"Navigator"
HO'OKELE
PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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Midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy Women's Glee Club pay honors at the USS Arizona Memorial during the "Salute to America's Heroes," concert series. The Naval Academy Women's Glee Club regularly travels around the country representing the Naval Academy.

Naval Academy Women's Glee Club performs at USS Arizona Memorial

Story and photos by MC3 Sean Furey

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

The U.S. Naval Academy Women's Glee Club gave a performance aboard the USS Arizona Memorial during their 10-day spring break performing tour March 13.

The theme of this year's tour is "A Salute to America's Heroes," and several public concerts were held at various locations around Oahu.

"We are looking forward to bringing this premier women's choral ensemble back to Hawaii to perform in an area which has a large naval presence," said Cindy Bauchspies, director of the U.S. Navy Woman's Glee Club. "It means a lot to our midshipmen to be able to perform a concert that honors those who have served our country because they will each serve as officers in the Navy and Marine Corps upon graduation from the [U.S.] Naval Academy."

The Naval Academy Women's Glee Club regularly travels around the country representing the naval academy and visits area schools to introduce students to the opportunities available to them by attending the U.S. Naval Academy.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be able to bring a group of professionals like that out here. Individuals that want to serve their country, join the academy," said Capt. Lawrence Scruggs, chief staff officer at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. "Seeing the Navy Hymn here was pretty spectacular."

Founded in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy today is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally and physically to be professional officers in the naval service.

(See additional photo on page A-5)

Hawaii Legislature honors Navy

Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The Hawaii State House of Representatives recognized the Navy in Hawaii for its environmental stewardship at a ceremony March 16 at the State Capitol.

Earlier this month, several navy commands in Navy Region Hawaii were recognized as the best in the Navy for environmental stewardship, winning three Secretary of the Navy and four Chief of Naval Operations awards for Fiscal Year 2011.

"Today, we recognize our Navy in Hawaii for not only protecting our nation but also protecting and preserving our precious environment here in the Hawaiian Islands and in the Pacific," said Rep. Gene Ward. "Commander, Navy Region Hawaii is commended for environmental education, energy conservation and preservation of natural resources, on land and at sea."

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific; Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH); CNRH Command Master Chief Marc Sibal; Machinist's Mate 1st Class Coby Davis from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard; and CNRH Historic Preservation Officer Ellyn Goldkind were also at the State Capitol to receive a certificate of recognition from the state representatives.

"For their sustained and innovative approaches to environmental and cultural stewardship which has earned recognition as the best in the Navy, worldwide, it is a distinct pleasure to recognize the good work of the United States Navy in Hawaii," Ward said.

JBPHH achieved installation awards for cultural resources management. Through numerous partnerships in cleanup projects in the state, the joint base took an active role in beautification and preservation of the environment. Sponsorship of the *makahiki* [festival] has led to friendship, understanding and appreciation of cultural and environmental issues.

The Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor, a tenant command of JBPHH and CNRH, earned awards for its fuels program and environmental quality. Together with JBPHH and other commands, the Fleet Logistics Center led Earth Day events, a storm drain stenciling project, a papaya tree planting project, alternative energy car show, and bike path and beach cleanups.

House Rep. Dee Morikawa whose active involvement in Kauai communities also gave gratitude to the Sailors and

See ACHIEVEMENTS, A-3

Hawaii State Representative Gene Ward and Commander Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) Rear Adm. Frank Ponds exchange business cards before they enter the House of Representatives chamber at the State Capitol.

Four Sailors respond, assist victims of head-on collision

MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Four San Diego-based Sailors were the first responders to a wrong-way collision accident along Nimitz Highway in Honolulu on March 18.

Chief Personnel Specialist Augustin Blanco, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Bart Loui Stanisz, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Kevin Keosibounheuang and Information Systems Technician 1st Class Shaun Camantigue, all assigned to Navy Region Southwest Reserve Component Command in San Diego, were on their way to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam when they witnessed the accident at around 3 a.m.

A Geo Metro went the wrong way in the west-bound lanes of Nimitz Highway before making a U-turn on Sand Island Access Road where it proceeded toward oncoming traffic on the east-bound side. The Geo Metro collided with a Toyota 4-Runner, leaving one man dead and three others seriously injured.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Donald W. Randall

Car accident victim, Felimo Batacan, shakes the hand of one of his rescuers who rendered first aid to Batacan and other victims of a wrong-way car collision on Nimitz Highway about 3 a.m. March 18.

Felimo Batacan, the driver of the 4-Runner, said it was strange to see so many cars stopped on the other side of the highway until he saw the two headlights coming at his car. He said he tried to wake his wife, Caroline, as he stepped hard on the brakes.

"Bam—it felt like an explosion into my face," Batacan said.

The police said the driver who caused the wreck had allegedly been drinking.

The four Sailors were on their way back to base when they witnessed the Geo Metro driving on their side of the highway in the opposite direction. When they saw the car make the U-turn, the Sailors said they knew what was about to happen.

"When we saw the car making the U-turn going on to the other side of traffic, we knew it was going to be bad," Blanco said. He later turned to his shipmates and began telling them to call 911. The four were all yelling, "No! No! No!" as the two cars collided.

"We heard the crash," Blanco said. "We pulled over, got out, ran and jumped over the median to get to the other lane."

Keosibounheuang called 911, and all four proceeded to render assistance. They advised the Batancans to stay still as they waited for the emergency responders to arrive.

Stanisz performed CPR in an attempt to resuscitate the passenger of the Geo Metro. The passenger was later pronounced dead.

Camantigue said the difficult part of the situation was helping to divert traffic.

"I was waving, trying to get the attention of the other cars coming in our direction," Camantigue said. "If other cars rear-ended the two cars, it would have crushed the people even more."

"The other car [Geo Metro] had no front end," Blanco said. "It was gone."

Batacan said if he had driven the Honda Civic, he and his wife would have been dead because the impact would have destroyed the smaller car. He also said he owes their lives to the Sailors who came to assist them.

"I am very grateful to you guys. Thank you," said Batacan to the four Sailors. "I really appreciate it from the deepest part of my heart."

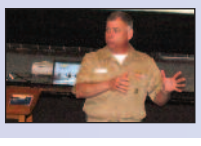
The four Sailors visited the Batacans at their residence the following day, March 19, to find out how they were doing. Felimo told the Sailors he was recovering, and he hopes his wife would be back home the

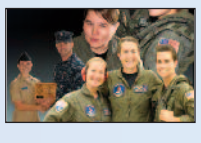
See FOUR SAILORS, A-7

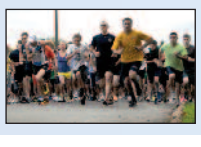
Women's leadership panel is held in honor of Women's History Month **See page A-2**

Admiral commends USS Chosin, Shipyard for teamwork, achievement **See page A-2**

U.S.-Thailand-Singapore Airmen strengthen ties during Cope Tiger 12 **See page A-4**


SWO community provided with professional development briefing **See page A-6**


Views from Golden Eagles highlighted during Women's History Month **See page B-1**


COMSUBPAC hosts St. Patrick's Day 5K Fun Run **See page B-6**

Women's leadership panel is held in honor of Women's History Month

Jazzmin Williams

Contributing Writer

A women's leadership panel in honor of Women's History Month was held March 20 at the Hickam Memorial Theater.

The panel included Rear Adm. Katherine Gregory, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific; Lt. Cmdr. Kyle Vernon, Personnel Support Detachment Pearl Harbor; Command Master Chief Patricia Roebuck, Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific; Chief Master Sgt. Lisa Jayne, 15th Medical Group, 15th Wing; and Lorrie Kresge, U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, class of 1980.

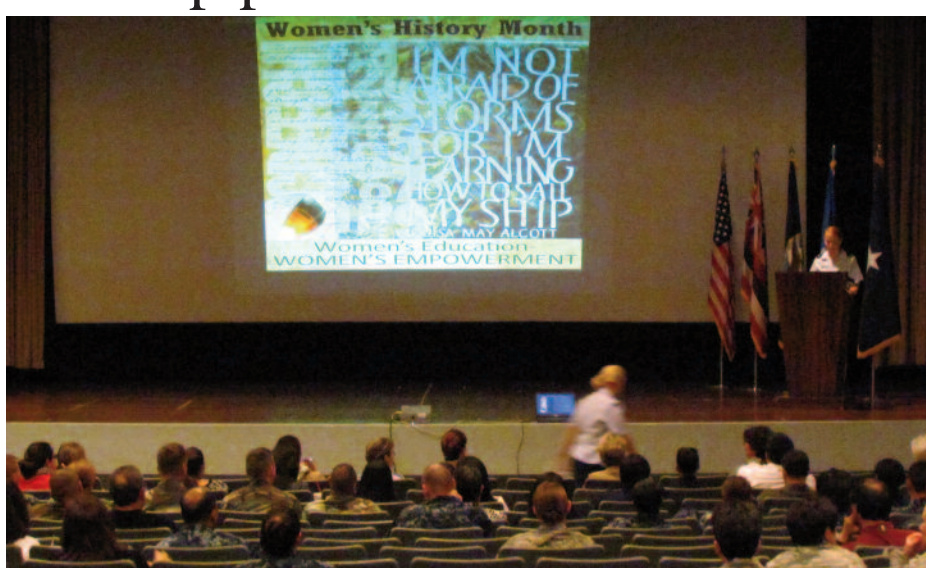


Photo by Stephanie Lau

Participants in a Women's History Month event March 20 at Hickam Memorial Theater listen to members of the leadership panel.

"All of the women that were on the panel were incredibly inspiring, and they inspired me as a young officer to continue to serve my country with honor," said 1st Lt. Kathleen Eisenbrey, who organized the event along with Chief Logistics Specialist (AW/SW) Ebony Pinnock.

The theme for the discussion was a national topic, "Women's Education, Women's Empowerment." Veterans of both the Air Force and Navy discussed their experiences in the military and the importance of education, not only for women but also for men.

"We talk a lot about education," said Maj. Liz Howarth, 15th Medical Group. "But to really get it, you have to go to these things and listen to their stories."

The event was open to all military and civilian personnel and was also attended by female officers who wanted to learn from their already successful peers. What they learned was how those peers were once in similar situations.

"All of the panel members each had our own type of perspective and experiences that we were able to share with the people in attendance," said Chief Master Sgt. Lisa Jayne, one of the speakers. "What we focused on was how women can be successful and how they can balance their lives."

Jayne listed education and perseverance as important factors for success. Attendees asked questions and heard personal anecdotes based on education and how that education led to empowerment for the panel members.

Also discussed were the differences in being a female leader compared to a male. Eisenbrey said she learned that women, by nature, lead differently than men.

"As a female leader, you have a different perspective [than a male]," Eisenbrey said. "But also you have to remember that your troops will perceive you differently."

This led to a discussion on the experience of being a woman in a position of authority in the military. The consensus among most women on the panel was that the military has changed positively for women.

With both the older and younger generation working together to remember how far women have come in the military and how much farther they can go, both panel members and attendees were hopeful for the future.

"My goal was to provide inspiration to them [the attendees], for them to know they can achieve anything they want to achieve as long as they put forth 100 percent," Jayne said.

Admiral commends USS Chosin, shipyard for teamwork, achievement

Katie Vanes

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

Karen S. Spangler

Managing Editor, Ho`okele

With the completion of a lengthy and challenging maintenance period, the crew of USS Chosin (CG 65) is preparing for upcoming exercises and operations this summer.

The perseverance and determination of Chosin Sailors during the changeout period was recognized by Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, in a bravo zulo message. "You fought through each challenge and overcame innumerable hurdles, all the while maintaining a positive attitude," Ponds said.

"This attitude is what has made you so successful throughout the numerous extensions and schedule changes," the admiral said. "Teamwork is the essential ingredient in achieving success when facing significant obstacles. Your ability to conduct multiple maintenance availabilities simultaneously is a momentous feat."

For a small shop, the gas turbine engine mechanics play a big role in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's fleet maintenance surface (FMR) work, according to a shipyard spokesman. With only two dozen combined military and civilian workers, the shop recently completed the large engine reduction gear work package on Chosin (CG 65) on Jan. 31.

"The hard work and achievement of your shipyard workers, contractors and Sailors has been impressive throughout the many delays and allowed for Chosin's successful completion of EDSRA [extended docking selected restricted availability]," Ponds said.

"Your exceptional efforts reflect great credit on each of you and clearly demonstrates that the spirit of teamwork and camaraderie are alive and well in Pearl Harbor," he said.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

The guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65), left, and the guided-missile destroyer USS Benfold (DDG 65) participate in a surface-to-air missile exercise (SAMEX) off the coast of Hawaii as part of Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 exercises.

In discussing the work of the personnel at the shipyard and referring to the unique mixture of military and civilian workers in the shop, Bill Sullivan, Chosin project superintendent, said, ""It doesn't matter if they're wearing a uniform or not – these personnel are the only ones who perform engine changeouts at Pearl Harbor."

"They work around the clock, on weekends and holidays, when necessary, to get the work done to meet the fleet's deployment schedule," Sullivan said.

Chosin was due to finish her availability last December, but testing revealed that two of the ship's four propulsion engine reduction gears were inoperative. The job required nearly 600 personnel-days of work. Over the Christmas holiday, Chosin ordered two new clutches, and work began Jan. 7.

Sullivan recognized Howard Kilpatrick and Derek Teruya, engineering technicians at the shipyard, for providing technical oversight in the main reduction gear, "which made the work go much faster," he said. Sullivan also mentioned that Josh Casserino provided engineering oversight on any challenges during the maintenance.

"The riggers did a great job as well. Each clutch they lifted weighs 700 pounds with a tolerance of less than an inch," said Sullivan, referring to the proximity of the new clutch in the engine reduction gear.

New work including fuel oil piping, structural repairs, testing and ship's training is ongoing on Chosin, which is projected to complete availability in March.

"The engine shop works hard on every single job, but reduction gear work requires specific open machinery requirements. They are detailed, important to follow and require a great deal of trust that work is done properly," Sullivan said. "Chosin's commanding officer and chief engineer have communicated to me their absolute trust and confidence in our gas turbine shop mechanics and technicians, and our workers should be proud of that compliment," he added.

"Your invincible spirit has shown brightly. Invictus!" Ponds said.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society begins 2012 Hawaii fund drive

Story and photo by MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

This year's Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Fund Drive began March 14 with an organizational kickoff at Sharkey Theater at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The annual fund drive generates donations to benefit the local NMCRS, an organization that assists hundreds of Sailors, Marines and their families each month. By donating to NMCRS, service members are actively assisting each other.

In kicking off this year's campaign, Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, spoke about the importance of the society's mission.

Paul Belanger, director Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS), provides information about the 2012 NMCRS fund drive kick off at Sharkey Theater at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 14.

"Last year NMCRS provided over $800,000 to Hawaii service members," Ponds stated. "That E-1, E-2, E-3, who has the same responsibility I have, they turn to us to support them. At some point we will all need help, and when we do we can turn to NMCRS for their support."

The fund drive will raise funds for services, including financial counseling, visiting nurses for newborns, and quick assist loans which made up 57 percent of NMCRS transactions at JBPHH last year.

"I have been here like forever, and this is the first year the commander brought his wife on stage," said Paul Belanger, NMCRS director. "That emphasizes that this really is a family affair. Ninety-six thousand Sailors worldwide availed themselves to the NMCRS resources, and less than two percent of applications for assistance were denied last year at Pearl Harbor," Belanger said.

Each command on base is assigned a key person to ensure 100 percent contact is made during the drive. These key persons will visit as many Sailors and Marines as possible to ensure everyone has an opportunity to donate to the NMCRS.

Founded in 1904, the NMCRS is a private, nonprofit, charitable organization. It is sponsored by the Department of the Navy and operates nearly 241 offices ashore and afloat at Navy and Marine Corps bases throughout the world. On the island of Oahu, NMCRS has offices at both Joint Base Pearl Harbor -Hickam and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe.

During the 107 years the NMCRS has been operating, they have helped millions of people through loans and grants. NMCRS also offers other forms of assistance such as providing layettes or "junior sea bags" to new family members, a visiting nurse program to help new mothers, elderly individuals and anyone who needs a little extra help, and thrift shops offering low-cost clothing and household items.

This year's fund drive features fundraising events such as fun runs, car washes and bake sales. Special raffles are planned throughout the next several weeks. Volunteers are always needed at the society in a variety of different functions. Whether it's answering the phone, helping clients, or teaching classes, the society welcomes volunteers. In Hawaii, NMCRS also has a number of senior citizens throughout Oahu who sew, knit and crochet items for the baby layette program.

Letter to the Editor

Observing morning colors

I have seen a lot of folks ignoring the National Anthem, and this is very disturbing to me. Many times [it is] private contractors and sometimes even DOD civilians. I, for one, have a brother who is serving in the Navy, and [he] has been and will be deployed to war zones. The ignoring of the morning colors really shows disrespect to him and all of our service men and women who put their lives on the line to defend and protect the United States of America.

I would suggest that all those who work and serve here show some respect to our country and anthem. Contractors and civilians should be respectful and stand at attention when colors are sounded. Vehicles and bicyclists should come to a stop.

If those people do not want to show respect to our country and flag, then maybe they should find employment elsewhere. I apologize if this sounds too blunt, but I feel strongly that this respect should be afforded to our fighting men and women and our country.

Thank you very much.

Brendon Heal
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

State recognizes achievements

Continued from A-1

civilians represented in the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) on Kauai Island.

"I am pleased to honor their environmental accomplishments and commend them for their sensitivity to our Hawaiian culture," Morikawa said.

PMRF at Barking Sands, Kauai earned a Secretary of the Navy award and two Chief of Naval Operations awards – one for natural resources conservation for a small installation and another for natural resources conservation for an individual or team.

"We are commemorating the successes in environmental, Hawaiian cultural and natural stewardship in Hawaii, including celebration of the *makahiki*, care for the oceans and land, and protection of plants and habitats of native ecosystems found on Navy Region Hawaii properties," Morikawa said. "The Hawaii State House of Representatives commends and thanks Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai for their achievements towards protecting the native Hawaiian environment and for a job well done."

PMRF partnered with local Native Hawaiian charter school Ke Kula Niihau O Kekaha and the National Botanical Gardens to develop and maintain a living educational display of four habitat types and native ecosystems.

PMRF Sailors and civilians participated in the World Oceans Day and the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup Day in 2011. They also held other preservation events and initiatives and earned international recognition for the PMRF "message in a bottle" beach clean-up story linking Japan and Hawaii.

"It's one of those things where we look at Hawaii, and we know how beautiful it is. We want to save that environment, and we want to protect it," Davis said.

Davis has participated in several community and environmental projects including an Adopt-a-Highway project where he and his First Class Petty Officer Association cared for a two-mile stretch of Kamehameha Highway.

"In Hawaii we recognize that it is such sacred and beautiful place that we want to uphold that for the next generation," Davis said.

Commentary

Who are your favorite women authors?

(It's fun to read! Fun, insight and inspiration are at the heart of Rear Adm. Kate Gregory's selection of top women authors for the Navy Reads blog - in honor of Women's History Month. Her suggestion: Exercise your mind, stretch your imagination and read!)

Rear Adm. Kate Gregory

Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific

I think reading is great fun and terribly important. For me, it provides an escape to times in history, new ideas, and great adventures and imaginary worlds. Reading is often a learned skill. I would recommend to those who don't enjoy it to simply try reading a little a day. It's a lot like any exercise. As it gets easier and more fun, the more you do it. I like to read some fiction and non-fiction because both have a lot to offer. Here's a quick list.

• "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand. This is a wonderful, true story about the determination and strength of a great athlete and Soldier. She also wrote "Seabiscuit," which I didn't read but understand was excellent.

• "The Guns of August" by Barbara W. Tuchman. This tells the story of the crazy events and unique personalities that led the world into World War I. Even though you know how this all ends, the book is hard to put down.

• "The Orchid Thief" by Susan Orlean. Orlean is a great writer and her book about the black-market business and crazy characters who steal rare orchids, grow, breed and sell them for millions is a bit wacky but oddly fun and unusual. Orlean just finished another book on Rin Tin Tin. She makes an enjoyment of atypical topics.

• Either "O Pioneers!" or "My Antonia" by Willa Cather. I grew up in the midwest and think it's an area often overlooked today. I think about (and admire) the people who settled the American plains, and have read these books to learn more about the settlers, especially pioneer women. These books show the challenges of their lives and the great courage and fortitude it demanded.

• "Nothing Daunted" by Dorothy Wickenden. This book is about two east coast society girls who boarded a train from the east coast in 1916 to Colorado and, five days later, opened a new school and taught the children of frontiersmen and settlers. Their lives were full of surprises and adventures and make me wish for such experiences. It really is very, very interesting to see what their lives were like.

• "Team of Rivals" by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Goodwin's telling of how President Lincoln selected his cabinet and closest advisors from his greatest critics and political enemies was a lesson for me in leadership and vision. In reading how President Lincoln used their assaults on him to strengthen his plans, policies and actions, it's clear why he's one of our nation's greatest statesmen, and his strategy in selecting staff is pretty fascinating.

• Either "Persuasion," "Pride and Prejudice," or "Emma" by Jane Austen. While Austen may be viewed by many as simply a romantic writer, I like the way she describes the characters of life —smart, silly, vain, weak, arrogant, virtuous—they're all here. The stories are set in 19th century Great Britain, but the personalities are as prevalent as any I know today.

• "Across Five Aprils" by Irene Hunt. This is actually a children's book that I first read in fifth grade, but I end up reading it again every few years. It's a coming-of-age tale about an adolescent in Illinois during the Civil War and shows how the war touched all aspects of the family and shaped the boy's future.

• Any mystery by P.D. James in the Adam Dalgliesh series. I'm not a big mystery reader, but these are interesting and have strong characters facing moral challenges, and I like them even though I can never solve them.

• "Italian Days" by Barbara Grizutti. Having been stationed twice in Naples, I like to read this armchair travel book when I start to long for the place. If someone has been or is about to be stationed in Italy, I recommend it.

(As Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific and U.S. Pacific Fleet Civil Engineer, Gregory is the Navy's top Seabee in the Pacific and the Navy's first female admiral in the Civil Engineer Corps. On March 2, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta nominated Gregory for her second star and rank of rear admiral. Navy Reads is a blog dedicated to books, reading and support of the Navy Professional Reading Program. Read more at http:// bit.ly/ NReads.)

Diverse Views

Who is your favorite famous female role model in history and why?

SrA Sharon Miller
15th Comptroller Squadron

"Harriet Tubman is my favorite female role model from history because she dedicated her life to helping others. She was a God-fearing woman who set a great example of selfless dedication. She was willing to give her life so hundreds of slaves could be free."

CS1 Miguel Zavala
Silver Dolphin Bistro

"Amelia Earhart, because she was the first woman in aviation to be outside of the perception of what women were at that time."

Duena Parker
Navy spouse

"Hillary Clinton. It took a strong female to run for president!"

Helen Con Parubrub
Pearl Harbor Commissary

"Philippines ex-President Corazon Aquino — for being a smart, strong woman and a hard working, loving mother."

(Provided by Jazzmin Williams and David Underwood Jr.)

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

'Catch a Falling Star' captures test group's mission

Photo Illustration | Photos courtesy of ....

Shown here is the emblem of the U.S. Air Force 6594th Test Group from the former Hickam Field, whose motto "Catch a Falling Star" captured their mission. The 6594th Test Group was established in 1958 to support U.S. Air Force Systems Command missile and space development operations in the western Pacific area. It was largely concerned with retrieving film canisters in midair that had been ejected from some of the United States' earliest spy satellites, thus the unit's motto "To Catch a Falling Star."

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

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U.S.-Thailand-Singapore Airmen strengthen ties during Cope Tiger 12

Capt. David Herndon

Cope Tiger Public Affairs

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand -- Airmen from the U.S., Thailand and Singapore are stepping away from flight operations to strengthen relationships here with local Thai communities.

The combined Airmen from the U.S. Air Force, Royal Thai Air Force and Republic of Singapore Air Force are participating in exercise Cope Tiger, a large force air employment exercise aimed at strengthening interoperability between the three nations. Along with launching aircraft together from airfields across Thailand, the Airmen are focused on reinforcing relationships through community outreach programs and cultural exchanges at nearby secondary schools.

"This is the type of thing that makes it all worth it for me," said Master Sgt. Jason Adkins, Cope Tiger ustoms liaison officer from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. "I've always enjoyed reaching out and volunteering ... and what better way to do it than with my counterparts and everyone here participating in Cope Tiger."

Adkins and more than 70 others visited two local schools in the Nakhon Ratchasima Province of Thailand, and more Airmen conducted similar combined activities March 19 in Udon Thani Province.

Airmen have participated in sporting activities, English discussions and cultural exchanges and were able to view traditional Thai dances and remote controlled aircraft demonstrations.

"I would like to thank all of you for making these events happen - especially the RSAF and USAF exercise directors who continue to give full support for all activities," said Group Capt. Thawonwat Chantanakon, Royal Thai Air Force exercise director.

According to the group captain, the schools chosen are in the exercise training area, and the objectives of the activities revolve around exchanging experiences to strengthen relationships.

U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. David Herndon

Master Sgt. Jason Adkins (center), Cope Tiger Customs liaison officer from Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, and Airman 1st Class Thomas Fitzgerald (right), Cope Tiger F-15 Eagle crew chief from the Florida National Guard's 125th Fighter Wing, Jacksonville, Fla, dance with children curing a community outreach and cultural exchange event, March 13.

Airmen from the Florida National Guard's 125th Fighter Wing took the lead in providing aircrew, maintenance and support personnel to participate in engagements in the Nakhon Ratchasima Province. The National Guard Airmen are currently staged out of Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base for the exercise and together, raised more than $1,000 to purchase much needed athletic equipment for the schools.

"We are happy and grateful for all donations by Cope Tiger [participants]," said Kandjana Budsadeewong, Watprommarat School student. "We welcome all exercise Cope Tiger [participants]."

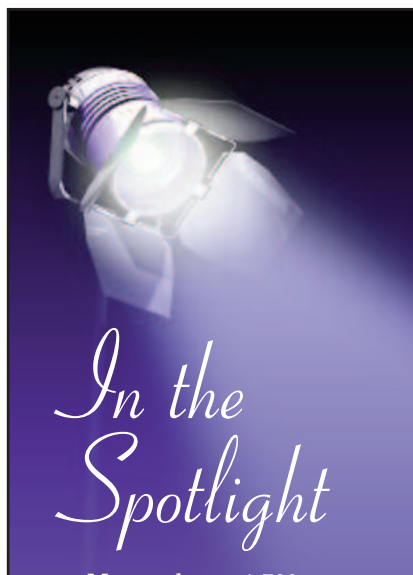
Kandjana said that her school is comprised of 269 students and uses a student-centered teaching method that enables learning experiences that allow for open discussion and dialogue.

"These children are the future," Adkins said. "I see these students and think of my own family.

"It is evident through the smiles of the children and blessings received from the teachers and staff how important it is for us to be here," Adkins said. "This has truly been an amazing experience for me, one that'll I'll be sharing with my friends and family when I return home."

Cope Tiger aims to enhance readiness and combined interoperability between U.S. Forces, allies and partners within the Pacific region. More than 1,600 Airmen and civilians are participating in this year's engagement, including approximately 430 U.S. service members and civilians.

(See additional photo on page A-5.)



More than 1,700 master sergeants have been selected for promotion to senior master sergeant, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

Those selected represent 13.78 percent of the 12,351 eligible, with an average score of 670.44, 4.12 years average time in grade and 19.27 years time in service. The average score was based on the following point averages: 134.99 for enlisted performance reports, 20.66 for decorations, 70.62 for the Air Force supervisory exam and 392.56 board score.

The following Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, master sergeants were selected for promotion.

Pacific Air Forces
Marlon T. Baker, Donald C. Birchard, Brian K. Burdick, Russell D. Burgess, Michael P. Colthart, Jonathon L. Curl, Bryan W. Dean, Jeremy S. Gallagher, Michael B. Hammond, Mark W. Hargis, Jason L. Harris, Chad Hartley, Steven R. Holsinger, Michelle L. Kern, Chonthicha Lane, Scott J. LeBlanc, Michael T. Marbry, Lisa A. Perez, Jamie L. Posley, Vincent Quagliariello, Erick Nila, Kevin G. Range, James T. Royston Jr., Guadalupe L. Ruiz, Pedro L. Ruiz, Robin M. Sabala, Joseph Santiago, Donavon L. Schaefer, Shannon N. Schaefer, Patrick W. Seiler, Russell W. Storman

13th Air Force
Theresa B. Freeman, Patrick L. Hackman, Paul D. Marqquez, Robert A. Wickizer

15th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Kimberly K. Evans

15th Comptroller Squadron
Jennifer Wilson

15th Maintenance Squadron
Charles D. Simpson

15th Medical Support Squadron
April R. Gaines, Talisha L. Virges

15th Operations Support Squadron
Jonathan R. Green

647th Civil Engineer Squadron
Ryan L. Girley

647th Security Forces Squadron
Charles T. Lane, Gregory A. Wasson

747th Communications Squadron
Kevin J. Fox

792th Intelligence Support Squadron
Angela F. McGill

324th Intelligence Squadron
Eric W. Williams

56th Air and Space Communications Squadron
Dimitrios Xadzipulos, Jack L. George

Air Mobility Command
Erica K. Rhea

Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency
Denver R. Ballew, David A. Delozier, Tracey S. McKinney

Special Operations Command - Pacific
Michael B. Cushman

Inbound personnel
Seth A. Quirk, Michael P. Vonahnen

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

Students from the Watprommarat School, Nakhon Ratchasima Province, Thailand, enjoy a Royal Thai Air Force Band performance during a Cope Tiger community outreach and cultural exchange event here, March 13. The school was visited by more than 40-Airmen from the U.S. Air Force, Republic of Singapore Air Force, and exercise host, Royal Thai Air Force.

U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. David Herndon

Pearl Harbor Survivor Sterling R. Cale talks with Cindy Bauchspies, the director of the U.S. Naval Academy Women's Glee Club aboard the USS Arizona Memorial during the "Salute to America's Heroes" concert series March 13.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Sean Furey

Hawaii State Rep. Gene Ward recognizes the Navy for its environmental stewardship in Hawaii at the State Capitol. Navy Region Hawaii and its installations, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Pacific Missile Range Facility, were recently recognized by the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations for their multiple awards in environmental stewardship in 2011. *(Full story on page A-1.)*

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Aviation Structural Mechanic (Equipment) 1st Class (AW) Calori Mullins removes litter outside the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel. She participated in Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's base-wide cleanup March 16.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Donald W. Randall

SWO community provided with professional development briefing

Story and photo by Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Capt. John Nowell, head of surface warfare assignments at Navy Personnel Command, leads a presentation to surface warfare officers on March 20 at Sharkey Theater.

Detailers from PERS-41 Surface Warfare Officer assignments visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam this week and provided a professional development briefing to the surface warfare officers (SWO) community March 20 at Sharkey Theater.

The visit also included a Surface Navy Association SWO social event and spouses briefing hosted by Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"We're giving community briefs to update all the surface warfare officers on the waterfront on where our community's going and anything which has changed that they need to know about. We're also doing ship visits, going to the ships that are here, spending time in the wardrooms talking to them. It's a good opportunity for detailers to engage one-on-one with their constituents, the officers," said Lt. Cmdr. Brian Fremming of PERS-41.

Capt. John Nowell, head of surface warfare assignments at Navy Personnel Command, led the presentation at Sharkey Theater. Topics discussed ranged from available opportunities for SWOs, command structure, promotion, compensation and education. During his presentation, Nowell outlined what the surface warfare career advantage entails. "I sum it up in three words: flexibility, service and opportunity," he said.

He emphasized that it is important for his command to work with surface warriors so they can understand how to better manage their careers and also balance family life.

"We will get out to every ship, and we will also meet with spouses. We think families are what makes this possible," Nowell said.

Priorities focused on at the event included also included building surface readiness, attracting and keeping the best personnel, providing capable officers, matching talent to the task and responding to fleet needs.

Ponds stated, "This is a great time to be a SWO … surface warfare officer. Over the past decade, our unique and comprehensive set of warfighting, managerial and leadership skills have been tried, tested and proven — ashore and afloat. As our nation rebalances its focus to the Asia-Pacific region, the surface warfare officer and enlisted community and the complex array of systems that we command will play a vital role in our Navy's ability to execute its maritime strategy. In short, our Navy, especially the Surface Navy here in the Middle Pacific Region, must remain ready to respond at a moment's notice to the call of our nation to protect and defend our values and virtues. As I like to say, 'so goes our Navy, so goes our nation.' Never has that been a more exacting statement than now. Our time is now, and we are ready."

Capt. Dell Epperson, chief of staff of Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, said, "It is incredibly important for the PERS-41 detailer team to go face-to-face with our surface warriors here in Pearl Harbor. We don't get the opportunity often, but they shape our future officers 10 to 15 years down the stream. So this is a golden opportunity for them to hear our concerns and for our surface warfare folks to understand what they need do to position themselves for the future."

The SWOs in attendance at the briefing stated that they appreciated the opportunity to meet in person with the detailers from PERS-41.

"I appreciate the detailers being frank and open," said Lt. j.g. Darek Marino. "It's good to have this 'face time,'" he said. Marino serves as a fire control officer on USS Chosin (CG-65).

Lt. j.g. Krystal Roberts called the presentation very informative. She said, "I didn't know much about the specialties. That was interesting." She's currently a repair officer on the USS Crommelin (FFG 37) but said she will be assigned next to Littoral Combat Ship 3, the USS Fort Worth (LCS-3).

"I like the options we have as SWOs. It's not a cookie-cutter path," said Ensign Katarina Williams, a combat information center officer on Chosin. She explained that she appreciates the alternatives the career allows for female SWOs who want to have children.

Capt. John Figuerres, commanding officer of Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific and president of the Pearl Harbor Chapter of Surface Navy Association, emphasized the significance of the social evening hosted by the admiral.

"Rear Adm. Ponds is hosting this evening for surface warfighters with a goal of building not just partnerships but also relationships. We are stronger when we work together as a team. Our Surface Navy Association sponsored the event and helped us with relationship-building at all levels," Figuerres said.

"This week has been an opportunity to sharpen tools for our surface warfighters, provide 21st Century Sailor support, and build teamwork and camaraderie. It's been a good week, and I think we're even more ready to tackle the challenges ahead," Figuerres added.

Ponds said the evening social event on March 21 was designed to break down communication barriers and promote healthy dialogue between senior and junior officers.

"It was an honor to share the evening with Vice Adm. (ret.) Kihune, who personifies the tradition of honor, courage and commitment that we all aspire. As the first Hawaiian vice admiral, having served 35 years in the Navy uniform and as Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, VADM Kihune continues to dedicate himself to the professional development and personal growth of our Surface Warfare Officers and is an active supporter of the Pearl Harbor Surface Navy Association," Ponds added.

Women's roles evolved from 'Lucy' to 'Murphy Brown' after World War II

Martha Lockwood

Defense Media Activity

(Editor's note: This article commemorates Women's History Month. This story deals with the contributions women made to the Air Force during the years following World War II and during the Korean War.)

U.S. Air Force graphic by Sylvia Saab

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (AFNS) – Within the time span it took for women in television to transform from the female stereotypes portrayed on "I Love Lucy" to the more modern, late-century version found on "Murphy Brown," women in the U.S. Air Force were making strides that far outpaced their Hollywood counterparts.

By the end of World War II, women were fully incorporated into the military, although still primarily limited to mostly clerical roles such as typists, clerks and mail sorters, and represented only about two percent of the force. Less than a year after the Air Force became its own service, President Harry Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, accepting women as a permanent part of the military. It was the beginning of the Women's Air Force and for the next 30 years, would represent a separate, but equal part of the military.

During the Korean War (1950-53), the only Air Force women permitted to serve in the Korean battle zone were medical air evacuation nurses. Service women who had joined the Reserves following World War II were involuntarily recalled to active duty as Women in the Air Force (WAF). Together, with already in-service WAFs, the women carried out support roles at rear-echelon bases in Japan. They were air traffic controllers, weather observers, radar operators and photo interpreters. Nurses served stateside, and flight nurses served in the Korean theater.

Pearl Harbor Shipyard Sailor of Year wins top Navy honor

Katie Vanes

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Sailor Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SS) Cody W. Davis was selected out of five finalists from 20 naval commands around the world to become the Vice Chief of Naval Operations (VCNO) 2011 Sailor of the Year (SOY) on March 12.

"Petty Officer Davis was nominated by Naval Sea Systems Command and was selected from a field of five outstanding finalists representing the finest petty officers serving ashore," said VCNO Adm. Mark Ferguson.

"The competition was keen and reflected the high caliber of Sailors serving ashore throughout the world. All of the finalists represented their commands and the entire enlisted community with distinction," Ferguson said.

U.S. Navy photo by Marshall Fukuki

Machinist's Mate 1st Class Cody W. Davis of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard stands in front of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) project. Davis earned the Vice Chief of Naval Operations Sailor of the Year title.

Davis credits his command and family as his reasons behind his success. "I'm a product of my environment, and I consider this a command award, not an individual award," said Davis, originally from Pell City, Ala. "I'm very honored and thankful for the opportunity to be considered because there are so many outstanding Sailors leading on the deck plates."

"If it wasn't for my wife and son, I wouldn't have that constant support system. I'm thankful for them every day," Davis said.

Davis, who enlisted in the Navy in December 2003, is the leading petty officer in the shipyard's production resources department. Since January 2011, Davis supervised and trained more than 200 Sailors in troubleshooting, repairing and testing numerous complex mechanical, hydraulic and electrical systems. These tasks enabled the Navy's ships and Sailors to execute missions critical to our nation's defense, according to shipyard leadership.

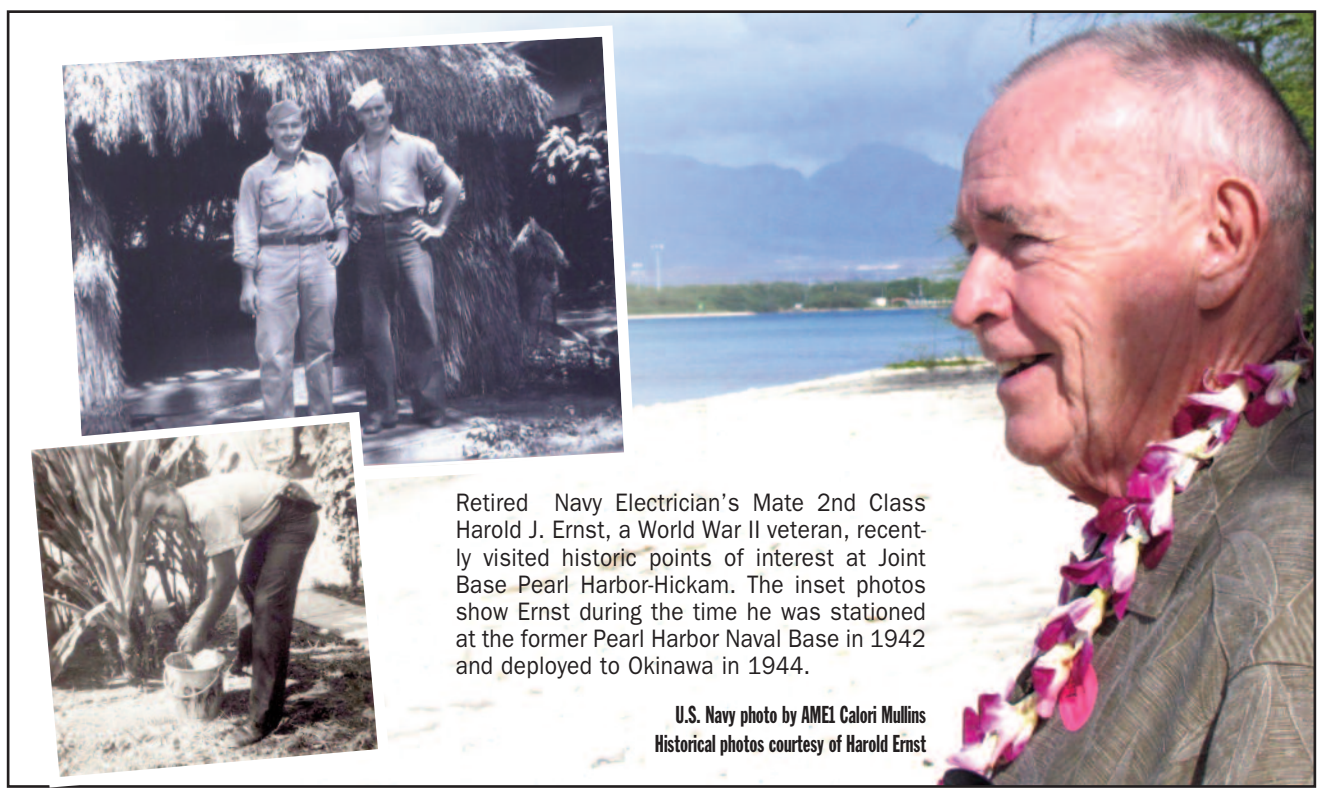
Davis also mentored 20 enlisted Sailors as the machinist's mate weapons training coordinator, a billet normally filled by a chief petty officer (one rank above Davis). He was the departmental career counselor of the largest department in the command and conducted more than 150 career development boards and 15 re-enlistments.

As the shipyard's assistant command fitness leader, Davis encouraged Sailors to improve their physical fitness by coordinating and monitoring physical performance tests. He graduated from Hawaii Pacific University magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in justice administration and is working to complete his master's degree from Central Michigan University.

Davis also led the effort for shipyard community relations as president of the First Class Petty Officer Association, where he spearheaded numerous fundraisers and activities, such as student robotics programs, highway cleanups and playground construction for Waipahu YMCA. He was also actively involved with Sailors Against Drunk Driving, command blood drives and coaching athletics at neighboring schools.

As an LDO next year, Davis will serve as a submarine weapons officer on submarines and tenders. He will also serve as an anti-terrorism force protection officer.

The last shipyard Sailor to earn the VCNO title was Electronics Technician 1st Class (SS) Adam Powers in 2003.



Retired Navy Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Harold J. Ernst, a World War II veteran, recently visited historic points of interest at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The inset photos show Ernst during the time he was stationed at the former Pearl Harbor Naval Base in 1942 and deployed to Okinawa in 1944.

U.S. Navy photo by AME1 Calori Mullins
Historical photos courtesy of Harold Ernst

Four Sailors render aid

Continued from A-1

following day, March 20.

Blanco said he was the designated driver that morning. He said he tells his Sailors to have a plan whenever they decide to go out and drink.

"I've seen a lot of stuff in my life, but this experience was very eerie for me because I lost my brother to the very same thing," Blanco said. "I lost my younger brother to a drunk driver two years ago. He was driving on the wrong side of the road. My brother didn't make it. He didn't walk out, but the drunk driver did."

"Make sure you prepare for the conditions that are out there," he continued. "Be aware of your surroundings. Be prepared when you're going out. Be prepared for those drunk drivers that are out there. If you see someone stumbling, take their keys. I wish someone did that for my brother or he would be here today."

Batacan thanked the four Sailors again.

"God bless you," he said. "Thank you very much."

U.S. forces care for thousands during PACANGEL-Philippines

Story and photo by
Master Sgt. Allison Day

13th Air Force Public Affairs

LEGAZPI CITY, Philippines -- Operation Pacific Angel-Philippines, a joint and combined humanitarian mission, officially wrapped up during a closing ceremony March 15 at Bigaa Elementary School, Bigaa, here.

More than 8,500 people in the Bicol Province of Albay received medical, dental and optometry care during the PACANGEL mission March 5 through 10. Hundreds more were the beneficiaries of subject-matter expert exchanges, including women's health, oral hygiene and water sanitation, and three sites were the locations for engineering support.

"This mission has been a tremendous success," said Lt. Col. Mike Black, PACANGEL mission commander. "We could not have had the success we did without our partners."

Airman 1st Class Taylor Vondrasek, 36th Civil Engineer Squadron structural apprentice, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, takes a moment to connect with the children from Binitayan Elementary School.

The Armed Forces Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP), Cambodian and Tongan military forces, non-governmental agencies, local government units and hundreds of volunteers partnered with 99 U.S. military members to provide humanitarian assistance.

"We've had a great time working with our partners and made many new friends throughout the Albay Province," Black said. "We have accomplished PACANGEL side-by-side, shoulder -to-shoulder, and it's been one of the most outstanding experiences of my career."

Patient after patient expressed thanks as they were seen by providers.

"One of our first patients was an elderly lady, who was very emotional and wept as she limped to the medical tent," said Staff Sgt. Katherine Caraballo, 36th Medical Operations Squadron medical technician from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. "As we helped her to her seat, I asked why she was crying and she said, 'These are tears of joy because I am happy that you are here.'"

At that moment, Caraballo said, she realized how much the mission meant to the people of Bicol and what serving meant to her.

Providing care to patients could not have been possible without AFP and PNP resolving credentialing issues.

"Without their help, providers would not have been credentialed by the Philippine government to practice medicine here," said. Lt. Col. Timothy Martinez, 13th Air Force Surgeon General chief of medical operations, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), Hawaii. "We promised the host nation we would see 5,500 patients, but we ended up caring for 8,588 Filipinos from this community."

Although the amount of patients increased by more than 50 percent, Martinez said, "PNP and Dios Mabalos Po Foundation came to our rescue by donating critical supplies." He also stressed the relationship with PACANGEL partners was, "a true partnership."

The relationships built and sustained with our multi-national partners in the Asia-Pacific region through operations like these help tremendously in humanitarian efforts and in preserving peace and stability in the region, Black explained.

Operation PACANGEL is led by 13th Air Force, JBPHH. There are three more PACANGELs scheduled this year in Laos, Vietnam and Nepal.

JEMS provides job information to military, retirees, families

Story and photo by
MC1 (EXW) Donald W. Randall

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

For almost 25 years, Joint Employment Management System (JEMS) has been opening the job market to Hawaii-based military personnel, military spouses and retirees who are eligible for services and assistance.

This month, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus announced the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative to the fleet. In his announcement, he emphasized that people are the Navy's most valuable asset, and equipping Sailors, Marines and their families with the right tools to face challenges is essential to success.

JEMS has been doing just that for almost a quarter of a century, according to Susan Hodge, director of Joint Employment Management System (JEMS) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"One of the original reasons it was started is that the base commanders were finding that they would bring families in, and there would be financial hardship because the spouses were unable to find paying jobs," Hodge said.

"They came up with JEMS as a way to help the military spouse who wants to work, who needs to work, to get a job so they can stay in Hawaii."

Hodge said that once financial woes reach a certain level, commands will send families home for early return of dependents. According to Hodge, the stress of separation between the active duty members and their families, combined with financial hardships, too often leads to divorce. The number-one reason cited for divorce is financial problems.

Susan Hodge, director, Joint Employment Management System (JEMS) scans her computer for new job opportunities. For almost 25 years, JEMS has been opening the job market to Hawaii-based military, retirees, and families.

"It is important to me personally because it is a program originally designed for military spouses, and I have been a military spouse for almost 26 years. It is also designed for retirees and veterans, and I happen to be a veteran," Hodge continued.

Hodge said this year's job fair will be their silver anniversary. It is scheduled to be held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in late September. At last year's job fair, 846 job seekers and 112 companies participated.

"We had Navy, Marine Corps, spouses, retirees and people who were preparing to separate from military service, but we also had DoD civilians, Coast Guard, Army…We opened it up to anyone that could legally get themselves on base," Hodge said.

Last year JEMS reported more than $4 million in salaries. It also maintains a job bank that is currently averaging 2,100 jobs.

For more information on the Joint Employment Management System, visit www.JEMSfobs.com or call your Military and Family Support Center at 474-1999.

USS Cheyenne commander visits ROTC students

Story and photo by MC2 Ronald Gutridge

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

The commanding officer and select crew members of the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) visited several colleges Feb. 29 to March 9, speaking to Recruit Officer Training Corps (ROTC) students about the opportunities available to them in the U.S. Navy's submarine force.

Over the course of several days, Cmdr. Gary Rogeness, commanding officer of Cheyenne; Senior Chief Electronics Technician (SS) Michael Hinkle, chief of the boat; and Lt. j.g. John Russell visited Prairie View A&M, located at Prairie View, Texas, Rice University in Houston, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colo. and Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa.

Cmdr. Gary Rogeness, commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) (right), presents a laser engraved wooden plate commemorating Cheyenne's 2011 western Pacific deployment to Rufino Lopez, a student at Rice University's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

During the visits, Rogeness spoke about life as a submariner, career progression and the current status of the submarine force.

"It was a great opportunity to interact with a large group of midshipmen" Rogeness said. "We brought the fleet to these future leaders and gave them a glimpse of what the submarine force has to offer them in terms of personal development and job satisfaction when accomplishing a difficult assignment."

Hinkle spoke about life as a junior officer aboard a fast attack submarine and their contribution to the overall mission. Russell shared his views on the qualities necessary to be a successful and productive division officer in the submarine force and how junior officers should take advantage of the experience the senior enlisted can bring to their development.

At the conclusion of each visit, Rogeness recognized several outstanding students by presenting tokens of appreciation which included USS Cheyenne 15th anniversary coins, plaques and commemorative plates.

Rogeness, Russell and Hinkle finished their trip by visiting Cheyenne, Wyo., the submarine's namesake city. While there, they addressed the state senate, met with several state officials and provided a short synopsis of Cheyenne's last deployment.

"The city of Cheyenne has always been extremely supportive and had a fantastic relationship with the ship's crew," Rogeness said. "It was wonderful to visit our namesake city to update them on how their Sailors are doing and see how proud they are to have USS Cheyenne represent their city."