

WINGSPAN



Vol. 15, No. 5

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

February 26, 2009



Barbara Allen Rainey
First Female Naval
Aviator
NASCC
Feb. 22, 1974



Helo Down
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**Shipboard
Wedding**
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**Motorcycle
Training**
Page 4

Military Auxiliary Bishop visits Coastal Bend Naval bases Blesses ship, conducts Confirmation Mass



Bishop Joseph W. Estabrook, with the Archdiocese for the Military Services, blessed USS Defender (MCM 2) during his Feb. 9 visit to Naval Station Ingleside. Estabrook also visited NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville.

Story on Page 5.

(Pictured from left) Deacon Ron Martinez, NASCC business manager, Bishop Estabrook; Lt. Cmdr. Patrick O'Mahoney, Defender Commanding Officer; Father John McKenzie; MNCS(SW) Thomas Robertson, senior enlisted leader for Defender; and Lt. Paul Hyder, Ingleside's Chaplain.

Photo by MN3 Samantha Hill

Air Show list of performers firming up

by Rod Hafemeister

The list of performers confirmed or expected for the April 18-19 Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Air Show is beginning to fill out.

The headline performers, of course, are the Blue Angels, the Navy's premier demonstration team.

But while the Blue Angels will close the show each day, the Army's Golden Knights parachute team will be opening it.

Other military demonstrations will include fly-bys of the T-34, T-44 and TC-12 training aircraft used at NASCC as well as the H-53 helicopter used by HM-15 and Coast Guard aircraft.

Flying in for the show are the F/A-18E Super Hornet, and the F-15 Strike Eagle.

Expected historical aircraft include the P-47 and F-8F and, representing the other side of the Cold War, the MiG-17F.

Civilian aerobatic demonstrations will include:

- Rob Holland, the 2008 World Advanced Aerobatic Champion, flying the MX-2
- Skip Stewart in the Pitts S-2S
- Jan Collmer flying the Fina EA300L
- Paul Fiala in the Great Lakes Bi-plane
- Teresa Stokes Wing Walking Act

Base officials expect that, if the weather cooperates, more than 200,000 visitors may descend on the Air Base.

Access will be through the Flour Bluff Gate only, with shuttle buses running between the designated parking areas and the flight line.

Lt. Cmdr. Jason Greene, NASCC Public Safety Officer, said that drivers will not have to have their paper registration for their vehicles, but must have valid registration and inspection stickers, current insurance cards and valid driver's licenses or they will not be permitted on base.

All drivers also must show a valid driver's license as picture ID to gain entry and all adult guests, 18 and older, may be required to produce a photo ID.

Air Show continued on page 15

Randy W. Ball, flying his MiG-17F, is one of the scheduled performers for the NASCC air Show April 18-19.

Courtesy photo



Skipper's Column

by Capt. Randy Pierson



Pierson

Greetings NAS Corpus Christi.

As Spring approaches, I wanted to ensure that I passed out some great news regarding recreational programs and opportunities here at the Naval Air Station.

First, as many of you have recognized, our MWR programs continue to flourish around the base. We have been successful in aligning current funds and gaining new

MWR moving forward

funding to best take advantage of the uniqueness of NASCC environment and outdoor opportunities.

I would like to highlight our recent purchase of three 14.6 American Day Sailing Boats retailing \$20,000. They are available for very reasonable daily/hourly rental at the Marina.

The Marina is also offering Deep Sea fishing to groups or individuals – a \$100-off per charter is being offered by our MWR for a "Customer Appreciation/Spring is Here" Special during the month of March.

In addition, we have reopened, by reservation, our Paint Ball Field located near the installation Reserve Center. We have all the necessary paint ball equipment and continue to improve the grounds. If you are a paint ball enthusiast, please contact the

MWR Director or the Base CMC with any suggestions to improvement to your experience or expectation.

Finally, we are near complete on a 48-slot expansion of the Recreational Vehicle Parks here at the installation. In response to routine sell-outs we have expanded Shields Park by 20 slots with new construction and renovated 28 slots through a self-help project.

The total value of both projects is more than \$1.2 million and well deserved by each and every one of those eligible.

In closing, our MWR programs are only successful through your support and feedback. Please contact MWR at (361) 961-2267 for any details.

As the installation CO, I take pride in our MWR and always remain a POC for your concerns.

Chaplain's Message

by Lt. j.g. Rob Fasnacht, Chaplain

After a grueling, long, painful run, my command was asked to remember nine simple words: "What the mind can conceive the body can achieve."

We were challenged to remember this because exercise is not only a physical task but also a mental task. This mantra is telling us to have vision and to push the body to accomplish said vision.

People with vision are amazing. They have the ability to look ahead, past problems and roadblocks, and to see achieved results. Visionaries are proactive instead of reactive, and do not allow their circumstances to dictate they way they live. People who only react tend to spend all their effort putting out fires instead of accomplishing something new.

In the Old Testament, Nehemiah was a visionary. The Israelites lived in exile, and the walls to Jerusalem lay in disarray. Nehemiah had the vision to repair the walls even though he wasn't living in Jerusalem at

Vision needed to lead - and follow

the time and the town was in rubble.

The thing I love about this story is that Nehemiah was not a priest or a prophet. He was just a wine-taster for the King of Babylon. He was a person of influence only because he had the vision to accomplish something great, not because of his position.

We each can have the title "person of influence." Nehemiah's vision was bigger than his position. He had to first get the king on board with his plan.

Then he had to convince the leaders and the people, who were skeptical and weary. The king, the leaders, and the people all had to share the same vision to accomplish such a daunting task.

At one point in the story, the people were rebuilding the wall with a tool in one hand and a weapon in the other. Nehemiah was ridiculed for attempting the project. But he knew what had to be done and was not deterred.

Leaders, do you have vision? Do you

know where you are taking your troops, the pitfalls they may face and how to overcome them?

Troops, do you share your leader's vision, and are you willing to do the work that needs to be done with a tool in one hand and a weapon in the other?

Do we share the vision of hosting the greatest South Texas Shoot-out Air Show, becoming VPP qualified, or having an expectation of spiritual renewal at the prayer breakfast?

If we want to do something great, we must first have vision and mentally conceive it, and then the body, us working together as one, can achieve it.



Fasnacht

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

Every few days, an aircraft lands at Dover Air Force Base carrying the bodies of service-members who have died in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

A chaplain performs a prayer and then an eight-man Honor Guard moves

each flag-draped casket to the van that will take it to the mortuary for processing.

Those who have seen it say it is one of

Honor their sacrifices

the most moving, emotional events they have experienced – a final honor for the fallen before they are returned to their loved ones for burial.

Yet most Americans have never seen it or know much about it – for almost two decades, such ceremonies have, with rare exception, been closed to the media.

A few photos have been leaked and a few others have been released under the Freedom of Information Act. But generally, the public has not been shown the return of the fallen since the "Dover Incident" on Dec. 21, 1989.

Then-President George H.W. Bush was holding his first news conference after the invasion of Panama a few days earlier. And in a questionable use of modern split-screen

television technology, he was seen joking and laughing with reporters at the same time the caskets were arriving at Dover.

Whether you want to blame the networks for "ambushing" Bush or his own press staff for not recognizing the potential for embarrassment, the result was a ban on showing caskets arriving at Dover.

President Obama has requested a review of that policy, and Defense Secretary Robert Gates has said he welcomes the review. Gates has previously said he thinks it should be possible to allow some media access, as long as the feelings of the affected families are taken into consideration.

As a journalist and a soldier, I think it's about time.

Editor continued on page 6

Wingspan

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Commanding Officer
Capt. R.F. Pierson

Public Affairs Officer
Robert D. Torres
Robert.Torres1@navy.mil

Editor
Rod Hafemeister
rodney.hafemeister@navy.mil

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Rear Adm. Wolfe visits area Navy bases

Navy women, officer and enlisted alike, still have a special need to pull together and mentor each other, according to Rear Adm. Patricia Wolfe.

"We need to mentor for the long-term, not just short-term," she told a group of female Sailors at a luncheon Feb. 12.

Wolfe, a Navy Reservist in the Supply Corps, wears three Navy hats: She is assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Fleet Supply and Ordnance, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Commander, Logistics Task Force Pacific;

and Commander, Naval Logistics Forces Korea.

She was in the area for a combined Supply Corps birthday party and farewell to Naval Station Ingleside personnel who will be moving as part of that base's closing.

But she also took time to have lunch at the Bay Club with a group of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi female officers and enlisted Sailors, tour Training Wing 4 and get a tour of a minesweeper at Ingleside.

(right) Rear Adm. Wolfe speaks to women Sailors at a luncheon Feb. 12. Photo by Rod Hafemeister

(below) Training Wing 4 Commodore Capt. Dave Price helps Wolfe try out a flight simulator. Photos by Lt. Bethany King.



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Motorcycle safety classes open - get trained or do not ride!

by Rod Hafemeister

If you ride a motorcycle and have not passed a safety class in years, you could lose your privilege to ride on base.

And if you are active duty military, you're violating regulations if you don't have a current safety certificate - on or off-base - and especially if you ride a sport bike.

The Navy saw a 74 percent increase in motorcycle fatalities in fiscal year 2008.

So Navy leadership, including NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson, is cracking down on those who need motorcycle safety training.

In fact, Pierson is scheduled to take the course himself in an upcoming class.

NASCC had its training range closed for awhile, but it's been open since October.

But Motorcycle Safety Instructor Dan Miller said he's so far only passed 51 students since the re-opening - about 13 riders per month.

"That's not good enough," Miller said. "But with more advertising and as we get more riders identified by their commands, that is bound to increase.

"Since January, I have had some full classes - but I have also had to cancel a couple due to lack of student registration. As we draw closer to warmer weather, the 'riding season,' I'm sure that will pick up, too."

Navy leadership began cracking down on motorcyclists in November, after seeing the statistics for fiscal 2008.

Since then, Sailors who ride or even just own a motorcycle must report that ownership to their commanding officer through the First Khaki in their chain of command - even if they never intend to ride on base.

Commanding officers or the equivalent must maintain a list of all military motorcycle riders in their command and ensure that riders have a valid motorcycle driver's license, vehicle registration for street bikes, proper insurance and have either attended or are scheduled to attend motorcycle training courses.

And if you are simply thinking about buying a bike, military personnel now have to consult with their First Khaki to ensure you are fully aware of the responsibilities of motorcycle ownership, including licensing, insurance, registration, training and mandatory wear of personal protective equipment.

Failure to comply or failure to wear proper protective gear, including helmet, gloves and footwear, could leave you open to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

There also is the potential that injuries could be declared not "line of duty" if it is determined you did not wear proper gear or rode recklessly - meaning the government wouldn't be responsible for your medical bills.

"We are in the process of identifying those who have not had any formal motor-



Student riders learn safety habits and smart riding in a motorcycle safety class at NASCC.

Courtesy photo.

cycle safety training within the past three years and who are still riding on base," Miller said. "If this is you, you may be in jeopardy of losing your privilege to ride on base - so sign up for a class now!"

The Navy has long required people riding on base to attend a motorcycle safety class, either the two-day Basic Rider Course for new riders or the one-day Experienced Rider Course for everyone else.

Last year, the Navy added a third motorcycle class, the one-day Military Sport-bike Rider Class now required for anyone riding sport bikes. Sport bikes are defined as any bike with the foot pegs slightly behind the rider.

Any military member, dependant, retiree or DoD civilian employee can take the classes for free.

Signing up is easy; just do it online from any computer, even your home computer, at: www.navymotorcyclerrider.com

Currently, the site is showing the following classes in March:

- Basic Rider Class - March 2-3, March 16-17 and March 30-31.
- Experienced Rider Class - March 12 and March 26.
- Military Sport Bike Rider Course - March 5 and March 18.

Miller can be reached at 961-1960 or by email at daniel.j.miller4.ctr@navy.mil.

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Bishop Estabrook visits NASCC, NS Ingleside and NAS Kingsville

Story and photo by Rod Hafemeister

Bishop Joseph Estabrook, Auxiliary Bishop in the Catholic Archdiocese for the Military Services, visited the Coastal Bend Naval bases the second week of February.

His major reason for the visit was to conduct a Confirmation Mass for military dependants and others on Feb. 9.

But he also took time to attend the monthly "Welcome Aboard" luncheon at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

And he visited with the Chief of Naval Air Training and with the Catholic Faith Group at NASCC.

"It was a real honor to have him here," said NASCC Chaplain Lt. Tim Gault.

At Naval Station Ingleside, Estabrook blessed and toured one of their minesweepers.

And on Feb. 10, he visited with Catholics and leadership at Naval Air Station Kingsville.

"It's always great to spend some time with Sailors and other Servicemembers," he said at the NASCC luncheon. "I always look forward to it."

Estabrook is a former Navy Chaplain who retired with the rank of Captain after 27 years in service.

He is a graduate of St. Bonaventure University, Christ the King Seminary and the Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley.

He was ordained as a priest in May, 1969, and served in parish assignments until entering the Navy on July 4, 1977.

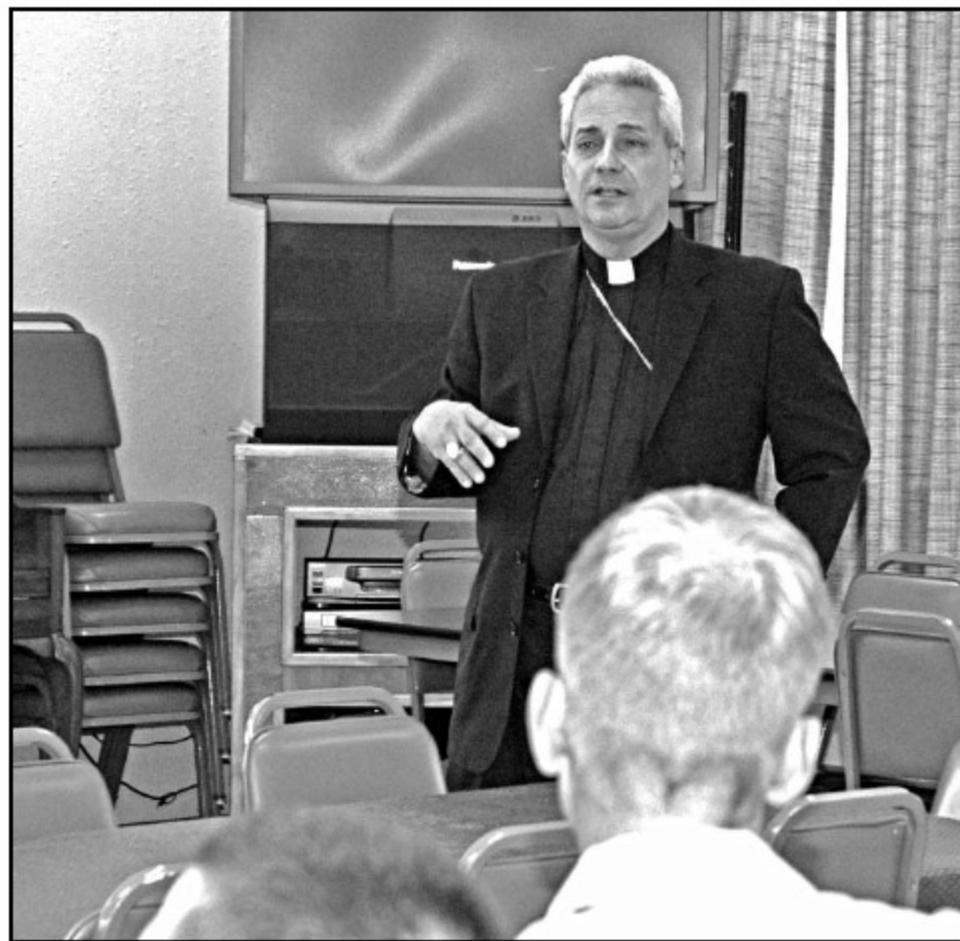
His first chaplain assignment was to NAS Jacksonville.

Other assignments included: Chaplain at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.; the Armed Forces Staff College, the Navy Chief of Chaplains Office, the USS Carl Vinson and NAS Sigonella.

He finished his active duty career with back-to-back assignments as Pacific Command Chaplain, Pacific Fleet, Hawaii and Command Chaplain, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

He was consecrated as a bishop on July 3, 2004 and serves as one of two auxiliary bishops of the Archdiocese for the Military Services.

(right) Bishop Joseph Estabrook speaks at the monthly "Welcome Aboard" luncheon held by the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Chaplain's Office. Estabrook was in town the week of Feb. 9 to conduct a Confirmation Mass



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Editor continued from page 2

I've heard all the arguments about how the "liberal media" will exploit any photos or videos to generate an anti-war fervor.

Frankly, that's bunk. The fringe element of the media that might try that is about as rare as those kooks who claim religious reasons for protesting at military funerals.

What will happen, I expect, is a whole generation of reporters and editors who have never served in the military will gain a new appreciation for how seriously those in uniform take the sacrifices their brothers and sisters-in-arms make.

Let me give you an example: In late 1993, I was working for a daily newspaper in Southern Illinois. At the time, I was the only person in the newsroom — reporter, photographer, editor — who had served in the military, making me the "expert."

When the "Blackhawk Down" incident happened in Somalia, we had the unlikely experience of having not just one, but two, local boys killed as members of the relief unit.

Both funerals were set for the same day, in different parts of our coverage area. So I was sent to cover one — and another reporter covered the other.

Reporters, especially general assignment and police-beat reporters, get pretty callous pretty quick. You can only see so many murders and fatal accidents without building up a psychological shield against them.

So I was a little surprised when, later that day, the other reporter came to me almost in tears, seriously shaken. He confessed that he had completely lost his professional detachment when the rifle salute and "Taps" was played — and wasn't sure how he could write the story.

But he did, and I'll admit his descriptions were better and more moving than mine were. And the family sent him a letter of thanks for his effort, which he kept taped to his cubicle for years.

Here's another example: My former employer, Army Times Publishing, has for the last several years periodically published a section in all four service papers showing the faces and names of those who have given their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It's a somber, moving section every time they run it — it literally puts faces to the costs of using military force.

It is a way to honor their sacrifices — similar to the reading of the names at 9/11 anniversary commemorations.

And yes, the readership is a rather specialized audience — but the thanks and praise from those readers far outweighs the occasional criticisms.

Media bashers will find it hard to believe, but editors and reporters are already having discussions about how to use any images from Dover — and how to be sensitive to families, especially in local markets.

If you look at the reporting, you'll see that, when it's a local servicemember, journalists bend over backwards to be fair to the families when covering funerals and memorials. I don't see that changing significantly just because a few more images become available.

Editor continued on page 15

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TAMU-CC President promotes Joint Civilian Orientation Conference

by Lt. j.g. Brett Dawson, CNATRA PA

Senior Navy leaders are in the process of nominating civilian public opinion leaders for the 2009 Joint Civilian Orientation Conferences.

And as far as the president of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is concerned, anyone given the chance should jump at it.

Sponsored by the Secretary of Defense, JCOC is designed to give civilian leaders a better understanding of the military and national defense issues. JCOC is the oldest existing Pentagon outreach program having been held more than 76 times since 1948.

JCOC participants attend Pentagon briefings by Department of Defense (DoD) military and civilian leadership and then join the military in the field observing exercise and participating in training.

JCOC 77 will be hosted by the U.S. Northern Command, June 1-4, 2009, and JCOC 78 will be hosted by U.S. Southern Command, in mid-September 2009.

Last year, Dr. Flavius Killebrew, president of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, joined 46 other civilians for a JCOC program in Europe, touring the U.S. European Command at various military sites in Greece, Spain, the United Kingdom and Germany. The group met with personnel from the Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force and Coast Guard.

"My understanding of the issues that some of the young men and women deal with are strengthened by going on the conference," Killebrew said.

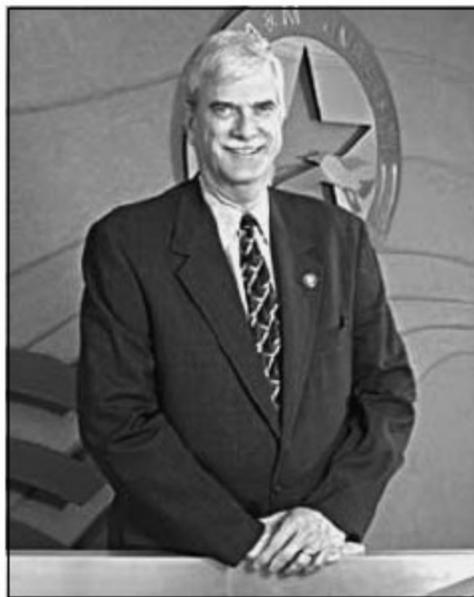
He added that his understanding of the circumstances related to service members has greatly improved from the experience.

Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini, Chief of Naval Air Training, nominated Killebrew as a representative of South Texas for the JCOC, which was held Sept. 19-26.

"It is crucial that our educational partners in the area understand the breadth of our nation's military to understand how important it is for them to recommend military service to the right young people," Guadagnini said.

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi is classified as "military friendly" and has many active military students as well as a large number of veterans.

"The JCOC gave me a better perspective and appreciation of active and veteran military members," Killebrew said. "I've



Killebrew

seen where and how they train and work. I want to ensure they appreciate their time at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and build a successful future."

Killebrew said that the young men and women he met on his visit were very mature in their thinking and dedicated to protecting the freedom that Americans enjoy.

Top U.S. military officials throughout the conference urged civilian leaders to return home and share their experiences with young people who might consider military service, and that is what Killebrew has done.

"I have had the opportunity to meet with groups to discuss the JCOC, and in each and every case people get very excited and are very interested in the experience," he said.

He recommends that anybody given the opportunity to participate in JCOC to do so because it was one of the top experiences in his lifetime.

Continued relationships with the community surrounding our military installations are vital to the on-going success of this nation's military.

The Joint Civilian Orientation Conference helps reinforce the relationships and partnerships.

"Our military members and their dependants attend Texas A&M Corpus Christi and their graduates join the military," Guadagnini said. "The JCOC helped to strengthen our natural partnership."

VA needs volunteer drivers

Volunteers are needed to drive VA-vans from the Veterans Affairs clinic on Old Brownsville Road, Corpus Christi, to the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center in San Antonio.

The drivers will transport veterans and caregivers for round-trip, same-day appointments at the center on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

To apply to be a volunteer driver or to get more details, contact Curtis Starling, VA Clinic Administrator, at 361-896-5600 ext. 1.

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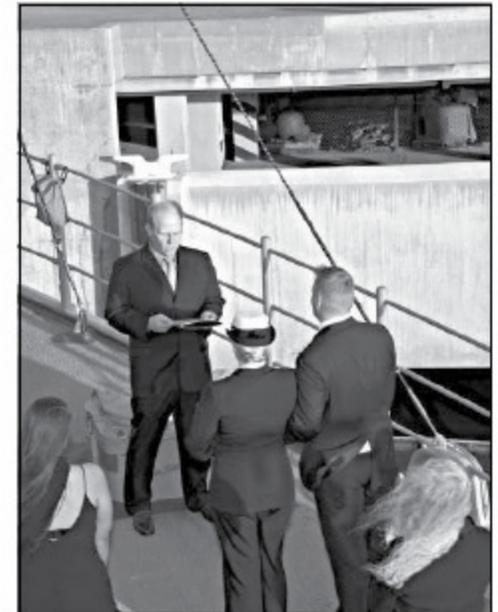


In an unusual shipboard wedding, MN1 Rachel Butler married Cole Chapman on Jan. 23, on the foc'sle of USS Defender (MCM 2).

The ceremony was conducted by Cole's father, Brian Chapman, an ordained minister.

Rachel is an AM/SQQ-32 sonar instructor at the Mine Warfare Training Center. Cole was previously an active duty mineman assigned to MCM Crew PERSISTENT.

Photos by Richard Stewart



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NCIS Crime Reduction Program Targets Identity Theft

by MCI(SW/AW) Kristen Allen, NCIS PA

WASHINGTON – The Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) is focusing its crime reduction program (CRP) campaign on identity theft through March 31.

"Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in our country," said NCIS Special Agent Carrie Nelson, CRP coordinator. "This campaign is designed to highlight the protective actions individuals can take to safeguard themselves from becoming a victim."

NCIS has been working closely with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to provide the most current information on identity theft to all Sailors and Marines during this campaign.

The FTC is the federal government's center for resources, information, and coordination with other agencies on identity theft issues. FTC's campaign motto in fighting identity theft is to deter, detect, and defend.

"We do training around the country for federal, state and local law enforcement officers on how to investigate identity crimes and how to assist victims who come to them with identity theft problems," said Betsy Broder, assistant director, FTC Division of Privacy and Identity Protection. "We have a very comprehensive program on consumer education at large and victim assistance."

'Considering the frequent deployments our service members experience and the amount of time spent away from home, they are at high risk for victimization.'

Victims can report identity theft by writing to the FTC, completing an online complaint form at:

<https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/> or calling FTC's toll free hotline 1-877-ID-THEFT (438-4338). Complaint forms and identity theft information materials are available in English and Spanish.

Broder noted more than 300,000 identity theft complaints were filed with the FTC in 2008.

She said service members can have particular problems with identity theft because their Social Security numbers are so closely intertwined with their identities, and Social Security numbers are often what identity thieves are looking for to open up new accounts.

Deployments and being stationed overseas also put Sailors and Marines at risk.

"Considering the frequent deployments our service members experience and the amount of time spent away from home, they are at high risk for victimization," added Nelson.

Broder advised service members to be vigilant when handling personal identifying information, especially for those living on ships, or in barracks or other communal living areas where it may not be as easy to

protect information. She said personal information needs to be protected whenever possible to prevent identity theft, even if it's on a computer.

"With computers every file that has information about you should at least be password protected, and you should have appropriate filters and firewalls to help prevent electronic id theft," said Broder.

'Even when you take precautions, there is still the risk that you could become a victim of identity theft.'

Broder explained members of the armed services who are deploying can place an active duty alert on their credit file, which serves as a red flag to help prevent fraudulent accounts from being opened.

If someone attempts to open an account in the service member's name while they are away from their home duty station, it will alert the creditor to ask the applicant for more information and pieces of identification.

She also suggested checking a credit report before and after deployments.

"You are entitled to one free credit report per year from each of the three credit reporting agencies," said Broder. "It's a good idea to check one before you deploy to make sure everything is okay, and then check a report from another agency when you return from the deployment to make sure no fraudulent accounts were opened in your absence."

Along with consistently monitoring credit reports, Broder said there are other important steps service members and their families can take to prevent identity theft.

They include:

- shredding documents with personal information;
- not carrying Social Security numbers in wallets or purses;
- safeguarding military IDs;
- not giving out personal information on the phone, through mail, or over the Internet unless a person knows who they're dealing with;
- not lending out credit cards or account information;
- not clicking on unsolicited e-mails;
- not letting mail pile up if unable to collect it;
- and not using obvious passwords like your birth date, mother's maiden name, or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

"Even when you take precautions, there is still the risk that you could become a victim of identity theft," added Broder.

For those who do fall victim to identity theft, Broder said the first thing to do is put a fraud alert on your credit file. Service members can call one of the credit reporting agencies to place the alert, and they will convey the alert to the other two agencies.

All fraudulent accounts need to be closed as soon as possible by phone and followed up in writing, and the service member needs to keep good records of all papers and correspondence sent out regarding the fraudulent accounts.

Identity theft victims need to file a police report in order to pursue their rights and start clearing their name and cleaning up credit reports.

Sailors and Marines in the United States can make a report at any police department. Personnel who are deployed or stationed overseas, can file a report with base law enforcement.

Broder also advised bringing the issue to the attention of your command because it may require quite a bit of time to resolve the issues, and reporting identity theft issues to the FTC.

"All complaints that come into the FTC are put into the secure Consumer Sentinel network database, and nearly 2,000 law enforcement agencies including military commands have access to this information, and they use it to help investigate and pursue identity theft," said Broder.

"By reporting the issue to the FTC, it helps consumers resolve their problems, and it provides law enforcement with resources so they can better investigate and prosecute the crime."

The FTC's main identity theft Web site is: www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/ The site contains links for consumers, businesses, military, law enforcement, and a reference desk with resources including pamphlets and brochures.

Security in Numbers

*** - ** - ****

SSNs and ID Theft

As part of efforts to reduce the risk of Identity Theft, the Department of Defense has begun removing Social Security numbers from DoD ID cards.

Changes to ID cards will occur when the cardholders' expired cards are renewed.

Removal is being done in three phases, all of which will occur upon ID card renewal:

- Phase One, the removal of dependant SSNs from dependant ID cards, began at the end of calendar year 2008. Dependant SSNs are being replaced with XXX-XX-XXXX but sponsor SSNs will remain visible through this phase.

- Phase Two, the removal of all printed SSNs from all ID cards, will begin by the end of calendar 2009. SSNs will be replaced with XXX-XX-XXXX except for Geneva Conventions Cards, which will show only the last four digits of the cardholder's SSN.

- Phase Three, the removal of SSNs embedded in barcodes, will begin in calendar 2012.

For more information regarding the SSN Reduction Plan, visit:

www.dmdc.osd.mil/smartcard

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‘Hurricane 16 has a problem...’



The crew of Hurricane 16, an MH-53 Sea Dragon, was doing minesweeping training Feb. 5 when they got an indication of a transmission problem.

Although they were only five miles from NASCC, safety protocols called for landing as soon as possible – in this case, among the golf balls on the Padre Isles driving range.

That part of the story made the TV news. But the rest of the story is how the NASCC community pulled together to help.

As soon as the crew radioed they had a problem, air controllers diverted T-34s from VT-27 and VT-28 to check on the helo.

Ranger 747 spotted the -53 still in the air and observed until it landed and the crew was seen calmly examining their helicopter.

Boomer 855 then took over as on-scene commander, in contact with the control tower.

The NASCC Fire Department rushed to the landing site. Although they thankfully were not needed to deal with fire or injuries, they provided essential lighting both for repairs and to allow the crew to take off when their bird was cleared to fly.

NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson sent out a “Bravo Zulu” to all involved for a job well done.

Photos by NASCC Fire Chief John Morris



Awards and Achievements

The units of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi on Feb. 12 recognized their Military Members of the Year for 2008 and Military Members of the Quarter, 4th Quarter 2008.

Military Members of the Year - 2008



Photo by Richard Stewart

Military Members of the Year, by command (not all pictured): FRC – SK1(AW) George Fosnaught, SK2(AW) Jacob Williams; HM-15 – AWS1(AW) Mickey McCullough, MN2(AW) Rebecca M. Butler, AEAN Christa A. Clark, AE1(AW) Thomas Jones, HM2 Jon Beach, AT3 Justin Goddard; NASCC – MA1 Damien Holmes; NHCCC – HMI(SW/AW) Floralene Sanchez, HM2(FMF) Jami Skornia, HN Tanner Grammer; NOSC – PS3 Michael Alvarez, SK2 Leif Emminger, SK2(SW) Daniel Harasim, IT1 George Franco; Cmd PSD CC – PS3 David Guevara; USCG – EM2 Jarrod West.

Military Members of the Quarter - 4th Quarter 2008



Photo by Richard Stewart

Military Members of the Quarter, by command (not all pictured): FRC - SK1(AW) George Fosnaught, AZ2(AW) Jimmy Salinas; HM-15 - AE1 (AW) Nicholas D. Bradfield, AE3(AW) Travis T. Marion, ATAN Stephanie R. Schuler, AE1 Thomas Jones, AD2 Tito Rocha, AT3 Justin Goddard; NASCC – EN1 Carol Winkler; NHCCC – HMI(SW/AW) Floralene Snachez, HM2(FMF) Levon Hansford, HN Brad A. Taylor; NOSC – EO2 Michael Otis, HMI(FMF/SS) Michael Phillips, LN1 Kathryn Nichols; USCG – BMI Edgar Jimenez, HS2 Amy Gonzalez, SN Michael Harris; MATSG-22 – Lance Cpl. Christopher L. Pauley.

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Navigating NSPS: Training for Employees, Supervisors Coming Through VTC

by Mary Anne Broderick Tubman, CNRSE
Public Affairs

As the demands of national security have increased, the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of the Navy (DON) have addressed the need to become more progressive and competitive employers through a responsive civilian personnel management system.

In 2006, DOD and DON began conversion to the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), and most of the installations within Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) began operating under NSPS in 2007.

Employees were introduced to the fundamentals of NSPS prior to the conversion process through NSPS 101, which is still available through Navy Knowledge Online (NKO).

This year, NSPS training is being taken to the next level through two new courses titled *Navigating NSPS for Employees* and *Navigating NSPS for Supervisors*.

The eight-hour classes, which will be presented via Video Conferencing (VTC), have been tailored specifically for DON.

Like NSPS 101, the training is required for all civilian employees under NSPS and for all military personnel who supervise these employees.

Each training session is conducted by Human Resource Operations personnel from installations throughout the region, and reviews and explains new procedures established through NSPS for how civilians are hired, assigned, compensated, and promoted.

Among the specific topics to be addressed are Human Capital Transformation, a conversion overview, and NSPS fundamentals, including classification and compensation.

Training will be offered two days per month from February through September, with one session for supervisors and one for employees.

Each course begins at 9 a.m. EST. Most Forward Deployed Detachments (FDDs) within CNRSE have VTC capability.

Training announcements, which include registration forms and deadlines, will be distributed by CNRSE Workforce Development at NAS Pensacola, Fla. prior to each class.

Course materials can be downloaded from the following web sites:

<https://www.donhr.navy.mil/NSPSDocs/NSPS%20Sup%20PG.pdf>
(Supervisor's Guide)

<https://www.donhr.navy.mil/NSPSDocs/NSPS%20Emp%20PG.pdf>
(Employee Guide)

Employees with questions about the schedule may contact Connie Baldwin at HRO Pensacola, (850) 452-3337, ext. 3112 or DSN: 922-3337, ext. 3112.

While the training is intended to provide employees with a general working knowledge of NSPS, anyone with specific questions may contact the Total Force

Management East Operations Office at DSN: 942-4734 (for Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, NAS Jacksonville, NAS Key West, NS Mayport, NS Kings Bay, and NWS Charleston) or the West Operations Office at DSN: 922-4021, ext. 3001 (for CBC Gulfport, NAS Pensacola, NSA Panama City, NAS Whiting Field, NAS Meridian, NAS/NSA New Orleans, NAS/JRB Ft. Worth, NAS Corpus Christi, NAS Kingsville, NB Guantanamo Bay, and NS Ingleside).

Schedule of NSPS VTCs

Navigating NSPS for Supervisors

- Tuesday, Feb. 24
- Tuesday, March 24
- Tuesday, April 28
- Tuesday, May 19
- Tuesday, June 23
- Tuesday, July 28
- Tuesday, Aug. 25
- Tuesday, Sept. 22

Navigating NSPS for Employees

- Wednesday, Feb. 25
- Wednesday, March 25
- Wednesday, April 29
- Wednesday, May 20
- Wednesday, June 24
- Wednesday, July 29
- Wednesday, Aug. 26
- Wednesday, Sept. 23

Air Show continued from page 1

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Permitted items include:

- Diaper bags and Strollers for toddlers
- Small Camera Bags
- Binoculars
- Prescription Drugs
- Purses

All of these items will be inspected upon entry to the air field.

Editor continued from page 6

The other thing to keep in mind is that any such images will be "news" when/if they suddenly become available, but will soon disappear from print and television.

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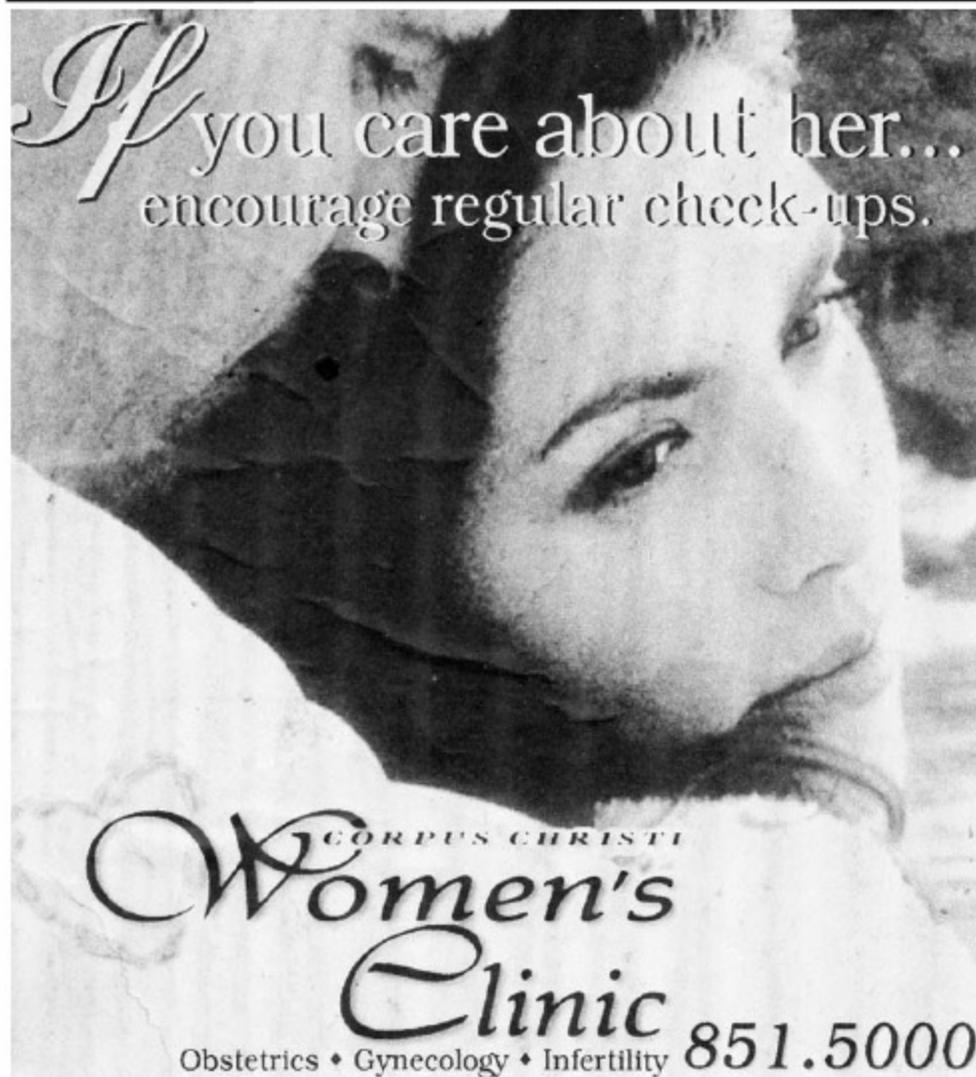
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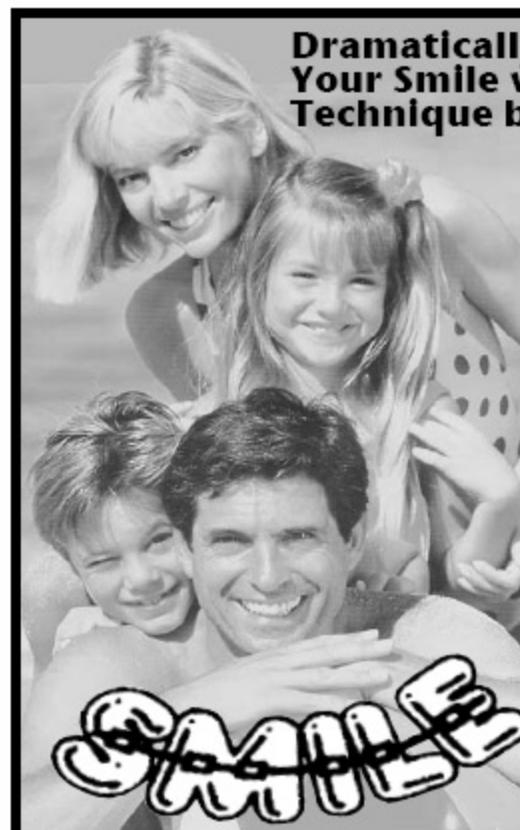
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Through effective role assignment and fulfillment, the effective family carries out necessary family functions such as the provision of food, clothing, shelter, nurturance and support, and life skills development for the children.

Also included are maintenance and management of the family system involving leadership and decision making.

Members of a functioning family have the ability to respond to a range of issues and concerns with the appropriate quality and quantity of feelings as well as showing empathic interest in the activities of other family members.

Finally, the effective family is

Ruben G. Garcia, Ph.D., LMFT is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and co-founder of The Healing Institute. Submit your questions to Dr. Garcia via email at troubadour55@hotmail.com. You can also contact Dr. Garcia at (361) 814-4556.

Universal Orlando Resort honoring military personnel with free admission

Universal Orlando's Military Salute program offers servicemembers free, seven-day admission to both theme parks and discounted tickets for family and friends.

The program is open to active duty, retirees, and Reserve and National Guard members with valid military ID.

Tickets are available through local IT offices, including the NASCC ITT office.

Program Details:

- Tickets are available for sale from Feb. 17 through June 28, 2009; they expire on Dec. 18, 2009.

- Complimentary tickets for military members: Two-park, Unlimited Admission (seven-day).

- Companion tickets for family and friends: Two-park, Unlimited Admission (seven-day) for only \$9.00 per person.

- The Two-park Unlimited Admission

seen as managing the behavior of its members in physically dangerous situations (e.g., seeing that a child does not dangerously run out into the street) and in situations involving meeting and expressing psychological needs or drives (e.g., eating, sleeping, and aggression) and interpersonal socializing behavior.

Q: My parents always stop by unannounced to see my 6-month-old daughter. How can I ask them to give my family space without seeming rude?

A: There's nothing wrong with asking for privacy. In fact, people should always ask if it's okay to drop by, family included.

In your case, your parents may be so excited about their granddaughter that they're overlooking your need for "alone" time.

You can, however, begin to manage this problem by telling them that while you're glad they love visiting their granddaughter; you need some notice before they come over.

You can say something like, "I want to make sure that we'll be home." Or "I don't want to put the baby down for a nap if you're on your way here."

You might also try creating a visiting schedule – say every Tuesday morning or every other Sunday – so everyone can plan ahead.

tickets are valid for admission to Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure for seven consecutive days and CityWalk venues for seven consecutive nights.

- Tickets must be signed and used by the same person on any and all days.

Universal Orlando Resort is the home of Universal Studios Florida and Islands of Adventure theme parks, Universal CityWalk, a restaurant, shopping and nighttime entertainment complex, and three on-site Loews hotels.

Flagship experiences featured in the theme parks include The Simpsons Ride, Revenge of the Mummy - The Ride, The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man and coming this Spring, Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit, the most individually customizable roller coaster ever created.

Navy Makes Preparing for Selection Boards Easier

by Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW) Maria Yager, NPC PA

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) – A new program announced by Navy Personnel Command (NPC) Jan. 14 makes reviewing records and preparing for selection boards easier by providing online access to their official military personnel file (OMPF).

Web Enabled Record Review (WERR), announced in NAVADMIN 011/09, allows Sailors to review documents in their OMPF, which are the same documents reviewed by selection board members when considering candidates for officer advancement, selection for chief, senior chief and master chief, and other selection boards.

"There's no substitute for empowering Sailors with the benefits of personalized access to their official military personnel file," said Jim Lauder milk, head, Military Personnel Records Management and Policy at NPC.

Sailors can now access their WERR through Bupers on Line (BOL) at: <https://www.bol.navy.mil>.

All active duty and selected Reserve personnel with a BOL account and a CAC-enabled computer with appropriate certificates can now view their OMPF online by selecting the WERR option on the BOL main menu page.

This application also allows Sailors to download and print service-record documents for personal and professional use.

"[It is] very impressive, user friendly, and offers easy access. I was extremely pleased with the availability of my personnel files in WERR and my ability to access and print copies of the things that I needed," said Lt. Cmdr. Ricky Small, assigned to NPC.

Since WERR mirrors what is uploaded to the Electronic Military Personnel Records System, recently submitted documents may not yet appear in the record.

If documents have been sent to NPC within the past 12 months, there is no need to resend them. They are still being processed.

"The projected goal of WERR tool is to empower Sailors," said Dwight Stanton, director, Military Personnel Records Management Division.

"Offering almost instantaneous viewing of service-record documents and providing the opportunity to notify NPC of official corrections online improves records management for the entire Navy and ensures records are selection-board ready."

WERR is an improvement because it eliminates the wait Sailors previously faced.

"There are unnecessary time-lags caused by waiting days or weeks to receive the CD version of the OMPF in regular mail," Stanton added.

For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/npc/

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Cmdr. Emero accepts the flag



Cmdr. Bruce "Omar" Emero accepts the flag from NASCC XO Cmdr. Bruce Lankford at Emero's Feb. 13 retirement. The tradition is to have the flag passed up the ranks, from the lowest rank to that of the recipient. Emero then presented the flag to his uncle.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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Classified continued on page 21

Emero brandishes his cutlass



Cmdr. Bruce "Omar" Emero brandishes the cutlass presented to him upon his retirement by the Chiefs' Mess after using it to cut the celebratory cake. Emero admitted that the cutlass presentation was a complete surprise and "a terrific honor to receive that from the Chiefs."

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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'Lunch is served ...'



Peggy Uselton (right) received a lunch pizza from radio station KFTX's Della Adame on Feb. 5. Uselton's name was picked in a weekly drawing the radio station conducts to deliver a pizza to someone's office. Uselton works in VT-31 and invited some of the instructor pilots to share a slice.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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'Here's what you do in an emergency...'



Air Force Capt. Andrew Carr, an instructor pilot with VT-35, explains emergency procedures onboard the TC-12 Huron to AC3 Michael O'Donnell (center) and ACAN Christopher Shead (right) before taking them on an orientation flight. The flight was the first in a new effort to give controllers a better understanding of flight procedures and tower-to-pilot communications.

Photo by Richard Stewart

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