NPC website receives new look, keeps Sailor-relevant content

By MC1(AW) LaTunya Howard,
Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. - The current Navy Personnel Command (NPC) website, www.npc.navy.mil, is receiving a new but familiar look as it moves to a new server hosted by Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), April 11.

"The migration to a server hosted by DISA complies with a Navywide mandate to consolidate all public websites," said NPC Strategic Communications Officer Lt. Cmdr. Delmy Robinson. "The number one thing visitors are advised to do is to refresh their bookmarks and 'favorites' as they might have changed due to modifications in the navigation layout."

The revision came about as the Navy merges its portals per directives NAVADMIN (Naval Administrative Message) 145/07 and 061/08. The NPC website contains more than 6,000 pages which registers nearly one million visits per month.

According to NAVADMIN 061/08, Navy websites accessible directly from the public Internet present a target for adversaries. In order to reduce this vulnerability in a cost effective way, the Joint Staff directed the services to consolidate public facing websites to a single point of presence.

"[A DISA-hosted website server offers a] solution for publicly accessible websites, providing enhanced website information assurance and risk assessments, accountability, standardization and branding. This will align current Navy infrastructure with next generation enterprise network strategy," read the NAVADMIN.

"The new system offers a better web experience with a simplified layout, improved search engine capabilities and the same Sailor-relevant content," said Robinson. "Regular users of the NPC website will not experience any major changes.

Navy Personnel Command launched its new website April 11, to comply with a Navywide mandate to consolidate all public websites. Organizations will experience improved content management features, faster access time and common access card login for Web authors, eliminating password requirement.

Image courtesy of Naval Personnel Command

Organizations will experience improved content management features, faster access time, and common access card login for Web authors, eliminating password requirement. Automatic page expiration forces Web authors to conduct timely updates to improve Web content currency and reliability.

"The NPC Website is the second most visited Navy site. More than 85 percent of the Navy's Web content can be found only here, it is imperative that Sailors and their families have non-interrupted, user-friendly access," said Robinson. "Our ultimate objective is to provide Sailors and their families with current and reliable web content, so they can make informed career and life decisions."

For more information about web-author requirements and additional features to the NPC website, read the frequently asked questions located at the NPC homepage, call NPC Customer Service Center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC, (1-866-827-5672) or send an e-mail to CSCMailbox@navy.mil.

USS McCampbell hosts Girl Scouts during Okinawa port visit

By Ensign Emily McMenamin,
***USS McCampbell* Public Affairs**

OKINAWA, Japan - The guided-missile destroyer *USS McCampbell* (DDG 85) hosted 48 local Girl Scouts and their troop leaders for a day of fun and exploration during a port call in Okinawa, April 14.

The girls, ranging from 4 to 10 years of age, had gathered from around Okinawa and the Republic of Korea for a Girl Scout jamboree.

McCampbell Sailors gave the girls a tour of the ship, providing them the opportunity to see what Sailors do on a daily basis. They also got the chance to climb on board and view an SH-60B Sea Hawk helicopter, assigned to the "Warlords" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 51.

The tours were led by Sailors who were Girl Scouts when they were young, who shared with the girls why they joined the Navy, what their jobs entail and how the Girl Scouts helped prepare them to serve.

"It was a great experience having the girls on board and seeing how much they enjoyed the tour and were excited to learn about what we do," said Operation Specialist 3rd Class Alyse Anderson, one of the Sailors leading the tours.

Following the tours, the crew provided snacks for the girls and gave them time to ask questions, talk with Sailors individually and meet *McCampbell's* commanding officer. *McCampbell* Sailors also took the opportunity to share more about their jobs, emphasizing to young girls the career possibilities available to them.

The Sailors showed the girls that they have the ability to take on any profession they so choose.

"The Girls Scouts we met today are the future leaders of tomorrow. And [for us] to showcase that women are strong leaders and work in every environment is always an honor," said Gunners Mate 1st Class Catherine Marquez.

"They got to truly understand what it means to 'honor their country' by learning what we do everyday," Marquez added. "The bonus for the crew is that we got to feel like a kid again by viewing our job and home through a child's eyes and imagination. Today, I got to say again that I absolutely love my job."

McCampbell is one of seven Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers assigned to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15 and is forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

Lassen crew celebrates ship's 10th year, recognizes namesake

By Ensign Sean A. Brophy, USS Lassen Public Affairs

SASEBO, Japan – The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer *USS Lassen* (DDG 82) marked its 10th year of service April 21.

Commissioned in 2001, the ship is named in honor of the late Cmdr. Clyde Everett Lassen, an UH-2 Sea Sprite helicopter search and rescue pilot in Vietnam. Lassen, a native of Fort Meyers, Fla., was the first naval aviator to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic efforts to rescue two aviators shot down behind enemy lines in North Vietnam June 19, 1968.

Reflecting on Lassen's great history, the crew gathered in celebration on the ship's forecastle. The event began with an invocation by Chief Gunner's Mate Bless Roberts, followed by a reading of Clyde Lassen's biography from Senior Chief Fire Controlman Jeffrey Mullins.

Addressing the crew as special guest speaker, Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo Commanding Officer Capt. Francis Martin has a special history with *Lassen*. As former chief staff officer for Destroyer Squadron 23, Martin witnessed *Lassen's* crew certification, the last step during precommissioning of the ship.

"When something is started right, it is usually finished right," said Martin to the crew. "I can attest that *Lassen* and her crew started things right, continue to do things right, and I am confident will finish out right."

Martin is also a good friend of *Lassen's* first Commanding Officer, Capt. Sean E. O'Connor, who sent the crew his best wishes on it's tenth birthday.

Lassen's seventh and current Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Chip Wrye, reviewing all of *Lassen's* accomplishments in only 10 years of service posed a question to the crew, "What makes *Lassen* special?"

"We hold ourselves to high standards," said Wrye. "I have never seen a crew more involved and more caring than that on *Lassen*. Your strength to maintain a constant state of readiness and fighting capability is what carries on the spirit of Cmdr. Lassen."

Various port calls and foreign relations, multi-national exercises and real-world operations, and rigorous training, all attribute to *Lassen's* success.

The ceremony continued with the presentation of the U.S. Naval Academy class of 1982 Cmdr. Clyde E. Lassen Memorial Leadership Award. Lt.j.g. John Jacobson and Chief Engineman Fred Coldsnow were both selected by their fellow leaders and then presented the prestigious award by Wrye for their strength, courage, and exemplary leadership on board *Lassen*.

The celebration culminated with a traditional cake cutting by *Lassen's* most recently reported Sailor, Gunner's Mate Seaman Apprentice Eric Marvin and *Lassen's* longest serving Sailor Gas Turbine Systems Technician Electrical 1st Class Charles Chenault.