

## Boxer arrives at Pearl Harbor

**Lt. Chad A. Dulac**  
Commander, Amphibious Squadron 1 Public Affairs  
and Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4), as part of the Boxer Amphibious Ready Group (BOXARG), and the embarked 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (13MEU) arrived in Pearl Harbor on March 1 as part of a regularly scheduled port visit.

"This is a great opportunity for the crew of the ARG/MEU to replenish our supplies, embark key personnel, relax a bit and

enjoy the spirit of aloha before we press west on our deployment," said Capt. J. Curtis Shaub, commander, Amphibious Squadron One.

Boxer and the other ships from the ARG, including the amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay (LPD 20) and amphibious dock landing ship USS Comstock (LSD 45), have trained for months and are fully prepared to execute a range of missions, from humanitarian assistance to kinetic operations.

While in port, Boxer Sailors and Marines, in conjunction with Sailors and Airmen of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-

Hickam, volunteered their time by making food baskets for the homeless at the Foodbank of Hawaii on March 2.

"We are eager to do our part and put to use the skill sets a n d

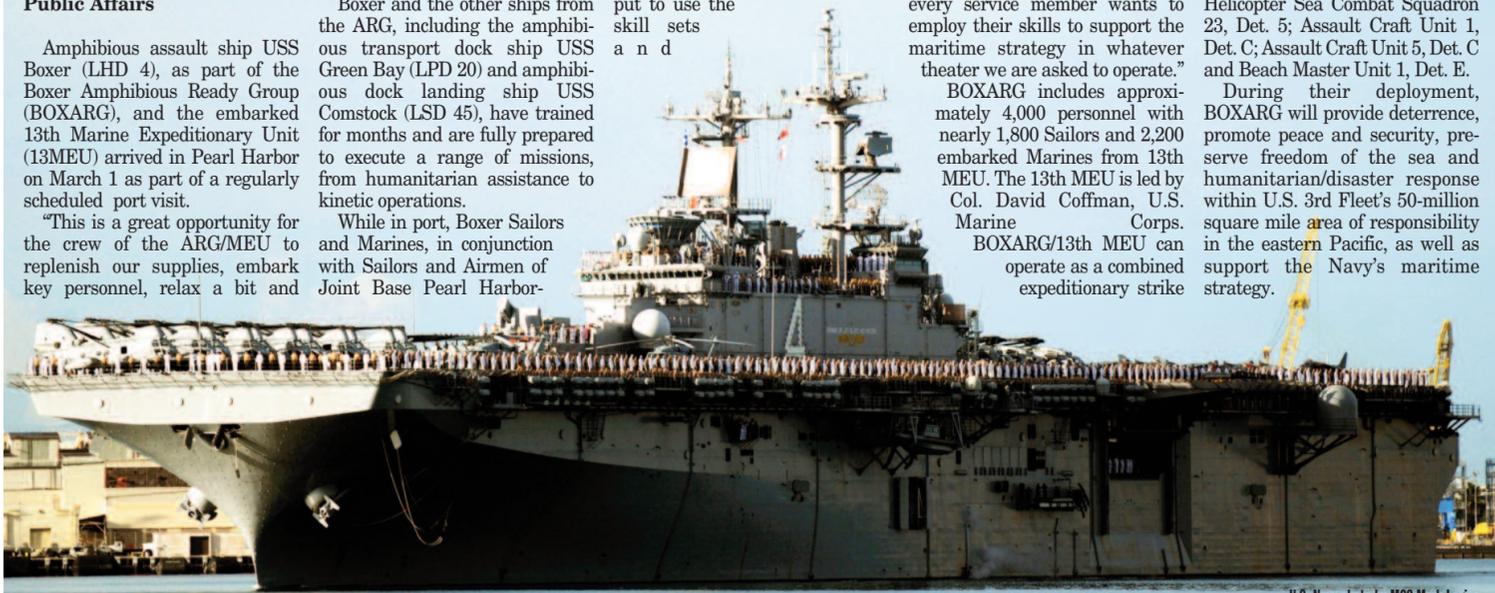
readiness the ARG/ MEU has worked so diligently to perfect," Shaub said. "The Navy and Marine Corps team is primed at the height of their efficiency, and every service member wants to employ their skills to support the maritime strategy in whatever theater we are asked to operate."

BOXARG includes approximately 4,000 personnel with nearly 1,800 Sailors and 2,200 embarked Marines from 13th MEU. The 13th MEU is led by Col. David Coffman, U.S. Marine Corps. BOXARG/13th MEU can operate as a combined expeditionary strike

group or deploy assets to provide support for multiple missions.

Other elements of the BOXARG include: Fleet Surgical Team 3; Tactical Air Control Squadron 11; Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 23, Det. 5; Assault Craft Unit 1, Det. C; Assault Craft Unit 5, Det. C and Beach Master Unit 1, Det. E.

During their deployment, BOXARG will provide deterrence, promote peace and security, preserve freedom of the sea and humanitarian/disaster response within U.S. 3rd Fleet's 50-million square mile area of responsibility in the eastern Pacific, as well as support the Navy's maritime strategy.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Mark Logico

Amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4), as part of the Boxer Amphibious Ready Group (BOXARG), and the embarked 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) arrive at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam March 1 for a port visit. During their deployment, BOXARG will provide deterrence, promote peace and security, preserve freedom of the sea and humanitarian/disaster response within U.S. 3rd Fleet's area of responsibility, as well as support the Navy's maritime strategy.

## USS Hawaii returns to 'aloha state' from deployment

Story and photo by  
MC2 Ronald Guttridge

Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs Office

The Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Feb. 24 after a scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific region.

Hawaii departed Pearl Harbor on Aug 25, 2010 on her maiden western Pacific deployment, the first for the Virginia-class, with 136 Sailors onboard, many of whom were experiencing their first Navy deployment.

The crew experienced the dynamic operational environment of the western Pacific and returned with a wealth of submarine experience and advanced qualifications. They were also successful at professional development with 25 returning to homeport who advanced to the next pay grade and 10 who became submarine-qualified and are now authorized to wear



The Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776) returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region. This was Hawaii's maiden western Pacific deployment on Feb. 24 and the first for a Virginia-class submarine.

the submarine warfare insignia or "dolphins."

"I could not be more proud of my crew. They are highly motivated and performed flawlessly in all respects on this deploy-

ment," said Cmdr. Steve Mack, Hawaii commanding officer. "The experience we gained operating our submarine for six months forward-deployed demonstrates our capabilities for

extended operations and the flexibility, endurance and mobility of these mighty warships."

Over the course of the deployment Hawaii accomplished all assigned taskings

including theater and national level activities, participated in Valiant Shield 2010, and conducted operations with the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group.

The deployment also

included port visits to Yokosuka, Japan, Pusan, South Korea and Singapore in support of U.S. 7th Fleet's commitment to growing maritime partnerships and an enduring commitment to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

"Hawaii exceeded all expectations and demonstrated the myriad capabilities the Virginia-class submarine brings to the challenging western Pacific environment and has set the stage for the success of future Virginia-class deployments," Mack said.

Measuring 377 feet long and weighing 7,800 tons when submerged, Hawaii is one of the Navy's newest and most technologically sophisticated submarines.

The state-of-the-art submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, irregular warfare and mine warfare.

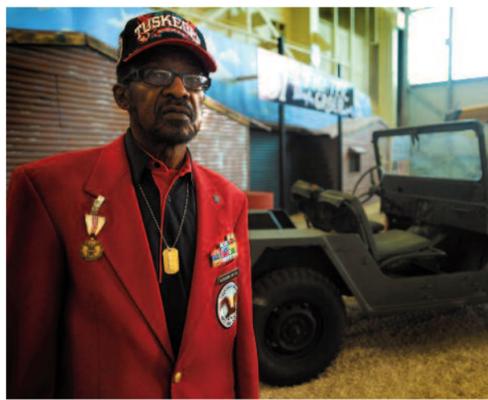
## Tuskegee Airmen are on the march

Story and photo by  
A1C Lauren Main

15th Wing Public Affairs

Although not a Tuskegee Airman himself, retired U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Norman Artis has been a member of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. since 2003. He enlisted in the Air Force Reserves on June 23, 1950, only two days prior to North Korean forces unleashing all-out attacks across the 38th parallel and initiating the beginning of the Korean War.

"Basic training was supposed to be 13 weeks, but due to the start of the war, it was cut in half," Artis said. "After that, I was stationed at O'Hare Air Reserve Station in Chicago and from there I was activated and sent to Korea."



Retired Air Force Tech. Sgt. Norman Artis visits the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island, Hawaii on Feb. 11. Artis served during the Korean War, Cold War and Vietnam War as a supply and maintenance troop.

Artis joined a newly desegregated military service still clinging to old prejudices, but nevertheless, he helped pave the path for African-Americans to serve equal-

ly. He took the example of the Tuskegee Airmen, who served a decade earlier to become the first African-American pilots and crew

See TUSKEGEE, A-8

## USS Santa Fe crew leaves Hawaii, headed for western Pacific deployment

Story and photo by  
MC2 Ronald Guttridge

Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs Office

The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) departed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Feb. 24 for a scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific region.

Cmdr. David Adams, Santa Fe's commanding officer, commented that the crew is extremely excited and well prepared to get underway.

"Each and every Sailor has worked extraordinarily hard to prepare for this deployment," Adams said. "Each crew member clearly owns their piece of the mission and we have spent the



Fire Control Technician 1st Class (SS) James Hainuat from Wahiawa, Hawaii, assigned to the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763), says goodbye to his wife and daughter before Santa Fe departs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Feb. 24 for a regularly scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific region.

past year honing our submarine skills so that we can be ready for deployment."

This deployment will be the first for the majority of

the crew where, according to Adams, they will be conducting many training exercises

See SANTA FE, A-8



Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam celebrates 2011 African-American History Month See page A-2



Historic NCO Club at Hickam gets a second life See page A-4



Sailors 'jump' to assist the community See page A-6



Survivor makes final journey home to Pearl Harbor See page A-7



Paddling provides opportunity for military to embrace culture See page B-1



Cat rescue group seeks foster, adoption homes for felines See page B-7

## U.S. Air Force participates in Australia's Avalon Airshow



U.S. Air Force photo by Lt. Col. Kenneth Hoffman

Stephen Smith, Australian Minister of Defence, speaks at a press conference in the shadow of a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, during the Avalon 2011 Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition in Geelong, Australia, March 1. The minister spoke about the possibility of his country purchasing more C-17 aircraft for the Royal Australian Air Force, which celebrated its 90th anniversary this year.

### 13th Air Force Public Affairs

At the invitation of the government of Australia, the United States military is represented at the Australian International Airshow 2011 held at Avalon Airport, Victoria, Australia, from March 1 through 6.

A cross-section of U.S. military aircraft and equipment were on static display and performing aerial demonstrations, including the F-22 Raptor, the F-16 Fighting Falcon, the B-1B Lancer, the KC-135 Stratotanker, the C-17 Globemaster III, the C-130J Hercules and the MH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter.

Through participating in air shows and other regional events, the United States demonstrates its commitment to the security of the Asia-Pacific region, promotes the standardization and interoperability of equipment, and displays capabilities critical to the success of current and future military operations.

## Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam celebrates 2011 African-American History Month



Alphonso Braggs, president of the Honolulu-Hawaii chapter National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), speaks to service members following the National Anthem at an African-American History Month luncheon held Feb. 24 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

### Story and photo by MC2 Jon Dasbach

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West Detachment Hawaii

Service members and their families from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) celebrated African-American History Month during a luncheon Feb. 24 at the Hickam Enlisted Club.

This year's national theme is "African-Americans and the Civil War," which honors the contributions of more than 186,000 African Americans who served in the Union Army and Navy.

"We called out the Buffalo Soldiers, we called out the Tuskegee Airman, individuals that represent the people that were specific to that period of time," said

Master Sgt. Chandra Davis, the superintendent of information management and information technology for the office of the Pacific Air Forces' command surgeon.

Those who attended the luncheon learned about the importance of African-Americans who served in the military in the past and the importance of their service today.

"This event is important because it recognizes and doesn't let people forget the accomplishments that the men and women made," said Tech. Sgt. Rodney Cathcart, the non-commissioned officer in charge of directorate support staff of Pacific Air Forces 8358. "It's an honor for me to wear this uniform, to represent and stand on the shoulders of those men and those women."

Along with the representatives of the Buffalo Soldiers and Tuskegee Airmen, Alphonso Braggs, the president of the Honolulu-Hawaii Chapter National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), spoke about the importance of African-American History Month and the significance of African-Americans who served their country.

"I ask you to consider the legacy of the countless individuals who contributed immensely to this nation by reflecting on their faith, their fortitude and their foundation," Braggs said. "Because of the lessons of their faith, fortitude and foundation to us, we can stand up for justice. We can stand up and endure and fight for equality," he said.

## NMCRS to launch fundraiser on March 7

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) will launch its annual fundraiser on March 7 with a kickoff event at Sharkey Theater at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). The theme for this year's fundraiser, which will run from March 14 to April 15, is "It Takes All Hands. It's About More Marines and Sailors Giving." NMCRS offers a variety of services for Navy and

Marine Corps families, including financial assistance. It also operates a thrift shop at JBPHH which offers such items as clothing, uniforms and household goods at a low cost. Proceeds are used to provide programs and help military families. For more information, call NMCRS at 473-0282. (Read the March 11 edition of Ho'okele for more information about the fundraiser.)

## First Term Airmen Center welcomes first students of 2011

Story and photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The sun has not yet risen, but the lamp posts light the sidewalk near the facility entrance as the training instructor opens the door of the First Term Airmen Center (FTAC) for its first students of 2011.

The day begins at 6:30 a.m. and Airmen arrive, ready to see what FTAC is all about. This is the beginning of the first assignment for many Airmen, the first step to entering the operational Air Force.

The First Term Airmen Center began in 1977, and was originally a setting for new arrivals from basic training and technical school to complete ancillary training requirements and to be a pool of bodies for base details.

FTAC has done away with the base detail involvement and shifted toward a more professional military education envi-



Tech. Sgt. Jenessa Craig, NCOIC of the First Term Airmen Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and Staff Sgt. Ashanti Cox, assistant NCOIC, inspect the first class of 2011.

ronment. It is a two-week program that introduces Airmen to leadership, standards and discipline, the enlisted force structure, and Air Force culture and core values.

It continues the emphasis on dress and appearance and the physical fitness program. "This is to

ensure the concepts are engrained in the newest members to the Air Force," said Tech. Sergeant Jenessa E. Craig, the non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam FTAC.

The first day starts dark and early with an open

rank inspection, illuminated only by the light of dawn. After the uniforms are meticulously reviewed and critiqued, the students return to the auditorium for their welcome briefing.

The schedule is structured throughout the two weeks, and is filled with

mandatory topics such as the wing leadership perspective, Airmen and Family Readiness Center operations, personal financial management, and suicide prevention and awareness. The students also receive a first duty station orientation, briefings on substance abuse education, and sexual assault prevention and response awareness.

Although FTAC is structured, not all training is done in the classroom. Airmen participate in physical fitness training three times a week, and take a mock PT test to assess where they stand and where they need to be with fitness standards. There is some leisure time with tours of the base to become familiarized with all the available services and activities. There is also a tour of the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

Staff Sgt. Ashanti S. Cox, 15th Maintenance Group, is on a three-month tour with FTAC as team lead and assistant NCOIC. She said she has

really enjoyed the short time she has been at FTAC and working with new Airmen. "FTAC wasn't as structured when I went through," Cox said. "A lot more is covered in 10 days, like what the base has to offer, the different agencies and what to expect."

"FTAC eliminates the 'I didn't know' excuse," Craig added.

The Airmen receive briefings from a first sergeant and from a representative of the base's Airmen's council. They are introduced to volunteer opportunities, whom to talk to about dorm issues, and where to go when they need help.

"I got a lot of good information," said Airman 1st Class Russell C. Bauer, information assurance technician for 747th Communications Squadron. "They did a good job in base orientation, showed us good places to go, and it was a nice transition from tech school to the operational Air Force."

## Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard employees run for charity

Story and photo by Liane Nakahara

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Approximately 100 Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard employees ran and walked their way down an 8.15-mile course at the 27th Annual Great Aloha Run on Feb. 21.

"This is no ordinary race. It's a fun run," said Capt. Larry Hill, deputy shipyard commander. "Over 20,000 people ran this race, some even in costumes, all to help raise more than \$9.2 million for charity."

For many shipyard employees, it was either their first time participat-



Shirley Zukeran (left) and Kathy Maranan (right), Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard employees, stop for a photo at the finish line after completing the Great Aloha Run on Feb. 21. Approximately 100 shipyard employees ran and walked their way down the 8.15-mile charity fun run course to the finish line at Aloha Stadium.

ing in the run or the first time they participated in several years. Sean Irei, general engineer, said it was the first time he ran in the Great Aloha Run since high school.

"I wasn't as tired as I remembered being after I ran it in high school," Irei said. "I signed up with a bunch of other engineers, and it turned out to be a fun thing for all of us to do together outside of work."

Shirley Zukeran, manager for the drug-free workplace program, decided to sign up in January and began rounding-up other workers to run with her as a shipyard team. "I knew other shipyarders would run this race and with

approval, we were able to order shipyard T-shirts to wear as we ran," she said.

Hill said he was proud to see all of the shipyard T-shirts as he ran down Nimitz and Kamehameha Highways toward the finish line at Aloha Stadium. "This is the best run to run. You can see the military running in formation as well as our family, friends and various high school bands cheering us on," Hill said. "I had a great time running with the other shipyard runners this year."

"Getting up at 4 a.m. simply to run over eight miles from Aloha Tower to Aloha Stadium may sound crazy," said Dara Watanabe, an accountant

at the shipyard. "But it's actually really fun and it's for a good cause." This is the fourth time that Watanabe and her husband have participated in the race.

With 27,233 people who registered for the run this year, it was the largest number of participants the Great Aloha Run has seen in the past 10 years. Zukeran said she wants to start coordinating earlier so the shipyard team will be even larger next year.

"As shipyard employees, we don't only keep the ships and submariners 'fit to fight,'" Zukeran said. "We stay active to keep our bodies and spirits 'fit to fight,' too."

## Letter to the Editor

### Military partners to the rescue

Peter Tovey

Vice Principal, Aliamanu Elementary School

On the morning of Saturday, Feb. 19, seven Sailors from our military partner USS Chosin (CG 65), along with three civilians from the family of one of the crew members, reported for duty at the Aliamanu Elementary School campus for a much-needed work project from 0800 to 1200. At 0930, seven Sailors from another military partner, USS Port Royal (CG 63), unexpectedly joined the work group in a campus beautification project. This pleasant boost in cadre numbers accelerated the work, resulting in an enhanced project with much more accomplished than was expected.

The Sailors quickly applied themselves to their assigned tasks, weed whacking and cleaning debris from the environs

of the 665-foot long culvert on upper campus, the entrance steps from Arizona Road, the chain link fence bordering the makai (south) side of campus, the outdoor stage area, borders of walkways, and grassy areas between classroom buildings. In addition, they drilled and installed wood fascia strips on P.E. room shelves, and cut and installed Plexiglas sheets in the office conference room louver windows to improve the efficiency of the A/C system.

Efforts such as this not only help beautify our campus, but also attest to the caring and concern of our community members. Our military partners indeed make a difference for the better. We are grateful at Aliamanu for the help received, and express gratitude to the servicemen and women of USS Chosin and USS Port Royal for their unselfish service on our behalf.

## GOT SPORTS

Phone: (808)473-2888  
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Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements.



## Diverse Views



Why do you think it's important for military personnel to do community service and community outreach? What are the benefits?



Aviation Mechanic 3rd Class Roshawn Thomas  
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

It's important for us to do community service so the community understands that we do our job so they can enjoy the many freedoms our country has to offer. It's not always about what's happening overseas. We also care about what happens on the home front. It gives us a better, more well rounded world to live in.

Ensign Fireman Cleve Cooper  
USS Green Bay



The military should do more for the community. Due to the fact with the way the world is right now, we should all pull together and be one family. Without family there's no life and no one should be left behind. It takes just one love to change the earth.



Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Jason R. Wommack  
USS Boxer

I think it's important for military personnel to do community service and community outreach because it's important that all people give back to their communities to better them.

Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Wendell Davon Harrison  
USS Boxer



To show that we are here to build camaraderie and to show that we are more than war figures.



Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Germario Tate Patton  
USS Boxer

Allows us to interact with the people that we have sworn to protect. Community services helps ground military personnel to reality instead of constantly seeing the world as ranks and war strategies.

(Provided by DC Smith)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil



## Airman Carmen Gonzalez-Jorge helps JBPHH personnel with fitness goals

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Carolyn (Viss) Herrick

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Airman Carmen Gonzalez-Jorge, 647th Force Support Squadron, is this week's Warrior of the Week from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

As a fitness center apprentice, her job is to provide fitness and recreation for JBPHH personnel in a \$26 million facility. She helps manage the fitness center's \$6,000 monthly retail operation, finalizes shift financial paperwork, and ensures daily deposits of funds. She also conducts facility and equipment maintenance checks to

ensure problems are identified as soon as they occur.

"It's challenging, and there's always something that needs to be done," Gonzalez-Jorge said.

She joined the Air Force 13 months ago after working at a gas station and said, "In the Air Force, everything is taken care of. I don't have to worry about daycare or housing, and I'm able to go and finish school."

She explained that it's the best way for her to reach her eventual dream, which is to go to the culinary school, become a chef and work in the Pentagon.

"My parents were separated, so I had to take care of my brothers. I started cooking when I was seven," she said.

She loves being stationed in Hawaii because it's very similar to her home in Puerto Rico – except even more beautiful, she said. Gonzalez-Jorge said she loves the culture here, the people are nice, and she enjoys taking her husband and her two small children, Derik, six, and Aeliyah, four, to the beaches here.

On duty, Gonzalez-Jorge consistently follows through with all tasks assigned to her, according to her supervisor, Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Hutcherson, the NCO in charge of fitness.

"She's well organized, dedicated, self motivated, dependable and prides herself in doing a great job on and off duty," Hutcherson said. "She's very proactive in ensuring front desk operations flow smoothly."

## Sullivan brothers serve together in Navy



Photo courtesy of Naval Historical and Heritage Command

The five Sullivan brothers were born in Waterloo, Iowa and all later joined the Navy. All five were assigned to the commissioning crew of USS Juneau (CL-52) in February 1942. All were lost with her on Nov. 13, 1942, following the naval Battle of Guadalcanal, a tragedy that resulted in a new Navy policy discouraging family members from serving together in the same ship. From left in the photo are Joseph, Francis, Albert, Madison and George Sullivan. In February 1943, the destroyer Putnam, then under construction at San Francisco, was renamed USS The Sullivans (DD- 537) in honor of the Sullivan brothers. More recently, an Arleigh Burke class destroyer, DDG-68, was named USS The Sullivans and commissioned in 1997. Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith served as C.O. of the Sullivans from July 2001 to March 2003.

## HO'OKELE

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# Historic NCO Club at Hickam gets a second life

Hickam Communities LLC

Leaders from Pacific Air Force (PACAF,) Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and Hickam Communities were joined by Airmen and their families to celebrate the opening of the historic Tradewinds Non-commissioned Officers' (NCO) Club on Feb. 25 following extensive renovations.

Re-named "Ka Makani Community Center," the restoration is part of one of the nation's largest historic homes renovation projects.

The original club, built in 1941, was a gathering place for non-commissioned officers and their spouses and offered a dining room, library, lounge, bar and card room. When Hickam Communities began renovations in 2008, the building had been vacant for approximately 15 years.

"The most surprising discovery we made during renovations was the rediscovery of how beautiful the original building truly was," said Jerry Schmitz, project director of Hickam Communities. "This project is a great example of how an older building can be successfully rehabilitated while maintaining historic elements and adapting it for new use."

The building will now be used as a community center for families living on Hickam where they will have a variety of activities and programs. A library and media center, fitness facility, and meeting and party rooms are among the amenities.



U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood Jr. Jerry Schmitz, project director for Hickam Communities; Kawehi Harano, community services director, Hickam Communities; Loreen Hulihe'e, communities manager, Hickam Communities; Col. Wade Thompson, chief of staff for Headquarters Pacific Air Forces; and Capt. Richard Kitchens, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, officially open the new Ka Makani Community Center on Feb. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Other discoveries made were decorative beams found above a ceiling, that was added sometime after the club was built, and large fluted columns and acid stained floors that were buried under later additions. Acid stained floors found in the enter-

tainment room and adjacent lanai are a combination of original floors with new acid stained floors.

"Preserving this historic building and surrounding homes is important to sustain the culture and history of our islands. We're conducting one of the

Hickam Communities is now operating two community centers offering activities and programs for families. The community center located at 200 Kokomalei St. has been re-named the "Earhart Community Center." Hours at both community centers are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed on Sundays. To register and learn more about activities and programs, log on to the community calendar at [www.HickamCommunities.com](http://www.HickamCommunities.com).

largest historic renovation projects in the country and to renovate the club, which

was so much a part of our service members' lives, is a wonderful addition to the

preservation work being done at Hickam," Schmitz said.

# Annual award winners named for Team Hickam

Staff Sgt. Carolyn Viss-Herrick

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The 15th Wing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) hosted Team Hickam's Annual Awards banquet Feb. 25, recognizing 11 winners across the installation who competed in various categories from Jan. 1 through 31 Dec., 2010.

The winners of this year's annual awards are: SrA Anthony Tritt, 535th Airlift Squadron; Airman of the Year; Tech. Sgt. Jeannie Washington, 15th Medical Group, Noncommissioned Officer of the Year; Senior Master Sgt. Michael Griego, 647th Civil Engineer Squadron, Senior NCO of the Year; Capt. Mariko Boone, 747th Communications Squadron, Company Grade Officer of the Year; Auralee Keawe, 735th Air Mobility Squadron, Civilian (Cat I) of the Year; Kenneth Sato, 15th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, Civilian (Cat II) of the Year; Ronald Cressman, 15th Operations Support Squadron, Civilian (Cat III) of the Year; Capt. Charles Johnson, 13th Air Force, Volunteer of the Year; Operations Mission Management Flight, 8th Intelligence Squadron,



TSgt Brian Hornbuckle (Trumpet) and twin brother TSgt Michael Hornbuckle, (Trombone) with TSgt Terry Grace, playing Bass, "blow away" the banquet crowd with their jazz renditions just before the 2011 Annual Team Hickam Awards Banquet.

Team of the Year; Master Sgt. Doug Burhans, 647th Security Forces Squadron, First Sergeant of the Year; and Senior Airman Tavis Warren, 324th IS, Honor Guard of the Year.

Master Sgt. Dustin Leuschel, 647th Force Support Squadron first sergeant and a chairman on the committee for this year's banquet, said the event is hosted to recognize

those who go above and beyond and shine throughout the year.

Competitors are from units across the installation, including the 692nd Intelligence, Surveillance

and Reconnaissance Group; those assigned to 15th Wing; 13th Air Force, including the 647th Air Base Group, 25th Air Support Operations Squadron, and tenant

units; Group 5, consisting of Air Force Space Command tenant units; Headquarters Pacific Air Forces; and Air Mobility Command's 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing and 735th Air Mobility Squadron, stationed at JBPHH.

"There are quite a few nominees in each category, and all nominees are winners in their own right," Leuschel said. "They're already winners just by getting to the Team Hickam awards. It's an honor even to be there."

Each and every nominee had to first win in their own group, squadron or unit before becoming eligible to compete against Team Hickam. Although Team Hickam awards are local awards only, these individual winners will still compete within their wings and major commands, Leuschel said. The fact that they can compete installationwide and win shows each Airman is of a high caliber and quality, he noted.

"It all comes down to the whole-person concept," he said. "We hear about that all the time, all across the Air Force. The winners had to excel not only in their job performance but also in community involvement, self improvement, et cetera."

## Dumpster overflows with bulky items

The dumpster located at the Airmen's Attic on the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) is just one of the dumpsters overflowing with piles of bulky waste. This has become a significant issue at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, especially since the temporary closure of the Waimanalo Gulch landfill. Housing residents are asked not to discard their bulky waste at dumpsters in the JBPHH community. Consider donating furniture and household items that are still useful to such non-profit organizations as Helping Hands Hawaii, Salvation Army, Goodwill and National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii.

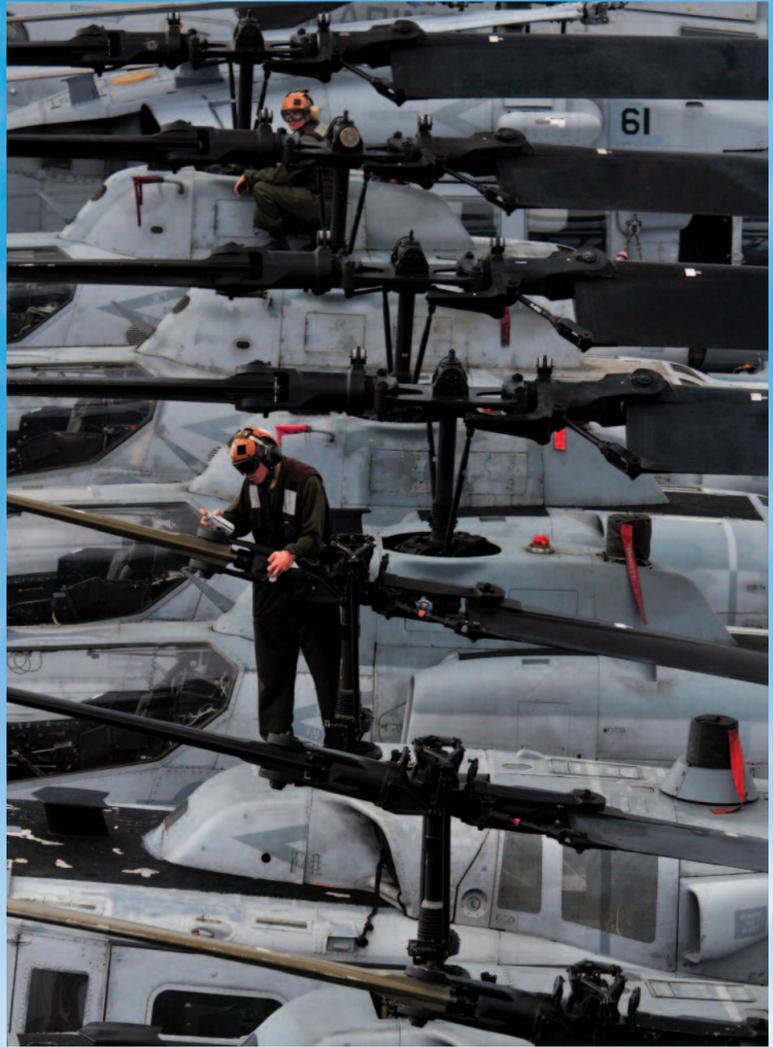
U.S. Navy photo by Brister Thomas



# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



**U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico**  
Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander of Commander Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, escorts U.S. Representative Colleen Hanabusa around Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). Hanabusa visited CNRH and JBPHH to understand the Navy's mission and talk about jobs, development and military construction projects.



**U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Trevor Welsh**  
Marines conduct routine maintenance on helicopters assigned to the Evil Eyes of Marine Medium Squadron (HMM) 163 aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4). Boxer and the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (13th MEU) are underway on a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region.



**U.S. Navy photo by MCC(AW) Bart Bauer**  
Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Earl Gray, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Command Master Chief, congratulates CMDM (SS/AW) Gregg Weber as the new JBPHH CMC on Feb 25.



**U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Cutridge**  
Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) departs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Jan. 24 for a regularly scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific region.



**Photo courtesy of Federal Fire Department**  
Federal Fire Department representatives supported Solomon Elementary School at Schofield Barracks for an annual mass relocation drill exercise Feb. 24. This is an annual event to ensure rapid evacuation of the school in case of any large-scale threat that would involve the lives of the students and staff.

**U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Larry S. Carlson**  
(Below) The Canadian navy auxiliary oiler replenishment HMCS Protecteur (AOR 509) refuels the amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay (LPD 20) during a night refueling at sea. Green Bay is underway on its maiden deployment as part of the Boxer Amphibious Ready Group and Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) 1.



# Sailors 'jump' to assist the community

Story and photo by DC Smith

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Sailors from USS Chosin (CG-65), USS Port Royal (CG 73) and the Center for Information Dominance (CID) Site, Hawaii "jumped" to assist students at Aliamanu Elementary School as part of the American Heart Foundation "Jump for Heart" event, held Feb. 25 at the school. The school is located near Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Reflecting on the day, Peter Tovey, vice principal of the school, said, "The jump for heart day is an ideal setting for our military partner's involvement. We express gratitude to the Sailors from the USS Chosin (CG-65), USS Port Royal (CG73) and the Center for Information Dominance Site, Hawaii for being great role models for our students and for assisting on this day of fun-filled jump rope activities."

Boys and girls representing various ages and class groups had an opportunity to jump for fun, while promoting a worthwhile cause. The children competed with each other in fun and exercise.



Meanwhile, the men and women of Navy commands volunteered their time for the children of Aliamanu Elementary School. The basketball court behind the school filled with activity as each grade group walked out to the event, escorted by their teacher.

The children tackled a variety of exercises, such as sit-ups, push-ups, relay races and jump rope. Noting the importance of setting a good example, Operations Specialist Technician Anthony Otey, assigned to USS Port Royal (CG 73), said, "It feels good to work with the kids, encouraging them to stay active with positive reinforcement."

Reyes added, "This activity complies with the Department of Education health and wellness policy, and it

Fire Controlman 2 Lacey Robertson becomes airborne as Religious Programs Specialist Seaman Alexander Owens turns the rope in support of the 2011 Jump for Heart event in support of the American Heart Foundation held at Aliamanu Elementary School Feb. 25.

also teaches the students about being community contributors, since they bring donations for the American Heart Foundation."

During the daylong event, all the Sailors who participated had an opportunity not just to get away from work but also to share the importance of serving as role models.

Cryptologic Technician Chief David Smith, chief petty officer in charge, Center for Information Dominance Learning Site, Hawaii, explained, "We enjoy the opportunity to support the school activities and interact with the students, helping motivate them and also show the importance of being healthy."

He continued, "It is a very rewarding experience for us."

Leilani Reyes, Parent Community Networking Coordinator, saw that the children and Sailors had a good time and everyone was safe.

When asked how difficult it was to arrange the event, Reyes said that she was part of a group effort. "It was coordinated by student council advisor Steve Miyasato, and physical education teachers Ross Takenaka and Ashley Taguma," Reyes explained.

## Hickam CGOs host 2011 PACAF regional CGOC conference

1st Lt. Whitney Maynard

Headquarters Pacific Air Forces

The Hickam Company Grade Officers' Council at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) hosted the annual PACAF Regional Company Grade Officers' Professional Development Conference that commenced Jan. 31.

The theme for this year's conference was "Preparing Today's CGOs for Tomorrow's Challenges," as young officers prepare to face such challenges as force management, worldwide joint basing implementation, and unpredictable operations tempo on the forefront.

Speakers from the 15th Wing, 13th Air Force and Headquarters Pacific Air Forces discussed topics such as total force integration, manpower, development teams and leadership in a joint base environment with the group of 64 officers hailing from Kadena, Misawa, Yokota, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Maj. Gen. Brooks L. Bash, vice commander of Pacific Air Forces, JBPHH first sergeants, chiefs, squadron commanders, functional area managers and PACAF A staff members volunteered to brief and advise conference attendees on being effective leaders, facing future challenges, and being knowl-



edgeable about officer progression.

Conference events included a tour of the USS Arizona Memorial and Battleship Missouri Memorial, a tour of the 613th Air Operations Center, and a hike to the top of Koko Head Crater. The conference concluded on Feb. 3 with a traditional Hawaiian luau at the Hale Koa Resort in Waikiki.

The conference was one of the last big events of the term for the Hickam CGOC, winner of the PACAF CGOC of third quarter 2010 as well as the Martin Luther King Community Service Award 2010 for service in the Oahu community.

The search has already begun for the executive committee and committee chairs for the 2011-2012 year. Company grade officers who are interested in running for a position should contact Capt. Mariko Boone, CGOC president, or any of the current committee members.

Beginning April 1, the Hickam CGOC will officially change its name to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam CGOC with future plans to include Navy CGOs in social and community service events.

U.S. Air Force photo by AIC Lauren Main  
Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander, speaks to company grade officers at the Pacific Air Force Company Grade Officer Council Conference (CGOC) held Feb. 3 at the Aloha Conference Center on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Barrett is a key mentor for the Hickam CGOC.

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# Survivor makes final journey home to Pearl Harbor



**Don Robbins**

Assistant Editor

A memorial ceremony was held for 95-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor Clellan Kenneth Keefe on Feb. 25 at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

Better known as "Grandpop" to his family, his ceremony with full military honors included a religious service led by the chaplain, Cmdr. Timothy Koester, a scattering of ashes by the family and a three-volley rifle salute provided by the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) Navy Detachment Honor Guard. A Navy bugler also sounded "Taps."

Participating in the ceremony were Grandpop's granddaughter Molly Rainey, her husband, retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Rainey, and their 6-year-old son Patrick Keefe Rainey, Grandpop's namesake.

Other family members participating in the scattering of ashes were great granddaughter Mary Katherine and her husband Chris Benney, their son Noah, and great granddaughter Leslie Allen. A display of family photos and mementos commemorating Grandpop's life also played

a prominent role in the event.

Grandpop loved his flag, Molly said.

"We used to have ceremonies as children. He used to take down the flag and he taught us all how to fold it," she said.

The family would gather at their home near Chesapeake Bay to learn from him.

"We learned how to tie knots because he was a boatswain's mate. He taught us to tie good knots and to tie up a boat," Molly recalled.

His sons and grandsons also joined the military, including the Navy, following in his footsteps.

A careful man, one of Grandpop's favorite sayings was "Measure twice, cut once." Although a man of modest financial means, he always felt rich in family and tradition, Molly recalled.

"He was just a great man. He was a role model for all of us," Molly said.

For the first time in a memorial ceremony, because Grandpop loved and respected the U.S. flag so much, a family member had the honor of helping with the flag honors. Patrick was invited to put the flag down to half-staff

and raising it back again. Young Patrick also received the flag, carefully folded by Navy service members honoring grandpop, and holding spent-casings from the rifle salute.

Joseph Rainey, a retired Navy helicopter pilot, said he was impressed by the sharp professionalism of the honor guard and Sailors who honored Grandpop during the ceremony. "I can't emphasize enough how great the Sailors were. Today is special. Anyone who has served as long as he or I did knows the best part about serving is the Sailor," Joseph Rainey said.

Grandpop always wanted to return to Pearl Harbor while he lived, but was unable to do so. However, thanks to his family, on Feb. 25 he made his final voyage to Pearl Harbor, joining shipmates lost during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack.

Keefe, who died on Nov. 3, 2008, was a Sailor serving on the light cruiser USS Phoenix (CL-46) during the Dec. 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor attack.

When the attack commenced, the Phoenix was anchored out. Keefe and the rest of the crew had a birds-eye view of the events of that day along Battleship Row. The crew was able to

get the ship underway.

Keefe was born on Sept. 20, 1913 in Louisville, Ky. A U.S. Navy veteran of 30 years, he was one of nine brothers who served in the U.S. armed forces during World War II. He progressed to the rank of chief boatswain's mate and later retired from the Navy in 1959 as a chief warrant officer, while assigned to the Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

Following retirement, he built his home on the waterfront in nearby Rousby Hall, where he enjoyed life in Maryland for nearly 50 years surrounded by family and friends.

According to family and friends, to Grandpop, a job wasn't worth doing if it wasn't worth doing right. His creed was to leave something a little better than when he found it.

Although he was personally a humble man, he was extremely proud of being an American and in never taking the easy way out. For years he made it a point to hoist the nation's flag proudly each morning. The flag would fly prominently, high above the bank in front of his home on the water-

front throughout the day.

When the family gathered at home, as the flag was lowered in the evening, they would form an honor guard of sorts. With as much ceremony as they

could muster, they would fold the flag in a perfect wedge.

His family remembered that Grandpop, more than anyone, respected the flag and sacrifices it represented.

## KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

- March 10 – Women in Naval Aviation
- March 17 – Individual augmentee recognition
- March 24 – PHNSY career fair
- March 31 – Child Abuse Prevention Month (tent)
- April 7 – Substance Abuse Prevention
- April 14 – MSC - USNS Shasta (T-AE 33)
- April 21 – Earth Day

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)

**Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?**  
Email [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

## Tuskegee Airmen are on the march

Continued from A-1

in the Army Air Corps in squadrons of their own.

Artis was a logistics and supply maintenance troop during three major conflicts: the Korean War, the Cold War and the Vietnam War.

He is a man who understands the importance of history and heritage. In 2003, he became a Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. chapter member in order to dedicate his time to educating America on the legacy of those who came before us.

"I want to give people opportunities that I didn't have. I just wanted to give back to the community," Artis said. "A lot of people are interested; they just haven't been exposed to it yet."

Today there are 55 Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. chapters across the country dedicated to honoring the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen, introducing young people to the world of aviation and science by sponsoring programs to better the youth of America.

During a recent trip to Hawaii, Artis discovered the state does not have any chapters. While wearing his Tuskegee Airmen chapter jacket, he received numerous queries regarding a Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. chapter in Hawaii. After further investiga-

tion, he decided to start the first one on the island.

In order to start a chapter, he needs active and interested members to assist him in his mission. Though Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. derives from an Air Force background, interested individuals do not have to have any military service to join.

"There is a large misconception with who you have to be to join Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.," said Quincy Magwood, Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. national membership chair person. "You don't have to be African-American, you don't have to be in the Air Force, you don't even have to be retired from the military; anyone can join. I would really like to see a Hawaii chapter."

Artis met an interested potential member on his recent venture to the Pacific Aviation Museum, Master Sgt. Chandra Davis of Pacific Air Force's surgeon general's office.

"I wanted to get involved with building a Hawaii chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen here because I appreciate what the Tuskegee Airmen have done and the path that they forged for Airmen like me," Davis said. "The Tuskegee Airmen are a testament to the powers of faith and determination, which are highly admirable qualities."

According to Davis, the memory of the Tuskegee

Airmen lives through young Americans who pass along their legacy to the next generation to follow.

"The mission of the Tuskegee Airmen today is no longer in the air, but on the ground and right in front of us, which is our youth," Davis said. "I want to be a part of their passion to positively influence our youth by ensuring that they understand the value and importance of education and by providing them with tools such as scholarship programs and mentorship."

Artis thinks the Hawaii chapter is a chance to bring the Air Force's rich and diverse heritage to a place where it might not otherwise be known.

"A lot happened in the Pacific during World War II," he said. "The Tuskegee Airmen primarily served in the European theater, but that doesn't mean their history should be forgotten in this region. I want to continue to expand their mission across the country; starting in Hawaii."

Artis' mission is to carry on a legacy of one of the greatest cultural achievements in American history. He seeks to remind people every day, through the example of the Tuskegee Airmen, there are no shortcuts to greatness.

## USS Santa Fe deploys, to conduct training exercises

Continued from A-1

and qualifications, as well as being available for any tasking which comes their way.

"We will strive to be fully ready to answer the nation's call, no matter the mission," Adams said. "Santa Fe Sailors are ready to go forward and stand on the frontlines of

freedom and above all else, bring the submarine and crew back safely from a successful deployment."

Santa Fe is the second ship to be named in honor of the capital city of New Mexico. As an improved Los Angeles-class, she features retractable bow planes and 12 vertical launch tubes for cruise missile strikes.

## Frank Buckles, last known U.S. Doughboy, dies at 110



Defense Department photo by R. D. Ward

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates (left) talks with Frank Buckles, the last living American World War I veteran, during a Pentagon ceremony March 6, 2008. Buckles died Feb. 27, at age 110.

Courtesy of Department of Veterans Affairs News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Frank Woodruff Buckles, who lied about his age to enlist in the Army in 1917 and became the last known U.S. veteran of World War I, died Feb. 27 at the age of 110. Burial with full military honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery.

"We have lost a living link to an important era in our nation's history," said Secretary of Veterans

Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "But we have also lost a man of quiet dignity, who dedicated his final years to ensuring the sacrifices of his fellow 'doughboys' are appropriately commemorated."

A long-time resident of Charles Town, W.Va. where he had a farm, Buckles was born in Bethany, Mo. He enlisted shortly after his 16th birthday and served in France and Germany.

At the start of World War II, he was a civilian working with a steamship company in the Philippines. He

was imprisoned in a Japanese prisoner of war camp for three and a half years.

In his later years, Buckles became an advocate for the expansion of a little-known memorial to World War I Veterans from the District of Columbia into a national memorial.

More than 4,700,000 Americans served in the military during World War I. About 53,000 died of combat-related causes, while another 63,000 deaths were listed as non-combat.

Got Questions?  
Write to us at [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com)