

WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

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CNO visits Naval Air Station Corpus Christi

by Bob Torres and Rod Hafemeister



Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations, conducted a town meeting for about 1,200 officers and enlisted during his July 21 visit to NASCC.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

"My dad got a tattoo during World War II," said Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Gary Roughead. "And he regrets it every day of his life – because it looks a lot different on an 80-year-old than a hard-bodied 23-year old."

The CNO was answering a question from a Sailor asking if the Navy's tattoo policy was likely to change. Short answer: "No."

"I am very comfortable with the tattoo policy we have in place," Roughead said.

Roughead spoke to a packed house at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi on July 21, his first trip to South Texas as CNO.

Roughead talked about what the Navy is doing and his thoughts for the future, both with the current conflicts and decades down the road.

Much of that revolves around budgets – what the Navy can and cannot get funded, he said.

For example, the Navy recently suspended Selective Reenlistment Bonuses for the rest of this fiscal year.

Historically, SRBs – in some cases, worth tens of thousands of dollars – have been used to encourage Sailors to reenlist in certain rates and ranks.

But the last few years, reenlistments have skyrocketed – the Navy made its retention goal for nuclear operators for the first time in 38 years – and that, combined with a tight budget for manpower, led to the SRB suspension.

But they will be funded again in the fiscal 2010 budget, Roughead said.

"We hope it won't affect our retention," said Roughead. "We've had the best recruiting year to date. And the SRB will come back in October. We go from October to October, and I'll tell you, the SRB will be back."

Also affecting retention, the Perform to Serve program requires enlisted Sailors to get permission to re-enlist in their career field.

It was expanded this year to include more senior Sailors. This will allow the Navy to both ensure

CNO continued on page 8

CCAD launches beefed-up Black Hawk

Story and photos by Ed Mickley, CCAD PAO

Beefier Black Hawks will soon support troops on the ground, thanks to the skilled artisans at the Corpus Christi Army Depot.

The first UH-60A Black Hawk helicopter recapitalized and upgraded to UH-60L rolled out of CCAD and into the hands of Soldiers on June 26.

The unprecedented UH-60 'A' to 'L' modification increases the Black Hawks' mission lift, range and load capacity to support our Warfighters at a time when air support is critical.

"The Sikorsky, Program Executive Office for Aviation and CCAD teams worked in very close coordination over the past several months to make this milestone event a reality," said Lt. Col. Bert Vergez, Product Manager, UH-60A/L/M.

Designed to provide for infantry squad delivery anywhere on the battlefield, the Black Hawk is the Army's utility helicopter of choice.

Contributing approximately 2.4 million flight hours since 2003, it is the primary air platform used by commanders to initiate, sustain and conduct combat operations and can deliver arms, troops and supplies at a moment's notice.

"Thanks to the 'can do spirit' of the CCAD workforce and management team, this Black Hawk will join the fight against our country's enemies as the pivotal aviation combat multiplier for the Army's overseas contingency operations" Vergez said.

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Chief Warrant Officer-2 Jay Falkenburg, co-pilot, pre-flights the first production UH-60L Black Hawk to roll out of the Corpus Christi Army Depot, prior to the crew from Company A, 3-238th Combat Aviation Support Battalion, Delaware National Guard, flying the Black Hawk to their home base.

Skipper's Column NASCC welcomes CNO

by Capt. Randy Pierson



Pierson

Last week, we had the honor of hosting the 29th Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Gary Roughead.

A Navy League event brought him to Texas and his interest in South Texas Naval Installations brought him to NAS Corpus Christi.

From the outset, I was very impressed with CNO. Upon our meeting him at Base Operations, it was clear to me that he was here for our military, civilians and the betterment of the installation.

He proved his attentiveness in his transparency of dialogue during the All Hands call during which we mustered more than 1,100 attendees.

No questions were too hard and each presenter was thanked regardless of how pointed the question.

After 70 minutes of discussion at the Wings Auditorium, I escorted the CNO and his staff on a base tour.

Assisting in the tour were Command Master Chief Pat Flavin, Departments heads of Public Safety, NCIS, Public Works and Housing, BQ/VQ, Liberty Center, Fire and Air Operations.

Additionally, subject matter experts were pre-staged along the route, including Commodore Dave Price and Cmdr. Dennis Crews for TW-4/VT-31. Col. Joe Dunaway of CCAD also presented a great synopsis of their mission and future construction.

Throughout the tour it was clear to me that CNO had the utmost pride and appreciation of the mission that was being accomplished by all.

The CNO's NASCC tour was scripted locally to ensure the CNO was aware of the great things our tenants are accomplishing and the level of effort it takes NASCC to support our tenants to the level we do – factoring the associated pressures in quality of infrastructure and level of funding.

Within hours of the CNO's visit, I was receiving calls of interest from leadership regarding how we might be better supported to reduce the infrastructure challenges and funding pressures.

Based on the increased interest, I would have to characterize the CNO's visit a total success!

Thank You to all of you that supported us in supporting CNO.

Chaplain's Message

by Lt. Cmdr. Tim Gault, Chaplain

It seems that it was not all that long ago that I arrived aboard NAS Corpus Christi.

Right away I knew I was in a different place.

It was summer time and the mosquitoes were living large in the land!

There were floods on the base with summer showers and the grass grew knee high in many of the areas surrounding our buildings.

The chapel buildings actually had holes in the exterior and the parking lot was in great need of repair.

Our leadership was at work to correct all these issues and more. And, many of the good things we see happening today were already in the works at that time.

But, what an introduction to the South Texas Navy we had. It was a bit of a shock.

Then we grew to know the people. Yes, it is the same "yacht club," this Navy of ours. But, there is a distinct flair here that makes this place so loveable. And, it comes from the people here.

NAS Corpus Christi and the host communities are filled with good people – hard-working people who love America and love serving others. It has been a thrill to be a part of this community for these past few years.

Thank you for all that you have contributed to my life and to the lives of my family. We have all been greatly enriched in your presence and we are grateful.

One of the things I have enjoyed the most has been witnessing the selflessness of so many of you in giving your time, treasure and talents for the benefit of others.

You give young children facing life threatening diseases the opportunity to know your appreciation and to have some fun riding around in the fire trucks and kicking around in aircraft.

You help to clean up beaches.

You give hundreds of thousands of dollars to charity.

You help each other through acts of kindness and consideration.

Chaplain continued on page 19

Farewell, NAS Corpus Christi



Gault

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

"Hey Dad, when do we get to go see you drown?"

You don't get a lot of sympathy from a teenaged son.

He's enjoying the fact that I'm once again going to venture forth in a homemade boat, this time to "defend" the

Titanic Cup that we won at the 2008 Navy Regatta.

The lacquered wooden toilet seat – the "trophy" for winning the race – has been hanging on the wall of my office for most of a year now.

Despite my efforts to get some NASCC Sailors to take up the defense, somehow it has once again fallen on the Public Affairs Office – a Marine and a Soldier, for crying out loud! – to uphold the honor of the Air Station against the Wing and any other challengers.

My wife, ever supportive, has suggested we should "take a dive" this year as a way to get out of sailing the race for years to come.

Of course, she knows I'm too competitive to deliberately lose; I'm the type who would dive off the boat and tow it across the finish line if I had to.

The Titanic Cup

Which, apparently, is what my smart-aleck son expects to happen.

He immediately declined my offer to take him aboard as ballast.

As I write this, there's less than a week before the big race on Aug. 1.

We've got some work to do, but all indications are that we should have at least as good a boat as last year.

So even if you're not involved with the rest of the Regatta, feel free to come down to Sunfish Beach on Saturday afternoon and cheer on the lunatics racing for the Titanic Cup.

It's great fun and, based on last year, should be amusing.

I'll be the old coot with the beard.

Wingspan

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Vice Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard visits NASCC

by Cmdr. Patrick Foley, USCG, and Lt. Bethany King, TW-4 PAO

The U.S. Coast Guard's most senior aviator met the service's newest aviators at the July 10 Winging ceremony aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Besides being the Vice Commandant and second-in-command, Vice Adm. Vivien Crea, carries the distinction of being the "Ancient Albatross" – the longest serving, active-duty Coast Guard aviator.

The Coast Guard maintains the tradition of assigning a designation number to all newly winged USCG aviators.

This tradition dates back to April 1917, when 3rd Lt. Elmer Stone, USCG, was designated Naval Aviator Number 38 and Coast Guard Aviator Number 1.

Crea was designated Coast Guard Aviator Number 1820 in April 1977 and, for the July 10 ceremony, she donned her "Ancient Albatross" flight suit to commemorate this tradition and honor the officers receiving their wings.

Crea also was the guest speaker for the ceremony and presented designation numbers to the two newest Coast Guard aviators; Lt. j.g. Sawyer Mann, No. 4193, and Lt. Stephen Simpson, No. 4194.

"Rely on your crew, the combined experience and coordination of your entire aviation team will always provide the greatest chance of solving any problem that you might encounter," Crea told the new aviators.

"With today's dynamic and integrated aviation systems, there is nothing more important than a fully integrated crew that employs crew resource management (CRM) and operational risk management (ORM) to guarantee safe and effective mission execution."

The Winging ceremony capped a whirlwind visit for Crea that began when she flew into Corpus Christi International Airport from Washington, D.C.

She then:

- Attended an all-Coast Guard flight student luncheon at the Bay Club;
- Toured the Coast Guard Sector;
- Was interviewed by the University of Texas;
- And was the guest speaker for Training Air Wing Four's aviation designation ceremony.

She then departed back to Washington on a USCG HU-25 Guardian Falcon in time to assume the duties of Commandant as Commandant Adm. Thad W. Allen departed CONUS on official business.

Crea was confirmed by the Senate as the Vice Commandant in June 2006.

As second-in-command and Chief Operating Officer of the Coast Guard, she oversees the operations management of the organization and is responsible for efficient and effective daily functioning of the Service,

development of Coast Guard policies, mission execution, and mission support delivery.

As the Component Acquisition Executive, Crea provides acquisition program management oversight and guidance to ensure regulatory and statutory requirements are fulfilled for all acquisitions.

In addition, she chairs the Coast Guard's Flag and Senior Executive Leadership Council.

Crea will be having her Change of Watch on August 7th and her Retirement and Ancient Albatross Change of Watch ceremony on October 1st.

Vice Adm. Vivien Crea, Vice Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, presents Coast Guard Lt. Stephen Simpson with his aviator designation certificate. Crea is wearing the "Ancient Albatross" flight suit, signifying her status as the longest serving, active-duty Coast Guard aviator.



Photo by Hugh Lieck

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Navy Ball Tournament – A Real Swinging Event

Story and photo by Bob Torres

The Navy Birthday Ball Golf Tournament, held July 17, was a resounding success, according to tournament Chairman, Tim Hofstetter.

“The tournament was tremendous success with \$737 in contributions going to each of the respective Navy Balls,” he said. “In total \$1,474 was generated for the respective Navy Balls – a good day’s work!”

The challenge – team members from NAS Corpus Christi against those from NS Ingleside – was supposed to consist of 40-member teams for each side.

Although downsized in personnel, Ingleside was still able to assemble 34 players. For the final tally, only the top 20 scores were used for each team. The team event was won by NAS Corpus Christi.

The “Gross” score winner was Jim Day, NASCC, with a 69. The First Place “Net” winner, went to Joe Stalnaker, also from NASCC.

Second Place winner was CCAD’s Public Affairs Officer, Ed Mickley with a “Net” score of 68.

It seems that NASCC fielded some impressive golfers, with the “Longest Drive,” winners going to Jason Kreger and Leroy Gialindo, both for NASCC.

“Closest to Pin,” honors went to Jake Suyderhoud NASCC, and the “Longest Putt,” winners were Tom Ford and Jason Kreger, both from NASCC teams.

Naval Station Ingleside did have winners, and they were for the “Youngest and Oldest Golfers,” Sean Chappell (16) and Coleman Hatherly (79).

Hofstetter, who spends most of his time at NS Ingleside, thought that tournament highlights included: 30 hard working volunteers; USO support as major sponsor; 20 other contributing sponsors; more than \$1,500 in door prizes; the Ruth Willeford’s cake auction; the improved golf course conditions on the course, and NS Ingleside’s Commanding Officer, Capt. B. T. Taylor, volunteering to drive the beverage cart.

“But what I enjoyed the most,” Hofstetter said, “was 74 golfers having a good time!”



Golfers from NASCC and NS Ingleside take off on a “shotgun start” at the Navy Ball Golf tournament fund-raiser July 17.

Second Navy Ball Golf Tourney - August 21

A ‘Florida Scramble’ Navy Ball fund-raiser tournament will be held Aug. 21. Sign up as four-person teams or individually and matched as foursomes. Fee is \$35 per person. For more information call Jim Day at (361) 961-3250.

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Educating America's Patriots

Chaplain Tim Gault promoted to Lieutenant Commander



Following religious services July 12, Chaplain Tim Gault was promoted to lieutenant commander by NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson. At left, Tyler Gault looks out at the congregation while Hannah and Andrew attach their father's new shoulder boards and Tim's wife, Connie, beams, while Pierson and NASCC Executive Officer Cmdr. Bruce Lankford observe. Following the promotion ceremony, the congregation held a pot luck brunch to celebrate with the Gault family. Gault has been aboard NASCC since 2006; he and his family will be leaving in August for his next assignment, aboard the USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74).

Photo by Rod Hafemeister



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NHCCC Corpsmen earn deployment awards

Story and photos by Bill W. Love, NHCCC Public Affairs

Capt. R. G. Kelley, Commanding Officer of Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, on July 16 presented deployment awards to four Navy Corpsmen.

"Recognizing the outstanding performance of our Sailors is the best part of my job," Kelley said. "It is even more special when I award our staff who have gone above and beyond while deployed."

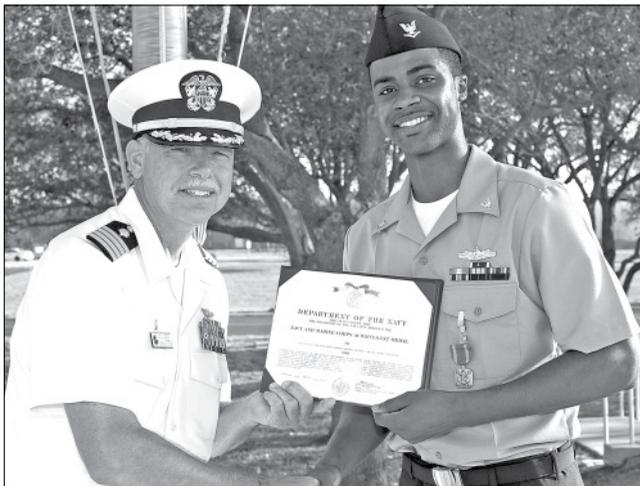
Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Jamal D. Smith earned the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for meritorious service as patient administration technician shift leader for the Expeditionary Medical Facility, Kuwait, while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from December 2008 to July 2009.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Raymond Vega earned the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service as hospital corpsman for Alpha Company, 489th Civil Affairs Battalion, Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, from July 2008 to April 2009.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF/SW) Gary Emerick earned the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (Third Award) for professional achievement while serving as Fleet Marine Force Field Corpsman, Marine Wing Support Squadron 273, Marine Air Control Group 28, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from October 2008 to March 2009.

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Kenkasa Wright earned the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for professional achievement while serving as general duty hospital corpsman, Expeditionary Medical Facility Kuwait, while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from December 2008 to July 2009.

Clockwise, from top left: Smith, Vega, Emerick and Wright.




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Corpus Christi Clinic takes the Gold!

Command health promotion excellence awarded

Story and photo by Bill W. Love, NHCCC Public Affairs

Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi celebrated its fourth-consecutive Gold Star level Blue H - Navy Surgeon General's Health Promotion and Wellness award with a July 23 presentation to the staff by Capt. R. G. Kelley, NHCCC Commanding Officer, and Dr. Sam Rivera, the department head of Wellness.

"It's great to see the results of the continued hard work and energy of our staff," Kelley said. "Promoting good health and prevention of illness is very important and is the main reason why we're in business."

The Blue H is an annual award sponsored by the Navy Surgeon General that encourages and rewards health promotion in Navy and Marine Corps organizations. The Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center (NMCPHC) manages the program.

NHCCC won the medical version, one of four categories, that specifically recognizes excellence in clinical primary prevention, community health promotion and medical staff health in Navy medical organizations.

To achieve the Gold Star level award, a medical command must accumulate at least 50 percent of the total available points for every topic and category and must earn a minimum of 80 percent of the total available points.

To achieve the Silver Eagle level award, a medical command must accumulate at least 50 percent of the total available points for every

topic and category and must earn a minimum of 50 percent of the total available points.

The Corpus Christi clinic won the Silver Eagle level award in 2004.

"This award reflects the importance of a multidisciplinary team approach to prevention, education and community support," Rivera said.

"It also, signifies that we (NHCCC) are providing the clinical prevention, community assessment and support that our population requires.

"Our goal is to provide the tools to our beneficiaries to acquire long-term healthy life style habits."

Some of the health promotion programs at NHCCC that support that goal include alcohol and drug abuse prevention; health risk assessment; injury prevention; nutrition; physical fitness; sexual health and responsibility (SHARP); stress management awareness; suicide prevention awareness; tobacco cessation; and periodic health assessments.

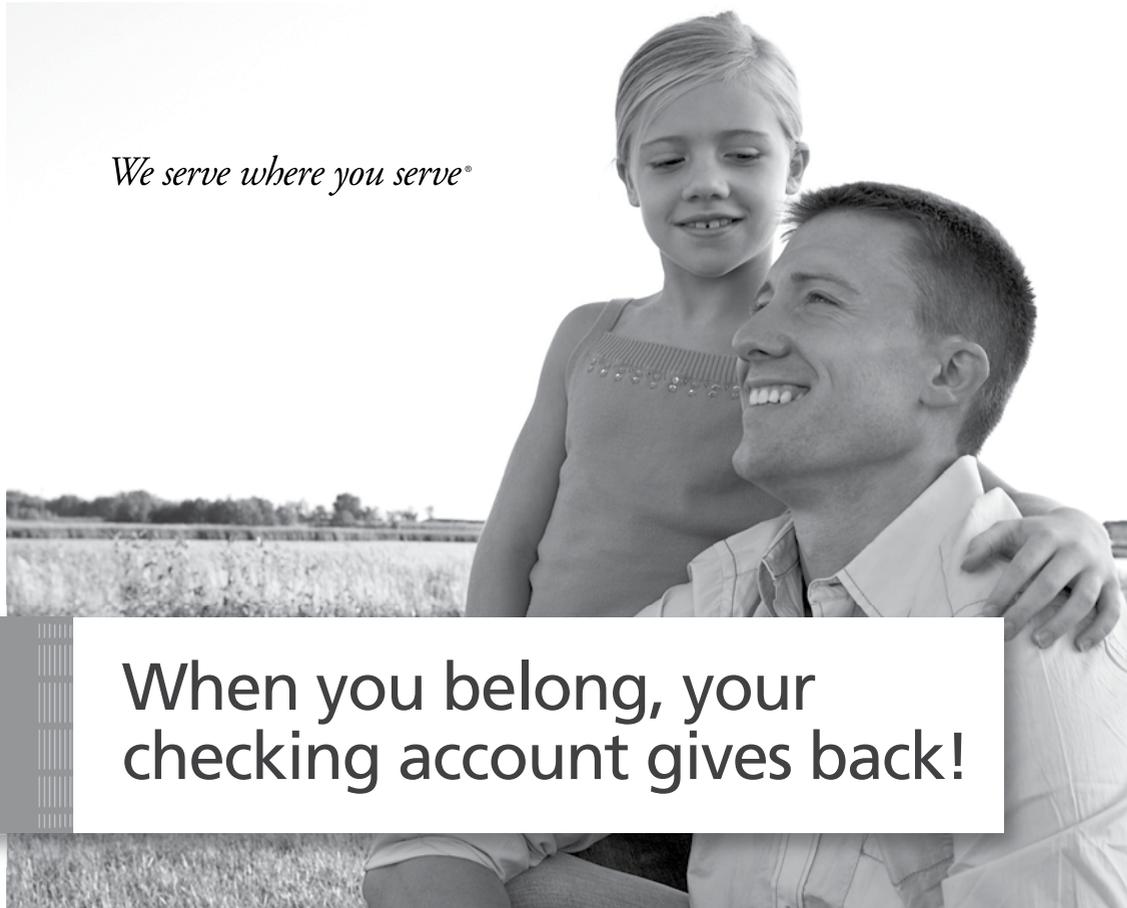
"Marketing the services to the community and providing support is the key to promoting healthy life style habits," Rivera said.

"The most gratifying results are when your clients are verbalizing that the services received from the Naval Health Clinic assisted them in the reduction of unhealthy behaviors and habits."



Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi celebrated its fourth-consecutive Gold Star level Blue H - Navy Surgeon General's Health Promotion and Wellness award July 23 with a presentation of the pennant to the staff by Capt. R. G. Kelley, NHCCC Commanding Officer, and Dr. Sam Rivera, (left) the department head of Wellness.

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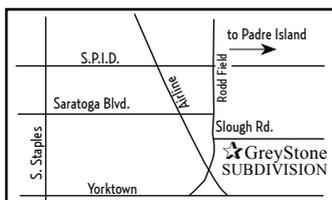
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CNO continued from page 1

the Navy puts Sailors in the necessary career fields and create "upwardly mobile career paths" for Sailors, Roughead said.

Tight budgets have also led to reductions in flight operations and hours at sea, factors that will only improve slowly, he said.

With about 1,200 servicemembers and Base civilians in the audience, the CNO spoke of his vision near term, and for the future.

He spoke of his strong relationship with Marine Commandant Gen. Jim Conway, and Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad W. Allen, and littoral operations and sea-basing of forces.

With the majority of the world's population, energy resources and urban areas within a couple hundred miles of coastlines, the littoral mission will increase in importance, especially as nations become more reluctant to allow foreign forces on their territory.

"I think we're going to be pretty busy in the next couple of decades," Roughead said.

The question and answer session covered a variety of topics, including:

- Individual Augmentee deployments are likely to increase temporarily as forces are increased in Afghanistan and then continue at recent levels for several years to come.
- Efforts to increase diversity in the Navy "does not mean you compromise standards," Roughead said, stating that reports that the Naval Academy had decreased standards "are not true." The effort is to get minorities and other groups to see the Navy as an educational and career option, expanding the experience of the service.
- The CNO said he is taking a strong interest in the latest effort to create a practical and career-oriented Foreign Area Officer program, because "in my career, I've seen us fail twice."
- The "don't ask, don't tell" issue isn't a policy, but a law – any changes will have to be passed by Congress.
- The wear policy on the new camouflage Navy Work Uniform has been relaxed to allow short stops off base for things like buying fuel or picking up kids – "the

logistics of daily living" – Roughead said he does not foresee allowing it to be worn in a broader context off-base.

- While the U.S. Navy plans to build two new submarines a year, the projection is for 280 new submarines to be built worldwide in the next two decades. That means the Navy needs to increase and improve its anti-submarine capabilities, especially its airborne ASW capabilities.

"If you just do the math – we're building two a year – there's a whole lot of other countries that are going to be building submarines," Roughead said.

"And they're getting quieter, their getting smaller and they're staying under for a whole lot longer and it becomes a tough problem."

After more than an hour in the auditorium, the CNO toured the Air Station with NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson for a first-hand look on the aging buildings, many of which were built in the 1940s.

At a Corpus Christi Army Depot hanger, CCAD Commanding Officer Col. Joe Dunaway presented the CNO with some of his people, who are part of the world's largest helicopter repair facility.

The CNO showed keen interest in the motorcycle training course located near the seawall, and then stepped out to inspect some of the uninhabitable "historic homes."

After a quick visit to the Combined Bachelor Quarters, and its two-time Zumwalt Award-winning staff, the CNO visited Sailors using the Liberty Center and listened as a couple of would-be rock musicians strummed away to a video game.

The CNO also visited the Fire Training Facility and took time to shake the hands of the "on duty" crew of the top Large Station of the Year for the region.

Admiral Roughead looked at one of the hangars that houses aircraft and then toured the Air Traffic Control Tower to get a birds-eye view of the Air Station.

"I'm concerned about your scheduled-time," asserted Pierson.

"It's okay," replied Roughead.

"When we leave here, we're headed back home."



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead takes a question from AO2 Christopher Polson about finding a way to compensate Funeral Honor Guard members for their additional uniform cleaning expenses during the CNO's Town Meeting at NASCC.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

CCAD continued from page 1

The program, known as recapitalization, or "recap" for short, is part of the Army's ever-present effort to reduce platform sustainment costs and contain the expense of replacing aging helicopters with new ones.

Overhauling and upgrading structural, engine, and airframe components allows Army Aviation to realize an asset that is equal to or better than a new one.

This first upgraded Black Hawk was handed over to Company A, 3-238th Combat Support Aviation Battalion of the Delaware National Guard.

"It's a great thing to do something for our Warfighters with the great team that we have," said Col. Joe Dunaway, CCAD Commander. "We're able to provide them with the product they absolutely need to be successful."

Performance increases include enhanced capability for lift and medical evacuation operations, sling load missions, increased range and more power for contingency operations and improvements to all critical areas of reliability and maintainability, adding more than 10 years of useful service life.

"Knowing that you can hand that logbook off to the crew," Dunaway said, "is like handing off a piece of this team. It makes us very proud."

Many recapitalized aircraft delivered to the Army National Guard subsequently deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom (OIF/OEF).

Fleet Sustainment

Recognizing the need to develop innovative sustainment programs to support the demand of an aging fleet, the Army's Chief of Staff approved the Utility Helicopter Recap program in July 2002.

Recap is the fundamental tenet of Black Hawk fleet sustainment. CCAD has been providing recapitalized UH-60A's to the Warfighter ever since.

In July 2007, CCAD, in partnership with the Utility Helicopter Program Office,

Aviation and Missile Command, Aviation and Missile Research Development & Engineering Center, and Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., inducted a prototype UH-60A aircraft for recap and upgrade to UH-60L.

The successful completion of the prototype in August 2008 paved the way to transition the program from UH-60A-A to UH-60A-A to L Recap.

The UH-60A-A to L prototype is in operational use today by the California Army National Guard.

"This is the first of many aircraft deliveries that greatly increases the Warfighter's capabilities," said Richard Golob, Program Manager Sikorsky - CCAD Partnership. "At the same time it reduces the overall cost significantly"

The Army plans to recapitalize more than 400 UH-60A Black Hawk helicopters, including those already delivered under the UH-60A-A Recap Program.

CCAD along with Sikorsky and other industry partners are postured to recap 48 UH-60L Blackhawks per year beginning this year.

These airframes will continue to provide employment and, with production and management controls understood, allow for some growth.

This is a new line for production that will add to the overall amount of work already in place for the Depot.

"The Sikorsky partnership is dedicated to the continued improvement of both quality and productivity, Golob said. "It's proved by the CCAD Sikorsky Technical, Engineering, Logistics Support Services program recently awarded Sikorsky's Achieving Competitive Excellence (ACE) Gold award."

As Black Hawks continue to be employed both at home and around the globe, Recap will continue to be the cornerstone of sustaining the fleet.

Along with that, the next chapter of Black Hawk Recap, UH-60L-L, is just around the corner.



Col. Joe D. Dunaway, Commander Corpus Christi Army Depot hands the 'keys' (logbooks) of the first production UH-60L Black Hawk to roll out of the depot to pilot, Jon Marsh, Chief Warrant Officer - 4, Company A, 3-238th Combat Support Aviation Battalion, Delaware National Guard.

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Water Aerobics

August is the last month for Water Aerobics at Oasis Pool (behind Health Clinic).

Tues - Thurs 6:10 p.m. - 7:10 p.m.

Tues - Shallow Water Aerobics

Wed - Half shallow / Half deep water

Thurs - Deep Water Aerobics

Martial Art Classes

Karate (\$35 per month)

Children's - Mon & Wed 7:30 p.m.

Adult - Mon & Wed 8:30 p.m.

The fee for each is \$35 per month.

Taekwondo (\$25 per month)

Adult - Tues, Wed, Thurs 6:30p.m.

Command Fitness Leaders Class (CFL)

CFL certification Aug. 24 - 28.

For CFL Course information and registration visit the NPC website (Support & Services / Physical Readiness)

GULF WINDS GOLF COURSE

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Gulf Winds Golf Association Appreciation Weekend - Aug. 7-9 Member's receive 50 percent off golf & cart fees.

Monthly Gulf Winds Golf Association tournament (fees apply) - Saturday, Aug. 15 (7:30a.m.)

Establish your golf handicap - \$12 Sign up at the Pro Shop - USGA approved handicap card issued and allows member to play in any golf tournament.

Golf Lessons - available from a certified professional golf teacher! Sign up at the NAS CC Gulf Winds Pro Shop. FEES: Individual (30 min) - \$30; Individual (60 min) - \$45; Dual (2) (60 min) - \$50; Group (3-5) (60 min) - \$20pp; Clinic (6-15) (90 min) - \$15pp; On course lesson (9 holes) \$75 (must have some course experience).

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CC Hooks vs. Midland Rock Hounds

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Last Buck Night/Pool Tournament

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Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC)

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Registration required for all training & workshops

Command Financial Specialist Training Aug. 17 – 21

Command Financial Specialist Round Table Forum – Aug. 21, 1-2:30 p.m..

Ombudsman Meeting Aug 17, 6 p.m.

Topic: Reimbursement Policy

Resume Workshops

Service Members

Aug. 4, 11, & 18

Dependents

Aug. 6 & 20

2009 Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Schedule

Retirees

Aug. 25-28; Oct. 27-30; Dec. 08-11

Separatees

Sept. 22-25; Nov. 17-20

2009 Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) Schedule: Aug. 12; Sept. 2; Oct. 14; Nov. 4; Dec. 2

Call for class eligibility requirements

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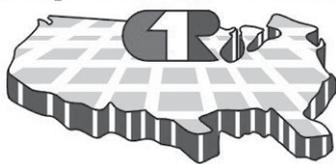
The CDC would like to have parents come and read their child's favorite book to their class during the month of August. Parents should speak to their child's teacher to coordinate a good time and date.

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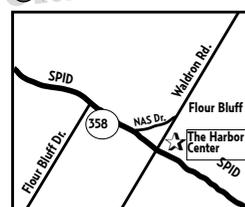
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CNO VISITS NASCC



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead visited Naval Air Station Corpus Christi on July 21 as part of a one-day visit to Texas.

(Clockwise from top left) Roughead addressed a packed Wings Auditorium, with the crowd estimated at about 1,200. The CNO spoke about his vision of the Navy for about 25 minutes, then took questions from the audience.

Roughead flew into NASCC, where he was met by NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson. He also met with the various tenant commanding officers while here.

At Training Air Wing Four, Roughead spoke with student pilots, including Italian Ensign Rosario Longo.

At the fire training facility, Roughead posed with Pierson, Fire Chief John Morris (left and second from left) and the duty fire crew and discussed the capabilities of the training site, which opened last year, with Morris.

Photos by Bob Torres



AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Winging — July 10



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Maj. Gabe Fabbri, XO MATSG-22; Lt. j.g. Robert Fasnacht, Chaplain; Cmdr. Patrick J. Foley, USCG, Senior Coast Guard Liaison; Randall Coward, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce; Lt. Col. Robert K. Blagg, USAF, CO VT-35; Cmdr. Dennis R. Crews, USN, CO VT-31; Capt. Dave Price, Commodore, TW-4; Vice Adm. Vivian S. Crea, USCG, Vice Commandant U.S. Coast Guard.

Wingees, in alphabetical order: Lt. j.g. Allison Cameron; 2nd Lt. Mark Andrew Bost, USAF; 2nd Lt. Daniel Godfrey, USAF; 1st Lt. Brian Ross Jackson, USAF; Lt. j.g. Jonathan Richard Leonardo; Lt. j.g. Sawyer Malear Mann, USCG; Lt. j.g. Douglas Lanier Marsh; Ensign Aaron Kyle Mauk; Lt. j.g. Robert William Maul; 1st Lt. Joshua Wayne Pavlischek, USMC; 1st Lt. Christopher John Reusser, USAF; Lt. Stephen Michael Simpson, USCG; 1st Lt. Matthew Jacob Thomas, USMC; Lt. j.g. Scott Urbashich; Lt. j.g. Charles Douglas Workman II.

NASCC Quarters Awards — July 14



(left) NASCC XO Cmdr. Bruce Lankford, (second from left) CO Capt. Randy Pierson and (far right) Command Master Pat Flavin with awardees at the July 14 Quarters ceremony. The Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal was presented to: Master Chief Gunner's Mate (SW/AW) Daniel J. Stark, Senior Chief Quartermaster (SW) Trent Harrell, and Chief Aviation Ordnanceman (AW/SW) Fredrick Washington. The Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal was presented to: Master-at-Arms First Class Jimmy E. Longoria, Culinary Specialist Second Class (SW) Luke C. Absher, Air Traffic Controller Second Class (AW) Ann E. Birchall, Air Traffic Controller Second Class Ricky K. Garza, Air Traffic Controller Second Class Byron S. Griffin, Electronics Technician Second Class (SW) Jose M. Medrano, and Electronics Technician Third Class Adrienne B. Campbell. Letters of Commendation were presented to Aviation Ordnanceman Second Class (AW) Christopher M. Polson and Air Traffic Controller Airman Brittany M. Dietert.

Photo by Bob Torres

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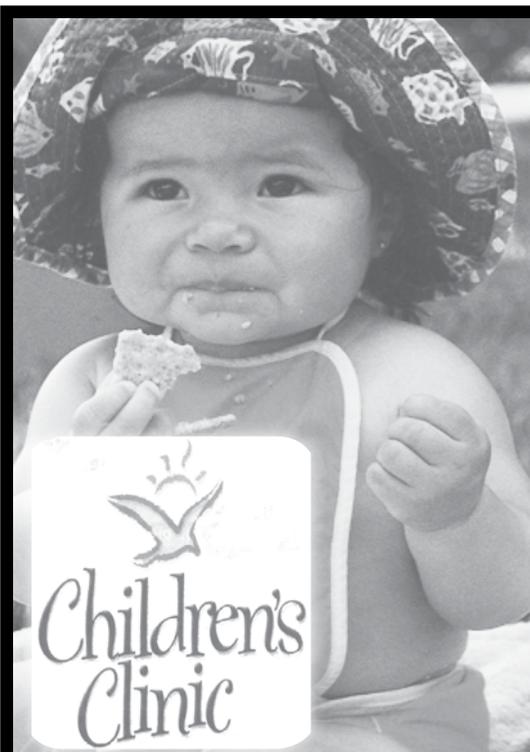
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Dozens of men and women from Training Air Wing Four hit the Sunfish Beach pavillion July 23 to begin construction on their entry into the Aug. 1 Titanic Cup. The race, held on Saturday afternoon of the two-day Navy Regatta, consists of military organizations racing homemade sailboats - some of which never complete the course, giving the race its "disastrous" name.

Photo by Bob Torres

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47th Annual Navy Regatta-Aug. 1-2



Start of the 2008 Navy Regatta

Photo by Bob Torres

It's swimsuits and sun screen time Aug. 1 and 2, as dozens of yachts will race from downtown Corpus Christi to the Naval Air Station on Saturday - and back again on Sunday.

Following tradition, the 47th Annual Navy Regatta will again incorporate a theme of 'A Salute to Our Heroes.'

That includes taking servicemembers who have recently deployed along on the Saturday race, as well as having military members take the helm for the Military Challenge Cup on Sunday.

And don't miss the Titanic Cup, when military teams race homemade boats while the yachtsmen and women cheer them on - or laugh as they sink.

This year, Capt. Dave Price, Commodore of Training Air Wing Four, has issued a challenge to NASCC Skipper Capt. Randy Pierson, whose team won the Cup in 2008 and ended six years of wins by TW-4 squadrons.

TW-4 wants to regain the trophy - a highly polished wooden toilet seat. And NASCC is determined to keep it!

Schedule of events:

July 30 - Online registration ends at midnight.

July 31 - 6 p.m. Registration Party at Bay Yacht Club. Registration closes at 8 p.m.

Aug. 1 - 9:30 a.m., Skippers Meeting at Corpus Christi Yacht Club.

11 a.m., First Warning Signal.

Approx. 2 p.m. (post race) - Titanic Cup Race.

Evening Luau at NASCC Corpus Christi Bay Club.

Aug. 2 - 10:30 a.m., Skippers Meeting at NASCC.

Noon, First Warning Signal for Military Challenge Cup.

Post-race - buffet and awards ceremony at Corpus Christi Yacht Club.

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What's Happening

Advertorial by Tina Konwerski

FILL THE BUS BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Saturday, August 1, 2009 -- La Palmera in partnership with C.A.S.A. of the Coastal Bend will take donations to 'Fill the Bus' throughout the day (Noon - 6pm) for over 2,000 foster children. Shoppers will be encouraged to purchase extra items while they shop for their own family and donate a variety of items for children from La Palmera retailers. Once shoppers make a donation, they will be given a shopping pass entitling them to special shopping incentives from participating La Palmera stores good through Sunday, August 2. Shoppers may pick up a Donation Idea Guide at Concierge during regular mall hours.

WHY DONATE...

CASA of the Coastal Bend serves Nueces, San Patricio & Aransas counties providing committed court appointed volunteers to work with children who must leave their home and enter the foster care system. As of 2008, the confirmed victims of child abuse & neglect include well over 2,000 children. With your donation, these children will not have to worry about where they will get the items they need to return to school this year. For more information on CASA of the Coastal Bend, visit www.coastalbend.org or www.becomeacasa.org.

1st Tuesday of EVERY month - BUNCO for charity benefiting the Ronald McDonald House of C.C. From 7:30-9 pm @ Stingers on Airline out on the patio. \$5 minimum donation requested.

Fridays and Saturdays thru August 1, 2009 7:30 p.m. "Pure As The Driven Snow or The Working Girl's Secret" at Rialto Theater, 327 S. Commercial Street, Aransas Pass, TX. This is a 1930's style melodrama or actually a parody of one. On a dark and stormy night, Purity Dean, a working girl with a secret, seeks shelter from the storm. There we find the typical villain, the upright hero and a house full of characters that change her life forever. You will roar and join singing old-fashioned songs, boo at the villain and cheer for our heroine and hero. \$12.00. For more information 361-758-0383

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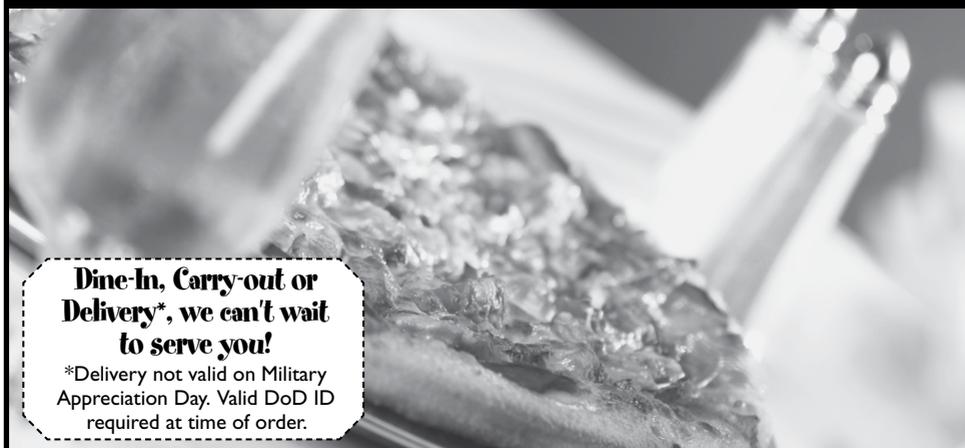
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Ask Dr. Garcia



Garcia

Q: When it comes to providing positive affirmations to our children, my husband's attitude in this area is quite opposite from mine. Am I on the right track in continuing to encourage my children?

A: The most important contribution that parents can make to their children's development is to let the children know that they adore them, love them, approve of them, like them, value them, care about them, and accept them.

Children who grow up with approval and positive affirmation and acceptance develop good feelings about themselves, adequate self-concepts, and confidence in their own worth and abilities.

In a study published in *Social Behavior and Personality*, researchers examined the relationships between parents' evaluation of their children and their children's self-concept in four domains: academic, physical, social, and general.

They found significant correlations between parental evaluations and children's self-concept.

Across sex and grade, academic self-concept was most influenced by parents' evaluations. When parents' thought their children were bright, the children had a higher self-concept with regard to their intelligence.

Feelings of self-worth make the children more likely to choose a suitable marital partner.

High self-esteem gives them a greater capacity to develop positive relationships because they feel that they are lovable and expect to be loved.

They feel they are capable spouses, able to fulfill the expected roles of marriage, and they are confident that they can be good parents to their children.

Q: How can I be assured that my second marriage will succeed?

A: Many factors need to be considered. According to research, couples who succeed seem to have five factors in common.

The first factor is that the partners have given themselves time to get to know each other well. Like any marriage, remarriages are more complete if each member of the couple really knows the other well beforehand.

Second, happily married couples resist the many pressures to remarry before they are ready. These pressures stem from society itself and from friends and relatives who can't tolerate others being unmarried for very long and who fix them up with dates. And then there are the pressures of loneliness and the need for love and companionship.

Third, partners are able to discuss every aspect of their relationship before marriage. If they haven't done so before, then they do so afterward.

Fourth, partners have learned from past mistakes. Before remarriage, they need to ask themselves: Do I understand what went wrong the first time? What were the underlying causes of my marital problems? Have I gained insight into the shortcomings, and am I able to overcome them?

Finally, partners put their marriage first. These couples have learned that the basis for sound parent-child relationships is a sound marriage. The partner's primary loyalty is to each other, and secondarily to their children.

There will be numerous forces inside and outside your marriage that will be trying to pull your marriage apart. Unless your bond is secure, your marriage can be broken.

Immature children and stepchildren may try to weaken your bond, as may ex-spouses.

Even other family members who resent the divorce or the remarriage may try to sow seeds of distrust or suspicion between you and your partner.

Ruben G. Garcia, Ph.D., LMFT is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and co-founder of The Healing Institute. Submit your questions to Dr. Garcia via email at troubadour55@hotmail.com. You can also contact Dr. Garcia

Chaplain continued from page 2

You volunteer to carry our colors at funerals and memorial services.

You mentor children in the local schools.

You volunteer to feed the homeless.

You have loved each other in losses and in victories.

And, the list goes on and on and on.

You do a great amount of good!

These days, there is not a whole lot of rain and the mosquitoes are hardly ever seen.

We have not had any floods this summer and the grass is always cut!

Buildings are receiving repairs, the water tower is being painted, old housing projects have been torn down, hangar doors have been repaired, and things are looking better all the time on our base.

But, our nation is facing some tough times and it needs your service and charity even more than ever.

Congratulations on your accomplishments and keep it up!

If you haven't joined the chorus of helping others, join up. There is much more that can be done.

So long, NAS Corpus Christi.

You are a different kind of place – an exceptional kind of place – and I am grateful to have known you.

FFSC now on Facebook & Twitter

by Rick Speller, FFSC

Fleet and Family Support Centers now have a Facebook page. Managed by its parent organization, the Fleet and Family Support Program, it will be a single source of information about the Center's many programs and services that can help Sailors and their families navigate the uniqueness of Navy life.

Fleet and Family Support Centers promote the self-reliance and resiliency of single and married Sailors as well as their families.

Fleet and Family Support Centers are located at bases around the world; however, many Navy families do not have easy access to them. The Facebook page is intended to keep all Navy families aware of the information and services available. They also want to answer your questions, so join the conversation and encourage others to do the same!

Here are just a few safety tips when using the Internet:

1. Don't post personally identifiable information (phone number, address, etc).

2. Don't post unit specific information (schedules, movements, mission, rosters, location, etc).

To visit the Fleet and Family Support Program's Facebook page, go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-DC/Fleet-and-Family-Support-Program/105861457742?ref=mf>

To sign up for tweets from the Fleet and Family Support Program at http://twitter.com/Fleet_Family.

For more information on the many services the local Fleet and Family Support offers visit us on the 4th floor of the Naval Health Clinic or call (361) 961-2372.



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Welcome Home, MA2 Dean



MA2 Dustin Dean signs the Patriot Guard Riders' 'Welcome Home' flag July 16 at Corpus Christi International Airport. Dean was greeted by NASCC leaders and well-wishers - and his mother and sister - upon his return from a six-month Individual Augmentee deployment to Afghanistan. He'll return to work after a well-earned leave.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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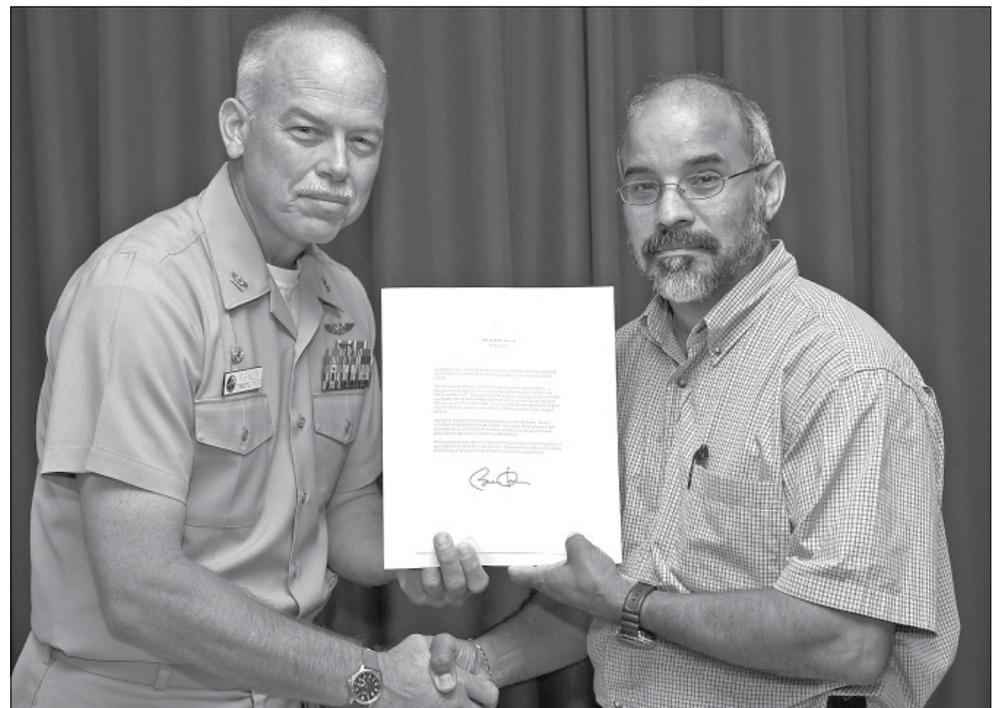
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Dr. Rivera honored as volunteer



Dr. Sam Rivera earned The President's Volunteer Service Award Silver Level for demonstrating a commitment to his community by donating more than 250 volunteer hours of service. Capt. R. G. Kelley, NHCCC Commanding Officer, made the presentation July 9. The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation was established in 2003 and created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

Photo by Bill Love, NHCCC PAO

Navy League of the United States - Corpus Christi Council

VISIT US - www.CorpusNavyLeague.org

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NEWSLETTER OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI COUNCIL, NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 2009 ISSUE



Corpus Christi Council

Established -1947

"The objective and purpose of the Navy League is simple - to educate & motivate the American people with regard to the role of sea power"

IN MEMORIUM - GRANDIS LENKEN

The Lone Star NLUS Region (Texas) has lost it's "Grand Lady." Grandis Lenken passed away on Friday, July 3, 2009 at the age of 86. "She led a very fruitful and prosperous life. She worked in the banking industry for 57 years, retiring as Vice-President. She also served on all Organizations in town, U.S.O., United Way, Boy Scouts of America, Greater Corpus Christi Alliance, National Kidney Foundation, Irish Culture Society, Czech Heritage Society of South Texas, Christus Spohn Hospital Auxiliary, Navy League, International Seaman Center, Bayfest, Business and Professional Women's Club, Bethune Day Care and Nursery, Salvation Army, Chamber of Commerce, Flint Hills Community Youth, Estill Foundation, Landmark Commission. She was a volunteer who never said 'No'. She was also given the Meritorious award from the Secretary of the Navy." Grandis joined the Corpus Council as a Life Member in 1986 and Ingleside Area Council Life Member in 1992. Existing NLUS National records show that she recruited over 900 new members during that 20+ year period. Grandis served as Corpus Christi Council President - NLUS National Director - South Texas Area President and Lone Star Region President and National Director Emeritus. She is missed.

WELCOME ABOARD

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AWARDS LUNCHEON -6 AUGUST

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Quarterly Luncheon at the Bay Club, NASCC
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RULES FOR BASE ACCESS (Apr 2008)

NLUS members may apply for a MWR Access Card with picture. The expiration date will be equal to the expiration of their Navy League Card but not longer than 3 years.

To simplify the process, NLUS members may email
1) NAME - 2) NLUS Member Number - 3) Date of Birth
4) Driver's License # to CorpusNavyLeague@aol.com
which will then be forwarded to Base Security. After 3 days - check at Pass and Tag / Flour Bluff Gate - to see if your card has been approved. Be prepared to show your Drivers License, NLUS Membership Card, current proof of insurance, and registration.

This card is not needed by Military Dependents or Military Retirees as they already have an issued a Military ID Card.

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Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits begin Aug. 1

From Naval Education and Training Command

More than a year after it was passed, the biggest change in VA education assistance since the end of the Vietnam-era GI Bill goes into effect on Aug. 1.

The chief of Naval Personnel announced on June 23, specific guidance detailing eligibility and benefits, including transferability for the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act, or GI Bill.

With college prices soaring, the new GI Bill supporting veterans education, signed into law June 2008, has the potential to make advanced education more affordable to Sailors and their families.

Sailors should consider GI Bill eligibility when planning their Navy career and family education needs.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is a significant benefit that provides not only tuition and fees for college, but may also include funding for books, supplies and a monthly stipend that may be used to offset living expenses.

The new GI Bill also includes the provision for members of the Armed Forces to transfer benefits to a spouse and/or children, and is expected to improve both recruiting and retention for the Navy total force.

The effective date for the Post-9/11 GI Bill entitlement is Aug. 1, and no benefits will be paid under the new program for training or education pursued prior to that date.

NAS Corpus Christi Navy College Director John Collis said that all schools located on board NASCC are ready to begin processing students using the new GI Bill.

"Servicemembers need to pay close attention to the eligibility requirements for transferability as well," Collis said. "Some additional service obligation may be required."

"Members also need to know that dependent children will need to use their transferred benefits before reaching age 26. After that, no benefit will be authorized."

Additionally, since the tuition is paid directly to the school by the VA, the only out-of-pocket expense is for textbooks.

For active duty personnel, this is an excellent opportunity to continue going to school once Navy Tuition Assistance benefits are exhausted during the fiscal year, Collis said.

Sailors who have questions can contact the NASCC Navy College Office at (361) 961-3236.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is responsible for final determination of eligibility for benefits under this program.

General eligibility criteria requires service members to have aggregate qualifying active duty service on or after Sept. 11, 2001 of between 90 days and 36 months or more, or at least 30 days of continuous active duty service if discharged sooner due to a service-connected disability. The member must receive an honorable discharge at the conclusion of service.

GI Bill continued from page 22

Qualifying active duty service is defined as active duty served in the regular component of the Navy, or for selected Reserve members, time served under orders to active duty in support of contingency operations, i.e. mobilization.

Members who have completed a minimum of 36 months aggregate qualifying service are generally entitled to 100 percent of the benefit under the new program.

Lesser amounts of aggregate qualifying service are prorated down to a 40 percent entitlement for 90 days of qualifying service.

For Naval Academy graduates and Navy ROTC scholarship recipients, the statutory minimum active duty service requirement for these programs does not count toward qualifying active duty.

Only time served after completion of the service obligation will be considered as qualifying active duty service.

Clarifying details and definitions concerning the calculation of qualifying service to include initial training time spent in boot camp and A school are outlined in Navy Administrative Message (NAVADMIN) 187-09.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is non-contributory (does not require a buy-in). Members eligible for either the current Montgomery GI Bill, or Reserve Educational Assistance Program and who also qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, may elect to convert remaining entitlement under those programs to the new program.

Members have 15 years from the date of their last discharge or separation from active duty of 90 days or longer, to use their entitlement under the new GI Bill.

For additional information on the Post-9/11 GI Bill, including details on qualifying service and exceptions, refer to NAVADMIN 187-09, or go to Navy Knowledge Online at <https://www.nko.navy.mil>, visit the Veteran's Affairs Web site at www.gibill.va.gov or contact Navy Personnel Command Customer Service Center at 1-866-827-5672.

Quail Unlimited banquet helps Escondido Ranch

The South Texas Chapter of Quail Unlimited's annual fundraiser banquet also is a way to help restore game habitat at the Navy's Escondido Ranch.

In the last four years, STCQU has donated \$70,000 toward the ranch's habitat restoration and maintenance projects — and they hope to raise enough to do more this year.

Escondido Ranch is a hunting ranch managed by Naval Air Station Kingsville's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department, offering a south Texas hunting experience to military members and DoD civilians.

The STCQU banquet will be held Aug. 29 at the J.K. Northway coliseum in Kingsville. The menu will include quail, nilgai, feral hog, shrimp, potato salad, coleslaw, veggie and fruit trays, and home-made cookies for dessert.

Advance tickets are \$75 per person; \$125 per couple. For more information, call: 361-592-6723, 361-877-9894, or 361-568-3536 or visit their website: www.stcqu.org.

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First Prize	
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**Monday, August 3rd
PADRE ISLES COUNTRY CLUB**

**Four Man Best Ball Scramble—
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D				

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