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# NASWF selects 2012 Sailors of the Year

By Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso, Naval Air Station Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field recently announced its 2012 Sailor of the Year, Junior Sailor of the Year, and Blue Jacket of the Year. The candidate pool for each award was comprised of leadership-nominated representatives of the air station's Air Traffic Control, Crash, and Security divisions.

Master-at-Arms 1st Class Adam Turner earned Sailor of the Year honors for his outstanding efforts throughout the year. His performance in professional and collateral capacities was singular among his peers.

Turner serves the Security Department as Command Investigator and Primary Evidence Custodian, a role in which he is responsible for leading law enforcement efforts on base. As one of the department's foremost au-



Master-at-Arms 1st Class Adam Turner  
NASWF Sailor of the Year

thorities on Naval law enforcement, Turner has served as a conduit between the base command and Naval Criminal Investigative Service. A key member of the air station's physical security team, Turner acts as a central overseer of the base's Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection program.

"Petty Officer Turner continually shows his versatility and flexibility... he is the 'go to guy' not only for the department, but also the installation... he is the finest example of a First Class Petty Officer," Security Department Head Lt. David Vandyke declared.

Turner is a noted mentor of junior personnel within his department. He has trained almost one hundred active duty members, Reservists, contract security personnel, and government service guards during

- (Cont. on Page 5)

## CNO Sends Navy Birthday Message

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- As we celebrate our naval heritage on our 237th birthday Oct. 13, we proudly reflect on more than two centuries of warfighting excellence as the world's preeminent maritime force.

We had an extremely busy year answering our nation's calls to operate forward - and like those Sailors that came before us, we assured allies, projected power, and defended our nation's interests around the globe. This past year also signified a landmark year for our Navy as we commemorated the War of 1812. 200 years ago, on the Great Lakes, along the eastern seaboard, and waters of New Orleans, our legacy was forged and traditions were made.

We can never forget the sailors who fought in 1812 and what we learned.

They were brave and innovative sailors with an amazing warfighting spirit.

- (Cont. on Page 5)



### Remembering The Past - Forging the Future

Naval Air Station Whiting Field Executive Officer Cmdr. Jonathan Lewis presides over the 237th Navy Birthday Ball held at Sikes Hall on the base Saturday, Oct. 13. More than 300 people from the base and the various tenant commands attended the gala. See page 7 for more photos from the Navy Ball. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.

# NASWF recognizes Navy birthday with bell ceremony

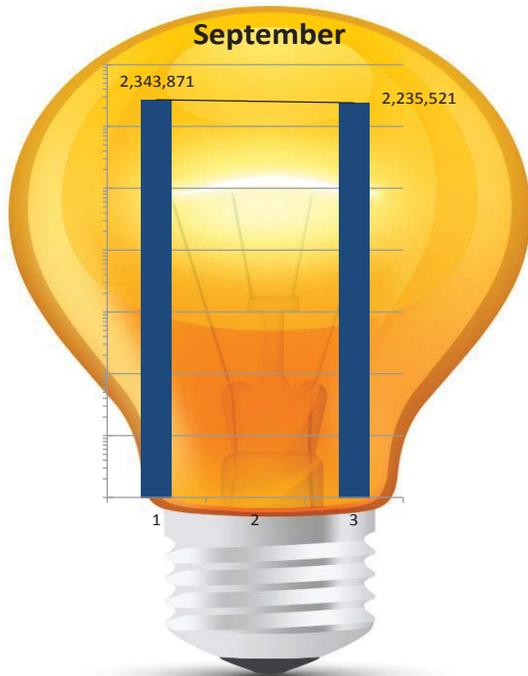


Naval Air Station Whiting Field Sailors salute as base executive officer, Cmdr. Jonathan Lewis reads a proclamation. Members of the base and tenant commands gathered Oct. 12 to recognize the Navy's 237th birthday. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

*Editor's Note: The following is the proclamation NAS Whiting Field Executive Officer Cmdr. Jonathan Lewis read to commemorate the Navy's birthday Oct. 12.*

As we celebrate our Navy's 237th birthday, our history and heritage forms our identity, telling us who we are and what we stand for. Our core values of honor, courage and commitment have been passed down from our founders, who charged the Navy with the solemn duty to serve as the "shield" of our republic. The first real test our navy faced was during the war of 1812. This war began at sea when United States' ships were ordered to heave to upon the high seas and U.S. citizens were forcefully taken, or impressed, into the crews of another nation's ships. The great battles that followed proved the fighting mettle of our Sailors and the cutting edge of our ship designs. These battles established both free trade and free navigation as critical national interests of our country, interests that endure to this day. The warrior characteristics of cunning and boldness exhibited in 1812 inspire our sailors of today's Navy as they continue to serve around the world. The war of 1812 served

as a critical turning point for our Navy. On this 237th birthday of our Navy, we have the honor to serve in the greatest maritime fighting force the world has ever seen, but we do so with humility, continuing to build upon the framework those fighting Sailors forged before us. History teaches us that with great power comes great responsibility. From the great captains and crews who fought single ship actions in 1812 to the commerce raiders of the Civil War; from the convoys of World War I to the major fleet actions at Coral Sea and Midway; from the blockade of Cuba in October of 1962 to the riverine operations on the Tigris and the Euphrates, our Navy has boldly and proudly put our shoulder to the wheel. We have championed peace and we continue to shield the republic. Here is to 237 years of proud Naval heritage, and many more!



## Power Outage

Conserving energy continues to be one of the Navy's prime objectives, so each month we will display the energy usage comparisons for Naval Air Station Whiting Field between 2011 and 2012. As you can see, in September, the base consumed 108,350 fewer kilowatt hours of power than in 2011.

## This Week in Naval History

### Oct. 16

1885 - Navy Capt. Alfred Thayer Mahan becomes superintendent of the Naval War College.

1891 - A brawl between American Sailors and Chilean nationals outside the True Blue Saloon in Valparaiso, Chile, resulted in two American Sailors killed, 17 wounded (five seriously) and many arrested. The incident sparked a diplomatic crisis that lasted for months, occasionally threatening war between the two countries, until a settlement was reached.

1940 - Fifth group of 10 destroyers from the Destroyers for Bases Deal are turned over to the British in Halifax, Canada.

1942 - Carrier aircraft from USS Hornet (CV 8) conduct attacks on Japanese troops on Guadalcanal.

1943 - The Navy accepts its first helicopter, a Sikorsky YR-4B (HNS-1), at Bridgeport, Conn.

### Oct. 11

1922 - Lt. Cmdr. Virgil C. Griffin, in a Vought VE-7SF makes first the takeoff from a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, USS Langley (CV 1) anchored in York River, Va.

1941 - German U-boat U-568 torpedoes and damages USS Kearny (DD 432) near Iceland, resulting in 11 killed and 22 injured.

1944 - Naval Forces land Army Rangers on islands at the entrance to Leyte Gulf in preparation for landings.

1989 - Following the San Francisco earthquake, 24 Navy and Military Sealift Command ships render assistance.

From - [http://www.navy.mil/search/display\\_history.asp](http://www.navy.mil/search/display_history.asp)

# News and Notes

**Whiting Pines Residents' Meeting** - There will be a Town Hall meeting on Oct. 29 for all Whiting Pines residents at 6 p.m. in the NAS Whiting Field base auditorium. The meeting is being held to answer all questions you may have concerning the Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP).

**Kennedy Space Center Salute** - We are happy to announce the re-activation of the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex Salute to America's Heroes (SAH) program. Offer good through December 18, 2012. The offer invites active and retired U.S. Military Personnel to visit KSCVC for free! See ITT to receive your free ticket and to purchase additional discounted tickets for family/friends; Adult \$44.50 Child (3-11) \$35.50, 850-623-7032 or 850-665-6250.

**Running the (Air) Field** - The Annual Naval Helicopter Association 5K is coming Thursday, Oct. 25. The race will kick-off at 7:30 a.m. at North Field. Up to the first 200 people who register will earn a "Finisher's Coin" upon completing the course. Fee to register is \$5 per runner. There will also be door prize drawings post race drinks and food as well as a fastest squadron trophy. Contact the HT-8 duty office at 850-623-7188 to register.

**Military Engineer Business Breakfast** - The Pensacola Chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) is hosting a Business Opportunities Breakfast at the Lighthouse Point restaurant on Friday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 a.m. The event features speakers from NAVFAC Southeast, the Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District and the UWF Small Business Development Center. All topics are focused on small business contracting and business opportunities with the federal government. The registration cost is \$25 per person. For more information contact pensacola.post@gmail.com.

**Golf Specials** - Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Morale Wel-



**Retaining Our Best and Brightest**  
Religious Programs Specialist 1st Class Yolanda Jordan receives her reenlistment certificate from Cmdr. Charles Luff, the base chaplain. Jordan reenlisted in the base chapel Friday, Oct. 12 for an additional six years. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

fare and Recreation department is promoting some new golf specials for the base course. Mondays now feature special \$18 fees for all players - cart is included. Each foursome can now have one member play free each Wednesday, and Fridays now feature unlimited play with cart for only \$24. Call 623-7348 with any questions or to check on restrictions.

**Monster Dash** - The 2nd Annual Monster Dash 5k Fun Run through Milton will be held on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2012. The race will begin at 5 p.m. and will start & end at Milton High School track. The course will include a creepy stroll through the Milton Cemetery. This will be a family friendly event and children are invited to participate with their parents on the run or in the Kids Mini-Monster Dash on the track. The festivities will conclude with a Post Race Monster Bash. Pre-registration is \$20.00 and includes a Dri-fit shirt. Participants can register at The Open Rose Florist or online at [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com) <<http://www.active.com/>>. Registration on the day of the event is \$25.00. The Kids Mini-Monster Dash is \$10.00. Group discounts are also available. Packet pickup and day of registration will begin at 4 p.m. In addition to the First, Second and Third place prizes, the post run party will include awards for Last Place, Best Costume, Best Group Costume and Most Creative Costume. For details call (850) 626-1796.

**Prep Marriage Communication/Enrichment Workshop** - PREP is a workshop for couples, married or engaged, that helps develop communication skills within a relationship and that provides valuable marriage enrichment information. The next workshop will be offered on Friday, November 2, 2012 (registration ends COB Tuesday, October 30, 2012). For more information or to register, please contact the Chaplain's Office at 623-7211.

**Pumpkin Patch** - Oliver's Nursery in Holt, Fla. will hold their 4th Annual Pumpkin Patch event Oct. 20. The event will feature hay rides, face painting, sand art, a petting zoo, games, photo opportunities and more for the kids. There will also be a band playing. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Check out [www.oliversnurseryinc.com](http://www.oliversnurseryinc.com) or call 850-537-9992.

## Do the Monster Mash

The Junior Enlisted Association and the First Class Petty officer's Association will be hosting the Spooky Treats Halloween party at the Atrium Oct. 27, beginning at 8 p.m. until midnight. Admission for the party will be \$5 and will be collected at the door. Admission will include food and drinks served throughout the night, prizes and music. The Spooky Treats, Halloween Party will be open to all base personnel, civilian and military and their guest. Must be age 18 or over. Music will be presented by DJ VI, with a range that includes rock, pop, hip-hop, reggae and jazz. Costumes are recommended but are not necessary for entrance. Call 646-261-6790 for details.

## Upcoming Events

Oct. 23-26 - NHA Fleet Fly-In

Oct. 26, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Oct. 29, 1800 - RECP Town Hall Meeting - Base Auditorium

Nov. 2, 1000-1600 - Blue Angels Air Show - NAS Pensacola

Nov. 9, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Nov. 12 - Veterans' Day Observed

# Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

**VA Representative - Friday, October 19 from 8 a.m. to Noon. (850-623-7177 for Appointment)**

**Anger Management - Wednesday, October 24 from 1 to 2 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. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

**Smooth Move - Wednesday, October 24 from 1 to 3 p.m.**

Make your next change of duty station move a smooth one. Learn what resources are available to you and the five key steps to minimizing stress during the relocation and transition period: get to know your FFSC Relocation Assistance Program Specialist, develop a plan of action, know your benefits, manage your moving day, make it a family affair. For more information, call NAS Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center at 850-623-7177.

**Holiday Spending - Friday, Oct. 26 from 9 to 11 a.m.**

It's that time of year when stores display holiday decorations, increase their inventory, and gear up to convince you to spend your money. Attend this class to learn techniques to control your holiday spending. Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

**Resume Writing - Monday Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to noon.**

This class will assist you in efficiently creating an effective resume. Learn how to handle sticky resume situations like military-to-civilian transition, age, employment gaps, layoffs, and career change. Learn to use your resume as a marketing tool. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 850-623-7177.

## 2012 Fleet Fly-In Annual

5K Presented by **Raytheon**



(Coin Front)



(Coin Back)

**Finisher Coins are NOT FOR SALE. Registrants must finish the race to get the coin.**

**Thursday 25 OCT 2012**

**KNDZ (South Field)**

**Race starts at 0730**

**\*Registration: \$5/Runner**

- ◆ Fastest Squadron Challenge
- ◆ Post Race Raffle Prizes
- ◆ Free Post Race Food and Drink

\*Register in the HT-8 Duty Office or see LCDR Gabe Somma or LT Jackie Felber for details.

# Chalkboard Minute

Earlier this week, if you have a child in the school district, they received a Federal Impact Aid Card. These cards are used as documentation for the data the district submits to receive grant money from the U.S. Department of Education Federal Impact Aid Program. The program assists local school districts that have lost property tax revenue, due to the presence of tax-exempt Federal property. A single funds-eligible card can bring in from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 apiece in unrestricted federal funds.



**Chris Hendrix**  
Schools Liaison Officer

I would encourage you to fill this form out and return it. This is Federal money that is set aside specifically for this school district, but will go somewhere else if not claimed. These cards are important to our schools to offset some of the taxes that are not paid because of the Federal Property in our county.

If you have any questions about this program, the formula for how the money is distributed, or any other school related questions, please contact me at 850-665-6105.

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## Sailors of the Year

- (Cont. from Page 1)

his time with the air station. His desire to see junior personnel trained and treated properly extends to working weekends and taking an active approach to leadership.

As the departmental career counselor, Turner has illuminated professional paths for his peers; as the divisional fitness leader, he is a recognized authority in physical conditioning.

Security Department Leading Chief Petty Officer Master Chief Master-at-Arms Peter Cady described Turner's training commitment as "leadership and mentorship skills beyond reproach, because he truly cares about the Sailor."

A nine-year veteran of Naval law enforcement and force protection, Turner has supplemented his field experience with a vast range of academic study in related disciplines. He has completed Navy correspondence courses in Homeland Security, anti-terrorism, defense threat reduction, emergency management, and suicide bombing response and prevention. In private study, Turner has completed college courses examining criminal street gang behavior and aircraft electrical systems theory.

Turner's community engagement on and off base is extensive. His contribution of more than 430 hours as Command Honor Boatswain and Color Guard Coordinator has reinforced the bearing and professionalism of the air station's honor details at high-profile events.

Within the Santa Rosa County community, Turner has been active with Habitat for Humanity, marched in the Milton Christmas Parade, and is a two-time recipient of the Knights of Columbus "Patriotic Service Award."

"When I first found out, I was honestly surprised



**Master-at-Arms 2nd Class  
Erica Roten  
NASWF Junior Sailor of the  
Year**

because we have so many deserving Sailors on base. Considering the candidates, it was both a surprise and a great honor.

"It feels great to be recognized through something like this because it's rewarding for my family as well. It lets me show my family - especially my kids - that the time we can't spend together, the hours that daddy gives to the Navy, is a sacrifice recognized and appreciated. That makes it meaningful to them as well," Turner reflected.

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Erica Roten was selected Junior Sailor of the Year for 2012. Her achievements on and off duty were cited as outstanding examples of junior enlisted performance above grade.

Roten stands among the emerging leaders in the air station's Security Department. She serves as Watch Commander, a capacity in which Roten oversees the placement, training, and performance of the base's Naval law enforcement personnel. She holds a Navy warfare qualification as an Expeditionary Warfare Specialist, and her catalogue of Navy coursework reflects sterling dedication to her force protection mission; Homeland Security studies, Active Shooter Response training, and Multi-Jurisdictional Counter-Drug Task Force certification feature among Roten's studies.

Her initiative, adaptability, and leadership qualities earned praise from Vandyke.

"[Roten] manages her time for the department's junior and senior Sailors alike by mentorship. She continually encourages her shipmates to pursue off-duty education, Navy COOL, and US MAPS," Vandyke noted.

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# TRICARE notes

## STAY ELIGIBLE: KEEP DEERS UP TO DATE

The Defense Enrollment Eligibility System (DEERS) is a worldwide database for all service members, their family members and others who are eligible for military benefits – including TRICARE. TRICARE uses the information stored in your DEERS record to determine benefit and program eligibility and your TRICARE region. Keeping your DEERS information accurate helps ensure that you can access TRICARE benefits – including doctor appointments, medications and expense reimbursement – when needed.

Remember to check your DEERS information regularly, especially when undergoing a life change such as moving, getting married or having a child. You can update and verify your DEERS record in the following ways:

- Online: [www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/)
- In Person: Sponsors can update contact information or add or delete a family member at the nearest identification card-issuing facility. Go to the RAPIDS site locator web site at [www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/) to find a location
- By Phone: Call 1-800-538-9552 or 1-866-363-2883 (TTY/TDD) to update your contact information
- By Fax: Fax contact information updates to 1-831-655-8317
- By Mail: Mail contact information updates to:

Defense Manpower Data Center  
Support Office  
400 Gigling Road  
Seaside, CA 93955-6771

## UNDERSTANDING AUTISM: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Early diagnosis and treatment offers children with autism a significantly improved outcome for the future.

- Impaired social interaction. As early as infancy, a baby with autism may be unresponsive to people or focus intently on one item to the exclusion of others

- Problems with verbal and nonverbal communication. Children with autism may fail to respond to their name and often avoid eye contact with others

- Unusual, repetitive or severely limited activities and interests. Many children with autism engage in repetitive movements, such as rocking and twirling, or in self-abusive behavior, such as biting or head banging.

If you think your child may be exhibiting these symptoms, visit your doctor.

For more information, visit the National Institutes of Health (NIH) web site at [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov).

## SECURITY CHECKPOINT



For the next 3 weeks Security Corner will review Motorcycle Safety for military personnel covered in OPNAVINST 5100 12J - NAVY TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM. We will cover a. Licensing, b. Three wheeled vehicles and scooters, c. Pre-purchase Counseling, d. Accountability, e. Motorcycle Safety Training (Level I, II and III), f. Motorcycle Safety and PPE. NOTE: Will not cover Enterprise Safety Application Management System (ESAMS) at this time.

### 12. Motorcycle Safety

a. Motorcycle Operator Licensing. All operators of government and privately-owned motorcycles must be properly licensed or permitted when operating these vehicles on public highways or roadways. For tactical motorcycle operators, a valid OF-346 with a motorcycle endorsement accompanied with a valid state driver's license fulfills this requirement.

b. Training for Operators of Three Wheeled Vehicles and Scooters.

Operators of motorcycles with attached sidecars, operators of three-wheeled vehicles and operators of scooters, mopeds or other two-wheeled vehicles that may be operated without a driver license motorcycle endorsement are not required to complete motorcycle training. All host nation, State and local training requirements must be adhered to.

c. Pre-purchase Counseling. Motorcycle ownership is a significant responsibility. Prior to purchasing a motorcycle, all Sailors will consult with the first chief petty officer or officer in their chain of command to be certain they are aware of the responsibilities that come with ownership. These responsibilities include proper licensing, insurance, registration, training, and mandatory PPE.

d. Accountability. All military personnel must meet all applicable licensing, registration, insurance and training requirements before street riding. Non-compliance is punishable under the UCMJ.

# Remembering the past at NAS Whiting Field



Above: Retired Navy Captain Collins Haines and his wife, Margaret, share a laugh during the 237th Navy Birthday Ball aboard NAS Whiting Field. Haines, a Naval aviator, 31-year Navy veteran, former Prisoner of War, and current member of the Pensacola Civil Air Patrol, was featured as the Guest of Honor and Guest Speaker for the air station's birthday gala.

Below: The Prisoner of War / Missing in Action (POW/MIA) table is set up to commemorate those who have yet to come home. The table is one of the many Navy traditions that are honored during the annual Navy Birthday Ball.



Above: Lt. Greg Sharp of Helicopter Training Squadron TWENTY-EIGHT performs "The Star Spangled Banner" in conjunction with the Pace High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Color Guard during the 237th Navy Birthday Ball aboard NAS Whiting Field.

Below: The Navy Ball birthday cake captures the spirit of the event with the slogan "Securing our Future."

Bottom: Master-at-Arms 1st Class Kenneth Pratt prepares to ring the bell during the ceremonial portion of the Navy Ball festivities.

Photos by Lt. j.g. Tim Mosso.



# Sailors of the Year

- (Cont. from Page 5)

Off duty, Roten demonstrates a broad commitment to her fellow Sailors through an ambitious portfolio of collateral duties. She serves the command as Sexual Assault Prevention and Response representative, Security Department Navy COOL representative, and department Assistant Career Counselor. In her capacity as SAPR alone, Roten has provided over 330 hours of time to aiding and advising her peers.

Within the area community, Roten exhibits the same degree of dedication. She has volunteered over 48 hours of time to the American Red Cross. Furthermore the air station's foremost Junior Sailor of 2012 has made impact contributions to local soup kitchens, nursing homes, and juvenile mentorship programs.

Aviation Boatswains Mate 3rd Class Andan Rempel was selected as NAS Whiting Field's Bluejacket of the Year. Rempel has been recognized as an indispensable contributor to safe operations and personnel training at the air station and its outlying fields.

Rempel's supervisors cited his commitment to excellence as a key contribution to over 300,000 safely-executed flight operations. Moreover, his performance in several instances of actual emergency reinforced command confidence in this Junior Sailor's competence and depth of character.

"[He] has proven to be a top-quality leader. He shows genuine concern for his Sailors' professional growth... his take-charge attitude and initiative to job accomplishment consistently produces positive results," Crash Division Leading Chief Petty Officer Senior Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate John Coger stated.

A true leader-by-example, Rempel exhibits dedication to reaching his personal potential while assisting peers to attain theirs.

His professional accomplishments include qualifi-



Aviation Boatswain's Mate  
3rd Class  
Andan Rempel  
NASWF Bluejacket of the  
Year

cation in Air Warfare and collateral duties as Hazmat Petty Officer and [Navy instructional] Publications Petty Officer. He actively pursues continuing education and has completed college courses in economics, geography, American history, psychology, and Human Relations.

A practitioner of the old Navy aphorism "one hand for the self, one for the ship," Rempel exhibits a magnanimous dedication to the advancement of his fellow Sailors. In 2012, this budding leader's mentoring has been a key factor in the Aircraft Fire Fighting qualification of three Sailors at NOLF Pace.

"He readily accepts increased responsibilities without hesitation and constantly produces outstanding results," Coger noted.

Off duty, Rempel is active within the base and Milton communities.

His charitable engagement reflects the same energy and depth of involvement that defines his professional character. Rempel's contributions include 30 volunteer hours as a fitness instructor for children, home construction with Habitat for Humanity, and work with East Milton Elementary.

"A command-wide Sailor, Junior Sailor, or Blue Jacket of the year award is a landmark moment in any Navy career. At the same time, this recognition should inspire the awardees to new heights of personal and professional achievement.

"Furthermore, it provides these exceptional individuals with the privilege and responsibility of acting as role models and mentors to their peers," NAS Whiting Field Command Master Chief Rafael Rosado explained. "The competition for these awards was fierce, and all nominees do justice to our command's mission and the Navy's core values. Bravo Zulu to all."

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## Birthday message

- (Cont. from Page 1)



Adm. Jonathan Greenert  
Chief of Naval Operations

They made us what we are today, and their spirit and self-sacrifice live on in our bold, proficient and confident sailors.

As we start this New Year together, I ask you to remember our tenets: Warfighting First, Operate Forward, and Be Ready.

We must be ready to fight and win today, while building the ability to win tomorrow. We must provide offshore options to deter, influence, and win in an era of uncertainty. Finally, we must harness the teamwork, talent, and imagination of our diverse force to be ready to fight and responsibly employ our resources.

Happy 237th birthday shipmates! I could not be more proud of our Sailors, civilian work force, and families. I am grateful to be your shipmate and a part of the greatest navy the world has ever known.

# Remembering our Naval heritage after 237 years

*Editor's Note: Continuing the timeline the paper ran two weeks ago, here are some additional pieces of information dealing with the early formation of our Navy's history.*

**January 25, 1776** - The Marine Committee given full powers in the direction of the fleet under Commodore Esek Hopkins.

**March 19, 1776** - Congress authorized the fitting out of armed vessels "to cruise on the enemies of these united colonies."

**March 23, 1776** - General Letters-of-Marque and Reprisal issued by Congress, and thenceforth all British vessels, armed or unarmed, were liable to capture by American ships.

**July 4, 1776** - Declaration of Independence of the United States of America.

**September 5, 1776** - The Marine Committee decided upon the uniform to be worn by officers of the Navy and Marine Corps.

**October 3, 1776** - Congress authorized the purchasing, arming, and equipping of "a frigate and two cutters in Europe."

**October 10, 1776** - Congress established the rank and command of the Captains of the Navy.

**October 29, 1776** - Act of Congress denying to private vessels the right of wearing "pendants" in the presence of Continental Navy vessels without the permission of the commanding officer thereof.

**November 6, 1776** - A "Continental Navy Board, consisting of "three persons well skilled in maritime affairs," appointed by Congress "to execute the business of the Navy under the direction of the Marine Committee"; This Board was subsequently divided into an "Eastern Board," and a "Board of the Middle District.

**November 15, 1776** - Congress established the relative rank of Naval and Army officers.

**November 20, 1776** - Law authorizing the construction of the first line-of-battle ship, to carry seventy-four guns.

**January 23, 1777** - Congress authorized the construction of one 36-gun frigate and one 28-gun frigate.

**February 6, 1778** - Treaty of Amity and Commerce concluded between the United States and France.

**October 28, 1779** - A "Board of Admiralty" established which was given control of all naval affairs; it consisted of three commissioners who were not in Congress and two who were.

**February 7, 1781** - Alexander McDougal, a major-general, who had been a seaman in his youth, appointed "Secretary of Marine," with all the duties previously confided to the Board of Admiralty.

August 29, 1781 - An "Agent of Marine" appointed "with authority to direct, fit out, equip, and employ, the ships and vessels of war belonging to the United States, according to such instructions as he shall from time to time receive from Congress."

**September 7, 1781** - Resolution of Congress by which the duties prescribed to the "Agent of Marine," until he should be appointed, devolved on the Superintendent of Finance, Robert Morris, who, indeed, appears to have had the chief agency in the civil administration of the Navy during the greater part of the War.

**September 2, 1782** - Presentation of the U.S. 74-gun line-of-battle ship America to Louis XVI, King of France, to replace the Mag-nifique, 74, lost in Boston Harbor.

**September 3, 1783** - Definitive treaty of peace concluded with Great Britain and the United States, acknowledged a sovereign and independent state. On April 11, 1783, a cessation of hostilities had been proclaimed.



**NAVAL AIR STATION WHITING FIELD**  
**2012 CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**Friday December 14th, 1800 - 2400**

Join us for dancing, food, prizes and loads of fun!

Ticket prices: E1 to E3 \$5.00, E4 & E5 \$10.00  
all others \$15.00

To purchase tickets contact Mike Flournoy at 665-6119