

Whiting Tower

Sixty-Six Years of Aviation Training News



Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, FL

Forging Wings for the Fleet

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GE Relocates Receiver Saving Base \$240,000

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Using their own team members instead of contracted maintenance, the Ground Electronics (GE) Division at Naval Air Station Whiting Field saved the base more than \$240,000 by performing a New Years holiday weekend aircraft communication equipment move. The team transferred equipment from a remote part of the base to a more efficient, centralized area for a cost that was little more than the parts required.

The equipment, which is used to enable communication between the air traffic control towers on the base and the pilots, needed to be moved to resolve isolated weak signal areas. The move to a higher more central location on the base solved the problem, and also allowed an upgrade to more current parts, extending the life of the equipment.

"We were able to identify that our Ground Electronics staff



Naval Air Station Whiting Field Ground Electronics Lead Technician John Scully runs cables to the relocated receiver the team moved to improve aircraft communications for the base's two air traffic control towers. Photo courtesy of Ground Electronics Division.

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"Tower" News to be Printed in "Gosport"

Naval Air Station Whiting Field's "Whiting Tower" will have a portion of dedicated news within Naval Air Station Pensacola's base newspaper, "Gosport," beginning Jan. 29. The first edition will incorporate a one-page full color section. It is expected that the Whiting Field news segment will expand over a period of time.

This cooperative effort will enable a greater distribution of NAS Whiting Field news around the greater Pensacola area and provide a printed copy of the base and Training Air Wing FIVE news that will be more readily available to students and retirees.

Additionally, "Whiting Tower" was not able to accept advertising in its online form, despite many requests to do so. The "Gosport" can and now companies may promote their products to NAS Whiting Field personnel.

Delivery of "Gosport" will be every Friday to multiple locations throughout the base, and the publisher is reviewing the possibility of delivery to Milton and Pace locations as well. For the time being, this will not impact the "Whiting Tower" in its electronic form. It will continue to be posted and the link emailed Wednesday afternoons.

SR Welcomes Capt. Hall

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Having completed Naval Flight Officer training at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Capt. Pete Hall wasn't completely unfamiliar with Santa Rosa County. After a welcoming luncheon from dignitaries across the county, however, he is far more familiar with the hospitality of the area and the community's appreciation for the military than he was before.

"We get it that you all love NAS Whiting Field," Hall said during his remarks following the luncheon. "Guess what, Whiting Field loves Santa Rosa County too. The training here is second to none, and that wouldn't be possible without the tremendous goodwill that you all provide."

Hall took command of NAS Whiting Field Nov. 6. He immediately prepared for Hurricane Erica, and then the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays commenced. That left little time for a formal gathering, and the earliest opportunity was the Jan. 13 event. It was an opportunity for the local politicians, chamber of commerce and military affairs committee representatives, and local business people meet Hall, socialize and discuss the future of NAS Whiting Field. There were even four past commanding officers of the base present.

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NASWF Heats Up on Energy Conservation Ideas

- Base Seeking to Meet CNRSE Goals on CNO Priority

By Ens. Joanna Clark, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Whiting Field is going a little greener now with both energy cost savings and environmentally friendly energy sources. One of the base's most recent projects that are coming into play is a used oil system that replaces a 760,000 Btu/hour natural gas powered boiler system that provides hot water demands for the Small Vehicle, Carpenter, and Transportation shops on base with an oil burning system that will be fueled with used oil from the one of these shops.

Tom Allen, the Utilities Energy Manager for NAS Whiting Field, felt that the base needed to do something more to reduce energy usage than simply being more cognizant of turning off lights when not in a room in order to keep up with President Barak Obama's new energy savings plans.

"Engineering solutions are now necessary. We can no longer rely on behavior modification because it only goes so far."

The project at hand will save NAS Whiting Field \$12,000 each year, yielding a six year simple payback for the installation costs. The funding for this project came internally from the base.

The idea for this project came when the Base Operations and Support contractors did an investigation to discover where the Navy could be saving money on energy costs. The three buildings came up in the screening as large energy drainers.

Jay Baynes, the contracted PRI/DJI Engineering Manager on base, stated that while the team was brainstorming a plan to reduce energy consumption in these three buildings they thought, "It's too bad we can't just burn this oil [from the Transportation Shop]... When we did a little research, we found a company that made it [used oil burner] and car dealerships in town are using them."

While the used oil from maintaining base vehicles was previously shipped off to be recycled, using this EPA approved system will cut back tremendously on the natural gas usage on base, while still burning cleanly.

The high pressure system is rated to burn about one gallon of crank case oil per hour. The Transportation Shop plans to save enough used oil throughout the summer

"Energy solutions are now necessary. We can no longer rely on behavior modification because it only goes so far."

**Tom Allen,
Utilities Energy Mgr.
NAS Whiting Field**

months to burn throughout the winter season. At the end of the winter season, any excess oil can still be recycled.

As all new systems typically face, the used oil burners faced some criticism. However, once it was "fired up" it seems that it will provide enough heat for the shops.

"I was surprised on how efficiently it heated things up," Baynes commented. "It's a great system so far."

If this project remains successful, it may lead to more energy saving ideas on base. Allen has put some thought into more improvements that could possibly utilize the remaining crank case oil.

"We could also use that technology to boil water to heat other buildings."

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New Uniforms Introduced

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS)
-- Two new Navy Working Uniforms (NWU) will hit the fleet in fiscal year 2011.

The first, NWU Type II, a desert digital camouflage uniform of four colors with the anchor, Constitution and eagle (ACE) logo embedded in the print, will be worn by special warfare operators and Sailors who support them during deployment and deployment training exercises.

"The desert camouflage uniform is not going away," said Capt. Vince Drouillard, branch head within Navy's personnel, plans and policy division. "Sailors, other than Navy special warfare operators and supporting Sailors, will continue to wear the current tricolor desert camouflage utility uniform in desert environments when issued by authorizing commands."

The second, NWU Type III, is a woodland digital camouflage uniform

which also has four colors and the ACE logo embedded in the print. It will be the standard camouflage uniform worn in non-desert environments and stateside.

Both uniforms, announced in NAVADMIN 374/09, are organizational clothing provided to Sailors by commands authorized to issue them.

The unisex uniforms will begin conformance testing to validate design, fit and wear later in fiscal year 2010. Fleet implementation is expected to begin in late 2011 with deploying combat and direct command support commands and units receiving priority in the distribution process.

Both new uniforms have an authorized matching pattern Gortex parka with a removable fleece liner. Sailors can get complete information on the new NWU Type II and Type III uniforms in NAVADMIN 374/09 available at www.npc.navy.mil.

News and Notes

ID Card Office Closure - The Whiting Field ID Card office will be closed Jan. 21 for training. ID Card issue will resume at 7:30 a.m. Jan. 22. Please contact Paula Rippetoe at 850-623-7159 for any assistance.

Sailor/Instructor of the Year Dinner - The Santa Rosa County Council of the Navy League will host their annual recognition dinner for the Sailors and Instructors of the Year at NAS Whiting Field Jan. 22. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner commencing at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$30 per couple. Call 623-2339 or 623-7555 for more information.

Line Dance Classes - Line dancing classes will be available at Hobb's Middle School on Thursday evenings beginning Jan. 7. Classes for beginners are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. with classes for intermediates from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The thirteen week class cost is \$55. For details call 723-4052.

Strut Your Mutt - Dog owners are welcome to "Strut Your Mutt" at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesdays during a 45-minute leisurely stroll in East hill. Dogs must be leashed and well behaved, and owners must take their own water and be prepared to pick up after their pet. The walk will begin at the entrance to the Bayview Dog Park at 20th Avenue and East Mallory Street. For further details call 291-7658.

Table Tennis Fun - Pensacola Table Tennis Club will meet from 6 to 9 p.m. on Mondays, which is beginners and novice night, at Fricker Community Center, 900 North F Street. Coaching is available. For more information call 791-3979.

Elk Lodge Bingo - Warrington Elks Lodge will be hosting Bingo games Sundays and Thursdays with doors opening at 4 p.m. There will be 51 games and a guaranteed \$3,800 payout. The lodge is located at 757 South 72nd Avenue. Call 455-5522 for more information.

Hare and Hounds Run - The East Hill Hare and Hounds Running Club will meet at 2:30 p.m. every second and fourth Sun-



Recognizing Our Top Students
1st Lt. Michael J. Harris, USMC; 1st Lt. Nathan C. McPherson, USMC; 2nd Lt. Bridger Leary, USMC; and Lt. j.g. Daniel M. Leahy, USN receive their academic achievement awards from Training Air Wing FIVE Jan. 8. Photo courtesy of Training Air Wing FIVE.

day. The run will last three to five miles at locations in and around downtown Pensacola and consists of a trail laid with flour, toilet paper and chalk marks. After the run there will be a beer social with fresh fruit and light snacks. The cost is \$5. For details call Tim Hartigan at 393-8692.

Yoga Class - Yoga classes are available at Milton Community Center every Tuesday and Friday from 9 to 10 a.m. Classes are open to children and adults of any age. The cost is \$5. For more information call 983-5466.

Art Showcase - The art exhibit "Independent Artists of Navarre" will be open to the public in the showcase room of the Dragonfly Gallery in Milton this month. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays. The exhibit will showcase a variety of painting, photography, pottery, ceramics, and wood sculpture pieces from Santa Rosa County artists. For more information call 981-1100.

Line Dancing - Milton Community Center will host line dancing classes from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Monday. Classes are open to children and adults of all ages. The cost is \$3. For more information call 983-5466.

Ice Flyer Tickets - MWR's ITT office will have Pensacola Ice Flyer tickets available at noon, Jan. 20. Tickets are for the Jan. 22 Friday evening game and cost \$5. Action starts at 7:05 p.m. For further information please contact Marcy Allen at 623-7032.

Family Fun Day - The East Milton Youth Association (EMYA) will be hosting a Family Fun Day at East Milton Park off Highway 90 in East Milton, Jan. 30 beginning at 10 a.m. EMYA could use as many volunteers as possible to assist in managing the day's activities to include inflatables, baseball and softball clinics, ticket sales, pony rides, food and much more. If you would like to help out, please contact the NAS Whiting Field Volunteer Coordinator, NC1 Gwendolyn King at, email: gwendolyn.f.king@navy.mil, phone (850) 623-7761.

Military Special - The Blackwater Bistro is celebrating their one-year anniversary with a Military special.- \$1 draft beer every Wednesday night in January for military personnel and DoD contractors.



Recognizing Our Top Students Too
The final academic award recipients from Training Air Wing FIVE are: Lt. j.g. Alberto Dal Canto, IT Navy; Lt. j.g. Matt A. Carlton, USCG; Ens. Jacob R. Laginess, USN; Ens. James A. Jones, USN; Ens. Christopher M. Aldrich, USN; Ens. William K. Lennon, USN; Ens. Stewart P. Latwin, USN; Lt. j.g. Leo C. Lake, USCG; Ens. Jeffrey D. Matthews, USN; and 2nd Lt. Benjamin J. Bullock, USMC. Photo courtesy of Training Air Wing FIVE.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 22, 1830 - Navy League Flight Instructor/Sailor of the Year Award Banquet - Sikes Hall

Jan. 29, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Feb. 4, 1430 - NASWF Staff Association Mtg - Wing's Club

Feb. 11, 1800 - Milton Mardi Gras Parade - Downtown Milton

Feb. 12, 1300 Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

How to Apply for a Federal Job - Monday, January 25, 0800 - 1000

"Is it worth your while to invest your time and effort in searching and applying for a Federal Job?" If your answer is "yes", then you need to attend this class in order to learn how to prepare the best application possible. You will learn how to read an announcement, analyze core competencies for language, analyze vacancy listings for keywords, and how to apply for jobs. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

New Spouse Indoctrination - Monday, January 25, 0800 - 1200

Welcome to NW Florida, NAS Whiting Field, Training Wing Five, and the world of aviation training! Find out what challenges and rewards are in store for you and your flight student. Learn about the local culture, recreational opportunities, and support services available to you, while meeting other spouses and command staff! For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Deployment Support Group for Children - Monday, January 25, 1800 - 1930

Kids and youth ages 5-18 who are children of deployed service members are invited to meet for fun and fellowship! Creative activities engage the mind and promote conversation. Share experiences and feelings with others who are also dealing with the absence of a parent due to deployment. For more information, please contact the FFSC at 850-623-7177. Hope to see you there!

CSB/Redux - Wednesday, January 27, 1400 - 1500

Are you nearing your 15th year of military service? If so, which retirement option are you going to choose? Learn about the Career Status Bonus and Redux retirement system and how it could affect your savings long term. Know the differences between the CSB/Redux and the High 3 retirement systems, so that you can make the choice that is right for you and your family. For more information, contact your Financial Educator at 850-623-7177.

VA Representative (Call for Appointment) - Friday, January 29, 0800 - 1200

Hall Welcomed

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The afternoon's presentations included discussions about the base/county partnership that developed since the base's founding in 1943, progress on the Joint Land Use Study from 2003, the economic impact of the base on the local area, and state and national grants that can help the county protect the fenceline of the base from residential encroachment.

The community has pursued avenues to protect the base and strengthen its position as an irreplaceable asset to the nation. Some of the successes touted at the event included the acquisition or planned purchase of nearly 15,000 acres to buffer the base, zoning changes to create additional buffer zones, requirements for residential notification for sale of homes located near airfields, and the aviation commerce park partnership. The cooperative efforts of the base and the county in protecting base assets are often called the Santa Rosa Model across the country.

Santa Rosa County Commissioner Don Salter chaired the event and recognized the importance Whiting Field plays in the community, while urging the community to continue their support of the base.

"We are proud of our support of the military. County and government officials have a responsibility to support people who are completing the mission. It is important for

all of us to continue to work together and take care of issues outside of the fenceline of the base."



Capt. Pete Hall, commanding officer Naval Air Station Whiting Field speaks about the year ahead for the base during his remarks at the welcome luncheon hosted by Santa Rosa County. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

GE Receiver

- (Cont. from Page 1)

had the expertise to perform the project. We have people with skills in fiber optic installations, planning and development and systems specialists. Most importantly, we have technicians who are not afraid to tackle a large project and who are willing to think outside of the box," said Ron McCurdy, the assistant ground electronics division officer.

The project was originally reviewed four years ago and the initial plans were to have Bldg 3031 [the current location] demolished. GE preferred Bldg. 3031 because of its centralized location, and campaigned for the site. The commanding officer held off on demolishing the site, and GE began using end of year funding to purchase the equipment necessary to perform the move. NAS Whiting Field considered contracting with Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) for the project, however, John Scully, the Tower Maintenance Lead convinced the chain of command that he and his team could perform the work for far less than the contract cost of nearly \$400,000.

Once the parts were in place and Scully had outlined the process to install the receiver, it was mostly a matter of looking for a long weekend to perform the labor during a time when there were no flight operations. This would provide the team an opportunity to test and troubleshoot the receiver if there were any difficulties. Fortunately, the aircraft communication equipment worked like a charm, and they finished the project in a day and one-half vice the four days for which they had planned and budgeted.

"There was a lot of strain to meet that deadline," Scully said. "We didn't know when we would have that window of opportunity again."

The work mostly consisted of redirecting fiber optic cabling, installing upgraded cabinets and antennae, and moving the system. The nine-man team worked quickly New Years Eve - a regular workday. Instead of the \$9,200 in overtime that was allocated, the team completed the project using only \$640 with a four-person team working part of New Year's Day.

The project was something of a round-trip for Scully. Eighteen years ago, he worked for SPAWAR as a contractor and installed a similar system on the same tower. Now, as a civilian employee of the base he was the senior member of the team doing it again.



Ground Electronics Division employees work together to assemble the ASR cabinets and install the equipment during the New Years weekend. The team worked during the holiday to ensure the installation didn't affect flight operations. Photo courtesy of Ground Electronics.

For McCurdy, having someone with the talents to do that kind of work is an advantage.

"We have a real asset with Scully," he said. "The entire division pulled together to make this happen, and we are fortunate to have the kind of talent we do in the division. Knowing we can do this has us excited about other projects where we can improve the base in other ways."

Keep Your Family Safe: Practice OPSEC on Social Media

By Bruce Moody, Fleet and Family Support Program, Commander, Navy Installations Command

Sailors and Navy families can keep safe on social media sites by practicing operational security, or OPSEC. Through OPSEC, potential adversaries are prevented from discovering critical information.

For the Navy that includes information about where a ship is going and when it returns home. It also includes information about Sailors who deploy as individual augmentees.

"Family members are vital to

the success of the Navy," Shauna Turner, manager of the Deployment Support Program at the Fleet and Family Support Program, said. "But, potential adversaries also understand this."

Navy family members all know some bits of critical information. It may not be classified, and it may even seem insignificant. But, to the potential adversary, it's a piece of the puzzle. When you post information for your family and friends, remember that the bad guys are constantly "data mining," searching the Internet for information on military operations.

Here are some guidelines to follow when communicating with people on social media. Don't post: exact deployment dates or return dates, dates or location of a ship's upcoming ports of call, detailed information about a mission, references to trends in crew's morale or an individual's personal problems, details concerning security procedures and tactics, information about equipment or lack thereof, or speculations about future operations.

"The main rule is to simply use common sense," Turner said. "Think before you post."

Congratulations to Our Latest Wingers



Top Row: Cmdr. Michael Fisher, USN; 1st Lt. David Verhine, USMC; 1st Lt. Cole Herron, USMC; 1st John Kohl III, USMC; 1st Lt. Peter Sherick, USMC; and Col. John Walsh, USMC. **Middle Row:** Cmdr. Mark Murray, USN; 1st Lt. Roger Collicott II, USMC; Lt.j.g. Jonathon Butterfield, USN; Lt.j.g. Andrew Roger Wilsnack, USN; and 1st Lt. Ben Potter. **Front Row:** Cmdr. Mathew Frost, USN; Ens. Andrew Reynolds, USN; Ens. Timothy Sullivan, USN; 1st Lt. Jens Salzgeber, USMC; Lt.j.g. Erik Granum, USN; Capt. Richard Catone, USN (Ret.)



Top Row: Cmdr. Michael Fisher, USN; Ens. Andrew Sebastian, USN; Lt.j.g. Jeremy Cappalo, USN; Ens. Wallace Witt III, USN; 1st Lt. Bertrand Toone, USMC; 1st Lt. Jacob Chambers, USMC; and Capt. Nicholas Brooke, USMC. **Second to Top Row:** Cmdr. Mark Murray, USN; 1st Lt. Scott Neidecker, USMC; Ens. Thomas Seland, USN; 1st Lt. Kolin Doezema, USMC; 1st Lt. Mark Pinkerton, USMC; and Lt.j.g. Christopher Heller, USN. **Third Row Down:** Cmdr. Mather Frost, USN; Lt. Colleen Minihan, USN; Lt.j.g. Howard Baker, USCG; 1st Lt. John Dexter, USMC; Ens. Christopher Van Allen, USN; Lt.j.g. Andrea Giuliano, USN; and Col. John Walsh, USMC. **Front Row:** 1st Lt. Jason Thomas, USMC; Lt.j.g. Kristen Ullman, USN; Ens. David Burkett, USN; Lt.j.g. George Mathews III, USCG; Lt.j.g. Benjamin Berman, USCG; Capt. William Cuilik, USN

Sports

Martial Arts to be Taught at NASWF

The Academy of Martial Arts now offers classes based on a complete belt system to active duty members, their family members and civilians on board Naval Air Station Whiting Field. The classes are tailored for beginner, intermediate, and advanced students.

The Grandmaster of the Academy of Martial Arts, Lt. Gary Nichols, has nearly 40 years of experience in martial arts practice and instruction. He is a seventh degree black belt (in a system that contains only eight degrees) and a Master Level Black Sash in Kung-fu. All classes are taught or overseen by Nichols with some student instructors, brown belt or higher, assisting or helping the students.

The classes combine many practices of martial arts.

“Our system is a mixed martial art specializing in Kung-fu, Tai Chi and Tae Kwon Do with additional studies in Aikido, Ju-jitsu and grappling (throws, pins, take-downs and submission holds),” Nichols explained.

The school participates in many local area tournaments, affording the students the opportunity to compete in areas of Forms, Sparring, Self-defense techniques, and Weapons demonstration. The school usually finishes well, often taking first, second, and third place in the tournaments.

There are many physical and psychological benefits

associated with taking martial arts classes.

“There are many reasons one does and should practice martial arts like fitness, health, longevity, flexibility, self-discipline and self-defense,” Nichols said. “The benefits of mind/body coordination, self-discipline and enlightenment are among the highest reward.”

The classes are held in the Atrium building at NAS Whiting field. Children classes begin at 6 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Adult classes follow one hour later.

The start up fee for the class is \$59, which covers the first two weeks of instruction and the uniform. After that, classes cost \$80 per month for active duty military members and \$100 per month for civilian members. For more information call 850-529-2370.

Allied Forces Soccer Teams Forming

The area military soccer team is reforming to provide service members on Whiting Field, NAS Pensacola, Corry Station, and Naval Hospital the opportunity to play competitive and recreational soccer. The team previously won many league titles and made it to the Military Club National Championship game. The Whiting Field Base Team, as well as other Base teams, will be formed from the Allied Forces program to play in the area league.

All Active-Duty members from any service or international military program as well as dependents, contractors and government employees 18 and over are welcome to participate. Competitive, recreational and coed teams are planned.

Tryouts and training will be Thursdays, 1700-1900 (1645 Showtime) at Barrancas Field on NAS Pensacola near the USCG facility.

For more information or to sign-up, contact LCDR David Toellner at 382-5494 or kiwi_soccer@yahoo.com



JOIN US FOR...

Super Bowl XLIV

FEBRUARY 7, 2010 • SIKES HALL



DOORS OPEN 1630
KICKOFF AT 1730

Hamburgers, hotdogs, other food will be available.
And don't miss our *chili cookoff!*
(For more info on entering, contact 623-7274)

Event is free and open to **everyone**, but door prizes and games available only for active duty.