



# Whiting Tower

Seventy Years of Aviation Training News

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.  
Vol. 70 No. 2

Forging Wings for the Fleet  
Monday, February 3, 2014

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## Commander Navy Region Southeast Visits Whiting

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

As he took a swing through several military installations along Northwest Florida's Gulf Coast, Rear Adm. Rick Williamson spent a day meeting with and learning about NAS Whiting Field's personnel and facilities.

Along with several of his staff members and his wife, Robin, Williamson stopped at Whiting Field for the first time since taking command of Navy Region Southeast. His day started early with a 7 a.m. visit to the midfield hangar to present the awards for NAS Whiting Field's Sailor of the Year, Junior Sailor of the Year, and Bluejacket of the Year. In short order, Williamson moved on to the Atrium for a military community update breakfast where he addressed Santa Rosa County leaders and expressed his appreciation for their support of the installation and its service members.

Before he embarked on a tour of base facilities, Williamson addressed the senior staff for the base in the command building's conference room. In addition to



Rear Adm. Rick Williamson explains a point during a meeting with NAS Whiting Field senior staff. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

praising the staff's work and effort, he also cautioned that changes are coming to the way the military does business.

"You provide the best pilots the world has ever seen. You should be proud of that and it is my job to man, train, and equip you to be able to continue to do that," he stated before he emphasized the need for austerity measures that should be expected in the future. "However, we have got to change the way we do business. We work for the folks outside the fences and we owe it to the American people not to waste their money."

NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Matthew Coughlin then took Williamson for an office call to meet Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore Capt. James Fisher and on a tour of the installation's facilities including the North and South Field air traffic control towers, the water plant, and several of Whiting Field's Navy Outlying Landing Fields. Separating the facilities tour was lunch with a number of Santa Rosa County dignitaries including County Commissioner Don Salter, Milton Mayor Guy Thompson, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Donna Tucker, and other VIPs. The setting was an ideal opportunity for Williamson to express his gratitude for the support NAS Whiting Field receives from the surrounding community on a regular basis.

"I have been a lot of places that are military towns. You are all doing it right," Williamson said. "The support that the base is getting in this region is amazing. Other places support their military, but here, there is a personal touch, and it is greatly appreciated."

Robin Williamson received a concurrent tour of the base that focused on education and family programs. She attended briefings at the Fleet and Family Support Center, visited the Child Development Center, and spoke with members of the Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD).

She was escorted by the School's Liaison Officer Chris Hendrix, NAS Whiting Field Ombudsman Daisy Johnson, and Chief Air Traffic Controller Jacqueline Williams

### Cover Photo

Rear Adm. Rick Williamson and Capt. Matthew Coughlin land at Outlying Field Summerdale to survey progress on the extension of runways. Behind them is Lt. Cmdr. Alex Kuriatnyk, Public Works Officer NAS Whiting Field, and Capt. Chris Kiwus, Naval Facilities and Engineering Command Southeast.

## The Whiting Tower

### Commanding Officer

- Capt. Matthew Coughlin

### Executive Officer

- Cmdr. Gregory Gray

### Command Master Chief

- Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Alton Smith

### Interim Public Affairs Officer

- Jay Cope

### Public Affairs Staff

- Ensign Lindsey Stevenson

The Whiting Tower is an authorized publication for members of the Naval Air Station Whiting Field team, tenant commands, their family members and retirees in the surrounding area. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Navy, and do not imply endorsement thereof. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

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## Grant Program One of Many VA Initiatives to End Veterans' Homelessness

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced the availability of up to approximately \$600 million in grants for non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives that serve very low-income Veteran families occupying permanent housing through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.

“Those who have served our Nation should never find themselves on the streets, living without hope,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “These grants play a critical role in addressing Veteran homelessness by assisting our vital partners at the local level in their efforts. We are making good progress towards our goal to end Veterans’ homelessness, but we still have work to do.”

The SSVF program is designed to assist very low-income Veteran families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. The program employs a housing first model, an approach which centers on providing homeless Veterans with permanent housing quickly and then providing VA health care, benefits and services as needed.

Required services include outreach, case management, assistance in obtaining VA benefits, and providing or coordinat-

ing efforts to obtain needed entitlements and other community services. Grantees secure a broad range of other services for participants, including legal assistance; credit counseling; housing counseling; assisting participants in understanding leases, securing utilities, and coordinating moving arrangements; providing representative payee services concerning rent and utilities when needed; and serving as an advocate for the Veteran when mediating with property owners on issues related to locating or retaining housing. Grantees also offer temporary financial assistance that provides short-term assistance with rent, moving expenses, security and utility deposits, child care, transportation, utility costs, and emergency expenses.

VA announced the availability of funds today through a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) via the Federal Register. VA is offering \$300 million in FY 2014 funds and \$300 million in FY 2015 funds, subject to available appropriations. VA will make award decisions based on a national competition.

In FY 2013, VA awarded approximately \$300 million in SSVF grants for operations beginning in FY 2014. VA is focusing up to \$300 million in surge funding on 76 high priority continuums of care in an unprecedented effort to end Veterans’ homelessness in these communities. In FY 2013, funding from the SSVF program served over 39,000 Veterans and over 62,000 participants (i.e., Veterans and their family members).

In November, VA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the results of the 2013 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness, which was prepared by HUD. The report estimated there were 57,849 homeless Veterans on a single night in January in the United States, an eight percent decline since 2012 and a 24 percent decline since 2010.

The SSVF program is authorized by 38 U.S.C. 2044. VA implements the program by regulations in 38 CFR part 62. More information about the program can be found at [www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp).

### *This Day in Naval History*

#### **Feb. 3**

1863 - The “double-ender” side wheel steam gunboat Sonoma captures the blockade running British bark Springbok.

1944 - PBVs and USAAF B-25s (5th Air Force) aircraft attack a Japanese convoy west of New Hanover and sink the cargo ship, Nichiai Maru.

1944 - USS Tambor (SS 198) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks Goyu Maru and merchant tanker Ariake Maru about 200 miles southeast of Shanghai.

#### **Feb. 4**

1779 - John Paul Jones takes command of Bonhomme Richard. Jones renames it IHO Benjamin Franklin, whose famous almanacs had been published in France under Les Maximes du Bonhomme Richard.

1813 - Sloop ship Hornet, commanded by James Lawrence, captures and burns the British merchant ship Resolute.

1944 - USS Charette (DD 581) and USS Fair (DE 35) sink Japanese submarine I 175, 100 miles north of Jaluit, Marshall Islands.

1944 - PV-1s aircraft sank Japanese water tanker Goryu Maru off Emidj Island, Jaluit.

#### **Feb. 5**

1813 - During the War of 1812, the frigate Chesapeake, commanded by Samuel Evans, chase the British merchant brig Earl Percy ashore on Long Island. Chesapeake’s crew saves the Earl Percy’s crew and the 58 prisoners that are on board.

1854 - The dedication of the first chapel built on Naval property is held at Annapolis, Md.

1942 - Destroyer USS Bernadou (DD 153), escorting convoy HX 173, rescues 10 survivors of the Belgian freighter Ganda, which had been sunk by German submarine U 135 on Jan. 22.

1944 - USS Flasher (SS 249) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Taishin Maru off Mindoro, while USS Narwhal (SS 167) lands 45 tons of ammunition and cargo to support Filipino guerrilla operations at Libertad, Panay, Philippines.

1962 - USS Stoddard (DD 566) and USS Surfbird (ADG-383) rescue 29 crewmen from the sinking Greek merchant vessel Yarnix off Luzon, Philippine Islands.

1971 - Capt. Alan B. Shepard Jr., Apollo 14 commander, and Cmdr. Edgar D. Mitchell, lunar module pilot, become the fifth and sixth humans to walk on the moon.

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



Rear Admiral, then Captain, Alan B. Shepard Jr. places an American flag on the moon. Apollo 14 was the eighth manned mission in the Apollo program, and the third to land on the Moon. Shepard famously hit two golf balls on the lunar surface with a makeshift club he had brought from Earth. Shepard and Mitchell spent about 33 hours on the Moon, with about 9½ hours actually walking on the Moon. **Photo courtesy of NASA.gov**

# News and Notes

**Troy University Global Open House** - Troy University will host a Global Open House on Thursday, Feb. 20 to assist prospective students in the areas of academic strategy for career development, financial assistance, admissions, and credit transfers. Arrive before 6:00 p.m. at Troy University's Pensacola location at 21 New Warrington Road in West Pensacola. Application fees will be waived for those who apply for admission to TROY during a Global Open House event at any location or online on February 20. Open Houses will also be held at TROY's four Alabama campuses and 22 of its Global Campus locations, and online. The university will host two virtual open house sessions that day: 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Register for the event by location online at <http://www.troy.edu/openhouse> by Monday, February 17. For more information, please contact the TROY Pensacola location at 850-455-5836 or [pensacola@troy.edu](mailto:pensacola@troy.edu).

**VA Teaches Tai Chi** - The Department of Veterans Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System will begin a free, 12-week series of Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance classes for Veterans. The classes will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Bayview Resource Center. Participants will learn eight modified forms of Tai Chi to help improve balance while also benefiting from stress reduction. No registration is required. For more information, Veterans should call Laura Pistey at 850-912-2202.

**ASSIST Training** - Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training will be held Feb. 05-06 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in room 169 of building 1417 (Atrium). This two-day workshop will certify participants in suicide first-aid, which will equip them to intervene for a person at-risk for suicide. For more information or to sign up for this vital workshop, please contact the Chaplain's office at 623-7211 or our POC Ensign Maurer at [griffin.maurer@navy.mil](mailto:griffin.maurer@navy.mil)

**Humana Self Service** - Please note Humana's new "Self Service" website to encourage our beneficiaries to utilize the internet and Contact (Call) Center to conduct business as opposed to walk-in service at the TRICARE Service Center which will officially close on 1 Apr 2014. Site is <https://infocenter.humana-military.com/South/Bene/obs/infocenter.asp>.

**Softball Players Wanted** - The Whiting Warriors will be holding tryouts will be on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 1530 at the base softball fields. Contact AC2 Jake Black, 928-637-3454, or AZ1 Jennifer Jackson, 954-770-9360, with questions about playing for the team. Female players are encouraged to attend tryouts.

**Naval Academy STEM Program Applications** - Each year in June, the United States Naval Academy launches a summer Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Program to expose young people to STEM concepts and technologies. The United States Naval Academy's 2014 Summer STEM

Program is designed to encourage eighth-11th graders to pursue a course of study in STEM-related subjects throughout high school, college, and beyond. The 2014 Summer STEM Program will be a great start to your career in science and engineering. Applications opened Jan. 6, 2014 at [www.usna.edu/admissions/stem](http://www.usna.edu/admissions/stem). Session dates include June 2-7 for rising eighth and ninth graders; June 9-14 for rising 10th graders; and June 16-20 for rising 11th graders.

**Community Emergency Response Team Training Offered** - Navarre CERT will host a Community Emergency Response Team training March 21-23 and March 28-30. Classes the first week-end will take place at St Sylvester Catholic Church, 6464 Gulf Breeze Parkway in Gulf Breeze. Further information will be provided before the class starts. Topics will include first aid, disaster psychology, fire prevention and basic firefighting techniques, disaster preparedness, fire safety, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue and terrorism. Adults and teens 14-17 years old are encouraged to take advantage of this free training that will certify participants as CERT members and allow them to join current teams or form new teams in their own community. All who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion and a backpack containing a CERT vest and other safety equipment. CERT is an official emergency preparedness program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Participants are required to attend all six classes to successfully complete the course:

- \* Friday, March 21 from 6-8 p.m.
- \* Saturday, March 22 from 8:00 a.m.-5 p.m.
- \* Sunday, March 23 from 1-5 p.m.
- \* Friday, March 28 from 6- 9 p.m.
- \* Saturday, March 29 from 8:00 a.m. -5 p.m.
- \* Sunday, March 30 from 1:00pm - 4:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is required. Prior to the start of training, participants must take the FEMA Independent Study course IS-317: Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams online at [www.citizencorps.gov/cert/training\\_mat.shtm](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/training_mat.shtm). For further details and to register online, go to [www.navarrecert.org](http://www.navarrecert.org). For more information, email [training@navarrecert.org](mailto:training@navarrecert.org) or call (850) 939-6973.

**SAPR Info** - SAPR Offices have relocated to the Atrium Building in Rooms 166 and 167. They can still be reached at 850-623-7177. Interested in becoming a SAPR Victim Advocate? SAPR Victim Advocates deliver the services directly to the victims and assist victims in navigating and understanding the system. They will also be certified by the Defense Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program (D-SAACP). The next SAPR VA training will be conducted March 10-14. For more information, contact the Base SARC, Kristen Klein at [Kristen.klein@navy.mil](mailto:Kristen.klein@navy.mil), Civilian VA, Jennifer Walker at [Jennifer.l.walker@navy.mil](mailto:Jennifer.l.walker@navy.mil), or call the FFSC 623-7177.

**Panhandle Community Theatre Presents** - The Panhandle Community Theatre will showcase the Pulitzer Prize winning play "Crimes of the Heart" for its February production. This tragic comedy tells the story of the three Magrath sisters who gathered to await news of the family patriarch, their grandfather, who is living out his last hours in the local hospital. The play relates how the characters escape the past to seize the future - but the telling is so true and touching and consistently comical that it will linger in your mind long after the final scene has concluded. Note: Although this play is about family values, it contains some language that may not be suitable for children. The play will run February 20-23, 27-28, March 1-2 with evening showings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children (12-under). A Special "Low-Dough" pricing is in effect for Thursdays for \$9. Call 850-221-7599 or email: [panhandle\\_community\\_theatre@yahoo.com](mailto:panhandle_community_theatre@yahoo.com) for reservations.

## Usage Information

### Total Used

1,672,786 kWh

|                        | 1 Year Ago | Last Month | This Month |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Total kWh Used         | 1,733,421  | 1,871,030  | 1,672,786  |
| Average Daily kWh      | 57,781     | 60,356     | 55,760     |
| Days In Billing Period | 30         | 31         | 30         |

## Energy Conservation

Conserving energy remains an important goal in the operation of Naval Air Station Whiting Field. Steps taken during the past year by Public Works continue to pay dividends in our energy conservation programs. Please help decrease usage even more by remembering to turn off lights, shut down computers and printers, and limit usage of non-essential equipment.

# Family Assistance

## Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|-----|
| <b>Suicide Prevention</b><br><b>ACT! Ask Care Treat</b> |  |  | <br>START SMALL. THINK BIG.                  |   |  | 1   |
| 2   | 3  | 4<br>Stress Management<br>11:00 am - 12:00 pm  | 5<br>Communication 101<br>11:00 am - 12:00 pm  | 6<br>Chall of FS & Marriage<br>9:00 - 11:00 am<br>Anger Management<br>1:00 - 2:00 pm  | 7<br>VA Representative<br>8:00 am - 12:00 pm   | 8   |
| 9   | 10<br>Resume Writing<br>10:00 am - 12:00 pm  | 11<br>Stress Management<br>11:00 am - 12:00 pm   | 12<br>Stress Management<br>1:00 - 2:00 pm<br>Car Buying<br>1:00 - 3:00 pm  | 13<br>Chall of FS & Marriage<br>9:00 - 11:00 am<br>Conflict Management<br>1:00 - 2:00 pm  | 14   | 15  |
| 16  | 17<br><b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b>   | 18<br>Stress Management<br>1:00 - 2:00 pm  | 19<br>Anger Management<br>10:00 - 11:00 am   | 20  | 21<br>VA Representative<br>8:00 am - 12:00 pm  | 22  |
| 23<br>MILITARY SAVES WEEK                               | 24<br><br>THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN<br>1:00 - 3:00 pm | 25<br><br>SAVINGS & INVESTING<br>10:00 am - 12:00 pm | 26<br><br>HOME BUYING<br>10:00 am - 12:00 pm | 27<br><br>CREDIT MANAGEMENT<br>11:00 am - 12:00 pm | 28<br><br>BUDGET PLANNING<br>10:00 am - 12:00 pm |     |

## Now hear this:

# NAVY 311

## is at your service!

**1-855-NAVY-311**  
(1-855-628-9311)

Web: [www.Navy311.navy.mil](http://www.Navy311.navy.mil)  
Email: [Navy311@navy.mil](mailto:Navy311@navy.mil)

**Got a question? Get an answer.**

NAVY 311 is your single point of entry to access help desk support across the Navy—and no topic is off limits. Ask NAVY 311 about systems, equipment, training, facilities, career, IT, medical, logistics, and more. Whether you're at sea, in port, on duty or liberty, NAVY 311 is available 24/7. So toss away that wheel book. NAVY 311 is all you and your family need to reach authorized Navy service providers worldwide.




### Different Perspectives

By Ensign Emily Hegarty

The Pensacola Vet Center recognized a Naval Air Station Whiting Field Sailor for helping out her greater military community during an awards presentation Dec. 6.

Mary Ann Wood and Mike McGreevy, of the Pensacola Vet Center, presented Master-at-Arms Petty Officer First Class Erica Roten with a certificate of appreciation for her work with the center, where she provided a female perspective on combat to the clinical staff and offered ways that the center can cater to active-duty females with combat experience.

As of October 1, 2013, Vet Center services became available to active duty service members who served in combat zones in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and New Dawn, and their families, which McGreevy said has impacted the way that the Vet Center operates.

Roten met with the Vet Center clinical staff to discuss her combat experience, and how her perspective as a woman may have been different from her male counterparts. Roten served in Iraq from 2010 to 2011, doing convoy operations with the Special Operations Task Force (SOTF), and in Afghanistan in 2011 performing convoy operations and support with SOTF.

“You hear a lot that ‘there’s not a lot of women in combat’ – and that’s just not true. We’ve always been there, just had different roles and different titles,” explained Roten. “I provided them with information on a female’s role in combat.”

Wood, a licensed clinical social worker, explained that getting Roten’s input was invaluable to the center’s new role.

“It was important to us to hear how a woman approached the challenges of combat,” said Wood, touching on how the needs of members can vary according to a wide variety of factors, including gender. “Women are relational-oriented, whereas men are more externally motivated, and it affects how they deal with the stresses of combat.”

In addition to helping the center, Roten said sitting down and talking about her experiences helped her as well.

“It’s an awesome program. It’s a good way to go and talk, and get your experiences normalized. I really hadn’t talked to anyone about [my combat experience] before, and it helped me to think about and work through things. It’s a great service if you just need someone to talk to,” she explained.

As the center prepares to deal with a younger population of active-duty services members with combat experience, testimonials like Roten’s help the center to cater to a shifting vari-

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### RADM Williamson Visits

- (Cont. from Page 2)



Robin Williamson and NASWF Ombudsman Daisy Johnson during a brief at the base’s Fleet and Family Support Center. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Lindsey Stevenson.

who represented several of the programs in which she is interested. During lunch, she also met with other school liaison officers, the regional Military Family Life Counselor for local schools, and other members of the FFSC team. Their visit provided NAS Whiting Field valuable face-time with Rear Adm. Williamson and his wife so they can understand the installation, the surrounding community, and the role both play in military readiness.

“It was a great visit. It’s always nice to meet with your boss and showcase the installation and its mission, while at the same time gaining insight into the Regional priorities for all installations,” Coughlin said. “The tour also gave us an opportunity to display what NAS Whiting Field does well, our exceptional relationship with the community, and provide exposure to future challenges.”

*Don’t forget to visit us on  
facebook*

*at*

*<http://www.facebook.com/nas-whitingfield>*

## Around the Base

# Free Legal Counsel for Sexual Assault Victims

### From Navy Victim's Legal Counsel at NAS Pensacola

The Navy Victims' Legal Counsel (VLC) Program is fully operational in Navy Region Southeast. The Navy is implementing the VLC Program to provide a military attorney free of charge to eligible victims of sexual assault.

VLCs can assist eligible victims with a decision to make a restricted or an unrestricted report of sexual assault; advocate on their behalf to investigators, commanders, and prosecutors; advance and protect victim rights and interests during the court-martial process; and, provide other legal advice and assistance connected to the sexual assault. It is never too early or too late for an eligible victim to seek the assistance of a VLC. All communications between eligible victims and VLCs are confidential.

Navy judge advocate attorneys assigned to VLC Program offices at NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport, NAS Pen-

sacola, NCBC Gulfport, and Joint Base San Antonio will provide these legal services throughout Navy Region Southeast.

CAPT Karen Fischer-Anderson, JAGC, USN, Chief of Staff for the VLC Program, reports the program is off to a fantastic start. "Our VLCs are operational across the globe and are actively promoting and protecting their client's rights and interests as crime victims. On a daily basis, VLCs are making sure our clients understand the legal process, make informed legal decisions, and are treated with respect and dignity."

Active duty Sailors, adult dependents, and certain reservists are eligible for the program. Victims of sexual assault are encouraged to contact the local Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or assigned Victim Advocate for a referral to the nearest VLC Program office. You may also contact the VLC Program directly. A list of VLC Program offices and more information can be found at [www.jag.navy.mil](http://www.jag.navy.mil).

## Whiting Sailor Honored With Quilt of Valor

### By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Just a few short weeks after returning from an Individual Augmentee tour in Afghanistan, Chief Master-at-Arms Kenneth Pratt received a pleasant reminder of what his service meant to those he took an oath to protect.

Anita Stephens and Betty Davis from the Flying Needles Quilt Guild in Niceville, Fla. presented him with a quilt in honor of his commitment to the Navy and nation. The 65-inch by 75-inch quilt red, white, and blue quilt followed a Navy theme and is one of thousands presented each year to returning service members each year as part of the Quilts of Valor program.

The QOV program has been giving quilts to those wounded or touched by war since 2003. The organization was founded by a Blue Star mother, Catherine Roberts, who began the foundation in response to her son's deployment to Iraq. She acted on a "desire to see that returning warriors were welcomed home with the love and gratitude they deserved," according to the QOV website, [www.qovf.org](http://www.qovf.org).

The Flying Needled Quilt Guild is one of hundreds of organizations across the country to participate in the QOV program. More information on the group may be found at <http://www.flyingneedlesquiltguild.org>.

Pratt returned from Afghanistan Nov. 19, where he served as the Personal Security Officer for the Command Sergeant Major and Convoy Commander for Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435. Stephens and Davis presented

the quilt to Pratt at the security office on base with his wife, Sarah, and two daughters, Gracie and Carleigh, in attendance.



Anita Stephens and Betty Davis from the Flying Needles Quilt Guild in Niceville, Fla. present Chief Master-at-Arms Kenneth Pratt with a quilt to serve as a pleasant reminder of what his service meant to those he took an oath to protect. US Navy photo by Jay Cope.

## SECURITY CHECKPOINT

I have a concealed carry permit, can I bring my weapon onboard NASWF?



The answer is NO; as per COMMANDER, NAVY REGION SOUTHEAST INSTRUCTION 3593.1A – subj: Control and accounting of personal weapons: paragraph 6.f

f. Concealed or loaded handguns: Individuals state licenses or permits that authorize individuals to carry concealed handguns are not recognized or valid on Navy installations. Under no circumstances will the transportation of loaded or concealed handguns, shotguns, or rifles be permitted on Navy installations except by duly authorized law enforcement personnel or by military personnel in the performance of their official duties.

## Different Perspectives

- (Cont. from Page 6)

ety of service members and their families.

“The large majority of our clients are vets, especially older Vietnam vets,” explained McGreevy. “We’re only now beginning to work with a much younger population, and we have to deal with the concerns of active duty members, which non-active duty members might not share about getting counseling.”

Roten and McGreevy spoke about catering to active duty service members, a dynamic which can pose different challenges than the Vet Center worked with when it exclusively catered to non-active duty service members with combat experience. Active duty service members are typically more hesitant to seek help.

Roten emphasized with the new challenges the center faces.

“It’s a big stigma for active duty. In law enforcement, the first thing they do is take your weapon. If you’re a corpsman, they might take you out of your normal work, and then you’re not deployable.”

The Vet Center hopes to combat the help-seeking stigma by providing confidential services to active-duty individuals.

McGreevy noted that one of the strengths of the Vet Center is that all of the current staff are veter-



**Mary Ann Wood, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker at the Pensacola Vet Center, presents MA1 Erica Roten with a certificate of appreciation for her work with the center as they transition their services to accommodate active duty service members with combat experiences. U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emily Hegarty.**

ans, many of whom have combat experience themselves, and that shared experience can make it easier to open up.

“There are a lot of physiological adjustments that need to be made,” Wood explained, high-lighting why post-combat services can be so useful for active duty members.

“Combat veterans get used to combat life, then have problems adjusting to normal everyday life when they return from war zones”.

After speaking to the center, Roten was enthusiastic about the benefits that counseling can bring.

“[Services like this are] especially crucial in the Navy, where - except for in cases like the Seabees and SEALs - we deploy as individuals, and we come back as individuals,” Roten said.

McGreevy echoed Roten’s sentiment.

“At the Vet Center, you find out that you’re not the only one dealing with it. That can help to regain that camaraderie from taking care of each other in the field, and start taking care of each other at home.”

Vet Centers opened nationwide in 1978 to provide combat veterans and their families with confidential services and readjustment counseling services, including grief counseling, family and veteran mal-adjustment counseling, and working with individuals with PTSD or combat time returning to non-combat situations.

The Pensacola Vet Center is located at 4504 Twin Oaks Drive, Pensacola, Fla., and serves the counties of Monroe, Conecuh, Escambia, AL, Santa Rosa, and Escambia, FL.

## TRICARE Notes

### NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

As a beneficiary in the Military Health System (MHS), you should know that individually identifiable health information is protected.

Protected health information (PHI) may be shared in the following cases:

- When requested by you, except when a competent medical authority believes it would be harmful
- To provide, coordinate or manage your care (e.g., with a pharmacist, specialist or laboratory)
- To obtain payment for health care services
- To support daily activities related to your care
- When required by law
- If you have a communicable disease that could spread to others

**For more information, visit [www.tricare.mil/Privacy/HIPAA](http://www.tricare.mil/Privacy/HIPAA).**

## From TRAWING-5

# Congratulations to TRAWING-5 Wingers & Scholars



Back row, left to right: Cmdr. Matthew J. Bowen, USN, Commanding Officer, HT-8; Ensign Jonathan H. Blume, USN; Ensign Dylan M. Collier, USN; Ensign Danielle M. Howard, USN; 1st Lt. Sean P. Rohrs, USMC  
Middle Row: Cmdr. Kevin Pickard Jr., USN, Commanding Officer, HT-18; 1st Lt. Lance N. Gates, USMC; Lt. j.g. Kellen R. Browne, USCG; Capt. James J. Fisher, USN, Commodore TRAWING-5  
Front Row: Lt. Col. Jeffrey M. Pavelko, USMC, Commanding Officer, HT-28; Ensign Spencer L. Ewing, USN; 1st Lt. Anne M. Bloechle, USMC; Lt. j.g. Bader A. Al-Otaibi, RSNF; Rear Adm. Kenneth Norton, USN



ENS Matthew A. Abeling, USN; 2ndLt Jordan D. Green USMC (Commodore's List with Distinction); ENS Nicholas C. Jones, USN received their Academic Achievement Award Jan. 17 in the Training Air Wing FIVE headquarters building.

# Around the Base



## Awards and Reenlistments

Top left: Rear Adm. Rick Williamson presents Aviation Boatswains Mate Second Class Michael Condlin with a Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Top Right: Chief Master-at-Arms Ronald Oranje repeats the oath of enlistment during his reenlistment ceremony at the Security building Friday, Jan. 24. Security Officer, Lt. j.g. Stephen Pakola recited the oath for Oranje.

Bottom left: Master-at-Arms Second Class Matthew Whaley received a certificate of completion for Homeland Security Level 4 training.

Middle right: Master-at-Arms First Class Erica Roten receives a token of appreciation presented by Lt. j.g. Stephen Pakola.

Bottom right: Aviation Boatswains Mate Second Classes Christopher Lipscomb and James Stauffer reenlist Friday, Jan. 17 in the Mid-field Hangar. Aviation Boatswains Mate First Class Tywron Harris recited the oath for the two Sailors.