



WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

July 30, 2015



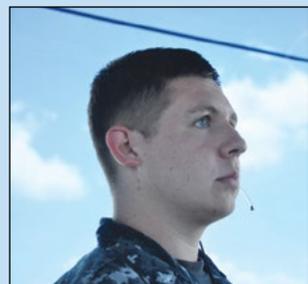
Employee appreciation

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Father John Vidal talks to friends and family members of the student naval aviators gathered about the significance of the Blessing of the Wings ceremony that is held at the Catholic chapel the morning of

winging ceremonies. This ceremony is a voluntary tradition that has been conducted since World War II.

Aviator wings blessed prior to winging ceremony

By Fifi Kieschnick
NASCC Public Affairs

"It's our pleasure to start your 'winging day' with this ceremony," said Father John Vidal to the student pilots, friends and families gathered in the Catholic chapel aboard NAS Corpus Christi.

The morning of each day a winging ceremony is scheduled, Vidal and Command Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Steve Warne conduct a voluntary "blessing of the wings" ceremony.

"We exist to support you, provide for your religious needs," Warne told those gathered, "because we think it's important."

He reminded the group that sometimes when people are "at the bottom," it's their faith that gets them through.

Warne also told the naval aviators, "You are going to be doing a lot of great things in the cockpit. Life is about relationships and your family. Don't put yourself in a place of isolation. Get connected to your community of faith that can actively support you."

He added that military chapels provide a "built-in community," where others understand who you are.

Pointing to the tapestries with wings affixed to them, Warne said, "You are even connected to pilots who flew in World War II."

Construction of NASCC's Protestant chapel was completed in late 1941 and the first worship services were held on Sunday, Dec. 7, of that year, about the same time Pearl Harbor was being bombed. Construction of the Catholic chapel began immediately after the Protestant chapel was completed.

According to the chaplains, during WWII, many Catholic chaplains began blessing the wings of Catholic aviators. This tradition continued throughout the years and eventually became a "Blessing of the Wings" service in chapels around the world.

Eventually the service included other Christian traditions and became the "Aviator's Blessing," accompanied by pinning a set of wings on a tapestry.

People come to the chapel and pray for those represented by the wings. Additionally, prayers are offered at Catholic Mass each Sunday for the men and women represented on the tapestries.

"There may be someone out there, right now, maybe even in a combat zone, who has their wings blessed. We take time to stop and pray for them every Sunday, we say a blessing," Warne said.

Hundreds upon hundreds of aviator wings and other insignia are displayed on encased tapestry throughout the NAS Corpus Christi

see **BLESSING** on page 6

Command Master Chief's Column



CMDCM(SW)
Jeffery Tidwell

Howdy!

When people say that they are dependable, what does that really mean?

We hear them say, "I'm a man of my word," or "My word means everything to me."

There was a time, not so long ago, when someone's word really did mean something, so when you look up the word "word," you will find what they are referring to is dependability. In government service, for both military and civilians, being considered dependable should mean everything to us.

Dependability is still one of our single most powerful assets.

For service members, it's easy for us to know who we can depend on for even the most minute tasks, up to and including major combat engagements. In my 27 years of service to our great country, I have

worked alongside a lot of service members and civilians. In short, I would rather work alongside someone that is dependable rather than someone who is considered a superstar but is not dependable.

These dependable people are the true assets to the team. I often refer to them as "Fire and Forget" members. These are the people that just execute and get stuff accomplished. They adopt and overcome by looking outside the box. They go the extra mile or take the extra step before they say they can't accomplish something. It is dependable people that truly makes a cohesive unit and make an organization execute.

While the private sector relies heavily on materialistic-type assets such as capital, equipment or infrastructure, those of us serving this great nation cannot. In these times of limited funding and manpower shortages, our major skill set has to be rooted with non-materialistic assets. We should all be saying, "What can we do with what we have" and not, "I need more money or more people to get this accomplished."

Instead of being an operator of heavy machinery, we have to be the operators of ourselves, essentially becoming "the machine" with tools to aid our performance

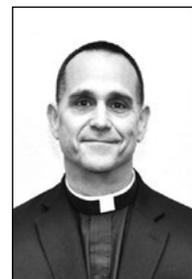
like a sidearm and body armor. However, to operate at the pinnacle of performance, this machine requires certain criteria, one of them being dependability. For a service member, a scheduled "hard" time is everything. Stating things such as, "If you don't adhere to the 10-minute rule then you are 10 minutes late," makes perfect sense to the military members. On the other hand, that doesn't necessarily make sense to our other team members.

A distinguished principle like dependability will set us apart so that we can successfully complete the mission. Whether that mission is getting promoted, hired or taking ownership of what we do have and doing more with less. Doing more with less is our normal day-to-day operating environment now and will be for the foreseeable future.

Sometimes things don't go as planned and you will hear me say, "Don't fight the plan, fight the fight." Sometimes there will not be a contingency in case the original plan fails.

One sure component that can destroy the trust of a cohesive unit is when our word no longer has any value, causing foundations to become completely unreliable. Whether it's the military or the private sector – no one wants to work with a person who doesn't value their own word.

Chaplain's Message



The ship's
bell ...

Father John Vidal

One of the best things about my ministry here at NASCC has been the privilege of learning about, and participating in, the rich traditions of the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

The honor of blessing new aviators' wings and hanging them on tapestries in Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel is a wonderful tradition that unites our military to their faith

and reminds us all of the religious freedom that is guaranteed under the Constitution we defend. The opportunity to offer invocations and benedictions at the tradition-rich change of command and retirement ceremonies has been particularly moving for me.

Last year when I was preparing for the First Holy Communion for Capt. Dave Edgecomb's (NASCC's former CO, now CNATRA COS) son, Ben, I learned that Ben was baptized using USS Boxer's (LDH 4) ship bell as the christening bowl. At the time I thought that was interesting, but thought no more about it. However, earlier this year Port Aransas USCG station's BMC Rick Seymour came to me to find out what he needed to do in order to permit his home parish priest in Florida to baptize his son, Ricky, on the USCGC Gannet (WPB 87334). It was then

that I discovered that baptizing children using the ship's bell as the christening bowl goes back to the times of the British Royal Navy where baptisms were carried out in foreign ports or for infants born at sea.

Traditionally, the bell is upturned and filled with water for the ceremony. Once the baptism is completed, the child's name is inscribed inside the bell. The bell remains with the ship while in service and the bell was then given to the first recorded child upon the ship's decommissioning. Today, according the Naval History and Heritage Command's website, the bells are now retained with the Department of the Navy after decommissioning.

I hope that I will soon be honored to perform such a baptism and do my little part in continuing a tradition that creates an invisible but strong tie between our country, its ships and its citizens. While I won't be able to be with little Ricky Seymour on the USCGC Gannet on Aug. 1, I will certainly be there in spirit.

Worship Services

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Catholic Chapel
Daily Mass Mon-Thurs & 1st Fri: 11:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass: 9 & 11 a.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE

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

JEWISH WORSHIP SERVICE

Congregation Beth Israel, 4402 Saratoga Blvd.
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



Courtesy photo from the baptism of Capt. Dave Edgecomb's son, Ben, using the ship's bell aboard USS Boxer (LDH 4). Edgecomb is currently the CNATRA chief of staff.

Wingspan

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Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

Fifi Kieschnick
Public Affairs Officer



This paper is published for people like Diane McGough, a counselor at the Fleet and Family Support Center. McGough is a native of Morganton, N.C., and has been working aboard NAS since August 2012.



Thanks for all you do!

Leadership from three commands aboard NAS Corpus Christi grilled and served hot dogs and hamburgers for approximately 70 of their employees. The appreciation lunch is an annual event held at Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville detachment Corpus Christi's Bldg. 10. Pictured from left are, Lt. Cmdr. Shannon Harrell, FLC site director; Javier Portillo, FLC's fuels officer; Dr. Fred Koch, chief Quality Assurance Division, Corpus Christi Army Depot; and Rick Stevenson, director of Quality Management, CCAD. The employees enjoyed hot dogs, and hamburgers with all the fixings, drinks, chips and cake.

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Chief of Naval Operations releases annual navigation plan

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert recently released a document that highlights the U.S. Navy's intended track and investments for the next five fiscal years.

"This year's navigation plan highlights our Navy's key investments, which support missions and functions outlined in the defense strategic guidance (DSG)," said Greenert in the document. "Our mandate is to be where it matters, when it matters, ready to respond to crises and ensure the security that underpins our global economy."

Greenert's 2016-2020 Navigation Plan defines how the Navy will use its resources to safely and effectively pursue the vision detailed in Sailing Directions.

Each year since Greenert released the Sailing Directions the Navigation Plan has described the annual Navy's budget submission for the future years.

In the plan Greenert explains the requirement to the four enduring functions around which the Navy has historically organized, trained and equipped: deterrence, sea control, power projection and maritime security, as well as capabilities related to a new fifth function, all domain access. This plan highlights how investments will support Navy missions through the lens of the three tenets: Warfighting First, Operate Forward and Be Ready.

Greenert emphasizes in the document that everything Sailors and civilians do must be grounded in the responsibility of warfighting



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert holds an all-hands call with service members, civilians and their families at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Bahrain. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nathan Laird)

first. He says the Navy must have the capability and capacity to conduct war at sea and win decisively. He provided a list of capabilities that center on this objective and followed with a comparable list of items that support operate forward and be ready.

Additionally, the Navigation Plan summarizes the six programmatic priorities that guided the Navy's budget planning for the future of the fleet: maintaining a credible, modern and survivable sea-based strategic deterrent, sustain forward presence, distributed globally in places that count, develop the capability and capacity to win decisively, focus on critical afloat and ashore readiness

to ensure our Navy is adequately funded and ready, enhance the Navy's asymmetric capabilities in the physical domains as well as in cyberspace and the electromagnetic spectrum and sustain a relevant industrial base, particularly in shipbuilding.

This navigation plan was released by Greenert to Navy's senior leaders and distributed on Navy's social media properties as a priority to be communicated at all levels.

Sailing Directions and earlier Navigation Plans can be found on his leadership page. (From Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs)

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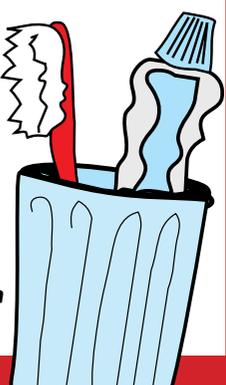
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Top left: Ensign Kevin King, of Training Squadron 35, proudly displays his wings pinned to the tapestry. Above: Lt. Cmdr. Steve Warne leads a prayer during the Blessing of the Wings ceremony.

Far left: Father John Vital says a prayer over the aviators' wings prior to sprinkling them with holy water during the ceremony held at the Catholic chapel.

Left: 1st Lt. Emily Elledge, of VT-35, records the name and number of her wings prior to pinning them on the tapestry. Below: At the beginning of the ceremony, Lt.j.g. Robyn Ellis, of VT-31, reads a scripture. (U.S. Navy photos by Fifi Kieschnick)

Blessing from page 1

Chapel. They represent all those who had their wings blessed prior to their winging ceremony.

"Many people don't know what a 'blessing' is," said Vidal to those gathered at the chapel July 10. "We are setting something aside for God. Setting these wings aside reminds us that 'Lord, I'm taking you with me in the cockpit.'

"You are connecting to a community and connecting to God."

Vidal sprinkles holy water on the aviators' wings and gives the aviators explicit instructions on numbering, recording in a log book and placing their blessed wings on the tapestry.

This, he tells them, is so that anyone can find the wings of any aviator who had their wings blessed at the chapel.

"Now you have God with you," Vidal said.

The next Blessing of the Wings ceremony will be July 31, at 8:30 a.m.





Change of Responsibility --

A Change of Responsibility ceremony was held July 23, at NAS Corpus Christi's Catalina Club. Sgt. Maj. Martin Dickinson continued the tradition of passing the colors to Sgt. Maj. Steven Odom as he took helm as Corpus Christi Army Depot's next command sergeant major. Sgt. Maj. Martin Dickinson also retired from the U.S. Army after 32 years of service. Pictured left, Odom, incoming command sergeant major receives the Non-Commissioned Officer's Sword during the ceremony. Below, the official party arrives at the beginning of the ceremony. In the center, are (from left) Dickinson, Col. Billingsley Garner Pogue III, CCAD commander, and Odom. (U.S. Army photos by Kiana Allen, CCAD)



Talk to me --

Ensign D. J. Busto, of Training Squadron 27, talks to Navy JROTC students from Guthrie-Spring Branch ISD about the T-6B Texan II, as Ensign Andrew Lacosse, of VT-28, looks on. Busto and Lacosse not only talked to the students about naval aviation training and the aircraft they fly during the recent tour, but also how they got to where they are -- staying in school, having a goal, and working hard. Training Air Wing FOUR is one of the tenant commands aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi that supports tours of students. (U.S. Navy photo by Fifi Kieschnick)



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Have you met? ...

AC3 Matthew Sherwood

Story & photo by AC2 Nicholas Duffy
NASCC Air Operations

AC3 Matthew Sherwood has been selected as the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Air Traffic Controller of the Quarter, Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015.

Sherwood, pictured above, carries out his normal duties as a Navy Outlying Field Tower Supervisor at the Cabaniss tower. He was selected as controller of the quarter for

going above and beyond all expectations, being the only NASCC third class air traffic controller fully qualified at both outlying fields.

As tower supervisor, Sherwood has overseen 30,417 safe, orderly and expeditious flight operations. He also is a member of the Veteran's Memorial Services Team, taking part in more than 30 ceremonies honoring the sacrifices and contributions of our nation's veterans. Bravo Zulu!

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Softball Base Team Tryouts

August 4 & 6, 2015

1730 - 2000

Location: NAS Corpus Christi Softball field inside track by E-Street Gym.

All Male Active Duty Military are eligible to try out with a valid military ID. There will be no team or sports fee required. Sign up will be held on the field before tryouts at 1730.



For more information, please call 961-2057.



Tryouts will be a combination of batting practice, position drills and scrimmages over a time span of two days. At the end of the second day, the Sports Coordinator and Team Coach will pick 14 participants that will represent NAS Corpus Christi and compete in various softball tournaments nationwide.

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The permit requires an annual base clean-up project and requires minimizing trash, garbage and debris going into storm sewers -- including grass clippings and cigarette butts.

If we see debris or an oil sheen coming from our outlets, we must report it to regulators.

We all have a stake in ensuring we keep our waters clean. Public Works environ-



mental personnel ask all personnel on the air station to support the requirements of keeping debris, oil and other pollutants out of the storm sewer systems. (NASCC Public Works Environmental)

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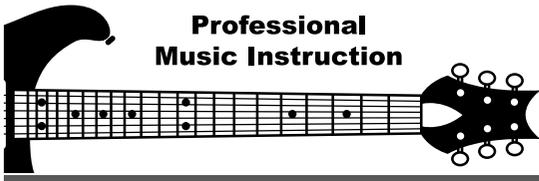
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Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water is safe from microbial contamination.

Note: The results of all monitoring conducted during this period met regulatory limits set for chlorine residual and all bacteriological samples taken during this quarter were negative.

This violation occurred in the monitoring period: Jan. 1 to March 30, 2015. The violation was issued for failure to submit Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR) by April 10, 2015.

The CORPUS CHRISTI NAVAL AIR STATION has taken the following actions to address this issue:

1) As required, as a resolution to the Notice of Violation, the Naval Air Station has mailed or direct delivered to our customers; posted notices in public locations around the installation; sent out electronic notification via an e-mail ; and posted notice in Station newspaper.

2) Administrative procedures have been put in place to ensure that future reports are submitted to TCEQ, in a timely manner, to meet due date.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, contact Antonio Rodriguez, plant operator, at 961-2995.

Things you need to Know

- Identity theft happens when someone uses your Social Security number or other personal information to commit fraud.
- Identity theft can happen to anyone.
- Once identity thieves have your personal information, they can drain your bank account, run up charges on your credit cards, open new utility accounts, or get medical treatment on your health insurance. An identity thief can file a tax refund in your name and get your refund. In some extreme cases, a thief might even give your name to the police during an arrest.
- If your wallet, Social Security number, or other personal information is lost or stolen, there are steps you can take to help protect yourself.
- If you feel you are the victim of identity theft go to <https://www.identitytheft.gov/#what-to-do-right-away> and act right away.

www.secnav.navy.mil/OPMBreachDON
#OPMBreachDON

NAS Corpus Christi & NAS Kingsville BACK 2 SCHOOL EXPO

Lets get Military Students ready for School.

Catalina Club
August 6th
9:00am - 1:00pm

Registration Link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WLS33KZ>

USO of South Texas is generously providing the Backpacks as they did last year!

AUTO SKILLS CENTER

NAS CORPUS CHRISTI

You Do - We Verbally Assist
The Auto Skills Center is a Do-it-Yourself automotive repair facility. From the beginner to the experienced mechanic, we have what you need to do most automotive repairs.

Bldg. 1713, E-street
(361) 961-3470

The Auto Skills Center is located on E-Street past the MWR Fitness Center and Bowling Center.

The shop has three drive-on lifts and two frame lifts. We give out a toolbox with metric and standard wrenches and sockets, screwdrivers, pliers and oil filter wrenches for easy access.

Services provided are: brake rotor (on-the-car) resurfacing, battery charging, computer spin balance, tire repair, air conditioning service and state inspections.



Equipment & Charges

- Oil Change \$3.00* per car
Including Lift. Includes 1 hour max. Additional charge over 1 hour is \$3.00 per hour. Any other work done while doing oil change will be an additional \$3.00, ex: tire rotation.
- Disposal Fee \$3.00 (3 gal max)
Oil/Coolant not generated at Auto Skills
- Lift/Bay Rental \$3.00 per hour
- Grease Gun \$0.75 per car

Tires Work

- Small = Under 15"
- Large = 15" & Above
- Tire Repair
 - Small \$5.00*
 - Large \$7.00*
- *Does not include price of the tire patch.
- Balance
 - Small \$3.50
 - Large \$5.00
- Mount or Dismount Tire
 - Small \$2.00
 - Large \$3.00
- Mount and Balance
 - Small \$5.50
 - Large \$8.00
- Valve Stems
 - Short \$0.80 each
 - Long \$1.10 each

Storage Fees

Storage is only available if vehicle needs to be left over night, while working on vehicle.

- Outside Parking Lot \$2.00/night
- Inside Stalls \$4.00/night
(Hourly Lift / Bay Rental will start at time of Auto Skills Center opening on the next business day.)

Labor

- Brake Rotor Resurfacing On Vehicle \$10.00 per rotor
- Air Conditioning Service \$30.00*
Vacuum \$20.00
*Plus Freon
- Computer Diagnostic No Charge
(Codes Only)
- Battery Charge No Charge
- State Inspection \$7.00
Current Insurance Required for All State Inspections.
- Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 10:00 am - 6:30 pm
- Thursday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Friday 1:00 pm - 6:30 pm

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HOLD ON TO EVERY MOMENT

FREE TUBES!

FREE PARKING!

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SAVE UP TO \$12!

Save \$2 per person! Present this coupon prior to purchase at any Texas Schlitterbahn ticket window (Galveston Island, New Braunfels or South Padre Island) Sunday through Friday in June, July or August or any operating day in May or September and SAVE \$2 each on up to 6 full-price, all-day tickets.

Not valid Saturdays in June, July or August or with any other offer, discount, special price, prepaid, afternoon, group, two-day or season tickets. Tickets must be purchased at Schlitterbahn and used the same day. Coupon has no cash value and is not for resale. Prices, operating schedule and attractions subject to change without notice.

Coupon expires at the end of the 2015 summer season.

GALVESTON ISLAND, TEXAS | NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TEXAS | Summer 2015 – CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS