and Food Plot Preparation at 10 a.m.; Hunting Highlights and New Products at 10:30 a.m.; Zac Cooper at 12:30 p.m.; Reno's Reptile Live Animal Encounters at 1 p.m.; and Raffle (Rifle, Shot Gun, Tree Stand, and much more) at 2 p.m.

Former Sailor

- (Cont. from Page 1)

in the summer of 1975. I started out on the flight line and soon qualified as a plane captain at VT-3. My duties included refueling and performing turnaround inspections on the T-28B/C. I believe the Bravo's had tail hooks for carrier qualifications. I soon learned how to drive a tow tractor and could "3-spot" an airplane inside of the red squares, as well as with hand signals while taxiing. This was status among plane captains.

The line shack was a small steel corrugated building with four rooms and two window air conditioners. This was a welcomed refuge from the heat of the flight line, where the only shade was under the wing of an aircraft. We would often gather between launchings and discuss, in our great wisdom, how we could make this airfield run more efficiently. The line shack, flight line and maintenance control were all run by enlisted personnel.

In between VT-3, VT-2 and VT-6, there was a small concrete building called the "Geedunk". One could get a large hamburger with all the trimmings for \$1. It was known as the famous "buck burger". This was a favorite lunch spot rather than fighting the crowds at the chow hall, which was at the other end of the base.

Did I mention the fuel pits? These were large pits in the ground with two heavy steel doors on top with hinges.

Inside were coiled hoses that were approximately five inches in diameter. On the end of the hoses were large, heavy brass nozzles with about a three-inch opening that could put 177 gallons in an aircraft which seemed like minutes. One man would hand the hose up over his head to someone who was on top of the wing and he would reach out and grab it. We had a couple of times where the skin of the aircraft was split from the weight of the nozzle hitting the skin. The person fueling would have to turn their head up wind so as not to pass out from the vapors of the fuel. The gasoline had a purple tint to it and was 145 octane. By the end of the day, we were glad to pass the task of fueling on to the next shift. The hoses always seemed to get heavier after lunch!

The oil bowsers contained 90 weight oil and had to be hand-cranked in a circular motion. In the summer this wasn't too bad, but when it got cold, that 90 weight oil was so thick that a couple of times people bore the brunt of the handle by letting it slip out of their hands. It would spin back 1 and one-half revolutions with tremendous force! It was a lesson learned that no one wanted to repeat!

On some days, there were not many scheduled flights, so we would create scenarios and talk about them to pass the time. During one of these bragging sessions, one

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CAPTAINS CUP DART TOURNAMENT

Ace's beginning at 1630

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

If your squad/dept. would like more information or to enter a team in the league please contact Sports Coordinator Todd Mooneyham by email (todd.mooneyham@navy.mil) or phone (850-665-6102).

MWR
Navy, Marine & Recreational
NAS Whiting Field



Captain's Cup Racquetball Tournament

Wednesday August 4, 2010 At 1630

Tournament will be held at the Fitness Center

If your Squad/Dept. would like to put a team in the league please call Sports Coordinator Todd Mooneyham 850-665-6102 or email him at todd.mooneyham@navy.mil

MWR
Navy, Marine & Recreational
NAS Whiting Field

Former Sailor

- (Cont. from Page 6)

of the newer plane captains said he was so tough that “no one could take him down”. He happened to be lying on the ground when he said this. We all looked at each other and suddenly he looked like a magnet in a pile of nails. We “four-pointed” him with chains to the pad eyes and proceeded to fill his shorts and shirt with that 90 weight oil! Instructors were taxiing in with the canopies open and standing up clapping. It was a good lesson in humility and that man never mouthed off again!

When personnel shipped out, there were openings in the shops in the hangar. One’s ultimate goal was to work in the field that he was trained. I was moved up into the hangar a year later and worked as a hydraulicsman, my designation being AMH (“H” is for hydraulics!), where level one maintenance was performed on the aircraft. I also recall the aircraft being towed out of the hangars to the spots where high power test turns would be conducted.

The level of noise in the hangars was deafening and it would bounce back and forth when the hangar doors were open. This was due to the big radial engines being turned up outside the hangar, the diesel hydraulic ginnys running inside the hangar, landing gear recycling while the aircraft were on jacks, pilots walking through the hangar with students out to the flight line, and large fans circulating the hot air and fumes – it was a very busy place!

A great memory is the sound of the planes flying in patterns overhead coming in waves of six and seven at a time. It sounded like the movie, “Tora, Tora, Tora” and dominated the entire air field. Into the dark of the night one could hear the planes going through the various high power tests before they would be okayed for flight.

During this time, we were training Iranian and Saudi Arabian students as well as Navy, Marine and Coast Guard. We even had a few students from the UK.

In August of 1976, I brought a crew into the line shack after moving an aircraft. Sitting there were three WAVES - fresh out of “A” school being assigned to the line. I made a comment something like this: “Just what we need. We aren’t working hard enough now!” Little was I to know, that I would eat these words! One of these WAVES, Robin Aksamit, would become my wife! Her designation was ADR - “R” for reciprocating engine mechanic. Robin was one of the first women assigned to the flight line as a plane captain. She worked the line and Logs and Records at VT-3 and later worked at HT-8.

Eight months after that meeting in the line shack, we were married at a little church located at the edge of a cemetery out the back gate of Whiting Field, Trinity Baptist Church. Even though the church building is gone and relocated to Highway 90 in Milton, the road has since been named “Trinity Church Road.”



Senior Citizen

Chief Air Traffic Controller Trevor Rowe gets his Senior Chief anchors from wife Rebecca and son Spencer during his frocking ceremony July 19. The ceremony was held in the operations department auditorium. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

TRICARE Notes

TRICARE STANDARD: WE’RE HERE TO HELP

With so many decisions to make every day, it’s good to know that when it comes to your health care, answers are close at hand -- Your TRICARE Regional Contractor

When questions arise, Humana Military is your primary point of contact. TRICARE has three regional contractors in the United States: Health Net Federal Services, LLC in the North Region; Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc. in the South Region; and TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp. in the West Region (see the map for coverage areas).

Each regional contractor maintains a web site, toll-free customer service call center and TRICARE Service Centers to assist you with your questions and concerns.

Humana Military can help you locate health care providers. Also, if you have questions about eligibility, claims, referrals, appeals or fraud information, just pick up the phone or check out www.humana-military.com.

TRICARE North Region: Health Net Federal Services, LLC (1-877-TRICARE)

TRICARE South Region: Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc. (1-800-444-5445)

TRICARE West Region: TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp. (1-888-TRIWEST)