



Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

Vol. 49 No. 04

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

March 1, 2012

Soggy range: No problem for Seabees of NMCB 11



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 approach their targets at a water-logged firing range on Camp Leatherneck to check for shooting accuracy. NMCB 11 is deployed to Afghanistan to conduct general, mobility, survivability engineering operations, defensive operations, Afghan National Army partnering and detachment of units in combined/joint operations area - Afghanistan in order to enable the neutralization of the insurgency and support improved governance and stability operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jonathan Carmichael/Released)



Force Master Chief Petty Officer of the Seabees Douglas R. Dickey of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, addresses the students of a Seabee Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Management Course held at the Tactical Training Facility on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC). The CPO Management course prepares active duty and reserve Seabee CPOs for the transition from lead technician/crew leader to first level manager in the Naval Construction Force or shore establishment. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

FORCM Dickey addresses CPO Management Class

By MCC Ryan G. Wilber
NCBC Public Affairs

Force Master Chief Petty Officer (FORCM) of the Seabees, Douglas R. Dickey of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Washington addressed the students of a Seabee Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Management Course held at the Tactical Training Facility on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Feb. 16.

The CPO Management course prepares active duty and reserve Seabee CPOs for the transition from lead technician/crew

leader to first level manager in the Naval Construction Force or shore establishment. Thirty-one students were in attendance as Dickey discussed current Seabee issues in a question/answer-type interaction.

Seabee advancement, Perform to Serve (PTS) and the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB) programs were a few of the big questions the Chiefs had for Dickey.

Recent advancement opportunities in the Seabees, or lack

See FORCM page 23

INSIDE

- Prepare now for Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield Exercise 4
- NMCB 11 Seabees assume control of Camp Krutke 6
- Seabees of NMCB 7 strengthen partnerships in Afghanistan 17

Skipper's Log

Guest column by Capt. Kathryn Donovan,

Commodore 22 Naval Construction Regiment (NCR)

Hello from wet and chilly Afghanistan. On Feb. 16, the 22nd Naval Construction Regiment (NCR) relieved the 30th NCR of their command duties. The 22nd NCR and its subordinate units have been designated Task Force Stethem.

Our Task Force name honors Petty Officer Second Class (Diver) Robert Dean Stethem, USN (1961-1985). Petty Officer Stethem entered the Navy on May 4, 1981. He attended Recruit Training in Great Lakes, Ill., and was assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 homeported in Gulfport. In October 1984, he was assigned to Underwater Construction Team (UCT) 1 in Little Creek, Va.

Petty Officer Stethem was the victim of a terrorist hijacking of Trans World Airlines Flight 847 to Beirut, Lebanon on June 4, 1985. He was returning from an assignment in Nea Makri, Greece when terrorists seized the aircraft. Petty Officer Stethem was singled out from the passengers as a U.S.

Navy Sailor and killed when terrorist demands were not met. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

Task Force Stethem works with active, reserve, and national guard units from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. We have a busy deployment ahead of us, but everyone is taking care of their Shipmates and focused on executing our mission.

Two of Task Force Stethem's subordinate units include NMCB 7 and NMCB 11. Both commands have hit the ground running and are providing general engineering support to Army and Marine Corps maneuver units.

During some recent flooding, NMCB 7 quickly responded with a working party and some pumps to salvage tents and wooden facilities in low lying areas. The Chief of Staff for U.S. Forces Afghanistan South presented certificates and coins to Equipment Operator Constructionman Charles George, Equipment Operator Constructionman Eugenio Gonzales,



Capt. Kathryn Donovan, commodore of 22 Naval Construction Regiment (NCR) awards a commodore's coin to Information Systems Technician 2nd Class (SW/EXW) Travis McCurdy in Afghanistan as other members of his department look on. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Jason Carter/Released)

Equipment Operator Constructionman Trisha Percival, Equipment Operator Constructionman Darla Ritenour, Equipment Operator 2nd Class Ryan Hofmann, Equipment Operator Constructionman Thomas Welker, Construction Electrician 2nd Class Joshua Murphy (22NCR), Equipment Operator Constructionman Joshua Pratt, Equipment Operator 1st Class Brad Williams, Construction Mechanic Constructionman Andrew Frare, Chief Equipment Operator George Linneman, Con-

struction Mechanic 3rd Class Adam McKenzie, and Equipment Operator 3rd Class Ryan Duffer. Congratulations to NMCB 7!

After several delays for the main body to arrive in country, NMCB 11 has been conducting weapons training at Camp Leatherneck where the Seabees have been dealing with an abundance of rain.

For more information on the deployment of 22 NCR, NMCB 7, and NMCB 11, friends and family members should "Like" their Facebook pages.

NCBC/20SRG
Commanding Officer
 Capt. Rick Burgess
Public Affairs Officer
 Rob Mims
Editor
 Bonnie L. McGerr
Mass Communication Specialist
 MCC (SCW/SW/AW)
 Ryan G. Wilber
Special Contributors
 BU3 (SCW) Cassandra Locke
 UTCN Daneia Johnson

22 NCR Commander
 Capt. Kathryn A. Donovan
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC Jason Carter

25 NCR Commander
 Capt. Darius Banaji
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC (SW/AW) Scott Boyle

NMCB ONE
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Mike Saum
Public Affairs Officer
 Lt. Jonathon Charfauros
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC1 (AW/NAC) Aron Taylor

NMCB SEVEN
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. James G. Meyer
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC (SCW/AW/SW) Yan Kennon

NMCB ELEVEN
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Maria Aguayo
Public Affairs Officer
 Ensign Timothy Palik
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC1(AW) Jonathan Carmichael

NMCB SEVENTY FOUR
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Richard Hayes
Public Affairs Officer
 Lt.j.g. John Parizek
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC2(SCW) Michael Lindsey

NMCB ONE THIRTY THREE
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Nicolas D. Yamodis
Public Affairs Officer
 MC1(SW/AW) Steven Myers

NCTC Gulfport
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Bill Whitmire
Public Affairs Officer
 Chaplain (Lt.) Rob Guilliams

The Seabee Courier is an authorized publication for members of the military services and their families. Content does not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the DoD or the U.S. Navy and does not imply endorsement thereof. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Government, DoD, the Navy, NCBC Gulfport or The McClatchy Company of the products and services advertised. All content in this newspaper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The Seabee Courier is published 22 weeks a year by The McClatchy Company, a private firm in no way connected with the DoD, under an exclusive contract with the U. S. Navy. The Seabee Courier solicits news contributions from military and civilian sources, but the Public Affairs staff reserves the right to edit and/or rewrite material selected for publication to conform with journalism standards. The deadline for material is close of business Wednesday the week prior to publication. Your comments are always welcome. The Seabee Courier office is in Building 1, Room 205. The mailing address is 9402 Marvin Shields Blvd., Code 15, Gulfport, MS 39501. Phone: 228 671-3662, E-mail: seabeecourier@navy.mil

Recently at the Courthouse ...

At a General Court-Martial convened on board Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville, a Petty Officer First Class pled guilty to possessing child pornography, distributing child pornography, and attempting to download images of child pornography. The Military Judge sentenced the PO1 to 15 months confinement, reduction in rank to E-3 and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a General Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer Second Class pled guilty to five specifications of unauthorized absence (UA), two specifications of missing movement, and two specifications of breaking restriction. The Military Judge sentenced the PO2 to 67 days confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, forfeiture of \$274

pay per month for two months, and a Bad Conduct Discharge. A pre-trial agreement limits confinement to 60 days.

At a Special Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, an Airman pled guilty to five specifications of violating lawful orders which included smoking Spice, possessing drug paraphernalia, possessing open packages of Spice and possessing Spice cigarettes. The Military Judge sentenced the Airman to reduction in rank to E-1, forfeiture of \$500 pay per month for three months, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a Special Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Seaman pled guilty to desertion and false official statement. The Military Judge sentenced the Seaman to 90 days confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, and forfeiture of \$700 pay per month for three months. A pretrial agreement limits confinement to 68 days.

At a Special Court Martial convened on board

Naval Station (NS) Mayport, a Chief Petty Officer was found guilty of stealing \$2,932.40 of military property. The Court-Martial sentenced the CPO to 90 days hard labor without confinement and a fine of \$1000 (and, in the event the fine is not paid, to be confined for a period of 30 days).

At a Special Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer Second Class pled guilty to three specifications of false official statement, two specifications of BAH fraud totaling \$18,553.53 and forgery. The Military Judge sentenced the PO2 to three months confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, forfeiture of \$978.00 pay per month for three months, a fine of \$8,000 (additional confinement of three months will be served if the fine is not paid) and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a Special Court Martial convened on board

See COURTHOUSE page 22

Fraud, Waste, Abuse Line

Due to limited IG resources throughout the Southeast Region, all Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline work will now be handled by the Region. To report Fraud, Waste and Abuse, contact the Region at: Toll Free 1-877-657-9851 Comm: 904-542-4979 DSN 942-4979 FAX: 904- 542-5587, E-mail: CNRSE_HOTLINE@navy.mil.

NCBC launches New Channel

Want to know what is happening on base? If you have Cable One (on base only), tune in to channel 87. The new Commander's Access Channel is now on. More programming will be added in the future. Tune in and see what's going on. Note: There are pockets of the base that will not receive the signal, yet (i.e. portions of Pinewood and Ladd housing).

Around the Center



Seabees on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) applaud the NCBC Gospel Choir for their performance during the Black History Month Ceremony held at the Seabee Memorial Chapel, Feb. 21. Black History Month is an annual observance in the month of February for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African Americans. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman Constructionman Daneia Johnson/Released)

In an effort to align parental needs with care providers, the NCBC Child Development Center held a meeting with parents to discuss program topics. After a power point presentation focusing on developmental progression, there was a brief, and an informative question and answer session. Once all questions were answered parents were invited to spend time with their children and their care providers in the classrooms, and enjoy refreshments. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 3rd Class Cassie Locke/Released)



Seabees work with students who are enrolled in the Long Beach Gifted Program at the NCBC Fitness Center swimming pool as they test the underwater robots built by the students. The class project was sponsored by SeaPerch, an underwater robotics program that trains teachers to teach their students how to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) in an in-school or out-of-school setting. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman Constructionman Daneia Johnson/Released)



Capt. Rick Burgess, commanding officer, Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC)/commander Twentieth Seabee Readiness Group (SRG), administers the oath of office to Capt. Stanley Wiles, executive officer, NCBC at his promotion ceremony Feb. 3 at Anchors and Eagles. Celebrating the career milestone with Capt. Wiles were his parents, Bob and Becky Wiles, his wife Lisa, and their three children Benjamin, Joshua and Alexandra. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 3rd Class Cassie Locke/Released)



Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Fred Porterfield, safely escapes the MRAP - All Terrain Vehicle (M-ATV) trainer on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport. Porterfield was the final person to safely egress the MRAP Egress Trainer (MET) while other members "guarded" the M-ATV in a scenario-based environment. (U.S. Navy photo by Morgan Over/Released)

MRAP Egress Trainer spins up training

By Morgan Over
Contributing Writer and
BU3(SCW) Cassie Locke
NCBC Public Affairs

Sitting at a 33-degree angle, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) - Egress Trainer (MET) Instructor/Operator/Maintainer Andy Pine toggles the MET back and forth to allow the students to feel the movement.

"I shift it side to side so they know how it will feel when we start the actual training," he says. Pine changes the degree angle from 33 to 90 and back and forth. He speaks into the microphone to ensure [students] can handle the movement. Some give him a thumbs up and some laugh.

"I'm going to 180 [degrees]," Pine says as he prepares to dangle them upside down.

Watching the sand drop from what was once the top of the trainer may result in a laugh or two but it's no laughing matter when it comes to life and death training.

"We run them through various scenarios so they know how to escape when in theater," Pine said. "Each battalion might have their own standard operating procedure for how to get out for each scenario so we run them through it and they work on how to get out safely."

The METs on board Naval Construction Battalion Center

See **TRAINER** page 24



The MRAP - All Terrain Vehicle (M-ATV) MET moves to 90 degrees to help the students inside adjust to the movement of the vehicle. Following the test move, students will prepare for a controlled rollover and follow through with their command's standard operating procedure for egressing from the M-ATV. (U.S. Navy photo by Morgan Over/Released)

Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield to impact NCBC this month

NCBC Public Affairs

Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012 will be conducted on naval bases and installations throughout the continental United States from March 19-24.

As part of exercise, all facilities and majority of offices on board the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) will be closed the evening of March 22 through noon March 24.

Only mission essential personnel need to be report March 23. School buses and base housing residents will have access; however, will only be allowed on base after significant scrutiny. All movement on base will be highly restricted.

Anyone coming on base can expect long delays as the only access will be via the 28th Street Gate in the evening March 22 to noon March 24. All other gates will be secured. This also means the commissary, Navy Exchange, Naval Branch Health Clinic, Fitness Center, etc. will be closed. Everyone is encouraged to plan ahead.

Part of the exercise will possibly include a full personnel count. All personnel and family members need to be aware of how to update/access Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) at <https://www.navy-family.navy.mil/>.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the training and readiness of Navy Security Forces to respond to threats to installations and units. Exercise Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield 2012 is not in response to any specific threat, but is a regularly-scheduled exercise.

Although measures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations March 19-22, there may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around the base or delays in base access on these days as well. Area residents may also see increased security activity associated with the exercise.

For more information about the Exercise, contact the NCBC Public Affairs Office at 228-871-2699 or 228-249-1405.

Future Navy career classifications to factor personality along with ASVAB scores

By MCC (SCW) Ryan G. Wilber
NCBC Public Affairs

Personnel psychologists from Navy Personnel Research, Studies and Technology (NPRST) were on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) administering personality tests and supervisor evaluations as part of a Navy classification initiative, Feb. 7 - 9.

NPRST, a department of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, has developed a set of tools that will someday help the Navy classify Sailors based on more individual information than Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) scores alone. As part of the process to ensure the quality of the new tests to validly predict how specific scores are related to important manpower and personnel outcomes, NPRST researchers are collecting test results from Sailors representing all Navy communities.

"The Navy for years has been using ASVAB to classify Sailors into positions, said Dr. Bill Farmer, a NPRST personnel psychologist. ASVAB is a very good predictor of how well people will do in "A" School, however, when you actually look at job performance, fleet performance, job satisfaction you find out that ASVAB doesn't actually

predict those as well as other non-cognitive indicators, such as personality and interests. The research that we're doing is we've developed some tools to assess the personality, to assess interests and quantifying those in such a way that they can be useful for both recruiters and classifiers to help place young Sailors into positions using information that hasn't been used systematically before in that manner."

Navy Computer Adaptive Personality Scales (NCAPS), consisting of 19 personality traits tied to the critical job/work requirements for all Navy ratings and Job Opportunities in the Navy (JOIN), which matches Sailor interest in particular work environments, work styles and broad characteristics, and maps them onto Navy ratings are tools researchers from NPRST have been developed to assess Sailor personality and interests.

"From a classification perspective, we will be able to take scores from NCAPS and some of the interest measures and actually combine those with ASVAB scores, so that when we create composites, what we call selection composites, that we use currently to classify individuals, which are based on a particular ASVAB test and what those tests are



Seabees on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), complete a Navy Computer Adaptive Personality Scales (NCAPS) questionnaire for Navy Personnel Research, Studies and Technology personality testing. The testing will someday help the Navy classify Sailors based on more individual information than Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery scores alone. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

that used to classify people into particular ratings is different depending on what the rating is," said Farmer.

Senior Chief Navy Counselor Jake Brady, Career Counselor assigned to 20th Seabee Readiness Group (20 SRG), and personality test taker, said he feels using personality as a factor used in classifying will be good for the Navy and for the Sailor.

"It's going to be a better way to the future," said Brady. It's going to be a better way to get the right fit, the

right Sailor doing the right job in the right location, and I'm kind of excited to see how it will work. I think we'll have less personal failure, because we'll be able to get them into jobs they'll like and they'll want to do and they're good at."

Personality testing is not a new concept. According to Farmer, non-cognitive measures have been used in the civilian sector for years, and that 80 to 85 percent of fortune 500 companies use some kind of person-

See PERSONALITY page 19

AD
SPACE

AD
SPACE

AD
SPACE

Glitz, glamour highlight the 3rd Annual NMCRS Fashion Show

By MCC (SCW) Ryan G. Wilber
NCBC Public Affairs

Service members and military spouses came out to walk the catwalk while modeling ball gowns for the 3rd annual Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society Fashion Show at the base theater on board Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Miss. Feb. 3.

Eleven ladies modeled 22 dresses for the event, which gave service members and spouses the opportunity to purchase a ball gown for no more than \$20 at the NCBC Thrift Store. Walter Brown from the 93.7 morning show, Walter and Kelly was on hand as the Master of Ceremonies.

"We wanted to have an opportunity for the spouses of our service members to be able to go to the ball without having to go to great expense to get something nice to wear," said Huffman.

The applause which followed each lady's presentation reflected the audience's enjoyment of the evening. Many spouses were happy for the opportunity to get a nice ball dress and at the same time support a good cause.

"I think [getting a dress for less than \$20] is amazing. I'm sure it helps a whole lot of



people. You can't even rent dresses for \$20 anymore," said Lori Mims, the spouse of Seabee assigned to Naval Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74.

Every model in the show seemed to enjoy taking their turn on stage and smiling to an appreciative audience. Sara Barbee and Kendyl Stovall, both fashion show models and spouses of Seabees assigned to NMCB 74 said they enjoyed participating and the opportunity to meet new people. Mims said she and Stovall will definitely be participating again next year.

Military spouses throw beads to the audience at the conclusion of the 3rd Annual Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Fashion Show at the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) base theater Feb. 3. One hundred percent of the money raised from the sale of the modeled dresses goes toward NMCRS programs which assist service members and their families. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released

"We heard about it through our FRG (Family Readiness Group) meeting, and Kendyl and I thought it would be fun to come out and meet some new people, and do something on base, get to know people and volunteer for them, plus get all dressed up and glitized up," said Mims. "Its going to a good cause, and hopefully a lot of ladies will get dresses that are real pretty and that are real cheap too, so it will help out everyone."

"I thought it was a lot of fun. It was a really nice little thing to do to advertise about

the dresses. I know I've seen on Facebook a lot of women are asking about cheap dresses for the Seabee Ball. It was really nice and a great experience," added Stovall.

For Huffman the fashion show serves a double duty; women have the opportunity to get a ball dress while supporting NMCRS, and the participants learn more about what her organization is about.

"I like it, because of the opportunity it gives our spouses, it brings our volunteers together and we have some fun and I like it because it introduces other people, whether it's a spouse that's modeling, whether it's a service member that's modeling, whether it's an NCTC student that's escorting, whether it's our Master of Ceremonies who is a civilian from the community, it introduces all of them to what Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society does in a fun way," said Huffman. "It kind of sparks their interest in what we do and in who we are, and gives us a great opportunity to help people."

According to Huffman each dollar donated to or raised by NMCRS equates to \$5 of assistance to service members and their

See FASHION page 26

AD SPACE

NMCB 11 takes over for NMCB 4 in Afghanistan

By MC1 (AW) Jonathan Carmichael
NMCB 11 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 4 transferred authority of Camp Krutke to NMCB 11 in an afternoon ceremony on Camp Krutke, a part of Camp Leatherneck, Helmand Province, Afghanistan Feb. 13.

Commander La Tanya Simms, commanding officer, NMCB 4 and Cmdr. Lore Aguayo, commanding officer, NMCB 11 exchanged salutes before a flag detail replaced NMCB 4's battalion colors with NMCB 11's to signify the official transfer of authority.

Guests of honor were Commanding General, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), Brigadier General Michael Dana and Assistant Chief of Staff C-7, Colonel Kurt Kempster. Also in attendance were service members representing II Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 3, 30th Naval Construction Regiment (NCR), Task Force Leatherneck (TFL), and 14th Engineer Battalion.

"I am proud at the way our battal-

ion has handled whatever our supported commanders needed of us," said Simms. "The Musa Qal'eh crossing is an excellent example of the positive impact our Seabees have made here in Afghanistan."

Kempster and Dana each specifically mentioned the Musa Qal'eh crossing, which links Musa Qal'eh residents with Helmand province's capital, Lashkar Gah, in praising the accomplishments of NMCB 4.

"We had many junior people - 1st and 2nd Class Petty Officers and, in one case a 3rd Class Petty Officer - taking on a lot of responsibility in remote areas of Afghanistan, and they really took care of their troops. That's what truly represents the Seabees of this battalion," stated Simms in a pre-ceremony interview.

The process of turning the camp over to NMCB 11 began earlier this month when NMCB 11's advanced party personnel arrived on Camp Leatherneck. The battalions worked together to turn over materials, equipment, and tools to NMCB 11 who's delayed party personnel are due to arrive in the near future.

See **TRANSFER** page 21



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7's Detail Wolverine perform emergency snow removal from berthing facilities located at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Wolverine in southern Afghanistan after a severe snow storm hit the area. NMCB 7 and its detachments are one of two Seabee Battalions conducting contingency construction and deconstruction in support of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) as part of Task Force Forager (TFF), operating in the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) area of operation. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Sean Hughes/Released)

NMCB 7 Detail Wolverine: Partnering for Results

By NMCB 7 Detail Wolverine
Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 Detail Wolverine begin contingency construction projects in southern Zabul Province.

Based at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Wolverine since mid-January, the detail assumed construction authority from NMCB 1 and immediately made an impact, completing several life support projects throughout the FOB the past month.

To date, Detail Wolverine Seabees have completed 11 projects, from new airfield ammunition boxes to communication fiber installation. Their largest project has been the construction of new berthing facilities and a Tactical Operations Center (TOC) for the U.S. Army 1-14th Cavalry.

One of the biggest challenges the Seabees have faced is poor weather conditions in the area. Shortly after assuming construction duties from

NMCB 1, FOB Wolverine was ravaged by a massive snow storm, which dropped more than two feet of snow in a 24-hour period, a rare event for this area of Afghanistan.

Several hours into the latest storm, the overbearing weight of snow began to weaken the interior frames of the berthing tents. The Seabees of NMCB 7 were called into action, assisting the FOB maintenance contractor with critical snow removal from roofs and reinforcement of interior wooden frames for tents throughout the FOB.

The accumulation of snow forced FOB Entry Control Points (ECP) to be closed and halted daily airfield operations as well. Once again, the 'Bees were back in action, clearing more than 22,000 cubic yards of snow from the airfield and ECPs, while continuing their daily operations and routine maintenance.

Detail Wolverine has continued the local partnership mission with the Afghanistan National Army (ANA)

by providing maintenance and repair subject matter expertise to Soldiers in the ANA 4th Kandak, 2 Brigade, 205th Corps. Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Lucas Arriaga and Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Dhane Givler work hand in hand with their ANA counterparts, providing basic maintenance skills, general expertise and oversight during routine vehicle repair.

"This is a great opportunity for us Seabees to assist our Afghan counterparts in the upkeep of their tactical vehicles," said Arriaga, a native of Dallas, Texas. "The most challenging aspect of our partnership is working through the language barriers."

Construction Electrician 1st Class Michael Jordan, the detachment's resident generator maintenance expert, assists ANA technicians with their equipment and provides valuable information for extending generator lifecycles.

See **WOLVERINE** page 21

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier



Commander Lore Aguayo (left), Commanding officer of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 officially relieves Cmdr. La Tanya Simms, commanding officer of NMCB 4, of the watch during a ceremony in which NMCB 4 transferred authority of Camp Krutke, a part of Camp Leatherneck in Helmand province, Afghanistan to NMCB 11. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jonathan Carmichael/Released)



Seabees assigned to the Bridge Detachment of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 and Marines from the 8th Engineer Support Battalion Bridge Company assemble a medium girder bridge during a joint training exercise at Camp Lejeune, N.C. The Seabees and Marines worked together for the first time during the three-day project to build the bridge over a 107-foot gap. The joint training capitalized on Bold Alligator 2012, the largest amphibious exercise in 10 years. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Scott B. Boyle/Released)

Seabees, Marines build bridges at Camp Lejeune

By MCC (SW/AW) Scott Boyle
25th NCR Public Affairs

Seabees and Marines joined forces to erect a medium girder bridge (MGB) over a 107-foot-wide gap on Camp Lejeune, Feb. 13.

The joint exercise was a chance for the Seabees with the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 Bridge Detachment and Marines with the 8th Engineer Support Battalion (8th ESB) Bridge Company to build camaraderie.

"Historically, we have always been tied together; I mean there is a reason why we are Naval, as opposed to just Navy, so there is a lot of synergy there," said Cmdr. Nick Yamodis, NMCB 133's commanding officer. "We are reliving and reestablishing those relationships at the lower levels with folks who have never worked together."

For the Marine bridge company, the project is an extension of a Marine Corps-wide focus on amphibious operations.

"The [Commandant of the Marine Corps] has talked about us getting back to our amphibious roots, and, in order to do that, we have to have a good working relationship with the Navy," said Marine Corps 2nd Lt. Zachary Knight, 8th MGB Bridge Company's executive officer. "Any chance we have to get joint training with the Seabees is great." Steelworker 1st Class Joshua Baker, the bridge master for the joint build, was in charge of the project and oversaw the training and safety of all the Marines and Seabees involved.

"It makes me feel good to teach these guys," he said. "They are working really well together."

Sailors and Marines also learned about the different techniques used by each service.

"The cross-training with the Seabees shows what each unit does differently, and how we can work together better," said Staff Sgt. Paul Cascell, 8th ESB Bridge

Company platoon sergeant

Bridging is one of the Seabees' core capabilities, and it has been, and still is, a big part of past and current deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan during Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

"[Bridging] is incredibly important in terms of mobility and being able to meet the mission, both at the pointy end of the spear as things are beginning to flow into a country and then from a sustainment standpoint being able to maintain the fight or whatever the peacekeeping or training mission is," Yamodis said.

Knight said that the joint training was a great experience for all the Marines and Seabees involved. He said that the next step is hopefully bringing his Bridge Company to Gulfport, home to NMCB 133, this summer for another joint training evolution where the engineers can continue showing the great teamwork displayed during the MGB project.

22 NCR assumes authority in CENTCOM AOR

By MCC Jason Carter
22 NCR Public Affairs

The 30th Naval Construction Regiment (NCR), Task Force Forager, transitioned to the 22nd NCR, Task Force Stethem, during a transfer of authority (TOA) ceremony, Feb. 16, on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

The 30th NCR, from Port Hueneme, Calif., served as the command and control element for Task Force Forager, which was responsible for construction engineering and engineering support in Southern, Southwestern and Western Afghanistan.

The TOA's officiating officer, U.S. Army Maj. Gen. William E. Rapp, deputy commanding general for Support, commended the task force for its many successes during its six-month deployment.

"You need to be extremely proud of your accomplishments," Rapp said.

Task Force Forager and 30th NCR Chief Staff Officer, U.S. Navy Cmdr. Erik Karlson, said the task force did an amazing job supporting the mission in Afghanistan and the Afghan people, and thanked all of his subordinate commands for their hard work.

"It has been an absolute honor to have served with you," Karlson said.

Task Force Forager performed numerous engineering missions such as water wells, which provided clean water for Afghan villages, placed and repaired bridges and partnered with Afghan military engineers to aid in the smooth transition to Afghan leader-



The 22 Naval Construction Regiment's Command Master Chief, Mark Kraninger, salutes the regiment's pennant at the transfer of authority ceremony Feb. 16, 2012 on Kandahar Airfield. The 22 NCR relieved 30th NCR under the direction of Maj. Gen. William E. Rapp, deputy Commanding General for Support. (U.S. Navy photo by MCC Jason Carter/Released)

ship.

U.S. Navy Capt. Kathryn A. Donovan, Task Force Stethem and 22nd NCR Commodore, said her team was honored to take over such an important mission from such a classy command.

"We are very excited to work with the coalition and our service partners," Donovan said.

The 22nd NCR was previously deployed to Afghanistan from February to August 2010. The regiment is made up of approximately 90 U.S. Navy Seabees and support staff.

Spring Forward! Daylight Saving Time begins March 11 at 1 a.m. Be sure and set your clocks ahead one hour!



AD SPACE

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier

Military Appreciation Night



All the military branches were represented at the Mississippi Surge Hockey game Feb. 18 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum. Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Executive Officer, Captain Stan Wiles, represented the Navy during the ceremonial puck drop. Also present were Air Force Brig. Gen. Andy Mueller, Army Col. Steve Parham, Marine Capt. Jason Burgan and Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officer Tom Ponte. (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)

Retired Seabee Reunion – Navy Seabee Veterans of America is sponsoring a Retired Seabee Reunion May 4 – 6. The Reunion will kick off with a Welcome Back at Anchors and Eagles May 4, a Dinner and Dance at Donal Snyder Community Center May 5 and conclude with a Farewell Picnic at Anchors and Eagles May 5. Deadline for purchasing tickets is April 13. Contact Bob Smith, 228-424-1185 or Rich Brown, 601-938-6488 for tickets and more information.

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

Buzz on the Street



By UTCN Daneia Johnson

What do you think is the greatest invention of your lifetime?



"Computer technology is probably the greatest thing made. It's accessible and very useful."

BUCN Megan Denton
NCBC

Hometown: Chillicothe, Mo.



"I think GPS is the greatest invention. Modern-day maps aren't as defined and efficient."

BUCN Terra Ashworth
22 NCR

Hometown: Rockport, Ind.



"The internet is one of the best things invented. It helps people stay connected and is a great access to information."

CE2 Joshua Guerreiro
NMCB 74

Hometown: Auburn, Calif.

NCBC FRAMES

Builder 2nd Class (SCW)
Jacob C. Gosnell
20th SRG (R73)

By BU3 (SCW) Cassie Locke
NCBC PAO

FF: What single experience during your career stands out the most and why?

BU2: I would have to say Hurricane Katrina. I was new in the Navy and to the Seabees and during that event I got to see how the Seabees earned their reputation for being hard workers and humanitarians. The Seabees were let loose on the Gulf Coast for hundreds of projects and shined on every one of them.

FF: What has been your biggest motivation throughout your career?

BU2: My wife and daughters.

FF: What advice would you give to future Seabees/Sailors?



BU2: There is no such thing as a guaranteed paycheck in the military anymore.

FF: What is your favorite thing about working with the Seabees?

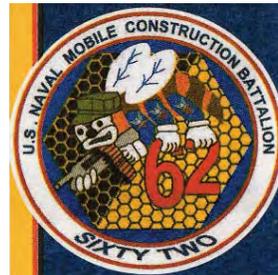
BU2: Since I am an instructor I like to find what makes the students motivated. Seabees are a unique blend of people, every student is different so finding

what makes that student tick is a challenge for me.

FF: Who was your most influential mentor during your career, and why?

BU2: I can't name just one person, but anyone who has ever wore a Seabee on their blouse, worked hard and took their job seriously has my respect.

AD SPACE



MCB 62
<http://nmc62alumni.org>

AD SPACE

AD SPACE

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier

11

Chapel Offerings:



Women's Bible Study takes place Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m.

LIGHT is a Young Adult Group for members of the military. Meetings are Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall.

Seabee Pantry – Donations are now being accepted to restock the Seabee Pantry. Everyone affiliated with NCBC is eligible to draw from the Seabee Pantry.

Drummer needed – The Chapel is in need of a drummer for the Protestant Service Worship Team.

NCBC Gospel Sound Choir Competition 2012 - Gospel Choirs interested in bringing joy to the Seabee community are invited to share their musical talents at the NCBC Gospel Sound Choir Competition 2012. The event will be held Saturday, March 31 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Training Hall. Registration forms (\$50 per choir) and tickets (\$2) are available at the Seabee Memorial Chapel. Proceeds from the event will be donated toward the establishment of an installation memorial for the fallen.

Praise and Worship members needed - The Seabee Memorial Chapel is looking for new members for the Praise and Worship Team for the Divine Worship Service at 11 a.m. Sundays. If you can sing or play an instrument, you are cordially invited to come share your gift.

Friday Fish Fry – Chapel Fellowship Hall, March 2, 9, 16, and 30 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and 3 – 6 p.m. Menu features Fried Catfish, Hush Puppies, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Bread, Iced Tea and Coffee for \$7 per plate, including drink.

Looking for a church? The Seabee Memorial Chapel holds services every Sunday that might just suit your needs. Protestant Services include a

NCBC Helping Hands Volunteer Opportunities

SeaPerch Volunteers - The Naval Research Laboratory would like four Seabee volunteers to work with area students at the Biloxi Natatorium March 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., as part of their SeaPerch program. Volunteers can work the entire day or specified segments. Please contact Shannon Breland, Public Affairs Officer, Stennis at 228-688-5328 or DSN 828-5328 for more information or to volunteer your time. For information on the SeaPerch, go to www.seaperch.org.

Gulfport Youth Sports Association is looking for volunteers to help them prepare for another great season of community baseball. They have scheduled a work day March 10 to do cleaning and maintenance projects to the fields and facilities at the Bayou View Fields. Interested volunteers should contact Scott Barnes with the Gulfport Youth Sports Association at hottie609@aol.com.

Great Day of Soccer - Judges are needed to help with the Great Day of Soccer competition March 10 at the County Farm Soccer Fields north of Gulfport. Participants ranging in age from 4 years old and up will compete in five events - dribbling, juggling, throwing, kicking and kicking at a goal. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to bonnie.lindley-mcgerr@navy.mil with Day of Soccer Volunteer in subject line and your name and contact phone number in the body of the email no later than March 6. Volunteers will receive more information after names are compiled.

Volunteers are needed to help out at Senior Games 2012 - Four volunteers are requested to help out with Shuffleboard, April 11, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Westside Community Center; eight volunteers are needed April 13, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Track and Field events at the Gulfport High School Track; and five male volunteers are needed April 14, 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. for the Cycling Event at the Woolmarket Senior Center. If you are interested in volunteering for the

Senior Games, contact Brittany Dyess at 228-860-4444 or email ballen@gulfport-ms.gov.

9th Annual Smokin' the Sound and Smokin' the Lake - Volunteers are needed April 26 to 29 to assist with Smokin' the Sound at Point Cadet in Biloxi and Smokin' the Lake in Gulfport, May 5 to 6 at the Dock Bar and Grill on Seaway Road. Duties include selling wrist bands and directing spectators to viewing areas. Various shifts are available and lunch and t-shirts will be provided. To sign up or to receive more information on this request, contact Builder 3rd Class (SCW) Cassie Locke at 228-871-3664 or email cassandra.secher@navy.mil.

Orange Grove Elementary needs 30 volunteers per day May 8, 9 and 10 for the yearly MCTII test. This is the state mandated standardized test. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 7 a.m. daily. Please contact Stephanie Schepens at SSchepens@harrison.k12.ms.us or call 228-365-0204 if you are interested.

Long Beach School District (LBSD) Volunteers - The LBSD needs 30 proctors to assist them with the administration of the MCT2 (Mississippi Curriculum Test) May 8 - 10 from approximately 7:20 am until 1:30 pm. The MCT2 is given to all students at Harper McCaughan Elementary grades 4-6, Long Beach Middle School grades 7 and 8 and all 3rd grade students at both Reeves Elementary and Quarles Elementary. Training will be administered prior to the testing dates. Contact Christi Spinks at 228-861-0588 if you are interested in volunteering.

Harrison County Youth Court - HCYC is looking for volunteers to make a difference in the life of a child. There are two ways to help - become a Court Appointed Special Advocate (C.A.S.A.) or volunteer to become a mentor for C.H.A.N.G.E. (Cultivating Healthy Achievements in the Next Generation of Excellence). Contact Beth Casey at 228-865-7000 for more information.

AD
SPACE

AD
SPACE

AD
SPACE

**Wanted:
UCT Seabee
Divers !!**



Underwater Construction Team ONE is searching for highly motivated Seabees and CEC Officers looking for a career and lifestyle change. Join an ELITE force and travel as a small, professional team. Execute specialized construction, diving and demolition skills with the latest and greatest technology and equipment. Contact UCT CCC/Diver recruiting team @ (757) 462-3988/4313 or Email YNC Aberle at christopher.aberle1@navy.mil; EA2 Potamitis at marios.potamitis@navy.mil; or visit www.facebook.com/seabee.diver for more information

See Something Wrong Do Something Right!



NCIS has two new anonymous ways to report crimes or suspicious behavior with the use of discreet and secure online or texting tip lines.

To report information Online:

1. Go to www.NCIS.navy.mil, click on the "Report a Crime" tab and select the icon for "text and Web tip Hotline."

There is a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to a felony arrest or apprehension

To report information by Cell text:

1. Text "NCIS" to the short code 274637 (CRIMES) from any cell or smart phone.
2. Receive a response, for example: "Your alias is: S2U5 Call 911 if urgent! If replies put you at risk, text "STOP"
3. Begin dialogue

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

Health Watch

Clarifying the medical referral process

By HM1 Clarissa Villa
Naval Branch Health Clinic Gpt

Have you ever wondered what happens when your medical provider submits a referral on your behalf? Have you heard mythical stories that these consults drift into cyber space? You may be surprised to learn that there is more to a referral than meets the eye.

Naval Branch Health Clinic (NBHC) Gulfport understands that sometimes the lag time between seeing your medical provider and getting a referral appointment can be frustrating. Understanding the process can be half the battle. Here's a brief description of what happens behind the scenes.

The referral process itself usually takes seven to 10 business days, with an appointment occurring within 30 days from the time a patient sees a provider. After the initial appointment, the medical provider submits a referral to the Referral Management Department at Naval Hospital Pensacola. Once received, the referral is approved for either Keesler or a private specialist



in the network, depending on the services required and what the medical treatment facility can accommodate. When this determination has been made, TRICARE will send the patient an authorization letter in the mail. This is one reason it is critically important to keep information current in DEERS.

If 10 business days pass since the initial appointment with the provider and a notification letter has not been received, patients are asked to contact Humana (TRICARE) at 1-800-444-5445 to obtain their referral authorization number and the name of the assigned provider. If Humana is unable to assist, the next step is to contact Keesler Referral Management at 228-376-0490. If for some reason Humana and Keesler are unable to assist, patients are asked to contact Naval Hospital Pensacola Referral Management at 850-505-7173.

Observe posted speed limits on board NCBC. Unless otherwise posted, speed limit is 25 m.p.h.

AD SPACE

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier

14



TRICARE Service Center is Moving
Effective April 1, the TRICARE Service Center will move from its current location on Pass Road to its new location at 284 Debuys Road, Biloxi, MS 39531. The TRICARE Service Center hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4: 30 p.m. For more information call 800-444-5445.

FOCUS on EDUCATION

SMSA awards first two Fallen Seabee Scholarships

The Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) awarded the first two Fallen Seabee Scholarships to Cecelia Rovinski and Skylar Dickerson. Both recipients successfully completed their first semester and will return for the spring semester soon.

Cecelia Rovinski, of Monmouth, Ill., is the daughter of Equipment Operator 1st Class Gary Thomas Rovinski, who was killed in action near Anah, Iraq June 5, 2006. Petty Officer Rovinski was mobilized to active duty with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 25 in support of the First Marine Expeditionary Force.

Cecelia was a varsity cheerleader and a member of varsity school chorus at Monmouth-Roseville High School. She is very active in community affairs and is studying Art at Grace College in Winona Lake, Ind.

"I want to thank everyone who helps with the Seabee Memorial Scholarship. It has been a blessing knowing that I get to attend the school of my choice," said Rovinski. "I ap-

preciate every one of you for honoring my dad and other fallen soldiers in sponsoring students to go to school. Thank you once again and God bless you and the rest of the members of the Seabee Memorial Scholarship."

Skylar Dickerson, of Statham, Ga., is the daughter of Equipment Operator 3rd Class Christopher Mason Dickerson, who was killed in action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq April 30, 2004. Petty Officer Dickerson was mobilized to active duty with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Fourteen in support of the First Marine Expeditionary Force.

Skylar is a dedicated student who was a member of the high school track team, and is very active in Future Farmers of America and other community activities. Skylar intends to pursue a career in physical therapy and is attending Middle Georgia College.

"This scholarship has enabled me to follow my dreams to pursue an education in occupational therapy, so that one day I'll be able to help others in

need," said Dickerson.

The overwhelming generosity of SMSA contributors has resulted in more than \$125,000 being available to help children of our fallen Seabees obtain a college education.

"The Fallen Seabee Scholarships serve as a tremendous opportunity to help children of Seabees who made the ultimate sacrifice," said Cmdr. Kirsten Neff, the Fallen Seabee Scholarship Coordinator for SMSA. "SMSA is honored to help them achieve their dream of a college education."

There are many other children eligible for the Fallen Seabee Scholarship in upcoming years. SMSA is committed to raise the funds necessary to provide these scholarships.

About SMSA-Since 1972, SMSA has provided approximately 2,100 scholarships to children and grandchildren of Seabees and Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officers seeking a college education.

For more information on contributing to SMSA, go to our website (<http://www.seabee.org/>) or Facebook.

Partnership in Fun



Sailors of Naval Branch Health Clinic (NBHC) on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) participate in a friendly competition of basketball against kids of Pineville Elementary School, Jan. 27. NBHC is "Partners in Education" (PIE) with the school. PIE is a collaboration between the two organizations that is dedicated to the advancement of the school and students. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman Constructionman Daneia Johnson/Released)

JROTC Atlanta visits NCBC



Atlanta, Ga., Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps students tour Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) to learn more about the Naval Construction Force (NCF), Feb. 16. One hundred and fifty students from five high schools experienced combat convoy and medium tactical vehicle replacement simulators, and toured Naval Construction Training Center "A" school facilities. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier

Parents of Children with Special Needs to Meet

NCBC Gulfport's first informational meeting for parents of children with special needs will take place March 20 at 6 p.m., in the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) training room. Learn about the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process during a presentation by Cimmie Switzer, Program Director for the Gulfport School District. Information will also be given on the Exceptional Family Member Program, with briefs by the School Liaison Officer (SLO), representatives from Families OverComing Under Stress (FOCUS), the Child and Youth Programs (CYP), and the Military Family Life Consultant (MFLC).

NCBC School Liaison Officer, MWR, Building 352

1706 Bainbridge Ave., NCBC, 228-871-2117

email: kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil

NMCB 133 Seabees Build Readiness through Training and Exercises

By MC1 (SW/AW) Steven Meyers
 NMCB 133 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 executed their second homeport command post exercise (CPX), Feb. 9 - 10 at a training site aboard the Naval Construction Battalion Center.

Seabees and support staff from across the battalion's five companies manned company command posts and the battalion command operations center (COC) to practice and train using tactical scenarios.

Senior Chief Utilitiesman John Cunningham, the battalion's operations chief, said CPX's are an important opportunity to not only train and educate new personnel, but streamline and refine leadership communication.

"Command and control is huge because leadership drives the train," said Cunningham.

"These exercises also give us the opportunity to increase and share technical knowledge."

Cunningham said the CPX

evolutions utilize a crawl, walk, run template that increases the complexity of each phase of the exercise.

The battalion's first homeport exercise, held in mid-January, focused on the training of specific watch stations within the command posts and COC, while this one added additional training that included trained responses for chemical, biological and radiation (CBR) attacks; combat first aid, triage and litter bearer training at the camp's aid station; land navigation and map reading training; and security training for watch standers at the camp entry control point; and company specific training. Chief Builder Joshua Kolenda, the battalion's CBR chief, said practice in a CBR environment is crucial.

"Donning and doffing your CBR gear needs to become a routine action that is second nature," said Kolenda.

Participating in his first CPX, Lt. j.g. Eric Schon, a watch offi-



Hospital Corpsman Bruce Clark, left, from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 demonstrates the appropriate way to load a stretcher with the help of Builder 2nd Class Patrick Gaines at the battalion aid station during the battalion's second command post exercise (CPX) at Naval Construction Battalion Center. NMCB 133's CPX's utilize tactical training scenarios to increase readiness by practicing the battalion's tactical standard operating procedures and general command post operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Steven Myers/Released)

cer in Charlie Company's command post said the exercise was a good learning experience for him.

"I learned the most important thing to know is what my com-

pany and its personnel are doing at all times," said Schon.

"Learning everything now makes us all more prepared and gives us a faster reaction time when an actual event occurs."

NMCB 133 is currently engaged a homeport training period to increase readiness, expand its knowledge base and hone inherent mobility skills in preparation for deployment.

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier

Fearless Officers and Chiefs complete Khaki FTX

By Lt.j.g. John Parizek
 NMCB 74 Public Affairs

The Chiefs and Officers of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 completed their Khaki Field Training Exercise (FTX) Feb. 10 to further develop their combat skills, command and control, and to build camaraderie.

The Khaki FTX consisted of one week of classroom training provided by the 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG) staff and a second week of field training conducted at Camp Shelby.

Topics taught in the classroom portion included familiarity with communications equipment and weapons, land navigation and convoy planning. These skills proved to be the foundation for the field training portion throughout the second week.

During the Khaki FTX, the chiefs and officers each had a chance to conduct patrol operations, plan and lead a convoy mission, establish fighting positions and deploy defensive wire, and practice their command and control in the command operations center (COC).



Chiefs and Officers assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 embark on a convoy during NMCB 74's Khaki Field Training Exercise (Khaki FTX) at Camp Shelby, Miss. Khaki FTX gives the NMCB 74 leadership first-hand field experience, and training on how to best employ their troops during defensive combat situations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)

The training also offers the Khakis just a glimpse of what the junior troops experience daily on the Battalion's FTX while digging fighting positions, remaining alert on patrols and the detailed planning required for operations.

Chief Yeoman Sonya McClendon said this was her first experience doing a Seabee field exercise and it was an eye opener and gave her a new respect for the Seabees.

"This was nothing like the Navy I am used to," said Sonya. "It showed me exactly what the bees really do and I really do have a deeper appreciation for what our junior guys do for our country and for the Navy."

In addition to the individual training, the Khaki FTX was utilized by Battalion operations staff to further develop and refine their Tactical Standard Operating Procedures which is a set of instructions and guidelines to be followed in any peace or war time situation. The TAC-SOP is utilized by the 20th SRG as the standard by which the Battalion is graded on their upcoming FTX.

For more news from NMCB 74, visit www.navy.mil/local/nmcb74.

NMCB 7 Detachment PASAB: Providing Support in Task Force Spartan Area of Operations

By NMCB 7 Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 Detachment PASAB begin multiple projects in support of Task Force Spartan (TFS) at Forward Operating Base (FOB) PASAB in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province.

"Do unto others as you would have them to do unto you," was the message Lt. Russell Martin, NMCB 7 Battalion chaplain, shared with Detachment PASAB Seabees during a recent site visit through Kandahar Province. Embracing that message the Seabees have met the challenge with overwhelming enthusiasm. From large scale projects to officer in charge discretionary projects, DET PASAB is actively assisting surrounding units in the Task Force Spartan area of operations with skilled manpower, tools, and materials, while continuing to strengthen partnering missions with local Afghan National Army (ANA) personnel.

The first project assigned to the detachment by Task Force Forager/30th Naval Construction Regiment (NCR), was the construction of a concrete aircraft maintenance pad for coalition aerial assets. The 60 feet by 90 feet maintenance pad is projected to encompass more than 200 man-days of Seabee direct labor.

During the initial phase of construction, 375 cubic yards of soil and rock were removed from the site. A total of 400 cubic yards of fill and gravel was placed and compacted over three consecutive days of rain, sleet, and snow. In this early stage, the Seabees took advantage of the opportunity,

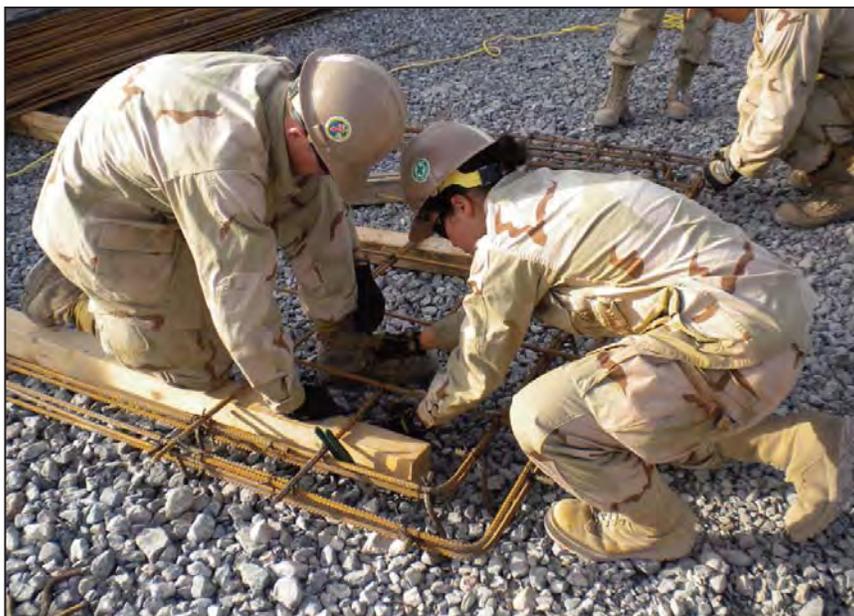
to amass more than 60 hours of cross-training on various pieces of heavy construction equipment, construction management, and quality control procedures, under direction of the detachment Assistant Officer in Charge, Senior Chief Builder Rob Morrison, a native of Clover, S.C.

"We are a small, tight detachment forward deployed to PASAB, Afghanistan to accomplish partnerships, contingency construction, enable war fighter readiness and further enhance the legacy of NMCB 7 and the U.S. Navy Seabees," said Morrison.

Upon completion of earthwork, the Seabees began the framework phase of the maintenance pad construction. To ensure project specifications are exact, the Seabees built a miniature model of what would be the finished product to verify calculations and vision, as well as train project crewmembers on prefab formwork.

"We want to put egos aside and demonstrate the process, workmanship, and levels of quality control we expect from ourselves," said Builder 2nd Class Dina Beale, a native of Niceville, Fla., project crewleader. "This training was mandatory for the entire project crew to ensure that everyone was operating on the same page."

As designated project crews perform specific project tasking, the detachment's OIC discretionary crew, led by Builder 3rd Class Nathaniel Callaham, a native of Henager, Ala., works diligently on projects in support of units on the FOB, to include the fabrication of six Alaska tent systems and interior wooden decks for soldiers



Steelworker 3rd Class Shannon Archuleta (right), assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7's Detachment Wolverine, conducts training on tying reinforced steel tie (RST) in preparation for placement of a 60'x90' rebar mat at Forward Operating Base (FOB) PASAB, Afghanistan. NMCB 7 and its detachments are one of two Seabee Battalions conducting contingency construction and deconstruction in support of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) as part of Task Force Stethem (TFS), operating in the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) area of operation. (U.S. Navy photo by NMCB 7 DET PASAB Public Affairs/Released)

assigned to the Army's 10th Mountain Division. The Seabees will also elevate sleeping cots and design shelves to elevate personal belongings from the floor surface to prevent personal gear from getting wet during Afghanistan's rainy season.

"We are eager and motivated to assist the war fighters, here at FOB PASAB, by any means possible," said Cleveland, Ohio native, Utilitiesman 1st Class Eric Bayer, Detachment PASAB Operations Chief.

The detachment's camp maintenance crew is continually busy with safety and organization improvements on

the FOB's Seabee Logistical Support Area. Power distribution upgrades and routine maintenance have been spearheaded by Construction Electrician 3rd Class Danny Hartless, a native of Clarksville, Tenn. Routine scheduled maintenance is conducted regularly on electrical generators to ensure continuous regulated power to tenant units on the Seabee LSA, such as a civilian K-9 compound and Counter Remote Control Electronic Warfare (CREW) maintenance area.

"A combat deployment, such as this, provides an excellent opportunity for our Seabees to

refine their in-rate skills and develop new skills while supporting various missions here in Afghanistan," said Ensign Daniel Cloutier, a native of Placerville, Calif. and the detachment's officer in charge. "We are located in the heart of a major activity hub where the operational tempo is high and demands are constant. Adjacent units here at FOB PASAB have come to value Seabee support due to the great work of our predecessors, and the Seabees of NMCB 7 look forward to carrying forward that reputation."

For more on NMCB 7, visit www.navy.mil/local/nmcb7/.

Stay informed with the Seabee eCourier . . . To subscribe, send an email to seabeeecourier@navy.mil

March 1, 2012

Seabee Courier

March Movie Schedule
Friday, March 2 - J. Edgar rated R, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 3 - Alvin and the Chipmunks: Shipwrecked rated G, Noon., **Ghost Rider** rated PG13, 3 p.m., **The Sitter** rated R, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 4 - Happy Feet Two rated PG, 2 p.m., **Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1** rated PG13, 5 p.m.

Friday, March 9 - Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1, rated PG13, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 10 - Arthur Christmas rated PG, Noon., **The Muppets** rated PG, 3 p.m., and **Tower Heist** rated PG13, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 11 - Due to Official Activity no movies will be shown.

Friday, March 16 - Tower Heist rated PG13, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 17 - Happy Feet Two rated PG, Noon., **Arthur Christmas** rated PG, 3 p.m., **Alvin and The Chipmunks: Shipwrecked** rated G, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 18 - The Muppets rated PG, 2 p.m., **New Year's Eve** rated PG13, 5 p.m.

Friday, March 23 - Ghost Rider rated PG13, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 24 - Happy Feet Two rated PG, Noon., **Arthur Christmas** rated PG, 3 p.m., and **Tower Heist** rated PG13 at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 25 - Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 rated PG13, 2 p.m., and **The Sitter**, rated R, 5 p.m.

Friday, March 30 rated PG, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 31 - Due to the Gospel Choir Competition no movies will be shown.

Movie Hotline: 228-871-3299

March Specials
THE GRILL: Patty Melt Combo includes fries and a drink for only \$5.25

AUTO HOBBY: Receive 10 percent off the first 30 minutes of your stall lift fee

OUTDOOR RECREATION: Half off any bike rental including monthly rental rates



March 1
•MAKE YOUR OWN PIGGY BANK (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., FREE



•RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT (Liberty Center) 6 p.m. at the Fitness Center, FREE. Prizes for 1st place team

•REGISTRATION BEGINS TODAY FOR IDDY BIDDY BASEBALL! (YAC) Call 228-871-2251 for more information

•SUMMER CAMP CAN DO REGISTRATION BEGINS TODAY FOR MILITARY DEPENDENTS. (YAC) Call 228-871-2251 for more information

March 2
•MOVIE NIGHT & POPCORN (YAC) 6 - 9 p.m., \$2

•EDGEWATER MALL TRIP (Liberty Center) 6 p.m., FREE shuttle



March 3
•BASE WIDE YARD SALE (ITT) 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Training Hall Parking Lot. 228-871-2251

•SEABEE BALL LOCK IN AND SKATING (YAC) 5 p.m. - 7 a.m. \$15 (must have tickets to Ball)



March 3 continued . . .
FREE CHILDCARE (CDC) from 5 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. with proof of tickets to Seabee Ball - advanced registration required.

March 4
•ZIP LINE TOUR (ODR and Liberty Center) \$75/Active Duty and Reservists or \$95/DoD and Civilians. 228-871-2127/4684

March 5
•CYPRESS LANES BOWLING TRIP (Liberty Center) 6 p.m., FREE shuttle



March 6
•YOUTH ONLY TORCH CLUB AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., FREE

•TRICK SHOT POOL NIGHT (Liberty Center) 7 p.m., FREE

March 7
•MOSAIC BEAN ART PROJECT AND DODGEBALL (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., FREE

•NBA 2K12 TOURNAMENT (Liberty Center) 7 p.m., FREE

March 8
•GIRLS ONLY NIGHT AND CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., FREE

•MS SURGE VS. FAYETTEVILLE FIRE ANTS (Liberty Center) 6 p.m., tickets are \$6

March 9
•MOVIE NIGHT AND POPCORN (YAC) 6 - 9 p.m., \$2

March 9 continued . . .
MOVIE NIGHT AND POPCORN (YAC) 6 - 9 p.m., \$2



•DINNER DASH TO DIBERVILLE (Liberty Center) FREE shuttle, 6 p.m.

March 10
•LONG BEACH COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE (ODR) Depart at 8:30 a.m. FREE, Bike 2.5, 5, or 10 miles.

March 11
•BELLINGRATH GARDENS AZALEA'S IN BLOOM (ITT) Depart at 9 a.m. \$7 shuttle fee and admission is charged at gate.

March 12
•COME FILL OUT A LIBERTY NCAA MARCH MADNESS BRACKET (Liberty Center)

March 13
•STREET SMARTS AND LEAF PRESSING (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., FREE

March 14
•4TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICKS DAY PARTY (Liberty Center) Join us for FREE food and DUI prevention goggle races at 6 p.m.

•ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION (Shields RV Park) 4 - 6 p.m.

March 15
•SPRING BREAK CAMP SIGNUPS BEGIN TODAY. (YAC) Call 228-871-2251 for info.



From **PERSONALITY** page 4

ality assessment.

"The idea for using personality or non-cognitive measures, those traits that are not particularly, or not specifically geared towards problem solving much the way that the ASVAB is geared toward, has actually been out there for a number of years, said Farmer. There have been efforts not only within the Navy, but also in the other services, the Department of Defense as a whole, to look at non-cognitive measures that go back into the 1970s, pretty much when we became an all-volunteer force after the Vietnam era. They were looking at other factors they knew were going to be important to what job they were going to be in, because they knew that these factors were important for determining job satisfaction, work fulfillment, things that we didn't normally consider when we were operating under a draft. It has only been in the last 10 years, however, that we've seriously been able to look at it and have the technology that we could actually measure personality effectively to the same level of accuracy that we're able to measure problem solving ability, things we measure with the ASVAB."

Several Seabees taking the test said they have experienced personality play a part on the job site. Builder 1st Class Kyle Saylor, assigned to 20 SRG, Contingency Construction Crew Training, and Builder 3rd Class Tessa Penny, assigned to NCBC, Master-At-Arms Department, both took the personality test and said they feel it will be a good thing.

"Personalities can impact the work spaces. If you have conflicting personalities, people don't necessarily want to work together as well as people that get along, so everything kind of tends to flow better when all your personalities somewhat mesh," said Saylor. "I think it is a good strategy to designate people's jobs," added Penny.

According to NPRST, implementation of personality as a factor in classifying is projected for 2020. Brady, a strong supporter of personality measures, said he feels that it cannot be implemented soon enough.

"I am in full support of the personality testing, and I hope it comes out sooner than later," said Brady.

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**



70th Annual Seabee Ball

'CAN DO' since '42

March 3, 6 p.m. – Midnight
Cocktails, 6 p.m., Dinner, 7 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Rear Admiral Kurt Tidd,
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command, U.S. Fourth Fleet



Menu - Choice of Entrée

Seared Breast of Chicken topped with a
Crimini Mushroom demi glaze
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables

Top Sirloin Steak seasoned and char-grilled
topped with a Crimini Mushroom demi
glaze

Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert: White Chocolate Mousse
w/Berries

Uniforms

E1 – E6: Service Dress Blues with
Large Medals
E7 – O3: Dinner Dress Blues
O4 & Above: Dinner Dress Blue Jacket
Civilians: Formal

Ticket Prices

E1 to E6: \$20, E7 and Above: \$40
See your Command Rep
for ticket sales

Free Child Care at CDC
with purchase of Ticket!
First come, first serve
Youth and Teen Lock-In: \$15
March 3, 5 p.m. to
March 4, 7 a.m.,
with purchase of a ticket.

AD
SPACE

From **TRANSFER** page 6

"I am confident that our extensive training in homeport has prepared our Seabees to safely and effectively execute our mission throughout Afghanistan," stated Aguayo.

"All of our Seabees have expressed extreme motivation and enthusiasm to provide support to our coalition forces and our Afghan partners."

While deployed to Afghanistan, NMCB-11 will conduct general, mobility, and survivability engineering

operations, defensive operations, Afghan National Army (ANA) partnering, and detachment of units in Combined/Joint Operations Area (CJOA)-Afghanistan in order to enable the neutralization of the insurgency and support improved governance and stability operations.

Originally commissioned on June, 28 1942 and subsequently decommissioned and re-commissioned twice since, NMCB-11 has consistently met the overwhelming demand for Naval Construction Forces (NCF) throughout the world.

Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic Volunteers . . .

All Active Duty, Retired military spouses and family members are invited to volunteer at the PGA Golf Tournament March 19 - 25 at Fallen Oak Golf Course. There are many different positions and the days and times are up to the volunteer. There is normally a \$55 registration fee for volunteers, but that has been waived. For more information or to register to volunteer visit <http://www.2012mgrc.com/volunteers.php>-CODE SHELBY



From **WOLVERINE** page 6

Wrapping up the maintenance cycle, Detail Officer in Charge, Lt. Sean Hughes, also plays a key part in the current mission by working with the local ANA Maintenance Officer, troubleshooting the ANA's Logistics System and assisting with building the framework for a sustainable, effective maintenance program.

"Over the past month we've worked diligently to develop friendships with our counterparts," said Hughes, a native of Omaha, NE. "Gaining the trust of the ANA will allow our professional relationships to be based on mutual

respect and understanding; allowing for a more effective partnership. Major strides in increasing the ANA's ability to operate independently of Coalition Forces have been made by our predecessors, NMCB 1, and we look forward to the difference we can make over the coming months."

As NMCB 7 continues to partner with its ANA counterparts, they play a key role in training the ANA, aiding in their ability to maintain operational readiness and improving their overall ability to operate independently of NATO Forces.

Watch out for pedestrians . . . Remember, they have the right of way! Unless otherwise posted, the speed limited on board NCBC is 25 m.p.h.

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

From COURTHOUSE page 2

NAS Jacksonville, a Second Class Petty Officer pled guilty to using anabolic steroids and two specifications of assault. The Military Judge sentenced the PO2 to one year confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a General Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Lieutenant pled guilty to possessing a controlled substance with intent to distribute and growing marijuana plants with intent to distribute. The Military Judge sentenced the lieutenant to 33 months confinement, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, a fine of \$10,000 (and an additional two months of confinement if the fine is not paid), and dismissal from the Naval service. A pretrial agreement limits confinement to 18 months.

At a Special Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, an Airman Recruit pled guilty to two specifications of unauthorized absence (UA) and wrongful use of a controlled substance. The Military Judge sentenced the Airman Recruit to six months confinement, forfeiture of \$978 pay per month for six months, and a Bad Conduct Discharge. A pretrial agreement limits confinement to 57 days.

At a Special Court Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, an Airman (AN) pled guilty to selling military property and two specifications of stealing U.S. Government property in the amount of \$5,799.06 and currency in the amount of \$1,047.75. The Military Judge sentenced the Airman to three months confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, and forfeiture of \$978 pay per month for three months.

AD SPACE

AD SPACE



SUPPORT

Family Readiness Groups

NMCB 1 FRG invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Monday of every month at the Youth Activity Center, building 335. A potluck dinner is served at 6 p.m., followed by a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided during deployment. Contact FRG President Mary Belanger, e-mail nmcbonefrg@gmail.com.

NMCB 7 FRG welcomes service members, family and friends to attend FRG meetings the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the MWR Youth Activities Center, building 335. Child care is provided during deployment. Please contact the FRG at nmcb7frg@gmail.com for more information.

NMCB 11 FRG For more information regarding the NMCB 11 FRG, please visit the FRG and Ombudsman website at <http://nmcb11.webs.com>.

NMCB 74 FRG All families and friends of NMCB 74 are invited to the 74 FRG meeting the third Monday of each month at the MWR Youth Activities Center, building 335 off Bainbridge Ave., behind the Grinder on base. Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. Bring a covered dish to share at our potluck dinner. Children are welcome and child care is provided during deployment. For more information regarding the NMCB 74 FRG please email nmcb74fsg@yahoo.com. Check out the 74 FRG website at <http://nmcb74frg.zymichost.com>

NMCB 133 FRG invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information contact FRG President Kelli Clarke at 727-504-4408 or e-mail hansonk154@

yahoo.com. To receive updates log on to the FRG site at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb133fsg>

Gulfport Officer's Spouse Club

The Gulfport Officers' Spouses' Club is a social organization that has FUN while helping our community. We meet monthly and have special interest groups for almost everyone! For more information, please email noscgulfport@yahoo.com. We hope to see YOU soon!

NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop is located in building 29 on Snead Street. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers, and child care and mileage are reimbursed. Retail hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome. Visit the NMCRS offices at the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 30, suite 103 or call 228-871-2610 to find out how to become a part of the NMCRS volunteer team!

Gamblers Anonymous

The Fleet & Family Support Center offers GA meetings every Thursday at 11 a.m. GA is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other. All meetings are confidential and facilitated by GA. Come to a meeting or call Jim Soriano at 228-871-3000 for information.

TRAINING

COMPASS is a team of trained seasoned military spouses mentoring other Navy spouses. Classes are intimate and informative. The three-day course is offered the last week of the month. The course and child care are FREE! Contact Kim at 228-832-5343 to sign up.

Naval Sea Cadets

The Gulfport branch of the Naval Sea Cadets are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nation-wide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 1, 2nd floor conference room. For more information, contact AGCS Enrique Acosta-Gonzalez at 228-688-5288 or enrique.acosta@navy.mil, or Lt.j.g. Bowling at 228-313-9035 or coachcb@yahoo.com.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association

is seeking new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 3

p.m. at CBC's Beehive, building 352. Call BU1 Tony Boldrey 228-871-2577 for more information or just come and join us at a meeting.

CBC/20SRG Second Class Petty Officers Association is seeking members. Meetings are Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the Fitness Center classroom. Contact the Association's Public Affairs Officer LS2 Matthew Wasson at matthew.t.was-son@navy.mil or President LS2 Earl Simpson at earl.simpson@navy.mil.

VFW Post 3937 Long Beach is open Monday - Thursday from Noon until 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from Noon until 10 p.m., Sunday from noon until 7 p.m. The first Friday of the month is Seafood Night, the remaining Fridays are Steak Night. Breakfast is served from 7 to 10 a.m. on Saturdays. VFW meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. Contact Post Commander Bill North at 228-863-8602.

VFW Post 4526 Orange Grove is open daily from Noon to 10 p.m. and located at 15206 Dedeaux Road, Orange Grove. Meetings are the first Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call 228-832-0017 for more info.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. To become a member of the Alumni Group may go to <http://nmcb62alumni.org> for information or for links to Seabee historical sites.

Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport are seeking Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Seabees who left the military after a short period of time. Island X-1 Gulfport meets the first Thursday of each month at Anchors & Eagles at 7 p.m. Contact Joe Scott (secretary) at 228-669-8335 or elevenoaks58@cablone.net or log onto www.nsva.org for information.

HERITAGE

The Seabee Gift Store is located in the Seabee Heritage Center Training Hall, building 446. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, books and DVD's. Contact the museum at

www.seabeeuseumstore.org/shop/index.php or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for more information.

AD SPACE

From **FORCM** page 1
thereof, has been an important issue for many troops in recent months. Dickey said that those opportunities should increase in the near future, but in line with historical averages some pay grades may still advance faster than others.

"We are projecting Seabee advancements to continue to improve to approach historical Seabee averages by fall of 2012. There will be a few rate and rank exceptions that take a little longer to improve, particularly at the E-6 level," said Dickey. "Keep in mind that projections can be tricky, because of the unknown elements. We can't project what may or may not happen, but this is what we anticipate based on the current environment."

According to the Naval Personnel Command (NPC) website, due to the fact that record high retention coupled with low attrition has left the Navy overmanned by greater than 103 percent in 31 of the total 84 ratings, the ERB was established to afford high-performing Sailors opportunity for advancement and reenlistment. All seven of the Seabee ratings were included in those 31 overmanned ratings.

"ERB came along because PTS could not maintain the amount of people that we had to surgically strike from our rolls and we were breaking it basically. [PTS] could not keep up with what we were asking it to do, so the ERB came along," said Dickey.

Dickey had good news for those concerned about the future of ERB in the Navy. In response to a question about whether there will be another ERB, Dickey said "no."

"There are no plans for the next FY [fiscal year] and there are no plans for the future," said Dickey.

Dickey said that writing proper evaluations for troops, based on the right criteria would be the key to preventing a need for force shaping tools such as ERB in the future.

"I will challenge you as Chiefs, everybody that has people who

work for them, go into that precept on the continuation board and also on the ERB board and figure out what that precept is telling you, because that is what you have to write the evaluations for. That is what you need to write an evaluation to, what they're looking for. Don't let a board read between the lines," said Dickey.

Before ending his class time, Dickey took a question concerning billet assignment. It was brought up to him that troops were concerned about how boards look at billets outside of the battalions. Dickey said it was not necessarily the billet, but what a person does in the billet that counts, but sea time cannot be discounted.

"Get outside your comfort zone and always strive to do better. What you should be showing is diversity within your career path, meaning what you're able and what you are capable of doing on a wide range outside the box," said Dickey. "Advancement boards recognize those outside hard duties. It depends on what you do there, and it depends on how well you do it, and as long as you make an effort to get back to your source. You've got to show you are going back to sea."

Dickey challenged the Chiefs to learn as much as they could from the CPO management course.

"Learn a lot from this class. You won't learn everything, but always learn more, strive to be better. Keep learning. Keep pushing. Be that "Can Do" Seabee.

In return Dickey expressed his pleasure in serving as the Seabee Force Master Chief, and took the assignment to challenge himself and further the Seabee legacy.

"That's the reason I took the assignment as your Force Master Chief, to challenge myself, to challenge the norm and to ensure the legacy of the Seabees is continuing. What I can do is do the best that I can, get the feedback from you like with what we've been discussing inside this class and take that back to the leadership that counts," said Dickey.

(NCBC) Gulfport are two of approximately 73 trainers in the U.S. It is here that troops can practice safely getting in and out of a MRAP-All Terrain Vehicle (M-ATV) or MRAP Cougar Category Two variant vehicle before they are in theater. While many battalions have gone through the trainer while in country, the Navy is hoping to train as many individuals stateside before they deploy.

"The benefit [to having the trainer here] is providing all vehicle crew members a controlled environment to train and build proficiency in vehicle roll over procedures," said Capt. Learlin Lejeune, division officer, Military Tactics Training Division (R75), 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG).

According to Pine, information from the Combat Readiness Safety Center database shows that serious injury dropped 80 percent since the implementation of mandatory training on egress trainers.

With cameras monitoring students and an "e-stop" button readily accessible, students are monitored from the moment the doors are opened to the moment they get out. If a student begins to panic, Pine gives them an opportunity to relax before helping them get out.

"I talk to them and help them calm down," Pine said. "They need to learn how to get out but if they're really panicking, we'll get them out quickly."

"We train like they fight," explained Pine. All students enter the trainer fully equipped with the gear they would wear in the field, complete with flack jackets, Kevlar, safety glasses and all the accouterments. Pine explains that the best way for them to learn how to get out safely is to wear what they would wear in the field, "so they know how to get out if their Flak gets caught on something," he further explained.

"Soldiers and Marines who have used this and other similar trainers have commented on the trainer's ability to mimic multiple rollover scenarios in both daytime and night time conditions while wearing a complete fighting load with and without weapons," said Lejeune.

Pine explained that it is a future goal that when individuals become certified to drive MRAPs that they will also go through the MET and receive certification that they can properly escape the vehicle they will potentially be driving. By the time this class ends, all seven students are certified as MET instructor/operators, which makes a total of 13 people on board NCBC who are certified to lead a class.

The METs have become a vital part in training warfighters for in-theater operations. Whether it is navigating ones way through a dark MRAP with the only way out being the gunner's hatch or dealing with the sudden panic that flares when a MRAP rolls over, the MET trainers are designed to allow service members the capability to think swiftly and safely.

Federal Voting Assistance Program

The Department of Defense is making it easy for you to ensure your vote is heard. The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) is designed to assist all service members, family members and citizens living outside the United States cast a ballot for their candidate of choice. To get started, log on to: <http://www.fvap.gov/> to register to vote or to request an absentee ballot.

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

NEX moving to on-line job applications

By Kimberly R. Touche

Navy Exchange

The Navy Exchange is excited to announce, effective March 5, we will move to an on-line internet web based application process for job seekers. This new feature will enable applicants with 24/7 visibility to search for and apply to open positions that may be of interest to them at any time through our new and enhanced electronic processes.

The new application process will allow candidates to search for jobs in more than one job field, location and organization; perform job searches using advanced search criteria; and create their candidate profile specifying their preferred working criteria for future job openings that match their interest.

Candidates interested in applying for employment with the Navy Exchange can apply at www.NavyExchange.jobs.com

Follow Seabee Center on Facebook and Twitter and subscribe to Inside the Gate for all of the latest information

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

**AD
SPACE**

NEX Gulfport to sell NMCRS Benefit Sales Tickets

By **Kristine Sturkie**
NEX Public Affairs

Beginning in March, Navy Exchange Gulfport, as well as other select NEXs and Marine Corps Exchanges (MCXs) throughout the world, will be selling a Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) benefit sales ticket to customers for

\$5. The money collected from the sale of each ticket will be given to NMCRS to help Sailors, Marines and their families in need. When purchased, the sale ticket will entitle customers to specific percent-off discounts for a one-time purchase April 16 or 17.

The benefit sales ticket entitles cus-

tomers to tiered discounts depending on the type of merchandise with some exclusions.

Merchandise storewide is 10 percent off, but excludes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, electronics, digital cameras, computers, video games and systems, uniforms, gas, DVDs, CDs, concession departments, gift

cards and prepaid cards, e-commerce, special orders, Autoport services, the Exchange Catalog and Exchange Catalog On-line, layaways or previously purchased merchandise.

The benefit sales ticket offers 15 percent off the entire stock of fine jewelry, excluding Rolex watches,

Omega watches and Pandora jewelry.

The next tier of 20 percent off includes the entire stock of apparel, shoes, watches and sunglasses. Already reduced furniture with prices ending in .94, .96 or .97 will be 30 percent off. The maximum discount for any item is \$250.

From **FASHION** page 5

families before becoming a grant, and 100 percent of the donations go toward NMCRS programs.

"All the money from the Thrift Store, regular sales or this special sale, go back to the Society's programs to help Navy and Marine Corps service members," said Huffman.

No Butts about it! . . .
NCBC is a No Litter Zone!
Pitch In! . . . Use the Bin!

NCBC Gospel Sound Choir Competition 2012

Gospel Choirs interested in bringing joy to the Seabee community are invited to share their musical talents at the NCBC Gospel Sound Choir Competition 2012. The event will be held Saturday, March 31 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Training Hall. Registration forms (\$50 per choir) and tickets (\$2) are available at the Seabee Memorial Chapel. Proceeds from the event will be donated toward the establishment of an installation memorial for the fallen. For more information, you may contact RP2 De'Angelo Wynn at 228-871-2454 or Cmdr. Ruth Goldberg at 228-871- 3504.



AD
SPACE

AD
SPACE

AD
SPACE

Military Saves Week



Financial Advisor Christopher Jones gives a lecture on the importance of saving money during a Military Saves: Saving and Investing seminar held at the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) Feb. 22. This year's theme, "Set a Goal, Make a plan, Save automatically" is part of larger nationwide America Saves Campaign. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman Constructionman Daneia Johnson/Released)

From CHAPEL page 12
Gospel Service at 8 a.m.,
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.,
and Divine Worship Service at

11 a.m. Catholic Services include Catholic Mass at 9 a.m. There is also a Catholic Mass Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m.

For more information, call the Chapel at 228-871-2454 and visit the Chapel Facebook page at "Seabee Memorial Chapel."

AD SPACE

Keeping our waterways clean with Best Management Practices

By Rana Evans
NAVFAC SE

When using heavy equipment that results in displacement of soil, you could be liable for Clean Water Act, storm water regulations. All earthwork near a water way or impacted by storm water is subject to regulations to minimize storm water pollution. Along with the dirt that is regulated, piles of gravel, sand, construction materials, trash, paint, and oils all fall under the category of "potential pollutant" for storm water. The regulations require NCBC Gulfport to avoid polluting storm water that flows off the installation.

Sedimentation is one of the most significant water pollutants. Sediment is soil particles (dirt, gravel, sand) that have entered creeks, rivers, lakes and shorelines. Sedimentation comes from soil erosion and mismanagement of soil adjacent to or near waterways. Every time you create a soil disturbance, or vegetation is stripped from the landscape, there is an opportunity for the soil to erode into a nearby water feature. Storm water creates the highway that moves sedimentation from an unstable site into regulated water ways.

All construction areas in the United States are required to maintain erosion and sediment control actions to protect and manage the quantity and quality of storm water that leaves a work site. Every person working or operating equipment at the site can be liable for

violating storm water protection regulations.

At a work site, the actions to protect storm water from erosion and sediment pollution are called, best management practices, generally referred to as BMPs. Silt fences, thick rolls of filter material on drains, covers on sand and gravel mounds, temporary grass seeding, netting on slopes, are all types of BMPs that help maintain regulations for clean storm water. These features help restrict and limit the flow of pollutants, particularly sediment into the storm water system.

Although erosion and sediment management is a significant issue related to construction sites, it also applies to established areas.

Examples of established areas that are at a high risk for potentially polluting storm water at NCBC Gulfport include all the outdoor training areas. Maneuvering of the heavy equipment disturbs the earth and can create pathway for sediment to flow with storm water to the adjacent rivers and shore line.

Whether you are at home, work or in training at NCBC Gulfport, be aware of your potential to pollute or cause pollution storm water and the Mississippi state waters.

If you see pollutants going into the storm water system or if you need help developing BMPs for your work area, contact the Public Works Department, Environmental Division at 228-871-3118.

AD SPACE



GULF COAST USO
3001 6th St., Building. 306,
(228) 575-5224
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
(Closed Sundays)



Seabee Memorial Chapel

Services:

Gospel Service: 8 a.m.

Sunday Catholic Mass: 9 a.m.
Weekday Mass: Tuesday, 11:15 a.m.

Divine Worship: Sunday, 11 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Center Chaplains:

Cmdr. Michael Brown, Protestant Chaplain
Lt. Yoon Choi, Protestant Chaplain

**For information concerning other faith groups,
call the chapel office at 228-871-2454**