

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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Maybe Assumes Command of Training Squadron SIX

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Amidst the pomp and circumstance of a traditional military ceremony, Cmdr. Sean Maybee assumed command of Training Squadron SIX (VT-6) from Lt. Col. Javier Ball. The change of command ceremony was held Friday, March 26 at 3 p.m. in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Atrium building.

These events enable friends, family and the assembled military personnel to bid farewell to the departing officer. The atrium was full of well-wishers, including Ball's brother Lt. Col. Francisco Ball, who heaped praise on the outgoing commanding officer's service.

"Command is the pinnacle of achievement in the military. Every successful commanding officer understands the responsibility, authority and accountability that goes with that office. My brother is an excellent example of the kind of leader we have in the military today who have helped develop a stronger, more capable military force," Lt. Col. Francisco Ball said.

During Ball's two-year tenure as executive officer and then commanding officer, the Shooters exceeded the FY-08 pilot production goal of 225 by completing 242 Student Naval Aviators, and the FY-09 goal of 200 by completing 203 Student Naval Aviators. Since Ball has been in command, the squadron



Lt. Col. Javier Ball receives the VT-6 colors from Yeoman First Class Naomi Black during his change of command ceremony March 26. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

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NHA Region Five Recognizes Top Service Personnel



Capt. James Vandiver, one of two directors for the Naval Helicopter Association Region Five, presents the award for "Aircrewman of the Year" to Aviation Warfare Specialist First Class Tabriz Ommanney from Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHT. Vandiver is also the new Training Air Wing FIVE commander. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

The Naval Helicopter Association recognized some top military performers, including two Training Air Wing FIVE Sailors, during their recent Region Five luncheon at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, March 25.

Lt. Damon Comp from Helicopter Training Squadron EIGHTEEN (HT-18) earned Instructor Pilot of the Year while Aviation Warfare Specialist First Class Tabriz Ommanney from HT-8 was awarded the Aircrewman of the Year award.

They joined Coast Guardsmen from Coast Guard Air Station New Orleans and the Aircrew of the Year from Coast Guard Air Station Houston as recipients during the event. They will go on to compete at the National level for further recognition during the 2010 NHA Symposium May 24-27 in Jacksonville, Fla..

"Heroes today are all too often Hollywood types or athletes," said Capt. James Vandiver, commodore Training

- (Cont. on Page 6)

New Policy Changes for Navy's Voluntary Education Programs

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Chief of Naval Personnel released NAVADMIN 105/10 March 23 which reflects several changes to Navy education priorities, including guidance for the management of off-duty voluntary education programs.

Among the primary changes outlined are the requirement for individual education plans prior to enrollment in courses funded by Tuition Assistance (TA) or the Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE), the elimination of funding for courses expressed in clock hours and the restriction of TA and NCPACE usage for new accession Sailors during their first permanent duty station.

"Navy leadership is committed to providing opportunities and financial assistance to Sailors as they pursue their educational goals," said Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, chief of naval personnel. "Our highest priority is to reward Sailors who are responsible, plan ahead and who are good financial stewards of Navy's limited education funds."

Individual education plans will be required by all Sailors who plan to use TA. These plans serve as an essential guide for Sailors as they pursue their education goals, listing courses, American Council on Education (ACE) credits and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) academic testing applicable to completing select

degree programs.

Education plans will also help Sailors identify which courses are best achieved within the allotted 16 semester hour cap, and must be on file with the Navy College Office (NCO) prior to enrollment in college courses funded with TA or through NCPACE. Students will no longer be able to complete five courses prior to completion of the education plan.

"It's important to remember that as Sailors train, they can also earn credits toward college degrees," said Navy's Voluntary Education Director, Dr. Mary Redd-Clary. "Our Navy College counselors review these credits against Sailors' education plans and degree programs. This helps maximize the time a Sailor spends attending courses, while sensibly managing Navy education funds," said Redd-Clary.

DANTES tests for college credit and ACE recommended credits ensure Sailors are able to complete degree requirements in a timely manner. Currently, Sailors both ashore and afloat, can enroll in rating related distance learning degrees offered by any one of 34 Navy College Program Distance Learning Partnership (NCPDLP) schools.

Additionally, the NAVADMIN announces TA and NCPACE funding will only be authorized for academic courses expressed in semester or quarter hours and lead to technical, associates, bachelors, masters or doctorate degree.

These courses are readily available at accredited colleges and universities worldwide and priced within the current DoD cap of \$250 per semester hour or \$166.67 per quarter hour. Funding of courses expressed in clock hours is not authorized.

To provide Sailors with adequate time to become familiar with the command, their job requirements and progress towards warfare qualifications, officer and enlisted new accessions are now required to have one year onboard their first permanent duty station before TA or NCPACE funds will be authorized. Sailors currently enrolled in TA or NCPACE and have served less than a year at their first PDS are exempt from this requirement as long as they remain eligible for program benefits.

According to Redd-Clary, there are many factors that must be considered in order for Sailors to successfully complete their degree requirements. That is why it's so important for Sailors to seek the guidance of Navy College counselors at their local NCO.

"I can not emphasize enough the value of discussing your goals with an education counselor," said Redd-Clary. "Once you've established this plan you can track your progress under the MyEducation tab on the Navy College Web site."

The Center for Personal and Professional Development (CPPD) manages all 50 of the Navy College Offices located worldwide.

Navy Announces Plans to 'Can' Paper Leave Chits

By Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW) Maria Yager, Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- The Navy announced plans March 22, to begin phasing out traditional paper leave chits, replacing them with a new electronic leave request system.

The new system, called Self-Service Electronic Leave (E-Leave) is a Web-based program that Sailors can access through their Electronic Service Record.

Processing leave requests accounts for 21.6 percent of all pay transactions submitted each year, according to NAVADMIN 103/10. E-leave is projected to provide significant savings in man-hours and processing time and serves as a more convenient option for Sailors.

The new method allows Sailors to electronically

route leave chits through the chain of command for approval. It automates the command's leave control log and ensures pay and entitlements are properly credited.

"It will make it a lot easier to route the chit and I won't have to worry about my personal information sitting in an inbox on somebody's desk where it may get lost or misplaced," said Senior Chief Yeoman (AW) Theresa Bell, assigned to Navy Personnel Command.

Shore-based implementation of E-Leave is scheduled to begin in August. An afloat version will be phased in over the next 24 months as shipboard Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS) servers are upgraded.

Sailors who have not yet established a Self-Service ESR can create an account at <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil> or on the NSIPS server on board ship.

News and Notes

Church Service - Good Friday Service will be held at 11 a.m., Fri, Apr. 2 in the Base Chapel. All base personnel are invited to hear the dramatic reading of the Passion of the Christ.

Santa Rosa County Fair - The Santa Rosa County Fair, located at East Milton Park, is here. This year's schedule includes: monster truck rides, The Modern Eldorados, Nickelodeon presents - Sponge Bob, and an Easter Egg Hunt with 4000 Easter Eggs!! Wednesday, April 1 is Military Day and the fair will have a live video game tournament of "Tekken 6!" The tournament offers a chance to win a \$100.00 gift card. Also, don't miss the 19th annual Dodge Rodeo on Friday and Saturday. The price of a ticket includes: live bands, rides, petting zoo, pony rides, and to top it off -- mechanical bull riding tournaments all week! The fair starts March 30 and ends Apr. 4. Check out www.srctfair.com for details.

Fair Tickets at ITT - Fair tickets are now available for Santa Rosa County Fair at MWR ITT. Entrance for Active duty and family members \$4.50 each. Limited amount. All other tickets \$5.00. For More information contact ITT 623-7032.

Playoff Tickets - Morale Welfare and Recreation's Information Tickets and Travel (ITT) office has Ice Flyer Playoff tickets available for Friday night April 2 at 7:00 p.m. Ticket price is \$5. Friday is "White Out Night," so the team is asking everyone to wear a white shirt. For further information contact MWR ITT at 623-7032.

TPC Tickets for Military - All active duty, Reserves, retired military members and their dependents are invited to be guests of THE PLAYERS Championship (TPC) and see the best professional golfers in the world compete at TPC Sawgrass May 3-9. Military members and their families can receive complimentary tickets by going online to www.ticketmaster.com/promo/t0p06r and downloading their free tickets. A valid CAC card must be shown when entering the golf course at the appropriate gate. The complimentary tickets will be valid Monday through Sunday. Parking passes are also available. For the second year, military members and their dependents attending TPC are also invited to enjoy a private hospitality venue called the Patriot's Outpost, which is located on the hill between #16 and #18 fairways. A valid CAC card must be presented to gain admission into the area. A free lunch will be provided. For more information, call 623-7032.

Give a Day, Get a Day - Visit Walt Disney World Resort, for free? For one day of volunteer work you can receive a 1-day, 1-theme park ticket to the Disneyland Resort or Walt Disney World Resort, free. There's no better time to make a dream come true for others and let Disney make a few come true for you! For more details, visit: <http://disneyparks.disney.go.com>.

Disney on Ice - ITT has tickets available for Disney on Ice at the Pensacola Civic Center. Shows are April 22-25, 2010. Tickets are \$21.50. For further information contact: ITT 623-7032.

Read to Children - The Early Learning Coalition of Santa Rosa County is sponsoring an event to bring local service men and women, county workers, and county officers into local childcare centers to read a book to the children. It's taking place during Children's Week 2010 on Monday, April 12th, Tuesday, April 13th, and Wednesday April 14th at 3 different childcare centers in the Milton area. There is also a center participating in the Gulf Breeze area on April 16th. The volunteer would come to the childcare center



Cooking Up a Storm

Mary Marcoux and Daniel Gilmore prepare the mullet, catfish, hush-puppies, and shrimp for the Naval Air Station Whiting Field Fish Fry at the boat docks Sat., March 27. They were just two of the volunteers who helped prepare the food for the evening's festivities which included an evening bonfire. Other cooks included: Carla Gilmore, Greg Gilmore, and Bert Gilmore. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

and read a book provided to the children. It would only take a little bit of your time and it would mean the world to the children. If you would like any more information or please contact Delana Traweek at 983-5335 or email at trump@elcsantarosa.org.

Allied Forces Soccer - The area military soccer program has reformed to provide service members on Whiting Field, NAS Pensacola, Corry Station, and Naval Hospital the opportunity to play competitive and recreational soccer. Competitive, recreational and coed teams are available. The teams play local clubs and other area military base teams typically on Sunday afternoons as well as participating in regional tournaments.

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. Training and games are Thursdays, 1700-1900 (1645 Showtime) at the Barrancas Field on NAS Pensacola near the USCG facility. For more information, contact LCDR David Toellner at (850) 382-5494 or kiwi_soccer@yahoo.com

Big Band Music - Milton High School will host the Drum Corps International Drum and Bugle Corps show, Thurs. July 29. The show is titled Sounds of the South. There will be seven drum and bugle corps at this event and the DCI corps are the elite of the elite when it comes to marching bands. For more information go to one of the following two links: <http://www.mhsbandboosters.info/index.php?menu=event4> or <http://www.tealsound.org/drum-buglecorps/events/soundsofthesouth/>. Tickets are \$20 for the Super Section and \$15 for General Admission. There is also a \$5 Military discount with ID at the gates. For additional information, please call 207-8206.

Main Street Milton - The first Friday in April brings back Main Street Milton's First Friday event. The downtown area will feature art exhibits and free entertainment. Stores and art galleries will remain open through 8 p.m.. Visit www.mainstreetmilton.org or call 626-6246 for more information.

Upcoming Events

Apr. 1 - April Fools Day

Apr. 2 - Good Friday

Apr. 4 - Easter Sunday

Apr. 6, 0800 - HT-28 Pilot for a Day

Apr. 9, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Apr. 23, 0900 - Earth Day Event Bagdad Elem - Nature Trail

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

New Spouse Indoctrination - Monday, 5 April, 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 and how you can enjoy and thrive in the military lifestyle. 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.

Home Buying - Wednesday, 7 April, 1400-1500

Are you in the market for a new home? We can help! From finding the best agent, to negotiating price, types of mortgage loans, and how to get the best interest rates, we can help! Find out how to buy a home and maintain your lifestyle! For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

VA Representative (Call for Appointment) - Friday, 9 April, 0800-1200

How to Apply for a Federal Job - Monday, 12 April, 1000-1200

“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.

Anger Management - Wednesday, 14 April, 1300-1400

Is anger affecting your health, your relationships or your work performance? Learn to understand the causes and effects of unhealthy anger and how to express and release that anger in a healthy way! Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Deployment Support Group for Children - Monday, 19 April, 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!

6th Annual Santa Rosa County Animal Services Adopt-a-thon on April 10

- Low Cost Spay and Neuter Vouchers for Adopted Animals at Event

Santa Rosa County Animal Services with sponsors Mediacom, Soft Rock 94.1 and WXBM 102.7 will hold its 6th Annual Adopt-a-thon on Saturday, April 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the shelter located at 4451 Pine Forest Road in Milton.

For this special event, the adoption fee is \$15 for cats and \$20 for dogs with a spay/neuter voucher provided at no cost for any unaltered animal.

Attendees who wish to adopt a new pet and currently have pets at home should bring proof of rabies vaccination for each animal. Pets on leashes and wearing current rabies tag are welcome to attend. Contests will be held throughout the day:

- 10:30 a.m.- Best pet costume
- 11 a.m. -All bark & no bite talent show



- Noon- Dog & owner look-a-like
- 12:30 p.m.- Best of show
- Paw Print Art, with \$1 donation to Santa Rosa County's "Partners for Pets" education and spay & neuter program

Free food, local rescue organizations, vendors, drawings and children's activities will be offered during the adopt-a-thon including:

- Fire Safety prevention with Smokey Bear and Patches the Pumper Truck

- Horse demonstration and photos for a \$1 donation to the Santa Rosa County Horse Assistance Council
- Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office K-9 Team
- Pet Psychic
- Hallelujah Hounds

For more information call Santa Rosa County Animal Services at (850) 983-4680.

Straughn Inspires NASWF During Women's History Month Celebration



Sue Straughn, WEAR Channel 3 news anchor, emphasizes a point during the Women's History Month event at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, March 29. "We want to be proud of what we accomplish. This is what we did. This is what we left for our children," she said. Straughn was the featured speaker during the free luncheon event sponsored by the Diversity Committee. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

With the National Women's History Month theme being "Writing Women Back into History," there was a great deal of discussion during the celebration at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, about the legacy women created through history.

Much of the March 29 celebration focused on the roles women have held in the military and the inroads they continue to make today - such as the forthcoming opening of submarines to women.

However, guest speaker Sue Straughn, news anchor for WEAR Channel 3 in Pensacola, reminded the audience that as women continue to progress towards equality, it would be a mistake to forget their lives at home.

"Look at the footprints left by

our mothers and grandmothers. Remember the solid nurturing, the eyes always on us and the firm yet loving hands. That was the legacy they left. Will that be our legacy? Look behind us and what footprints will our children and grandchildren see?" she said.

As a news anchor, Straughn sees numerous stories of family strife, killings, and abuse. She works actively and tirelessly on family issues, children's problems and reading programs. Her achievements in those areas are lengthy, including more than 35 journalistic and civic awards including: Judge John P. Kuder Family Values Award, David R. Thomas Child Advocate of the Year, Pensacola Rotary Sandra Robinson Award for Service Above Self, C. E. Carr Lifetime Community Service Award, and the J.C. Penny Spirit of American Woman Achievement Award.

Additionally, she served four years as a member of the Defense Advisory Council for Women in the Service (DACOWITS) and received the Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, and was honored with an inclusion into the Congressional Record in 2005.

The free luncheon, sponsored by the command's diversity committee, touted the military's strides in the progression of women to billets of higher rank and highlighted the first Naval aviator Lt. Cmdr. Barbara Ann Allen Rainey and the first Army four-star general, Gen. Ann Dunwoody.

The Navy continues to strive to provide women opportunities to succeed in the military. Since the repeal of the exclusion for combat, Navy women's achievements have made tremendous strides. The Navy has 17 female active duty and 8 reserve flag officers serving in challenging jobs worldwide including as well as 59 active and 14 reserve Sailors wearing the highest enlisted rank.

More than 120,000 active duty, reserve and civilian women serve in the

Navy today, and the Navy was recently the first government agency to be named a finalist for the Catalyst Award, an award that honors innovative organizational approaches to recruiting, developing and advancing women.

As far as the military has progressed, Straughn reminded everyone that there is still more to be done, and asked the audience to commit to improving the world for the next generation.

"We need to get together on what the history books will say about us..." she stated. "I would challenge you, as we walk out this door today, to be all we can be - to do all we can do. We need to leave this place a little better than we found it."

TRICARE Notes

Alcohol Awareness Program

Navy Website Informs About Hazards of Binge Drinking.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month and TRICARE is committed to creating a "buzz" about the effects of alcohol abuse. A new TRICARE web page at www.tricare.mil/alcoholawareness sheds some light on alcohol abuse and promotes responsible drinking.

The new web page serves as a starting place for beneficiaries to find information, links and news about alcohol, underage drinking, and substance abuse. Another excellent resource that coincides with Alcohol Awareness Month is the DoD-funded site, www.thatguy.com, which highlights the social consequences of binge drinking.

Change of Command

- (Cont. from Page 1)

achieved a student production rate 30 percent higher than the previous 18 months. Under his demanding "mission first" leadership, the squadron has also reduced its average student time to train from 42 weeks to 28 weeks.

Ball's 21 year career has encompassed tours as an F/A-18 Hornet pilot with VMFA-115 and VMFA-332 in South Carolina, USAF Air Command and Staff College, Marine Air Group-31, and was forward deployed to Iraq as the Fixed Wing Air Representative and current operations officer. He also served as the T-6B Texan transition officer here before becoming the executive officer of VT-6.

In a slight twist, Ball had two guest speakers: his brother and the former Training Air Wing FIVE commodore, Col. John Walsh. While speaking about the forces overseas and the tremendous job they have done executing multiple conflicts, Walsh compared Ball, who has been forward deployed, to the officers there.

"They accomplished the missions there. Nerf [Ball's call sign] accomplished the mission here. He trusts his staff to do the mission and they do it well. He has achieved great things here."

For his achievements, Ball was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by Rear Adm. William Sizemore, II, Chief of Naval Air Training. Ball praised the officers, students, and civilian staff for their efforts in keeping the squadron operating at a high level.

"This squadron has been like another family to me. You are all the hardest working, most dedicated and most professional group it has been my privilege to work with. You



Capt. James Vandiver, commodore Training Air Wing FIVE, presents Lt. Javier Ball with the Meritorious Service Medal. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

have all handled yourself with professionalism, poise and grace."

Following his speech, Ball read his orders for transfer. Maybee followed and the senior enlisted from the squadron Yeoman First Class Naomi Black, brought forward the squadron flag. Ball presented it to Maybee, symbolically passing command of the squadron. Both officers then ascended to the stage to meet with Sizemore. Ball requested permission to be relieved and Maybee asked to assume command.

Maybee comes to VT-6 from the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations' office for Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education. Previously, during his 18-year career, Maybee has been an EP-3E pilot with Fleet Reconnaissance Squadron TWO (VQ-2) in Rota, Spain; served as the Executive Assistant to the Naval Forces Europe Chief of Staff, flew with VQ-1 Whidbey Island, Wash. and

Special Projects Patrol Squadron TWO in Hawaii; and was the first Navy Federal Executive Fellow at the Center for Naval Analyses. He has accumulated more than 2,400 flight hours.

As is the case in most change of commands, the emphasis is on the outgoing officer, but it is traditional for the new commander to address the assembled officers and staff. Maybee kept his address brief and to the point.

"To the instructor pilots, students and civilian employees - you are all terrific. We talk a lot about resources and production, but it is really about people. And you are all the best. Thank you!"

NHA Awards

- (Cont. from Page 1)

Air Wing FIVE, who was serving as the guest speaker for the event. "So many of them seem to have a 'look at me' attitude. When you listen to Medal of Honor recipients, none of them think they are heroes. That's the kind of character I would want my kids to emulate. Heroes like you in this room - people who believe in service, sacrifice and others before self."

Ommaney was recognized for his assistance in planning and organizing the 2009 Gulf Coast Fleet Fly-In as well as through his contributions in training five TH-57 helicopter crew chiefs as the TRAWING-5 NATOPS evaluator. His efforts were essential to completing more than 200 syllabus events and aided directly to the squadron's 92 percent mis-



Lt. Damon Comp receives the Instructor Pilot of the Year award from Capt. James Vandiver, commodore Training Air Wing FIVE. It was one of six awards presented March 25 at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

sion completion rate. As an instructor pilot and formation/tactics-C stage leader, Comp flew

more than 770 mishap-free instructional flight hours while completing 418 student and instructor syllabus events. He qualified new instructors and taught student Naval aviators in six of nine various stages of training. Comp also served as the ground safety officer for the squadron and instituted the Naval Safety Center's Travel Risk Planning System for HT-18.

The NHA is a nonprofit professional organization to promote the development and use of naval vertical lift aircraft in the United States Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. NHA also recognizes significant contributions to that goal and informs members of new developments, initiatives, and accomplishments in the field of rotary aviation.

Microsoft Office 2007 Upgrade Coming to NMCI

ARLINGTON, Va. —Starting in April, NMCI will begin the phased roll-out of Microsoft Office 2007 enterprise-wide. This upgrade, rolling-out over the next several months, will change the look of computer screens and computers will have enhanced capabilities. The upgrade will help make NMCI seats and their data more secure and will offer enhanced capabilities to better meet the needs of today's naval personnel. Two days prior to their scheduled upgrade, users should receive another notification regarding the installation of Microsoft Office 2007 on their machine, which will be performed via the standard nightly maintenance window.

Eligible seats must currently run Microsoft Windows XP, have 1 gigabyte (GB) or more installed random access memory (RAM) and have at least 2.5GB available hard disk drive space on their C: drive.

Some of the benefits of Office 2007 include: enhanced time-management tools, new tools for creating documents and presentations, the ability to analyze data more easily than with Office 2003, updated tabs and favorites center, and improved printing, viewing and search capabilities.

Microsoft Office 2007 has a decidedly new look and feel and will require training to familiarize users with the new capabilities and navigation. Training and topic guides for Office 2007 can be found on NMCI's portal, Homeport (<https://www.homeport.navy.mil>). From the site's homepage, locate the "Training" and "Support" tabs along the top of the page. User's can select Training > Microsoft 2007 and/or Support > View All Support Topics > Software > Office 2007 to access additional information and training resources.

User Actions to Ensure Smooth Upgrade: While service disruption and data loss is not expected, there are several actions that users will need to complete prior to the upgrade. It is recommended that users back up their machines prior to the launch. If a NMCI seat is shared with other users, all seat users must take the appropriate measures to prepare for the Office 2007 upgrade.

Since the upgrade is scheduled to install during the nightly maintenance window, users must log off but not completely shut down their NMCI seat on the night before the scheduled upgrade.

Users should contact the NMCI Service Desk at 866-THE-NMCI (866-843-6624) for assistance if an attempted installation has failed or the installed package is causing errors. For more information, please visit NMCI's Homeport at <https://homeport.navy.mil>.

"Comics on Duty" Invade NASWF

They came. They saw. They conquered. And not a single shot was fired, unless you count a couple of shots at audience members about their age, forgetfulness, relationships or babies. But it was all in fun, and everyone had a good time.

The Comics on Duty tour has travelled across the globe, and landed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field for their next to last stop on the current tour, March 26. The event was hosted by the base Morale Welfare and Recreation with free appetizers, and non-alcoholic beverages to enjoy during the show. The free food and drink coincided well with the sponsor of the tour, "thatguy.com," which discourages binge drinking for Sailors.

The show lasted for more than an hour with three comedians performing following Steve Bills' introduction. Steve Burr, Ian Gutoskie, and Jack Mayberry each performed for slightly more than 20 minutes. It is a show that has been well refined after more than 100 performances including 50 Navy bases, 27 Army bases, 12 Marine Corps and Air Force bases and an overseas tour.

"I have never laughed so hard in my life," said Ashley Platts, the Liberty Center coordinator who also helped with the planning of the event. "They weren't just great entertainers, but they were very nice guys who were funny from the moment they came through the gates."



Ian Gutoskie makes a pose for a quick get-away on the stage during the Comics on Duty tour event at Sikes Hall March 26. He was one of three performers for the evening. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.



VT -3 Red Knights 50th Anniversary

Main Events

- 29 April – Alumni Tour and Ribbon Cutting
- 30 April – Golf Tournament
- 30 April – 50th Anniversary Formal Ball

Ball Ticket prices - \$30 (Black Tie Event)

RSVP with VT-3 Call: 850-623-7321 or
E-mail: sue.ancil@navy.mil

- Sports -

Local Bowler Rolls 300 During League Play

By Lt. j.g. Michael Daharsh, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs.

For most bowlers, rolling a 300 game is an unreachable or at best unlikely event. A few enthusiasts might throw one in a career. However, for one local bowler, it is now a twice in a life event.

Tony Pettry bowled his first perfect game at Naval Air Station Whiting Field and the second of his career earlier this month during Saturday night league play. It was a sanctioned event, so the benchmark was recognized on the 300-game board in the bowling alley. Pettry also qualified for the 300-game ring that goes with it.

"It felt good," Pettry said. "I come close all the time, but it's great to finally get it."

Petry retired from the Navy in 1995 after 20-years as a Navy cook. While in the Navy, he bowled in the All Navy League competitions when he was stationed in Hawaii. He was flown to Las Vegas and bowled in the All Military Tournament. After his retirement, Pettry could often be found working the snack bar at the bowling center.

Petry bowls regularly on Saturday nights with his wife at NAS Whiting Field Bowling Center. His team and four other teams in the league compete there each week. Pettry also bowls at Avalon Bowling Center on Thursdays, where he rolled his other perfect game.

"I've always enjoyed bowling at Whiting Field," Pettry said. "The people are friendly. It's a nice atmosphere, and they take good care of their lanes. It's really just a lot of fun."

Petry's average is currently 215. As for his perfect game, Pettry is already moving on to his next goal, an 800 series."



Tony Pettry smiles in front of the lane where he bowled his 300 game earlier this month in the Naval Air Station Whiting Field bowling league. It was the second 300 game of his life, but the first here. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Burger/Hot dog cookout immediately following. Bring the kids! Air Jumpers will be set up for the families!

Captain's Cup Basketball Standings

As of March 10, 2010

1. Medical	9-2
2. VT-3	8-3
3. HT-28	7-4
4. Crash	6-4
4. VT-2	6-4
6. HT-8	4-7
7. ATC	3-8
8. HT-18	0-11

5-10K Walk/Run

**Proceeds will benefit
NAVY-MARINE CORPS
RELIEF SOCIETY**

Date: 4/10/10
Time: 9:00 AM
**Location:
NAS WHITING FIELD**

Entry fees:
\$20.00
\$25.00 day of race
Pre-Register NLT:
4/7/10

•Check-in will begin 07:30 -08:30 at Pavilion Parking lot
•OPEN TO ALL MILITARY/ DEPENDENTS AND CIVILIANS (strollers welcome)

**For more information or to register call:
Debra: (850) 512-6653 or find us on facebook : NMCRS Benefit Run**

Prizes

Trophies for 1st place, Medals for 2nd and 3rd place, from each age group. Age groups:

- 14 -under
- 15-19
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60+

- T-shirts will be given to the first 200 paid registrants.

Sponsored by:

Donations are used to provide interest-free loans or grants to service members*, both active and retired, and their families that are in financial need and emergency situations.

*(regardless of Rank/Rate/Service)

Burger/Hot dog cookout immediately following. Bring the kids! Air Jumpers will be set up for the families!