

WINGSPAN



Vol. 21, No. 3

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

March 26, 2015



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Air show art inspired by Blue Angels video

Gabriel Cavazos found his passion for graphic design because a teacher challenged him.

"Every single assignment that my digital art teacher, Gerardo Cobar-ruvias, gave me was challenging," Cavazos said. "I give him credit for getting me where I am today."

The Corpus Christi native has been working aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi for the past eight years, currently as an Information Technology Specialist for the Chief of Naval Air Training. He graduated from Del Mar College with an associate's degree in Media and Applied Science and later earned a bachelor's in Computer Information Systems from St. Leo's University.

He decided to use his talents and submit artwork last year for the "Wings Over South Texas 2015" Air Show.

"It sounded like a fun design to work on," 32-year old said.

He said he was looking online for ideas for his design. "I searched 'Blue Angels' on YouTube and found a video with the title, 'The Blue Angels - Set to Van Halen's Dreams,'" Cavazos added.

"Once I saw the video, I began to sketch out ideas, and from there created the design in Adobe Photoshop."

His design was selected to advertise the air show on several billboards in the Corpus Christi



Gabriel Cavazos holds his original design in his left hand and an image of a billboard that can be seen in the Corpus Christi area advertising the April 18-19 air show. Turn to page 7, for more air show information.

area and on Facebook, and will also be used on air show T-shirts.

When he's not working, Cavazos says he

enjoys spending time with his wife Belinda and their 5-year old son Dylan, watching movies, woodworking and freelance graphic design.

Navy Reserve celebrates its centennial, rich history

The Navy Reserve marked its centennial anniversary on March 3 with a series of events starting in Washington D.C. and continuing at installations around the country during the year.



Locally, the first few will be held in April. The events highlight the history of the Navy Reserve and the remarkable contributions Reserve Sailors have made to the nation's security.

"Our centennial commemoration is a once in a lifetime opportunity to highlight the Reserve Sailors for their service, and that of their families, to America," VADM Robin Braun said. "We want to recognize our rich history and heritage with all of our Sailors, both past and present."

For 100 years Navy Reserve Sailors have answered our nation's call in times of war and peace. From communities across America, young men and women left their homes and jobs, trading out civilian clothes for Navy uniforms. From its earliest days, the Navy Reserve has reflected the face of the nation, welcoming members from every race, color, creed and gender to strengthen our force.

From 1915 to 2015

Congress authorized the establishment of the Federal Naval Reserve on March 3, 1915. Initially, the only Sailors eligible to enroll were enlisted Navy veterans. On Aug. 29, 1916, with the prospect of America's entry into World War I looming, the Navy Reserve reorganized to allow the enrollment of non-veterans and was designated as the U.S. Navy Reserve Force.

When the U.S. entered World War I on April 6, 1917, there were 8,000 Sailors serving in the Navy Reserve Force. When the fighting ended on November 11, 1918, more than 250,000 Reserve Sailors were on active duty, which was more than half of the war-time Navy. These Sailors included 12,000 pioneering women - who were all released from active duty by 1920 not to serve again until World War II.

see Centennial on page 6

Skipper's Column



Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

We're Back!

It's been almost eight months since we lost our *Wingspan* newspaper printing contract. In the meantime, we've been periodically publishing the paper electronically. However, I fully realize we were not reaching our complete target audience.

Chaplain's Message



The Practice of the Presence of God

Father John Vidal

A few editions of the *Wingspan* ago, Chaplain Warne wrote about the tradition of the "Blessing of the Wings," when student aviators receive their aviator's Wings. It's a tradition that dates back to 1941, when Catholics brought their wings to the Chapel for a blessing. Eventually this tradition became ecumenical and graduating aviators of many faiths, including many Christian traditions and even some of the Jewish and Islamic faiths brought a set of wings to be blessed and placed on a tapestry so they would be remembered in prayer by the people of OLG and visitors to the Chapel. As you would expect, eventually the tapestry filled to capacity and we had to figure out what to do in order to make room for more.

With his many skills in carpentry, and with my invaluable skills of holding things and passing saws, drills and other tools, we built several cases to house the wings and display them in the Chapel. Over the years

Now that our new contract is finally approved and signed, it's a pleasure to once again bring you this vital link between the base and the community every two weeks. This issue is full of essential information regarding events taking place on board NASCC.

One particular event I'd like to highlight is the 2015 Wings Over South Texas Air Show being held on board NASCC April 18-19. This is the first air show in Corpus Christi in four years, and we are looking forward to welcoming the local community onto the base to share in this exciting event! The Blue Angels, the Golden Knights, and many other awe-inspiring military and civilian acts will be performing.

we hope to fill the Chapel with such cases.

While making the cases I remembered what an important day this is in the lives of these hard working Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. It's the culmination of years of hard work and dedication to a goal that brings pride and satisfaction. By bringing these wings to the Chapel to be blessed, they are acknowledging God's involvement in their lives. It's at times of great achievements that we often remember how God is involved in our lives. But it's also important to recognize God's involvement in our every day activities; the ones we consider mundane and not glamorous.

These thoughts reminded me of a little booklet a friend gave me 30 years ago. It's a collection (by an unknown person) of conversations with, and letters by, a monk named Lawrence between 1666 and 1691. The booklet is entitled, "Brother Lawrence, His Letters and Conversations on the Practice of the Presence of God." In it we find a simple monk who was assigned as a cook's helper of his monastery. In his tedious work of washing pots and pans and other kitchen duties, he found that he could offer his work to God and through that he found a deep satisfaction and joy because he was connected directly with Him.

In one of his conversations Lawrence said "that the most excellent method he had

The air show will have center stage along the base sea wall near the CCAD hangars, and it is not to be missed! See the article on page 7, for more info.

The WOST Air Show also kicks off the 75th year of NASCC. The base was built in 1940 and commissioned on March 12, 1941. This time also marks the 75th year of the USO in South Texas, and the 100th anniversaries of the U.S. Navy Reserves and the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce. The community support for military in Corpus Christi is second to none, and this year we will celebrate that important partnership!

Enjoy the return of the printed *Wingspan*, and I hope to see you all at the Wings Over South Texas Air Show on April 18-19!

found of going to God was that of doing our common business without any view of pleasing men, and (as far as we are capable) purely for the love of God. That it was a great delusion to think that the times of prayer ought to differ from other times."

What wonderful words! We often think that to pray we need to stop everything and get on our knees and pray. Brother Lawrence is telling us that we can be with God and offer him all of our achievements, even "our common business." In another part of the booklet he says that the way to do this is to stop for a moment after we complete each task and consider whether we did it well or not. If we did it well, give thanks to God for being with us as we did it. If not, ask for His forgiveness, and labor on.

A week before he died he wrote in his last letter: "Let all our business be to know God; the more one knows Him, the more one desires to know Him. And as knowledge is commonly the measure of love, the deeper and more extensive our knowledge shall be, the greater will be our love; and if our love of God be great, we shall love Him equally in grief and in joy".

Brother Lawrence learned a lesson that we might all learn: that true joy comes from God and responding by loving Him back; that love is one of those things that, when done for the sake of God, spreads from us to those around us and comes back to us. We can do this not only when we offer to Him our great achievements like graduating from flight school, but when we complete every small task that we accomplish along the way.

Worship Services

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Catholic Chapel
Daily Mass Wed-Fri: 11:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.
Religious Education: Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Protestant Chapel
Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.

JEWISH WORSHIP SERVICE

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For worship service times, call 857-8181

ISLAMIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Islamic Society of South Texas, 7341 McArdle Rd.
For worship service times, call 992-8550

Fair Winds and Following Seas --

Personnel Support Detachment Corpus Christi bid farewell to Sheila Sanchez recently as she retired from federal service with more than 30 years of service. Sanchez began her career as a human resources assistant aboard Naval Air Station Kingsville, serving Sailors since 1983. Sanchez transferred to PSD Corpus Christi in 2000 and was an invaluable asset until she retired. According to her award citation, Sanchez was a savvy personnel clerk, demonstrating exceptional technical expertise and a determined commitment to excellence while providing exceptional customer service and support to active duty military personnel and dependents. Sanchez demonstrated unparalleled technical proficiency, foresights and resourcefulness in all functions of military pay and personnel processing, and her unmatched work ethic was evident on a daily basis. Additionally, Sanchez meticulously audited hundreds of pay and personnel related documents annually with a 98 percent or higher accuracy rate. She resides in Kingsville with her husband who is also retired.



Wingspan

The *Wingspan* is published every other week by *The Port Lavaca Wave*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Navy, under exclusive written contract with Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

The *Wingspan* is an authorized publication for members of the military services and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Navy, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, or *The Port Lavaca Wave*, of the products and services advertised herein.

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Comments, letters, or suggestions should be sent via e-mail to: nascc-pao@navy.mil.

To advertise in the *Wingspan*, contact *The Port Lavaca Wave* at afrench@plwave.com or (361) 746-4341.

Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

Fifi Kieschnick
Public Affairs Officer

For info about
"Wings Over South Texas"
2015 Air Show:

<https://www.facebook.com/wost2014?ref=hl>

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www.wingsoversouthtexas.com



This paper is published for people like HM2(EXW) Nathan D. Bundy of Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi. Bundy is a native of Columbus, Texas, and coordinates RelayHealth secure messaging to all NHCCC patients.

Fire & Emergency Services earns International Accredited Agency Status

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Fire and Emergency Services (NASCC F&ES) received Accredited Agency status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) for meeting the criteria established through the CFAI's voluntary self-assessment and accreditation program.

NASCC F&ES is one of 208 agencies to achieve Internationally Accredited Agency status with the CFAI and the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. (CPSE), and joined a total of 25 fire agencies that were awarded accredited agency status at the CPSE Commission hearings held March 16-17, in Orlando, Fla.

Ten of these newly accredited agencies are Department of Defense affiliated fire departments, and swell the ranks of accredited DoD fire departments to 46.

While there are a total of 208 accredited agencies, NASCC F&ES is one of only eight departments in Texas, and one of two DoD departments in Texas that have achieved accredited agency status. To put this achievement in perspective, the National Fire Administration estimates that there are 30,125 paid, combination and volunteer fire departments nationwide.

CFAI is dedicated to assisting fire and emergency service agencies throughout the world in achieving excellence through self-assessment and accreditation in order to provide continuous quality improvement and the enhancement of service delivery to



John Morris, center, NASCC Fire Chief and Assistant Chief David Flores accept the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) plaque from Steven Westermann, the Commission's chair. (Courtesy photo)

their communities. The CFAI process is voluntary, and provides an agency with an improvement model to assess their service delivery and performance internally and then works with a team of peers from other fire service agencies to evaluate their completed self-assessment.

NASCC Fire Chief John Morris stated

that the department's achievement of Accredited Agency status "demonstrates the commitment of the department to provide the highest quality of service to our community," and added that "our community extends beyond the traditional fence line marking the boundaries of the Naval Air Station; we are a committed community partner with fire

departments throughout Nueces and Goliad Counties. Through these formal and informal partnerships, we not only provide mutual and automatic aid emergency response in these areas, we also provide public education outreach to local schools and community groups.

"We have also been able to use the Commission on Fire Accreditation International's process," Morris added, "as a proactive mechanism to plan for the future, and identify areas where we can improve the quality of the services we provide. Looking forward, we have identified ways to improve firefighter health and safety; potential enhancements to our EMS service delivery model; as well as employee development and succession planning, which will be critical over the next 5-10 years as many of our members reach retirement. We have also identified fire station facility issues that will be incorporated into the base master planning effort, to ensure that facilities requirements are aligned with the evolving mission requirements associated with the installation."

To achieve accredited agency status through the CFAI model required a huge commitment of time, with more than 2,000 man-hours committed to the process by fire department personnel. Assistant Chief David Flores served as the Accreditation Manager, and depending on the day was either "herding cats" as internal and external *see Accreditation on page 10*

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Birthday boy -- Last year, Helen Kenworthy gave birth to a healthy baby boy on March 22, nearly a month before he was due. But, instead of being delivered in the hospital by doctors, baby Chase was delivered at home by Fire and Emergency Services responders. The Kenworthy family decided to celebrate his first birthday with their

“extended family.” Chase and his family were “formally inducted” as Honorary Members of NAS Corpus Christi Fire and Emergency Services in April 2014. From left are Engineer Glenn Helwig, Engineer Jeffrey Frawley, Brandon and Chase, Captain Matthew Sedgwick and Engineer Austin Walker. Chase’s big brother William is in front. (U.S. Navy photo)

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Staying Navy -- HM2 Kara Elise Merkwon reenlisted for two years in the U.S. Navy during a ceremony on the Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi quarterdeck recently. Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley, commanding officer, officiated. Merkwon hails from Chicopee, Mass., and is the assistant command career counselor at the health clinic. She enlisted in the U.S. Navy in January 2011, reported to NHCCC in December 2013 and is currently completing her requirements for a graduate degree in Marriage and Family Counselling. (U.S. Navy photo)

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Celebrating 100 years -- Naval Operational Support Center personnel and guests kicked off their year-long celebration of the U.S. Navy Reserve centennial with a cake cutting. They will continue their celebration with several events next month. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Ruben Perez)

Smith is a vital part of our nation's Navy Reserve

By Lt. j.g. Dale Eng

AC1 Jamie Smith proudly represents the Navy in many forms – as a veteran of active duty, as a civilian and as a Reservist.

A 2000 graduate of Boling High School (Texas) and 2004 graduate of Sam Houston State University, Smith enjoys the benefits and flexibility the Reserve offers, as well as a vast number of unique experiences.

“The Navy Reserve has afforded me the opportunity to continue my service to my country while being close to home,” Smith said. “I have been able to finish my Master’s Degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and have a career as a civilian, all the while enjoying the experiences and pride of serving in the Navy Reserve.”

Smith is attached to the Naval Operational Support Center (NOSC) in Corpus Christi. Both her peers and supervisors praise her for her unparalleled “can do” spirit. Currently, she serves as a member of the Command Assessment Team, as well as the Command Training Team, and in 2013, she was selected as NOSC Corpus Christi’s Junior Sailor of the Year.

Perhaps one of the biggest advantages the Navy Reserve offers Smith is that her military job as an air traffic controller complements her civilian job as a technical writer for the Chief



Smith

of Naval Air Training.

“I write the Flight Training Instructions (FTIs) that the student pilots use as part of their curriculum,” Smith said. “I already have some of the technical knowledge to assist the Subject Matter Experts in editing the FTIs. As I read and reread documents that train pilots, I learn about their job and I get the opportunity to see both sides of the equation.”

Smith was selected as the NOSC Corpus Christi Sailor of the Year for 2014 and as the Navy Region Southeast Fort Worth Sailor of the year for 2014.

VADM Robin Braun, Chief of the Navy Reserve, is proud to serve as the leader of such a talented and dedicated group of Sailors. “The commitment of our talented Sailors to the Navy, their shipmates and their community is truly inspirational,” Braun said. “Their

continued dedicated service in support of the Navy, Marine Corps and Joint Force lends credence to our motto: ‘Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere.’”

March 3, 2015, marked 100 years of the United States Navy Reserve. Throughout the year, Navy Reserve units will be celebrating the accomplishments of Reserve Sailors past and present.

Find out more about the celebration at <http://navyreserve-centennial.com/>.

Centennial from page 1

During World War II, the Navy Reserve contributed 84 percent of the Navy’s manpower. Navy Reserve Sailors in World War II included five future U.S. Presidents - John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush – and 15 recipients of the Medal of Honor.

More than 22,000 Reserve Sailors were mobilized for the first Gulf War in the first post-Cold War test of the Force, and since September 11, 2001, there have been more than 70,000 Selected Reserve mobilizations, along with an additional 4,500 deployments by Full Time Support Sailors, including more than 8,000 who have done a second combat tour.

Navy Reserve Sailors deliver essential skills and capabilities to the Navy and Joint Forces wherever and whenever needed. They possess in-depth knowledge and experience that complement critical Navy missions and provide best-practices, technical skills, process management and demonstrated leadership from vastly different work cultures to the Navy.

With nearly one quarter of the Navy Reserve Force providing support to the active duty Navy on any given day, today’s Navy Reserve is the most combat and operationally experienced Force in decades.

Navy Reserve Sailors are patriots who balance the demands of family life, civilian careers, community service and the United States Navy, bringing diverse, dedicated backgrounds from all walks of life. Navy Reserve Sailors are successful because of the magnificent support they get from their families, employers and friends throughout their community. The U.S. Navy Reserve – Ready then. Ready now. Ready always.



First time in more than 40 years! NASCC holds air show over water

It's been four years since Naval Air Station Corpus Christi has hosted an air show, but that hasn't slowed the planners down one bit!

"We're excited to be hosting the air show featuring the Navy's Blue Angels," said Capt. Steve Banta, NASCC commanding officer. "It's been four years since the Blues have flown over the Corpus Christi skies and we are looking forward to them being the feature act of our show."

"We are planning a full day of events beginning at 10 a.m. on April 18-19," Banta added. "And, we're glad to be hosting the air show over water, on the base's seawall, for the first time in more than 40 years!"

All branches of the armed services and the air station tenant commands will be represented at the air show. The line-up is falling into place as acts are signed and commitments made, but the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels Demonstration Team will headline the show.

The U.S. Army's Golden Knights Parachute Team will open the show as they carry the National Ensign to show central, and plan to perform again later in the line-up.

Other acts include:

Training Air Wing FOUR – the twin-engine T-44, C-12, T-34 and T-6.

The U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor demonstration.

The U.S. Coast Guard Search and Rescue demo.

Mike Rambo in his T-6C Texas II.

Beth Jenkins and the Devil Dog, a PBJ-1J, the Marine Corps

version of the North American B-25 Mitchell bomber.

Skip Stewart in his PITTS S-2S Prometheus.

Andrew Wright in his Carbon Fiber Airshows G202.

Randy Ball in his MiG 17F.

Paul Fiala in his great Lakes Bi-plane, Giles G202.

Red Star & Dragon air combat show featuring the Viper 29 and BAC 167.

And, 2013 World Freestyle Champion Rob Holland in his MXS-RH.

Other entertainment planned includes a KidsZone with games and activities for children; a variety of static displays including military aircraft, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Customs and Border Protection vehicles and equipment; and the band, Starship, giving a free concert immediately following the Blue Angels' demonstration on Saturday.

"We view our air show as an air station-and-community event," Banta said, "celebrating not only NAS Corpus Christi's role in training Naval Aviators, but also the unmatched support the Corpus Christi community provides us."

The air show will be on the seawall behind the Corpus Christi Army Depot hangars.

On both days, there is free admission and free parking. NAS Corpus Christi's Main Gate (Flour Bluff Gate) will open at 8 a.m. You may purchase preferred seating and tickets to the Wings of Gold Chalet beginning April 2 by going to www.wingsoversouth-texas.com. For more information, follow us on facebook at "Wings Over South Texas Air Show" or @ccairshow.



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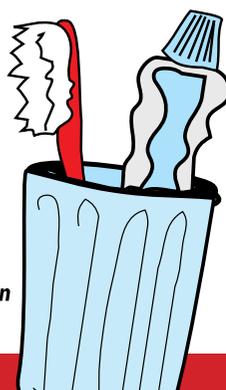
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Senior leaders announced

Depot Commander, Col. Billingsley Garner Pogue III, announced the selection of two senior leader positions within the CCAD organization. **Robert B. Sharp** was selected as the Production Operations Manager, and **Annette Cross** was selected as the Chief of Staff. Mr. Sharp was previously the depot's Director of Engine Production. Ms. Cross served as CCAD's Director of Human Capital Management.

NHCCC recognizes Sailors

Congratulations to the following Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi Sailors for their achievements.

HM2(FMF)

Jeric Martin received the Award of the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal as well as the Navy Commendation Medal for steadfast public service as a volunteer from December 2006 to November 2014; and meritorious service as Staff Education and Training assistant leading petty officer, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, Texas, from October 2011 to March 2015.

HM2(FMF)

Roberto Sanchez was awarded a Navy Commendation Medal for his meritorious service as Human Resources Department leading petty officer, from July 2012 to March 2015.

SH3(SW)

Andrew Gonzalez received his fourth Navy Achievement Medal for his professional



Martin



Sanchez



Gonzalez

achievement while serving as warehouse work center supervisor, Materiel Management Department, from February 2013 to February 2015.

DLA recognizes employee

Rickey Morris, supply technician at Defense Logistics Agency Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, has been named one of DLA Distribution's Employee of the Quarter for first quarter, fiscal year 2015.

Morris serves as the distribution center's ADHOC coordinator and also conducts the organization's annual location surveys to ensure accountability of inventory. In fiscal year 2014, Morris coordinated and monitored the completion of the annual location survey, completing the inventory of over 40,000 locations, resulting in a 99.88 percent compliance rating, exceeding the expected 99.5 percent. He also executed and managed the new required Floor-to-Book Location Resurvey Sample process, established as a result of Audit Readiness. As such, he resurveyed nearly 8,500 locations, physically counting over 400 locations with an average quantity of 1,500 pieces and only discovered four discrepancies.

According to supervisor Blessings Foster, this quarter alone Morris completed 54 ADHOC actions, and single-handedly counted over 1,500 locations to ensure that inventory locations and owner's balances were accurate, which in turn ensures assets are ready for the customer without delay. He has also begun the FY15 Annual Location Survey, surveying nearly 10,000 locations and physically counting approximately 290 locations, finding only three discrepancies.

CCAD engineer recognized for savings achievements

An Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center employee has been awarded the 2014 Robert B. Tarquine Value Engineering Achievement Award by the Aviation and Missile Command.

Kevin Rees, chief of the Maintenance Engineering Division within the Aviation Engineering Directorate, was selected for the award on the ability to lead projects initiated and completed by his personnel in the Maintenance Engineering Division which regularly exceeded the VE saving goals of AMCOM Logistics Center, AMRDEC, Corpus Christi Army Depot, Army Forces Command and the National Guard.

According to his nomination packet, in the past three fiscal years alone AEM has returned more than 4,000 parts per year to service and successfully completed significant airworthiness engineering tasks that generated \$259.3 million in validated VE savings for the government. Without Rees's continued above-and-beyond

see *Bravo Zulu* on next page



Photo # 80-G-326212 First "WAVES" to report for duty with Air Transport Squadron 12, 1945

A file photograph dated July 24, 1945 shows the first group of WAVES to report for duty with VR-12 at Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, R.I. They are identified as Frances Jacobs, Janice Angle, Evelyn M. Gifford, Mary van Velzer (seated in Link trainer, center), Dorothy Drawbert, Jeanne Euettl, Janet B. Greenwood, Joan de Vore, Fay Mildred Marlette and Priscilla C. Morrison. Identifiable rating badges are Specialist (Teacher), indicating that these WAVES operated the squadron's Link training unit. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

March is Women's History Month

20-Year project captures Navy's women's history

By Daniel L. Kuester,
U.S. Naval War College Public Affairs

Some of the earliest women in America's Navy have a new place where their stories are being told, at the U.S. Naval War College (NWC) in Newport, R.I., through a project just completed by college archivists.

An oral history project more than 20 years in the making, the Naval Historical Collection at NWC collected and preserved the firsthand accounts of female Sailors and Marines in the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES).

Their stories are now available online for the first time.

Before the WAVES program was established in 1942, women had very limited roles and served mostly as nurses or clerks. It wasn't until 1948, when the U.S. enacted the Women's Armed Services Integration Act that women were able to serve as permanent, regular members of the armed forces.

The experiences of many of these groundbreaking Sailors have never been told completely.

"There was some documentation for WAVES officers," said Scott Reilly, NWC archivist who helped complete the digitization of the women's stories. "But there was really little that had ever been done to collect the experiences of the rank and file of the WAVES until this project."

More than 80 interviews with WAVES, SPARS (the Coast Guard equivalent) and others were recorded.

According to Reilly, he hasn't heard of other WAVES collection this comprehensive. These stories are about more than just their military experiences.

"They don't talk just about their Navy service," Reilly said. "They talk about their lives in general, and they offer insights into women's lives in the '30s and '40s. They talk about their lives before and after the service, where they came from and their education. They give you a sense of this particular era."

"We're making sure that their experiences are being captured for the benefit of future generations."

These oral histories are valuable in that they not only tell our history, but also highlight the many contributions of women to our Navy.

"You always have the official record, but that doesn't always tell you what actually went on," Reilly said. "The official written records only tell you so much, but personal papers can tell you more. And oral histories can sometimes tell you even more than that."

That's why projects such as this are important. They capture the experiences of important groups of people who were pioneers in a lot of ways.

"Without the oral history project, we probably wouldn't have their stories," Reilly added. "Many of those memories and those experiences of that generation are being lost every day."

More than 86,000 women served in the WAVES. To hear their stories, visit <https://usnwcarchive.org/collections/show/25>.

Bravo Zulu from page 8

commitment to the AMCOM VE Program savings of this magnitude would not have been possible, the nomination stated.

Rees is a lead engineer in the AEM in developing cutting edge repairs of aviation parts, components, and aircraft in support of depot and field maintenance for the war fighter. His guidance and direction to all AEM division personnel throughout the VE process has resulted in increased participation, successful initiation and completion of 222 VE proposals.

Rees managed a multitude of cost-saving efforts including his construction of an Integrated Product Team that optimized the plastic media blasting process for remov-

ing paint from the rotor blades resulting in Corpus Christi Army Depot's ability to significantly increase depot production rates. This contributed to comprehensive engineering support that met all demands for repair assistance, critical supply relief and aircraft readiness.

The Tarquine Achievement Award is considered a lifetime achievement award for value engineering. Robert Tarquine of the Patriot Project Office was a benefactor of the AMCOM VE Program and the award honors him by signifying sustained achievements in value engineering. (Nikki Montgomery, AMRDEC Public Affairs)



WILLIAM A. THAU III, P.C.
Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve, Ret.

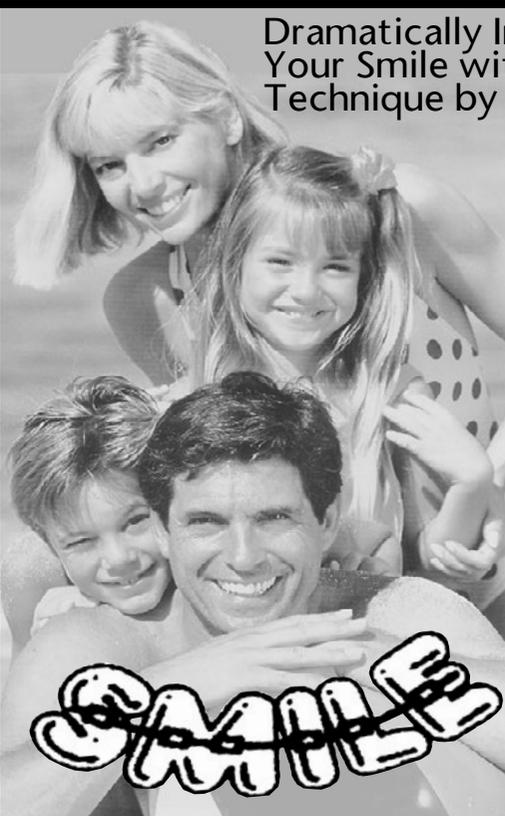
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Signing pledge --

Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley, commanding officer at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, signs his 2015 Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society pledge in the presence of campaign representatives (from left) HM2 Tony J. Christopher, SHC Larry O. Wells and HM2 Jonathan R. Duhart. NHCCC's goal is 100 percent contact during the drive that ends April 30. For information about the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society and how to donate, call (361) 961-3482. (U. S. Navy photo)



Navy announces April SAAPM 2015 theme

Navy leaders recently announced the Department of Defense 2015 Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) theme of "Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know your part. Do your part."

The effort will focus on raising awareness and highlighting prevention of sexual violence with an emphasis on bystander intervention.

April is an opportunity to build on existing momentum to eliminate the crime of sexual assault and ensure all service members are committed to creating command climates of professionalism, dignity and respect.

"As we focus on this year's theme of 'Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know your part. Do your part', it's critical that everyone takes time to focus on the areas where they can help, through attention and intervention," said RADM Rick Snyder, director, 21st Century Sailor Office.

"Sailors at every level of leadership are the ones that make this not just a successful month, but a sustained and positive campaign to identify situations that pose a risk for sexual harassment, sexual assault, and other criminal behaviors and have the social courage to safely correct harmful behavior."

In addition to making Sailors aware of SAAPM and this year's theme, commands are encouraged to organize events to highlight the awareness and prevention of sexual assault. "We see Sailors stepping up and helping, and we want to encourage that to continue," said Snyder. "Sexual Assault

Awareness and Prevention Month is a great opportunity for commands to show their support and focus on eliminating sexual assault."

Sailors and commands can find additional information, references and resources at www.sapr.navy.mil. The website contains turn-key information on organizing and executing SAAPM events. The website also includes resources for victims of sexual assault who want to reach out for information and support.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response is an important effort in the 21st Century Sailor Office which consolidates programs and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor personal and family readiness and build resilience, enhancing the asymmetric advantage Sailors bring to the force. *(From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs)*

DoD launches MilitaryChildCare.com at NAS Corpus Christi, Website provides a single online gateway to military child care

Child and Youth Program Families at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi now has access to a new Department of Defense (DoD) website designed to simplify and improve the child care request for care process.

MilitaryChildCare.com (MCC) provides a single online gateway for families to access military-operated or military-subsidized child care options worldwide across all services. The site enables families to create a household profile, conduct child care searches, submit requests for care, and manage their requests at any time and from any location.

The new DoD site -- which is being introduced worldwide in phases -- offers a more streamlined approach to finding and requesting child care, expedites placement through a standardized request process and waitlist management tools, and provides reports that help programs better plan for

future placement needs.

Through MilitaryChildCare.com, eligible families can search and request child care for full day and part day options in facility-based and home-based programs for children from birth through age 12. Families may remain on a preferred program's waitlist even after being offered care or enrolling in another program.

Families at NAS Corpus Christi who are currently on waitlists will be automatically transitioned to the new system. These families will retain the original date of their request(s) for child care, and all program enrollment processes will remain the same.

For more information, go to <http://www.militarychildcare.com/> or contact the Help Desk by calling the toll free number, (855) 696-2934, or e-mailing FamilySupport@MilitaryChildCare.com.

Accreditation from page 3

deadlines loomed, sequestered in his office, pulling together an electronic library of references, coordinating additional editing, or otherwise fully immersed in the mechanics of accreditation. No doubt, Flores' commitment to the journey was a major factor in NASCC F&ES' ultimate success.

Also critical to the success of this endeavor was the entire department's commitment to excellence, outstanding support by the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi leadership, as well as support by the Public Works. External relationships with the City of Corpus Christi Fire Department, Emergency

Services District 2, Emergency Services District 1, and the Corpus Christi International Airport were also factors as these relationships, including mutual and automatic aid agreements and joint training were evaluated and assessed as part of the accreditation process.

NASCC F&ES' commitment to the community was further exemplified as the department was also recognized as the Navy's 2014 Fire Department of the Year (Medium Category); as well as Fire Inspector Randall Lowry being selected as the 2014 Navy Fire Inspector of the Year.



Col. James Adams encourages student aviators to aspire to be weapons and tactics experts. Adams traveled from Yuma, Ariz., to join student aviators and instructors for an evening of professional education and camaraderie. (Courtesy photos)

John Smith Squadron welcomes weapons school commanding officer

Last month, the Marine Corps Aviation Association (MCAA) partnered with Marine Aviation Training Support Group 22 (MATSG-22) and Lockheed Martin Aeronautics to welcome Col. James Adams to South Texas. Col. "Rainman" Adams commands Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1); he is charged with training the trainers -- providing each fleet aviation squadron with a weapons school subject matter expert. Adams traveled from Yuma, Ariz., to join student aviators and instructors for an evening of professional education and camaraderie at the NASCC Catalina Club. He shared MAWTS-1 mission and history, challenged aviators to aspire to excellence employing their aviation platform and weapons system and reminded officers of the calling to be ready as a warfighter. His visit was the latest in a series of professional forums hosted by the local MCAA chapter known as the John Smith Squadron. Guests included retired officers, local business leaders, and senior officers from Marine Air Group 41 (MAG-41) located aboard Joint Reserve Base Ft. Worth. Special guest and naval aviation enthusiast Scott Youmans,

a professional free-lance photographer from Phoenix, Ariz., participated in the evening's events and also captured some phenomenal aerial shots formation flying with Training Air Wing FOUR (TW4). Bravo Zulu to the TW4 team for orchestrating these flights and for showcasing the blue-green Navy and Marine Corps team at work.

Check out scyphoto.com for some of Scott's shots from his visit to South Texas. Keep a head's up for our next event. Cheers from the John Smith Squadron! Smack 'em down and Semper Fidelis.



Col. John Rahe presents Capt. Carl Barksdale with a \$1,000 writing award for his innovative tactics article published in the Marine Corps Gazette.

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Black History Month
A CENTURY OF BLACK LIFE, HISTORY, & CULTURE
 February is Black History Month
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Wings Over South Texas Air Show - April 18-19
Blue Angels return to NAS Corpus Christi for spring air show
 from NASC Public Affairs
 Naval Air Station Corpus Christi is gearing up for its first air show in four years - and everyone is invited!
 The Navy's Blue Angels and "Fat Albert Airlines" are headlining the "Wings Over South Texas" air show on Saturday and Sunday, April 18-19.
 Other highlights of the two-day event, include demonstrations by the Golden Knights, the U.S. Army Parachute Team.
 Military and civilian acts are filling out the card to include: the U.S. Air Force's F-22 Raptor; Rob Holland in his MXS-810; Randy Bell in his MG-17; Paul Fata in his Great Lakes Bi-plane, and more - plus static displays of aircraft.
 The Navy's Blue Angels performs at the 2011 air show on board Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. They will be headlining the 2015 show on April 18-19.
 Photo by Rod Hoffmeister

Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield 2015 exercise tests responses to active shooters, gate runners and more
 by Rod Hoffmeister
 Gunshots shattered the workday routine in the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi headquarters building Feb. 3.
 Other workers dashed to exits, hid under desks or barricaded their doors as the gunman stalked the halls, brandishing an assault rifle and shouting, "Where's that captain?"
 But not an actual threat - it was a red rubber assault rifle and blanks from a pistol.
 It was all part of an extensive "active shooter" exercise that tested everything from the immediate reactions of workers to security and emergency medical responses and even the post-event counseling for victims and emergency personnel.
 Red cloths indicated wounded victims as the gunman's wake as security forces responded to emergency calls and conducted the dangerous job of searching for the gunman and clearing the building.
 Security forces search the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi headquarters building for an "active shooter" during an exercise Feb. 3. The exercise was part of the Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2015 exercise, an annual exercise conducted on naval installations throughout the United States to test anti-terrorism and force protection procedures Feb. 2-11.
 Photo by Rod Hoffmeister
 Exercise continued on page 5

Pilot for a Day "Doodlebug" Bily
 page 7

AMERICA Saves
 Since Small, Texas, Inc.
 Military Saves Week
 Feb. 23-28
 page 8

MILITARY CHILDCARE.COM
 DoD website now includes Corpus Christi and Kingsville
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For more information,
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