

SKY RANGER

The Electronic Newsletter of NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas

MMR

Meet Your
Athlete of the Year



Special Sports Edition

Presidential Archives Move 3

CNRSE Changes Command 7

MLK Celebration 8

A Dash Of Salt 14



SECTIONS

LOCAL NEWS.....	3-6
REGIONAL NEWS	7
MAG-41 NEWS	8-9
LEGAL ADVICE.....	11
OTHER NEWS.....	10

NAS JRB FORT WORTH

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COMMAND MASTER CHIEF - CMDCM Ellen Zubke
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EDITOR IN CHIEF - Mr. Rusty Baker



A Message From The Skipper

America's first joint base; America's FITTEST joint base.

OK, it might not be grammatically correct, but this take-off of our base motto captures the spirit of a renewed fitness culture here at NAS JRB Fort Worth. Of course, a culture of fitness encompasses much more than successfully squeezing ourselves and our borderline folks past another PRT cycle; it involves integrating good diet and exercise into our daily routines. There are a number of initiatives happening around the base specifically designed to expand your opportunities for fitness-enhancing activity.

Key "muscle movements" in the renewed NAS JRB Fort Worth fitness culture include:

- Renewed accountability for meeting physical readiness standards.
- A top-notch Fitness Enhancement Program (FEP) for those struggling.
- Robust base-wide team/league sporting events.
- Seasonal fun runs.
- The return of our runners incentive program.
- A new "Biggest Loser" weight loss incentive program.
- ...and several other health and wellness activities!

Our Lone Star Pros on the Command Fitness Team and in our Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department get it. They know that creating a culture of fitness begins and ends with goal-setting and discipline. When you're taking advantage of the many opportunities offered at our gym, take the time to thank the staff there, as well as those leaders who are enhancing base readiness while helping you reach your fitness goals - our MWR Fitness Director Donna Johnston; NAS JRB Command Fitness Leader, YNC O'Brien; and FEP coordinators YN2 Coker and AZ2 Diaz, to name just a few.

You can expect to see new events and more initiatives as our culture of fitness matures here at NAS JRB Fort Worth. Embrace it; and be a happier, healthier member of this fine team ... who will never sweat another PRT cycle.



Joint Base Effort To Support Presidential Archives Movement

AP story by Maria Recio; AP photo by L. M. Otero; Story appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Jan. 17

As President George W. Bush leaves office, his records are going home with him to Texas, where two planeloads and 14 truckloads of documents are already being sorted in a converted Lewisville factory, 20 miles from Bush's future library at Southern Methodist University.

At a one-time-only briefing Friday by the National Archives, archivists discussed their plans and also displayed some official gifts -- which also go with Bush -- including a pair of cowboy boots featuring Barney, the president's dog, and a first edition of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, for future display.

"As of yesterday, 17,000 cubic feet of records have been sent to Texas,

including 3,000 cubic feet of classified records," said Sharon Fawcett, director of presidential libraries at the National Archives. The final total is expected to be somewhere between those of the last two-term presidents; 30,000 cubic feet for President Bill Clinton and 20,000 cubic feet for President Ronald Reagan.

According to Fawcett, the Bush library will have the largest staff ever to assimilate the materials, eventually growing to 34 people, including 18 archivists.

The public, however, has a long wait before it can go through the material. For five years from the time Bush leaves office, the documents are extremely restricted.

Five employees are already working on site and will move with the materials when the National Archives takes control of the finished Bush library building.

Archives officials are also handling the presidential gifts, given to George and Laura Bush by heads of state and by everyday citizens. Among the items on display Friday were the boots, given by Rocky Carroll; a baseball bat, given to Bush in 2001 and signed by all the living members of the National Baseball Hall of Fame; and a diamond-studded ladies purse given by Queen Sirikit of Thailand, handcrafted with native fern-vines and finished with an 28-karat-gold handle and clasp. ■



A local joint team of NAS JRB Fort Worth service members unload pallets of boxed documents sent via chartered aircraft from the White House and load them on tractor-trailer transports to be shipped to a secured collection point until the Bush Presidential Library is built at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/FortWorth>



MWR Names the 2008 Athlete of the Year

Story by Rusty Baker

Storekeeper Second Class Petty Officer Daniel High of Fleet Readiness Center West, Fort Worth, Aviation Support Division, has been named Morale, Welfare & Recreation's (MWR) Athlete of the Year for 2008.

His accomplishments for receiving this award include winning the MWR's 2008 basketball team championship, being named the 2007 and 2008 basketball all-star, 2008 basketball most valuable player award, 2007 and 2008 three-point shoot-out champion, 2008 three-on-three champion, and 2007 and 2008 flag football team championship.

"Basketball is my main sport, I love it to death," said High. "As a little kid it was basketball and football, but I migrated more to basketball because it was my dad's passion too."

The 24-year-old is fourth generation military. Both his grandfather and great-grandfather served in the Army, but his father made the Navy a career. While enlisted as a



Yeoman First Class Petty Officer, his father Robert High, was honored to play as a point guard on the All-Navy Basketball Team from 1987 to 1993.

Daniel High was born in Lawrence, Kansas, and moved around from place to place while his father served on active duty. Thanks to two of his father's tours here, he calls Arlington, Texas, his home. He graduated from Bowie High School in 2002.

His wife, Amber, is a fellow Navy storekeeper who recently volunteered on an individual augmentee (IA) billet that landed her in Camp Buca, Iraq.

She's due back by this May, but for several

months has left Daniel at home to be "Mr. Mom" with their two-year-old boy, Jayden.

"The little man keeps me busy," said High, who admits that being a temporary single dad is a learning experience.

"You get in a routine when the wife is around," said High. "You could come home and can take a nap if you want to, but there's none of that now. When you come home and the little man wants to play, you've got to play."

High's father coached him through recreational basketball youth leagues while he was in school. He hopes to continue the trend by teaching his young son the fundamentals of the sport.

"He loves basketball probably as much as I did at his age," said High, "he's always taking his basketball outside and wanting to throw it around and roll it down the street."

High and his wife communicate several times a week, mostly

ATHLETE continues on next page



Comprised from several work centers around the base, the Navy flag football team "Dem Boyz" are crowned champions for 2008.



ATHLETE continued

through e-mail. She sneaks in a phone call when she can, and has been able to talk to her family a few times on a video teleconference line when the signal was strong enough. Jayden enjoys reading, and is excited when his mom is able to send him video of her reading his favorite books on camera.

“We try to do it as much as we can, whenever we can,” said High.

Outside of athletics, Daniel’s real passion is in acting and filmmaking. He’s working towards a degree in film and television production, but admits that it’s challenging being the only one home to take care of Jayden. Before Amber deployed to Iraq, she would encourage Daniel to try out in acting auditions for television shows.

“My wife is real understanding,” said High. “She wanted to go to Iraq and I was behind her for that. She understands that I want to act and

direct and she’s behind me with that.”

The future looks bright for the High family. He has already begun working on screenwriting and has aspirations of directing film. He is currently working on getting accepted to UTA in their Radio/Television/Film program. His wife is considering making the Navy a career and is making good use of her IA tour for future promotions. Once Amber returns, the family will soon shove off for their next duty station in Great Lakes. ■



Jingle All The Way!

Story and photos by Rusty Baker

Morale, Welfare and Recreation sponsored a base-wide, five-kilometer Jingle Bell Run on December 19. Groups of five and six participants were challenged to run the race, not as individuals, but collectively crossing the finish line leaving no team member behind. To join in on the Christmas celebrations that week, each runner was adorned with a pair of jingling bells that could be heard across the base.

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 41 won the race with a run time of 22:54.

Comprising the blue felt clad “Desperados” team was Capt. Chad O’Brien, Capt. Morris Desimone, recently retired Master Gunnery Sgt. Ron Reuter, Staff Sgt. Jerry Duncan, Sgt. Jared Boyd, and Sgt. Gabriel Ybarra (pic-

tured below). More impressive than the run time was the age factor in this group. The Marines ranged in age from 48 to 19 years old. Considering the age range from the other participating groups, the “Desperados” attribute conditioning and everyday physical training to their accomplishment.

Station Weapons came in second place with a 26:25 run time. AZ2(AW) Percy Diaz, SK2 Kim Toker, AO3(AW) Maurice Pacius, AOAN Irving Gantt and AOAN Jose Dominguez made up “Team Black.” The team was a little younger, with ages from 30 to 21.

Base Air Traffic Control personnel (green) came in third place. ■



MWR staff members present a trophy to the MALS-41 Marines who had barely broken a sweat.



Base Holiday Council Distributes Over 100 Gift Baskets to Base Personnel

Story and photo by MCC Maria R. Escamilla,
Navy Reserve Information Bureau 7th Fleet Det. Dallas



Volunteers representing tenant commands here pack Christmas gift baskets with donated food items. Each package contained a ham or turkey, rolls, pie and other items to make a complete holiday dinner. Recipients with children also received a package of toys from the base chapel.

Local military and civilian volunteers from the area came together to pack Christmas baskets for families at their commands.

The effort was organized by the base holiday council, a joint service group comprised of military and civilian members from each command here. The council is led by base Command Master Chief Ellen Zubke and Jim Gibbons from Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Thirty volunteers met at the base commissary to assemble foods for Christmas dinners for 111 families. Ham and turkey plus all the trimmings, including pie for dessert, were bagged by volunteers and distributed to the recipients before the Christmas leave

period.

In addition, Marine Corps Family Readiness donated toys for 100 families with children. Volunteers sorted age-appropriate toys at the base chapel for distribution.

“Distributing the gift baskets this year was truly a joint effort,” said Master Chief Air Traffic Controlman Pamela A. Durrant, assigned to NAS JRB Fort Worth. “All branches of the military on base came together for the benefit of our service members.”

In addition, “The holiday council distributed 100 gift baskets at Thanksgiving,” said Durrant. “These were our first efforts. It’s gone very well this year, so we’re hoping to do it again during the holidays next year.” ■

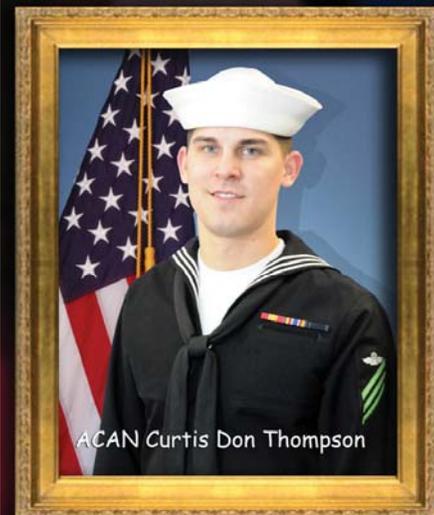
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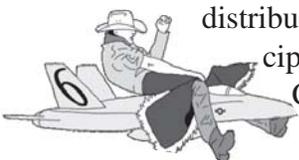
Sailor of the Quarter



Jr. Sailor of the Quarter



Blue Jacket of the Quarter



CNRSE Holds Change of Command Ceremony

Story by MC2(AW/SW) Marcel A. Barbeau, Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Townsend G. “Tim” Alexander relieved Rear Adm. Michael C. Vitale as Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), during a ceremony Jan. 9 aboard Naval Air Station Jacksonville.

Alexander took over a command that leads shore installation management support and execution for 21 installations within the Southeastern United States and parts of the Caribbean – specifically Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Naval Activity Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico – with a budget of more than \$850 million.

Vitale has commanded Navy Region Southeast since October 2007. He guided its emergency management efforts to unprecedented levels of operational excellence during hurricanes Gustav, Hanna, and Ike, making CNRSE one of the Navy’s leaders in hurricane preparedness and post-disaster support.

The 1977 University of Louisville graduate spearheaded the formation of the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Air Operations Cross-Functional Team to identify major stakeholders and create a single process owner for shore-based air operations, bringing organizational alignment between resource sponsors, CNIC, and all major aviation stakeholders.

Vitale also executed an integrated encroachment plan to serve as the benchmark for enterprise-wide programs, including installation liaison officers and regional encroachment teams. He secured Department of Defense encroachment buffering funds and established strong partnerships with local communities. Vitale brought solutions to installation challenges and stood as the model for

innovative practices, which realized significant savings, promoted enhanced operational oversight, and supported the fleet, fighter, and family.

Rear Adm. Vitale has been selected for promotion to vice admiral and his next assignment will be as Commander, Navy Installations Command in Washington D.C.

Rear Adm. Alexander comes to Navy Region Southeast from his current position as Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, positions he has held since August 2006.

He graduated from the University of Colorado in 1978, and was commissioned an ensign after completion of Aviation Officer Candidate School in March 1981. His operational assignments included the Sea Snakes of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (Light) (HSL) 33, three tours with the HSL-46 Grandmasters, and the amphibious assault ship USS Nassau (LHA 4). Alexander served in a variety of billets, including detachment maintenance officer and officer in charge, squadron Naval aviation training and operating procedures standardization officer, quality assurance officer, operations officer, maintenance officer, executive officer and commanding officer. He served as air boss aboard Nassau during operations Noble Anvil and Allied Force in 1999.



Rear Adm. Townsend G. “Tim” Alexander assumed command of CNRSE on Jan. 9.

Shore assignments for Alexander included the Air Wolves of HSL-40, the Naval War College, Chief of Naval Operations staff, the Joint Staff, and Naval Base Coronado. During these tours, he served as quality assurance officer and instructor pilot, flag aide, aviation programs analyst, division chief, and commanding officer.

Alexander holds a Master of Arts degree from the Naval War College and he attended the Armed Forces Staff College in 1998. He was recognized by the Naval Helicopter Association as a member of the 1993 Aircrew of the Year (Embarked) and, in 1989, he received the Rear Adm. Allan G. Paulson award for inspirational leadership from Commander, Helicopter Sea Control Wing 3. ■



Marines participate in Armed Forces tribute at the 26th Annual Black Music and the Civil Rights Movement Concert

Story and photo by Sgt. Lisa Rosborough



The mass choir cheers as (left to right) Sgt. Mireya Garcia and Cpl. Steve Longhurst of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 41 in Fort Worth, Texas stand with fellow Marine Cpl. Michael Shine of MAG-41 and MALS-41 Sgt. Bruce Kirby during the Armed Forces tribute at the 26th Annual Black Music and the Civil Rights Movement Concert in Dallas, Texas. The concert was part of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Barack Obama celebration.

The Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center was filled with joyful music and inspiration at the recent 26th Annual Black Music and the Civil Rights Movement Concert.

Marines from MAG-41 were led by Headquarters Battery, 14th Marine Regiment, Sgt. Maj. Charles Oldham as part of a joint service Armed Forces tribute, which consisted of 50 service members from the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Service members made their mark in history as they were saluted with the people and events that have helped shape the nation's progression towards racial equality.

The Civil Rights Movement Concert, which was a moving celebration and reflection on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement of the 1960s, also captured the nationwide spirit of change through President Barack Obama's presidential campaign with powerful film

footage, narration, gospel music and praise dance. This year's music headliner was 2004 American Idol winner, Grammy-nominated, and Broadway actress, Fantasia, who provided riveting and soulful vocals for the event.

According to Matt Weitz, special contributor to the Dallas Morning News, "this year's emotional undercurrent during the program was much stronger than the previous years." With the inauguration of President Obama, the Armed Forces tribute was one of the highlights of the event. It consisted of the posting of the colors by the NAS JRB Air Force Honor Guard and four formations of representatives from each branch of the military taking part in the opening and grand finale of the program.

As Marines, Sailors, Soldiers, and Texas Air National Guardsmen marched in from stage left and stage right to take their places, much to the surprise of the 2,062 members in the

audience, another formation of service men and women marched down two aisles from the back of the sold-out symphony center and made their way to the front of the stage while the audience cheered "Yes We Can", waving their flags and standing to their feet for the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Each service member standing tall and proud had a chance to reflect on what it meant to be a part of such an occasion. "To be a part of a ceremony that honors Dr. King and President Obama was an extremely gratifying moment in my life," said Staff Sgt. Cavin Vaughan of VMGR-234. Sgt. Mireya Garcia of MALS-41 shared the same sentiments. "This event was something that I can look back on and remember how proud everyone was of us and how they look up to us. I had a lot of fun and there is nothing better that I could have done to pay my respect and to celebrate this tribute to



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The ceremony made me realize how far we've come."

Program creator and producer, Curtis King, who is also president and founder of The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, mentioned to the audience that the Armed Forces tribute was very personal for him because he has a brother who is a captain in the Navy and is currently serving in Iraq.

Also preparing for a tour to Iraq were several members of the Army. The Soldiers were led by Sgt. Maj. Victor Allen of the Dallas – Fort

Worth Airport's Personnel Assistance Point Rest and Recuperation Program. Allen's Soldiers were due to fly to serve in Iraq the next morning but were able to participate and felt it was the perfect send-off. "I was overwhelmed with the outpour of love and appreciation from everyone," said Army Specialist Kenyatta Wilson. "I felt goose bumps when the mass choir sang "God Bless America" and it made me feel proud to say I serve in the United States Army," added Wilson.

"Though some branches of the service had more participants than oth-

ers, it was a good idea to have everyone together instead of separating the services," mentioned Staff Sgt. Ivyann Castillo of the Texas Air National Guard. "This is what makes me proud to be in the military, serving next to my brothers and sisters and fighting for our people at home. The whole event, in conjunction with the Armed Forces tribute, portrayed diversity in every aspect. From all the different services and seeing different races in the audience - even with some of the performers, it made me realize how our nation can be united." ■

Marines Finish Undefeated In NAS JRB Soccer Season

Story and Photo by Sgt. Lisa Rosborough

Sgt. Luis Saldana of MAG-41 S-1 shop, uses his quickness and skill to move past a Sailor defender in the Los Chupa Cabras' win over the Navy during the NAS JRB soccer championship.



The combined team of MAG-41 and Marine Wing Support Squadron 473 ended their soccer season in a close game with a one-point win over the Navy, 7 – 6.

The playoff game, which took place on Jan. 8 at the NAS JRB playing field, made for a championship season for the Marines on team Los Chupa Cabras. Ending their season with a record of 11 – 0, the Chupa Cabras were able to put together a win against the Navy by simply sticking to the basics and playing as a team, according to goalie, Sgt. Joshua Lascano of MWSS-473. "It's all about passing the ball and making the plays," said Lascano.

Making plays isn't all that the Chupa Cabras used as a tactic. They used speed, endurance, and strong mental focus to push away from the Navy team to come out on the winning side of the playoffs. As forward, Sgt Escarcegaargumedo of MWSS-473 stated, "playing smart and making openings and just simply knowing each others strengths and weaknesses," was another key factor is winning in such a close game.

There's more on the horizon for Los Chupa Cabras in the soccer world. Members of the team will be playing in a 3-on-3 tournament on Jan. 30 and 31 at GameOn Arena Sports in White Settlement. The team is also registering for an indoor soccer league. ■

<https://www.enic.navy.mil/FortWorth>



AS I SERVE

By Yeoman Second Class Petty Officer Shimeka Mitchell

**I serve with honor today, because he believed freedom would ring,
I serve with pride today, because of his passionate dream.**

**I serve because he inspired those in schools and communities, to do a greater good.
I serve in peace today, because he dreamed that all men should.**

**I serve and wear this uniform to tell my children about the struggles and power of his past,
Because I serve to carry on the tradition of love that my country believed our nation would someday have.**

**Yes, I serve today, satisfied with the leadership that we have in place,
Because he knew that someday all humans would have equality, regardless of gender and race!**

**Today I serve to become a leader who will not only guide others by my words, but in everything I do!
I serve, remembering the great words of MLK and how he helped America's dream come true.**

**As we serve, let's celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the barriers that have been broken today.
Let's serve with great faith, never forgetting, he gave many men pride and courage in wearing this uniform today.**

**As I serve today, I'm remembering a song of freedom that captures the strength of Dr. King.
"Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring!"**

**Reminding me today how the price of justice will always be worth more than the riches one can give.
So I smile, so I laugh, so I dance and I appreciate my freedom in this country that I live!**

**As we serve, we stand watch out to sea, shore and across many countries 24 hours a day.
Yes, others have gone before us, many we may never know, yet in faith and courage, Dr. MLK has paved the way.**

**As we serve, we are remembering Coretta King, because of her steadfast devotion too.
As we serve, let us continue to work in peace and harmony, and to our shipmates, always stand true!**

**Often times we choose a career, just to ensure the security of our lifestyle and family.
Then along the way we find a deeper meaning in uplifting one another for the world to see.**

**So today as we serve and celebrate the positive influence of Dr. King's holiday,
Let each one, teach one, something about their heritage,
and help mold our junior personnel to be better Sailors every day.**

**We salute the past because without it, there would be no motivation to move ahead.
When you fail, learn from your mistakes, when you want others to trust you, stand by the words that you've said.**

**Through it all, don't forget the dream, work hard and don't forget to serve.
Through diversity and leadership, you'll always be able to give this country the freedoms it deserves.**

**As we serve, we pay tribute to an American who helped our nation realize
that equality should be a factor in every one and every thing,
We honor and salute you today, Dr. Martin Luther King!**

Request Your DD Form 214 Online

By David M. DuBois; Fleet & Family Support Programs (N911A); CNIC

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following Website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.

Do not be misled by this announcement. The website allows you to enter information necessary to request DD-214's or other military service information. A completed request is produced for printing. It must be signed, dated, and either faxed or mailed. You should not expect to receive your documents via an online download feature.

Military personnel records are primarily administrative records and can contain information such as: enlistment/appointment; duty stations and assignments; training;

qualifications; performance; awards and medals; disciplinary actions; insurance; emergency data; administrative remarks; separation/discharge/retirement (including DD Form 214, Report of Separation, or equivalent) and other personnel actions.

Detailed information about the veteran's participation in military battles and engagements is NOT contained in the record.

Most Official Military Personnel Files contain both personnel and active duty health records, but this practice was discontinued by the service branches beginning in 1992. See Military Medical and Health Records section on the Website for more details.

The National Archives's National Personnel Records Center (Military Personnel Records) (NPRC-MPR) stores records of individual military service pertaining to former service members who no longer have a service obligation. Included are records of veterans who are completely discharged (with no remaining reserve commitment), or who are retired or have died. Records are usually transferred to NPRC (MPR) within six months after these events.

NPRC (MPR) does not have records of members who are still in the active or inactive reserves or in the National Guard. The records of each military service department on file at NPRC (MPR) are listed under Location of Military Service Records on the Website.

DD-214 Continues On Next Page

2009 Naval Leader Development Guide Now Available

From Center for Personal and Professional Development Public Affairs

The Center for Personal and Professional Development (CPPD) completed the 2009 edition of the Naval Leader Development Guide (NLDG) and posted it to Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) Dec. 4.

NLDG brings together myriad information. This year's edition includes a 15-month calendar (January 2009-March 2010); a complete list of CPPD courses and services; Navy and Marine Corps selection board and fitness report and evaluation schedules; and the Navy and Marine Corps Pro-

fessional Reading Program lists. Also returning is the personal and professional development section, which includes planning steps; goal development assistance and worksheets; and the mentoring compass.

Commands can download the portable document format (PDF) version of the guide free from NKO or order copies from the Document Automation and Production Service by logging on to the Naval Forms Online Web site <http://navalforms.daps.dla.mil/web/public/home> and ordering by

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/FortWorth>

Navy Stock Number 0115-LF-133-4800.

To download the 2009 Naval Leader Development Guide, visit www.nko.navy.mil and select the leadership link. The guide can be downloaded as either a PDF file for printing or as an Excel file for importing into Microsoft Outlook.

Students of CPPD leadership courses will receive copies of the guide. ■



Titling and Registering Vehicles

By Jeffery Harper, LT, JAGC, USN

A recent article on the topic of domicile made a number of recommendations on how to establish residency. One item in that list was to title and register your vehicles in your new state, to demonstrate your intent to permanently remain there. If you are married, you and your spouse have choices about how to title your wheels, choices which have pros and cons that should be considered. Generally, your choices come down to (1) title and register the vehicle jointly, or (2) title and register the vehicle in the service member's name alone.

Titling and Registering the Vehicle Jointly

The title to an automobile defines ownership. The main benefit of titling a vehicle jointly is that if one of the owners of the vehicle dies, the surviving spouse automatically owns the vehicle. Joint ownership comes with the "right of survivorship." For example: The Umptyfratzes own a Honda Accord which is paid off. The title to the Accord lists Petty Officer Umptyfratz and Mrs. Umptyfratz as joint owners. Petty Officer Umptyfratz is tragically killed in an accident. Because the Accord was titled jointly, with right of survivorship, Mrs. Umptyfratz owns the vehicle without hav-

ing to go to court to "probate" Petty Officer Umptyfratz's estate.

The Service members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) provides that property cannot be taxed solely because it is in the taxing jurisdiction because of the service member's "compliance with military orders." In other words, if Petty Officer Umptyfratz is domiciled in Virginia, but lives in Florida because his orders sent him there, Florida cannot collect personal property tax on either his Accord or other car. Whether Petty Officer Umptyfratz actually pays property taxes to the state of his domicile (here, Virginia) is irrelevant.

Unfortunately, there is a loophole in the SCRA – because this section of the SCRA does not specifically state it applies to jointly owned property, many states will tax jointly owned property under the theory that they are taxing property that is NOT owned by a service member. In other words, if the Umptyfratzes have titled their vehicles jointly, then some states WILL tax the vehicles because Mrs. Umptyfratz, who is not a service member, owns the vehicle.

Titling and Registering the Vehicle in the Service Member's Name Only

Naturally, titling the vehicles in only the service member's name

presents the opposite advantages and disadvantages – Petty Officer Umptyfratz, by titling the family wheels in his name alone, can avoid the loophole in the SCRA. The downside of course, is that if Petty Officer Umptyfratz dies, the car becomes part of his estate – the things he owned when he died. To change ownership, his wife will have to go to court to probate his estate. The new owner will be the individual named in Petty Officer Umptyfratz's will, or if he doesn't have a will, according to the state's default rules. Those rules would likely give ownership of the cars to Mrs. Umptyfratz.

Neither one of these options is better or worse than the other – it's up to you and your family to determine which is best for you. If you think that loophole should be closed, exercise your right to write, and send your representatives in Washington, DC a letter letting them know that section 511(c) of the SCRA should be amended to specifically apply to jointly owned property.

This article is not intended to substitute for the personal advice of a licensed attorney.

Contact your local legal assistance office at Fort Worth, Texas at (817) 782-6009. ■

DD-214 Continued...

The Department of Defense and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) signed an agreement to make the Official Military Personnel Files a permanent series of records, transferred to NARA custody 62 years after the service member's separation from the military. The new Archival Program Division at the National Personnel Records Center now

holds nearly 1.2 million official military personnel files of former US Navy and Marine Corps enlisted personnel who served between 1885 and 1939. Also available are the records of 150 "persons of exceptional prominence", including former Presidents, famous military leaders, celebrities, entertainers and professional athletes who served in the military and have been deceased for at least 10 years.

For more information, visit: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/> ■

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/FortWorth>



WINNING CAPTION (Photo No. 2)

I hope these witches don't have any fire!

Samson J. De Sessa, CFEI; NAS JRB Fort Worth Fire Marshal/Prevention Chief



HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Shirt and tie, the girls said. This is the last blind date I fall for.

MSgt. Shawn David McCowan, 10th Air Force PAO

One night in Bangkok makes a hard man humble.

LCpl Robert B. Hinton Jr; MWSS-473 Det Bravo

This would be the last time he took a nap at the job site.

ET1 Bryan Rountree; Ground Electronics

I thought we weren't getting the ANTHRAX shot, anymore?!

AD2 Timothy Cossey; C-12



CAPTION THIS PHOTO (NO. 3)

Submit a funny and
CLEAN caption to
FTWO_INFO@navy.mil

Title the subject line:
Photo Caption No. 3

The winning cap-
tion will be displayed
with the photo in next
month's Sky Ranger.

Runners up will be listed
as honorable mentions.

Please give us your
name, rank, unit and
phone number.



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A Dash of Salt

A Series of Articles on Nautical Terms, Phrases and Cliches by Jon Craig

Part one in the series is “The devil to pay and no pitch hot” and it means “a bad situation”. This one goes back to the days of sailing ships and before the days of marine railways and drydocks. Since two pieces of wood butted together are not water tight by themselves, it’s necessary to fill all the seams exposed to the weather or the water. They have to be filled with a material that is malleable enough to be inserted and yet will compress tightly enough to keep the water out. On the old sailing ships, the material used most often was oakum. This consisted of threads of hemp impregnated with pitch (tar). The usual method of impregnation was to dip a handful of the 8 foot long threads into a vat or barrel of heated pitch. The handful was then stripped into smaller portions and “picked” or rolled into whatever lengths the bosun wanted. If hot pitch was not available, the individual threads were pressed or rolled in cold pitch. This was not a job given to a sailor as a reward for good behavior.

To insert this material into the seams, the sailors would place it against the seam and drive it in with a caulking tool. The tool looked like a fat putty knife with a blunt edge about 4 to 6 inches long. The oakum was driven into the seam by hitting the caulking tool with a mallet or hammer. This was called “paying”. Since there were a lot of seams on a ship, caulking was a never-ending task.

To pay the seams on the underwater portion of the hull, it was necessary to “careen” the ship. The ship was lightened by removing all the ballast, the guns, stores and anything else they could get off. The ship was then run lightly aground on a sand beach at high tide. It was winched as far in as necessary to get the work done, without making it impossible to refloat it. When it was far enough up the beach the ship leaned over (careened) and the hull was cleaned by letting the marine growth dry out in the sun and air and then burning it off with torches. The old caulking was pulled out and given to the bosun for cleaning and reuse (first recycling by the Navy). Then the seams were re-caulked.

The worst job was re-caulking the seams on either side of the keel. These were so far under the hull that the sailors had to lay on their backs to do the work. (Sailors far under the hull doing this would occasionally fall asleep, hence the term “caulking off” for sleeping.) It usually stank (hard to clean) and was hot because no breeze could reach you. Those two seams were called the “devil”. Since they were usually the last ones done, the supply of prepared oakum may have been used up and the people assigned to the job would have to make oakum with cold pitch. So if you had “the devil to pay and no pitch hot” you were in for a nasty watch. ■

Part two in the series: “Gun decking.”





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EXERCISE SOLID CURTAIN

23 – 27 FEB 2009

This is an annual exercise conducted on all Navy installations to enhance Security force readiness and abilities to prepare for and defend against threats.

This is a routine exercise and is NOT in response to any specific threat.

What You Can Expect:

- Probable increased traffic or delays in base access.
- Increased activity at all gates.
- Increased patrols on and around the installation.
- Potential for **EXTREMELY** restricted gate access (essential personnel only) on **24 FEB** for greater than 12 hours.
- Increased Security levels.

What You Can Do:

- Carry proper ID at all times.
- Arrive early.
- Plan accordingly.
- Be patient.
- Follow all orders

