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"We Train The World's Best Pilots Here!"

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

June 12, 2009

Air Station set to celebrate base, nation and Kingsville birthdays July 4th

By Wayne Short, MWR Marketing Director

NAS Kingsville and MWR will once again be hosting an Independence Day celebration, complete with the largest fireworks display in Kleberg County. It will be a celebration of the nation's 233rd birthday, the anniversary of the air station's official dedication in 1942, and the City of Kingsville's birthday. The event will be a great opportunity for family and friends of the air station to come together and enjoy a great day of food, fun, and entertainment.

Festivities will take place in the general area of the Captain's Club and Conference Center on July 4, and are scheduled to get under way at 6 p.m. Planned for the day is a variety of family-friendly games and activities, as well as a great lineup of live entertainment.

Featured on the main stage will be a patriotic performance by the Kingsville Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet, followed by local recording artists Ragged Company playing a blend of old favorites and excellent original music. Ragged Company has established itself as one of the most popular local bands. You don't want to miss either of these performances.

For those who are more hands-on, MWR be organizing a number of games and contests for everyone to enjoy. Look for old standards like the egg toss, water balloon toss, three-legged races, as well as some new and creative events. And yes, there will be a pie eating contest. (CMC Ratliff is the early favorite).

In addition to the great entertainment, the MWR department will have food and



Fireworks light up the skies behind a Navy Blue Angel aircraft at NAS Pensacola, Fla.

drinks available. Menu items will be announced soon.

New this year will be the ability for air station personnel to invite immediate family and friends. Details regarding the issuing of vehicle passes to personnel are being finalized, and should be announced sometime next week.

Concert Honoring the Military

The Kingsville Symphony Orchestra will present a "Salute to the Military" concert Saturday, July 4 at Jones Auditorium, Texas A&M University at Kingsville, from 3-5 p.m. The symphony will be conducted by conductors Lee Gwozdz and Stefan Sanders.

4th of July Parade: Plans are being finalized for the City of Kingsville 4th of July parade. Complete info next issue.

Wildlife intensive leadership development summer camp seeking participants

NAS Kingsville will be hosting a wildlife/conservation workshop at the Escondido Ranch in mid August for military dependent children. Organizers are looking for about 20 kids, **military dependents only**, between the ages 12-16 to participate. Time away from home will only be 3 days and 2 nights. Applications re required, and selections will be made from all applications received.

The **free** workshop is a wildlife-focused leadership development program that is a scaled down version of what is offered by the Texas Brigades (www.texasbrigades.org/). Instructors are wildlife and resource professionals from Texas Ag Extension Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Quail Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, etc.

The camp will be held Aug. 11-13 at NAS Kingsville's Escondido Ranch, located about 90 miles northwest of the Air Station near Freer, Texas. No experience in the outdoors required. Participants only



need to have an interest in learning about wildlife and developing their leadership skills. "Since the event is free, it's a great opportunity for active duty dependent children to learn about wildlife and habitat management," said NAS Kingsville Natural Resources Manager Rich Riddle who is coordinating the camp.

Riddle explained the camp consists of intense, interactive, and hands-on learning from some of the top wildlife and natural

resource professionals in Texas. "Subjects covered include everything from biology, habitat management, watersheds, population dynamics, ecology, and botany, to photography, journalism, firearm safety, fishing, communication, critical-thinking, team building, and leadership," Riddle added. In addition, a hunter safety certificate will be issued to participants upon completion of the course.

The camp will also need adult volun-

teers to serve as Leaders. No experience is necessary, just a desire to learn and mentor youth. Volunteers will have the opportunity to aid a younger generations' consciousness of their responsibility to [and understanding of] their natural world. Not only do volunteers help enrich the lives of the participants, the experience also benefits them.

An understanding of the importance of this program is represented by its cooperating partners, including Texas AgriLife Extension, Texas Wildlife Association, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Texas Chapters of Quail Unlimited, QuailMasters, the U.S. Navy, and numerous other individuals involved in the wildlife and natural resources industry.

Applications are available by contacting Rich Riddle at richard.riddle@navy.mil (Phone: 361-516-6470) or Helen Holdsworth at h_holdsworth@texas-wildlife.org (Phone: 800-839-9453 ext 120). Deadline to apply is Friday, July 3.

From the Bridge

Capt. Phil Waddingham
Commanding Officer,
NAS Kingsville



Greetings Team Kingsville!

I had the pleasure of attending Training Air Wing TWO's latest winging ceremony held in the VT-21 Ready Room Friday, June 5 at which Wings of Gold were presented to Lt. j.g. Shaun Randell and Brazilian Navy Lt. Igor Bastos (see page 6 for the story and photos). I congratulate both aviators on this significant accomplishment and wish them both the very best as they move on to their next assignment.

Training Air Wing TWO Deputy Commander Capt. Mark Brooks presided over the ceremony filling in for Capt. BD Davis and as I watched the ceremony it struck me that in just a little over two weeks, Capt. Davis and his wife Betsy will be departing Kingsville and moving on to their next assignment - a return trip to the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. The training wing's change of command ceremony is set for July 2, at which, Capt.

Brooks will assume command.

It will hard to say goodbye to Bill and Betsy. They have been extremely supportive of the air station during their two years on board, and they (and their children) have become very close personal friends to me, my wife Sue and our children. As Wing Commander, BD has led the Wing through some tough moments and guided each squadron to reach new levels of training effectiveness. More than that, the Davis' have taken a personal interest in quality of life issues on board the air station for all Sailors and Marines and civilian employees. They will both leave behind a strong legacy of service to the command and the community and will be sorely missed by all of us. Please be sure to thank them both for all they done for NAS Kingsville the next time you see them.

Like their predecessors, Capt. Brooks and his wife Melanie (Mel for short) will be very active in command-wide programs and events, and I look forward to working with both of them as we take NAS Kingsville to even greater heights over the next year.

I'd also like to send out my personal "Well Done!" to our Environmental Services team of Norma Barrera, Tish Knerr and Arnie DeLeon and our NAVFAC staff for their professional approach to the com-

about what these words really mean to us on a regular basis? Ideally, these three words should drive everything we do, and every decision we make, in the performance of our duties.

Webster's Dictionary defines honor as a "keen sense ethical conduct." Do you conduct yourself honorably and ethically in your daily relationships with superiors, subordinates, and peers? Has your honor and integrity earned you the genuine respect of seniors and subordinates? Can the Chief count on you to complete the assignment you promised you would finish today? Can junior Sailors trust you completely to have their best interests in mind with every decision you make? The honorable Sailor will be able to answer yes to these questions.

Courage is defined as "the mental or moral strength to persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty." As Sailors we have chosen a profession that is extremely challenging and demanding. Long hours spent underway are filled with dangerous evolutions that could result serious injury or death. And with the current world situation our profession is taking many Sailors into harm's way on a regular basis. Do you have the courage to meet the demands of being a professional Sailor? Do you have

mand's recent Environmental Services Audit. The inspection had high praise for the NAS Kingsville EMS Program team, noting the program has full management support from the command staff; of EMS from CO, XO, and PWO; exceptional support and environmental compliance from our Auto Services shop (Bill Boswell and Mike Johnson); professional service support from FISC Jacksonville Det Kingsville's Supply HazMat office (Mariana Bocanegra); and continued environmental awareness and management from contract employers LB&B, L-3, and Rolls Royce were also praised.

What I'm most proud of is that our Environmental Services team took the time to prepare for the inspection, go over their check lists, and ensure that everything was in order well ahead of the team's arrival. This is the way things should be done. Congratulations EMS team!

In closing, please mark your calendars for the July 2 Training Air Wing TWO change of command ceremony - and don't forget our big 4th of July celebration that weekend. Updated information on our celebration is included on the front page of this issue.

Until next time, thank you for all you do to make NAS Kingsville a great place to work. R/ Waddz

the courage to make the right decision even when you know it will be unpopular with your subordinates? The Sailor with courage will be able to answer "yes" to these questions.

Webster defines commitment as "the state of being obligated or emotionally impelled." Are you committed to our Navy even when you are exhausted from those long, stressful hours underway? More importantly, are you committed to your Sailors who are even more exhausted than you? Are you constantly looking out for their best interests? Are you committed to their professional growth and development? The Sailor who is committed to our Navy and his subordinates will be able to answer yes to these questions.

To me, Honor, Courage, and Commitment are much more than our Core Values. These three words represent an ethos that distinguishes what we are as Sailors and as a Navy. They are a code of ethics that we base our behaviors and actions on each and every day. And most importantly, these three words are words that honorable and courageous men and women such as yourselves are committed to live by as you serve our country.

Thanks for your service shipmates!

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NAS Kingsville
Commanding Officer
Capt. Philip L. Waddingham

Executive Officer
Cmdr. Scott Allen

Training Air Wing Commander
Capt. Bill Davis

Chief Staff Officer
Cmdr. Tim Carr

Chief Public Affairs Officer
Jon Gagné

Flying K Staff

Managing Editor
Jon Gagné

Editor
Vacant

Staff Writer / Photographer
EN3 Brenda Acevedo

Contact Us:
Public Affairs Office
NAS Kingsville Bldg. 2740
554 McCain Street, Suite 114
Kingsville, TX 78363-5054
By E-mail: KNGV-PAO@navy.mil
By Phone: (361) 516-6219/6146

CAPTAIN'S LINE:
(Info for the Commanding Officer)
Send e-mail to:
KNGV-PAO@navy.mil.
On the subject line type:
ATTN: CAPTAIN'S LINE

CMC Corner

CMDCM (AW/SW/FMF)
Charlie Ratliff
Command Master Chief



I had a Sailor ask me about the Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy (SEA) recently and it made me reflect on several things that are impressed upon every Senior Chief and Master Chief Petty Officer who attends. I reflected on leadership lectures, management theories, case studies in discipline, and yes, even the painful physical fitness training you endure during your six-week stay in Newport, R.I. However, during my reflections, three very simple words kept coming to mind. These simple words were discussed on numerous occasions and in numerous contexts and scenarios. These words are Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

Every Sailor in the Navy can tell you our organization's Core Values are Honor, Courage, and Commitment. While all of us can quickly rattle off these three words, how many of us actually stop and think



Cmdr. Tim Carr
Chief Staff Officer
Training Air Wing TWO



In The Break

Air Supremacy. I like the sound of that term. I like the thought that whenever I had to fly over Indian Country, we enjoyed "Air Supremacy" and that my team was not hindered in its efforts by having to contest with our enemies for control of the sky. I enjoyed the part I played in assuring air supremacy as a Hornet driver and I enjoy training the next generation of fighter pilots to maintain our ability to dominate the wild blue.

When we began *Operation Iraqi Freedom* the Iraqi Air Force buried their planes in the sand rather than climb up to face us. Yes, our reputation and prowess engendered that much fear. Our aircraft and training put us at a level where no real peer competitor exists. Those nations that have equipment equal to ours either lack the numbers, or the training, or some other required component that would allow them to be a serious air threat. Will this status endure? I don't know. I do know that as long as the best instructors in the world train the most dedicated students in the most rigorous syllabus, we stand a

very good chance of maintaining Air Supremacy for a very long time to come.

All these thoughts came to mind as I finished up another high aspect ACM (Air Combat Maneuver) lead with a really good student. It occurred to me that, as fighter pilots, Air Supremacy is our inheritance and our legacy. We received it from the fighter pilot legends that flew before us, and we pass it along to those we instruct. It is a heady feeling. It could be easy to develop an inflated sense of self-worth. After all, we are the most vital link in the chain that anchors our nation's claim to Air Supremacy...except for all the other links which, if broken, make the entire chain useless.

Every Strike Package I led into battle was protected by a Prowler, providing electronic attack support. I never flew a combat mission that did not require tanking from an airborne gas station. Since most countries you want to attack don't turn on their navigation equipment for you to use, I always relied on vectors from airborne command and control aircraft. Whenever I was making the long transit back to Mother and I started imagining that the engine was making strange noises, I always knew that if I could just survive the ejection and get in my raft to await the SAR Helo, everything would be OK. Having a slider on the ship to build my G-tolerance, I was comforted by the fact that a P-3 or the like was out there

snooping around to make sure some Kilo class sub wasn't trying to send us all for a swim. It takes all kinds of platforms working together to get the job done. Some may get more media attention, but every one is just as vital to the mission as the next.

It's the same way with all the support elements of the team. On a nine-hour mission, the maintainer is just as important as the pilot in getting the plane over the target and back in one piece. The ordies (ordnancemen) could be considered vital. It's not much use flying a war bird into battle without talons. Since the Hornet can't take off from a deck run, the guys and girls working the catapults might be needed. Likewise, arresting gear is going to come in handy when you get back home. There is no person on the team that is dispensable. Everyone is equally necessary and important. Even the guy cleaning the heads and helping prevent another massive outbreak of the Norwalk virus is equally important to pilots flying long missions strapped to an ejection seat. In fact, that guy might be the *most* important. (There are some things you just can't do in a jet fighter, at least not without gaining a new call sign). Take pride in what you do. It is warranted. But don't take yourself too seriously - the guy cleaning the heads might laugh. Stay sharp. God bless you.
Cowboy



Flight Student Lt. j.g. Nick Lindsay of VT-21 explains how a g-suit is used to protect pilots during flight to Cub Scout Tyler Bru. The Vernado District Scouts held their annual Summer Day Camp on board the air station June 8-12 coordinated through MWR.



Spouse Appreciation: VT-21 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Bill Bulis presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Mrs. Christine Bastos, wife of Brazilian Navy Lt. Igor Bastos, for her dedication and support to the squadron and NAS Kingsville during her husband's flight training. (See *Winging* story, Page 6) Photo by Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs.

Arrivals:

The following people recently reported aboard for duty:

1st Lt. Matthew Holcomb, Student Aviator TW-2; Mertzon, Texas

2nd Lt. Chase Thompson, Student Aviator TW2; American Fork, Utah

CS2 Corry Hopper, CBH/Gateway Inns & Suites; Abilene, Texas

Ensign Levi Lundell, Student Aviator TW2; Paradise Valley, Ariz.

Ensign Matthew Chesney, Student Aviator, TW2; Sugarland, Texas

Lt. j.g. James Olsen, SERGRAD to VT-21; Seneca, S.C.

Lt. Stephen B. Brennan, Instructor Pilot, VT-21; Miranda, Calif.

MA1 (SW) Timothy C. Knight, NAS Kingsville Security Dept.; Nehalem, Ore.

Lt. Karl A. Kuersteiner, Instructor Pilot, VT-21; Tallahassee, Fla.

Ensign Robert H. Hartzell, Student Aviator; Katy, Texas

Mr. James V. DeSola, NAS Kingsville Safety Office; Robstown, Texas

1st Lt. Ryan Bolles, Student Aviator, TW2; Kingston, N.Y.

1st Lt. Gregory Fuhrer, Student Aviator, TW2; Stafford, Va.

Departures:

The following personnel recently departed the air station for their next command:

1st Lt James T. Ragsdale, to VMAT-203, Cherry Point, N.C.

Lt. j.g. Charles Wickware, to NAS Lemoore, Calif.

Lt. j.g. Carl Krueger, to NAS Oceana, Va.

Lt. j.g. Timothy Breen, to NAS Oceana

MA2 (SW) Anthony Johnson, separated, end of enlistment

Lt. j.g. Russell Kratoville, to NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla. for transition to helicopter training.

RP2 Norman Otters, to CJTF Horn of Africa, Chaplain Support.

CS2 (SW) Bernice Meno, to HS-15, NAS Jacksonville, Fla.

Former president Bush visits Navy's newest aircraft carrier named in his honor

USS George H.W. Bush Public Affairs

USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH, At Sea (NNS) -- The USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) namesake -- former President George H.W. Bush -- and the ship's sponsor visited the Navy's newest aircraft carrier May 26-27 to observe flight operations during the ship's underway period in the Atlantic Ocean.

"It is the greatest honor of my life to be the [ship's] sponsor, so thank you for letting me have that opportunity," said Doro Bush Koch, the former president's daughter and ship's sponsor.

"This is the greatest ship in our Navy and I am proud to be associated with it."

This was the first time President Bush has embarked the ship that bears his name while underway. The carrier is completing flight deck certification off the coast of Virginia which included the first aircraft to be catapulted from the ship's flight deck and the first arrested landing aboard.

"It is a great thrill for Doro and me to be out here on this beautiful day at sea. I'm so impressed, not just with the machinery or with the pilots, but with the men and women of this crew," said President Bush or "41" as the crew affectionately refers to the 41st president of the United States.

"It's just wonderful seeing the spirit on this ship. We are grateful for your service to our great country."

In addition to observing catapult launches and arrested landings on the flight deck, the former president - a decorated World War II naval aviator - and his daughter met with the Sailors on board.

"I was so happy I got to shake his hand, I've always wanted to do that," said Seaman Derrick Chaves. "It makes me feel special because no other ships get to have their namesake on board. It brought my morale up."

The aircraft carrier was commissioned Jan. 10.



ATLANTIC OCEAN (May 26, 2009) Former U.S. President George H.W. Bush and Capt. Bob Roth, Executive Officer of the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) speak with Sailors assigned to the "Red Rippers" of Fighter Attack Squadron (VFA) 11 aboard George H.W. Bush. The former President visited the Navy's newest aircraft carrier to observe flight operations during the ship's underway period in the Atlantic. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Dominique J. Moore).

Naval Aviation Soars in Podcast, Blogs

Naval Aviation Soars in Podcast, Blogs

From Bill Doughty, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs PEARL HARBOR (NNS) -- Carrier-based aviation is the featured topic in the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Rat-Pac Report podcast posted June 10 and was a topic of discussion among Hawaii bloggers this week.

In the Rat-Pac Report, which is posted at www.cpf.navy.mil, Adm. Robert F. Willard said the advantage of naval aviation is, in part, due to its range and adaptability in achieving power projection and forward presence.

"Naval aviation on board our aircraft carriers is a means of projecting that form of combat power anywhere in the world, whereupon we're not reliant on foreign basing in order to project naval aviation power," said Willard.

"It's about the air wing and our Navy. As we continue to evolve naval aviation, advance to the F-35 Strike Fighter, advance our helicopter forces and advance the ways in which we are able to command-and-control naval aviation we are keeping pace and, again, leading globally the application of this very unique form of combat power," Willard said.

The latest Rat-Pac Report podcast was

posted just days after two bloggers, guests of the Pacific Fleet, offered their opinions on their blogs about naval aviation, aircraft carriers and Sailors serving in today's Navy.

Both bloggers got an up-close glimpse of carrier-based naval aviation when they embarked USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), en route to the Western Pacific.

"Really, words cannot express the experience," described L.P. "Neenz" Faleafine, on her blog after landing on and taking off from the flight deck of an aircraft carrier, "so I'll just quote the certificate that was presented to me for completing the embark mission: 'This nonorary naval aviator experienced deceleration from 105 to 0 mph in two seconds and acceleration from 0 to 128 mph in three seconds...'" Faleafine also posted photos and video of her experience.

Ryan Ozawa wrote on his blog, "The experience was incredible, almost indescribable, leaving me awed, exhausted, and immensely grateful. Not merely for the opportunity to visit the carrier, but for everything the men and women of the U.S. Navy and our armed forces do."

Ozawa posted a nearly 13-minute video of his experience -- from the arrested land-



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CNATRA - Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini podcast on "Professionalism"

CNATRA - Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini podcast on "Attention to Detail"

CNATRA - Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini podcast on "Teamwork"

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ing to the catapult launch.

As part of his video, Ozawa interviewed Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class (SW/AW) Yancy Zuniga and asked him how he spends his free time under way.

"I lift weights and train with other island boys," said Zuniga, a 2004 graduate of Pahoehoe High School. "We train in martial arts, just like back home."

During their visit, they learned Ronald Reagan has 4,500 Sailors; 1,500 work for Carrier Air Wing 14, which deploys with 61 aircraft and about 90 pilots,

"Their dedication and commitment of

serving in the United States Navy is admirable, and as I drove home at the end of my day all I could do was cry... for their allegiance to the United States... for their families that miss them... for our country and the world... for my freedom... for my life, liberty and my blessed right to pursue happiness," wrote Faleafine after her experience.

To learn more about naval aviation, visit www.cnaf.navy.mil.

To see what other bloggers nationwide say about their experiences with naval aviation and the U.S. Navy, or to join the conversation, visit <http://twitter.com/flynavy>.

Navy, Marine Corps' top environmental leaders honored at ceremony

"It cannot be assumed that our children's children will enjoy the same environmental wonders we do today ..."

By Lt. Cmdr. Robert Baarson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Environment)

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The assistant secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) for installations and environment presented the annual Department of the Navy Environmental Awards to 15 Navy and Marine Corps commands during a ceremony in their honor May 29 at the Navy Memorial in Washington.

The annual SECNAV Environmental Awards program recognizes Navy and Marine Corps individuals, teams, ships and installations for exceptional environmental stewardship. Competition categories include natural resources conservation, cultural resources management, environmental quality, pollution prevention and environmental restoration.

Nominees for the awards are provided by the chief of naval operations and the commandant of the Marine Corps.

"In a very real sense, these awards recognize the best of the best," commented Donald R. Schregardus, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for environment who also served as emcee for the event.

From Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., to Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, to USNS Bridge (AOE 10), the 15 winning commands represented a diverse cross-section of the department's mission areas.

The awardees collectively saved taxpayers millions of dollars, re-used or recycled thousands of pounds of waste, eliminated significant quantities of hazardous materials and reduced energy consumption by millions of kilowatt-hours -- all while successfully accomplishing their missions.

They also demonstrated that endangered species populations can flourish aboard active military installations, as they have, for example, at Naval Base Coronado, Calif.

In addition to natural resources stewardship, the winning commands also exemplified the department's commitment to preserving the cultural and historic resources onboard its domestic and overseas installations. Camp Smedley D. Butler and U.S. Fleet Activities Yokosuka, for example, were both honored for working closely with Japanese officials on historic

artifacts discovered on base property.

"The department is investing a billion dollars per year toward environmental stewardship," explained B.J. Penn, the assistant secretary of the Navy for installations and the environment during his comments to the audience of 200 attendees. "But it's not just money that makes these programs successful. It's an even more powerful asset -- people."

Chuck Fox, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) senior advisor to the Administrator on the Chesapeake Bay, served as keynote speaker during the ceremony. Recently appointed to the position by President Barak Obama, he is responsible for EPA's overall Chesapeake Bay restoration program.

During his speech, Fox discussed the importance of intelligently managing the environmental impact of development near major bodies of water. As in the case of the Chesapeake Bay, he explained, these bodies of water are too often inundated with lethal amounts of pollutant run-off.

While enthusiastically praising the department for its commitment to environmental stewardship, Fox expressed his desire for an increase in federal environmental leadership.

"It cannot be assumed that our children's children will enjoy the same environmental wonders we enjoy today," he cautioned.

Sounding a similar note during his remarks, Penn urged the attendees to continue striving toward greater natural resources sustainability.

"I hope you're ready to roll up your sleeves," he said. "More work remains to be done, and we need the type of leadership we're honoring here today."

The winners of the SECNAV environmental awards go on to compete for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards. The Department of Defense ceremony took place in the Pentagon auditorium June 3. Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island of Oak Harbor, Wash., will receive an award for pollution prevention during the event.

NAS Whidbey Island's Recycling and Compost Center composted 100 percent of the air station's biosolids, diverting it from landfills. This saved the station \$50,000 annually on disposal costs. NAS Whidbey Island also decreased its greenhouse gas emissions by 780 tons after installing more efficient equipment.



WASHINGTON (May 28, 2009) Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead congratulates Capt. Aaron Cudnohafsky, commanding officer of the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Kauai, Hawaii for receiving an award in the installation category of the Fiscal Year 2008 Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Awards during a ceremony at the Navy Memorial in Washington D.C. (Photo by MC1 Tiffini M. Jones).

CNO recognizes Environmental Stewardship

By MC2 (SW) Rebekah Blowers, Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) presented the Fiscal Year 2008 CNO Environmental Awards May 28 at the Navy Memorial in Washington.

Adm. Gary Roughead, CNO, presented 29 awards to Navy ships, installations and individuals or teams for their exceptional environmental stewardship.

"What happens in our environment and to our natural resources is a matter of national security. What happens in our environment cannot be dealt with at some later date; it must be addressed now, and we must keep it on our minds constantly," Roughead said. "The bases, ships and Sailors that we recognize and honor today are doing just that."

CNO said that taking care of the environment is an inherent part of the Navy's culture.

"Perhaps more than any other service, than any other profession, a Sailor is intimately linked to the environment, and our interest in preserving that environment goes far back in our history," Roughead said.

CNO applauded the winners and said they are not only conserving resources, reducing pollution, recycling, and maintaining the local environment around

them, but they are also markedly restoring crucial habitats and endangered species. He said it wasn't just up to the winners to be conscious of the environment around them.

"We must all continue down the path that they have set. It must be a focus for all of our commands. Today we're going to recognize those who really have stood apart, but as I said last year when we were together for these awards -- the group here has to carry that message forward and has to share the lessons, their passion, their interest and their objectives with other commands in our Navy writ large," Roughead said.

The annual CNO Environmental Awards program recognizes Navy people, ships and installations for their outstanding environmental stewardship. The 29 winners were selected in the following categories: natural resources conservation large installation, cultural resources management installation, cultural resources management individual or team, environmental quality industrial installation, environmental quality overseas installation, environmental quality small ship, pollution prevention non-industrial installation, pollution prevention individual or team, environmental restoration installation and environmental planning team.

Sailors display new chevrons at ceremony

NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham frocked six Sailors to their next rank during a command ceremony at the Captain's Club Thursday, June 4. The six were selected for advancement based on the March 2009 enlisted advancement cycle. Just over 25,000 Sailors Navy-wide were advanced, while 74,800 passed the advancement exam but were not selected for advancement based on the final multiple requirements for advancement in their particular ratings.

Capt. Waddingham congratulated each of the Sailors on their accomplishment and encouraged those who didn't make the list to "hang in there and give it your best shot in September."

Below, Waddingham congratulates ACCS (AW/SW) Mike Garcia on his selection for promotion to Senior Chief. The small ceremony took place at the Air Operations Building.



From left: AC3 Christy Collins, Air Ops/ATC; MA3 Alejandro Abreu, Security; MR2 Jonathan Cruz, MWR; Capt. Phil Waddingham; AC2 Cody Clubb, Air Ops/ATC; RP2 Kenneth Greathouse, Chaplain's Staff; and AC1 (AW) Jim Dunlap, Air Ops/ATC. (Photo by EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs)

Seeing Stars ...



NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham presents a frocking certificate to ACCS (AW/SW) Mike Garcia marking his frocking to the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer.



Sharing in the celebration were members of Garcia's family, including (from left) daughters Delissa and Shay, wife Pamela, and son Seth.

Photos by Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs

VT-21 Ready Room hosts Training Air Wing TWO Winging Ceremony

By Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Two student aviators were presented their Wings of Gold and designated as Naval Aviators during a small winging ceremony held in the VT-21 Ready Room Friday, June 5.

VT-21 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Bill Bulis and TW-2 Deputy Commander Capt. Mark Brooks presided over the ceremony. The pinning marked the end of nearly 11 months of training for the students at NAS Kingsville. Receiving their Wings were:

Lt. j.g. Shaun A. Randell, Pasadena, Calif. Randall, a graduate of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, received his commission through Officer Candidate School. His next assignment will be with VAQ-129 at NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., flying the E/A18G Growler.

Lt. Igor S. Bastos, Brazilian Navy, Rio De Janerio, Brazil. Lt. Bastos is a graduate of the Brazilian Naval Academy and received his Brazilian Navy silver wings in 2006. He reported to VT-21 at NAS Kingsville for intermediate and advanced jet training with the U.S. Navy in March 2008.

Lt. Bastos' next assignment will be with Brazil's VF-1 "Falcoes" (Hawks)



WINGED & READY: (From left) VT-21 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Bill Bulis is joined by Lt. Shaun Randell, Lt. Igor Bastos, and TW-2 Deputy Commander Capt. Mark Brooks in the VT-21 Ready Room following the winging ceremony. Bulis served as master of ceremonies for the event, while Brooks represented Training Air Wing TWO and presented the Navy-Marine Corps' "Flyer's Creed."

flying the McDonnell-Douglas A-4 Skyhawk.

Bastos' wife Christine was also honored at the ceremony. She was presented a Spouse Appreciation Award for her work with the Officers Wives' Club and

volunteering at various NAS Kingsville events during the time her husband was going through flight training. (See photo on page 3). Family members from both pilots attended the ceremony, along with fellow VT-21 students and instructors.

Air Operations making great strides in preparing NAS Kingsville for the future (Part 1 of a 4-part series)

Air Traffic Controllers ensure “safe skies” for training Student Naval Aviators

Story and photos by Jon Gagné and EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Editor's Note: Over the next four issues of the Flying K, we're going to focus on the Air Operations Department, the heart of NAS Kingsville, and the people behind the scenes who make the department successful.



Air Traffic Control is considered one of the most stressful jobs in the country. It's no wonder. Air Traffic Controllers (ACs) facilitate the safe and orderly movement of aircraft within and between airports by receiving and processing data from RADAR and other devices that monitor local weather conditions and by maintaining radio contact with pilots. Often times, ACs are in contact with several aircraft simultaneously, plotting a safe route for each. The job requires strict attention-to-detail, a thorough knowledge of aviation flight rules, and a disciplined approach to providing accurate and timely information. One mistake could be deadly.

“There’s a lot of pressure on Air Traffic Controllers - especially in a high-paced area,” said ACCS (AW/SW) Mike Garcia, NALF Orange Grove Leading Chief. “Meeting the mission of training Student Aviators rests on the shoulders of every Sailor that we put in the Tower or in Approach Control. And that’s a responsibility that our ACs take seriously.”

NAS Kingsville is one of only 7 approach control facilities in the Navy. Duty here, Garcia admits, “provides a great stepping stone and huge accomplishment within the AC rating. Once an AC completes all their training and obtains their individual qualifications, they

can pretty much count on being detailed to only approach control facilities in the Navy during the rest of their career.”

Garcia adds that while every Navy facility is different, all ACs must begin the training and certification process all over again when they report to a new command. “It’s just part of the job” Garcia added. But Sailors who serve at NAS Kingsville leave with all the basic knowledge of local procedures and aircraft characteristics to put them ahead of most of their contemporaries.

In 2008, the Air Traffic Control division supported Training Air Wing TWO flight training by conducting 178,539 ATC operations. This included 7,749 Radar operations; 8,246 MOA operations; 16,423 military instrument flight rules (IFR) operations; 13,560 military visual flight rules (VFR) operations; and 9,669 civilian operations.

There are 72 air traffic controllers assigned to NAS Kingsville and NALF Orange Grove, ranging in rank from E-1 to E-8. According to ACC (AW) Mike Presnell, ATC Training Chief, duty here is typically from 3-5 years, with E-5 and E-6 personnel usually here for 5-year tours. “This gives these Sailors from 18 months to 2 years to fully-qualify, and then, train their relief; Presnell said.

Training, Presnell added, is just an ongoing process for controllers. Last year, ATC training efforts resulted in 160 individual operator position qualifications. Training completed included 3,381 hours of formal classroom instruction; 663 hours of General Military Training; 11,548 hours of professional in-rate training; and 605 hours of safety training. NALF Orange Grove added 32,019 military operations and 13 civilian operations during the year. The high number of individual operator qualifications attained is a direct result of a functioning training program that works.

While it’s not required that ACs become fully-qualified prior to transferring to their next duty station, it’s extremely beneficial not only to NAS Kingsville but also to the Sailors themselves. “

“Attaining qualifications varies for controller.” Presnell added. “We take into consideration prior experience, years in service/rank, PRD/EAOS, and

(Continued on page 12)



AC1 (AW) Matthew Duchesne looks over the airfield while on duty in the NAS Kingsville Air Traffic Control tower.



AC2 Carlos Lopez-Haver talks to a pilot on local control to the airfield. Below, ACAN Matthew Hartopp uses a touch-screen monitor to check flight data.



CNO-mandated hurricane readiness tasks

NAS Key West Assistant Admin Officer

Hurricane Season is here, and living in a hurricane zone means there is a good possibility of having to evacuate. Given this, there are four Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) mandated items for all Department of the Navy (DoN) personnel: enrollment in the Defense Travel System (DTS) Web site, obtaining a Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC), updating your Navy Family Accountability & Assessment System (NFAAS) account, and updating your Total Workforce Management System (TWMS) self-service account.

Defense Travel System

Per NAVADMIN 315/08, DTS is the Department of Defense (DoD) mandated electronic order writing system when DoN personnel go on official Temporary Duty Travel (TDY) or if there is a need to evacuate due to a natural disaster. All military personnel must be enrolled in DTS, or they will not receive reimbursement after an evacuation until enrollment

is completed and DTS orders are written. Military family members and DoN civilians and their family members will be issued separate evacuation orders by their sponsor's command using a different system than DTS. DTS travel advances and claims will be processed online, and all non-DTS advances and travel claims will be filed with the Jacksonville Travel Processing Center (TPC) by completing a paper travel voucher. The main advantages of DTS are quick advances for those who are ineligible for a GTCC, as well as quick payment of travel claims upon return of an evacuation, most times within two to three work days, vice two to three weeks with TPC. See your command/department DTS Representative to enroll today at www.defensetravel.osd.mil. The DTS Helpdesk can also be reached at 1-800-378-5406.

Government Travel Charge Card

Per NAVADMIN 316/08, all DoN personnel are also mandated to have a GTCC. GTCCs shall be used during all

official TDYs and evacuations to pay for essential needs such as gas for vehicles, food, lodging, tolls, rental car (if needed), and even withdrawing cash advances; however the GTCC SHALL NOT be used for non-essential items such as gifts and entertainment. All card transactions are recorded, and any fraudulent use is punishable under the UCMJ. The process to obtain a GTCC can take one to three weeks, so contact your command GTCC Coordinator today.

Navy Family Accountability & Assessment System

During the Navy-wide hurricane exercise held in May, several personnel did not have accurate recall information listed in NFAAS. NFAAS is used to account for all DoN personnel and their family members during and after a natural disaster. NFAAS was used for Hurricane Ike in September 2008 when all Key West DoN personnel and their families were ordered to evacuate to the Orlando safe haven. Updating NFAAS takes only a few minutes and can be accomplished at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil>.

Log in using the sponsor's SSN and date of birth, then click on the "My Info" tab. All information contained within is pulled from the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database. If your DEERS information is inaccurate, contact PSD.

Total Workforce Management System

Finally, all DoN military and civilian personnel must update their TWMS information. This is where family information is pulled from to draft evacuation orders for military and Navy civilian family members. Login to <https://twms.nmci.navy.mil/selfservice/>. In the left-hand column, click on "Personal/Recall Information."

One of the biggest concerns during Hurricane Ike last year, aside from accounting for personnel and family members, was having sufficient personal funds, so be sure you and your family are prepared now. Remember, it's not a question of "if" a hurricane will affect your area; it's a question of "when."

For NAS Kingsville hurricane information visit <https://cnic.navy.mil/kingsville>

Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

Phone: 516-6404

Special Notice for the elderly, infants, cancer patients, and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons whom have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: Monday-Friday
Location: NAS Kingsville, Bldg 4711
Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Phone No.: 516-6404
Meetings: None Scheduled

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements for 2008. This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water. This report includes data up to December 2008.

WATER SOURCES: The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

En Español (Spanish)

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. 516-6404 para hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from surface water and ground water sources. NAS Kingsville is currently purchasing all of its drinking water from the City of Kingsville which in turn purchases some of its drinking water from the South Texas Water Authority (STWA). STWA provides surface water from the Nueces River Terminal Reservoir and the City of Kingsville pumps ground water from the Golidad and aquifer.

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the TCEQ and will be provided to us this year. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment will allow us and/or the system(s) from which we receive water to focus on source water protection strategies.

ALL drinking water may contain contaminants.

When drinking water meets federal

standards, there may not be any health-based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Secondary Constituents

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Page 9: Water Statistics

Page 9 lists all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants that have been found in your drinking water. U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 contaminants. (See page 9 for the full 2008 Water Report).

Year	Contaminant	Avg	Min.	Max.	MICL	MCLG	Unit	Source of Contaminant
05-08	Arsenic*	5	4	6	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronic production wastes.
05-08	Barium	0.034	0.031	0.039	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
05-08	Chromium	9.6	8.3	11.5	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel/pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
2008	Fluoride	0.68	0.66	0.75	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
2005	Nitrate	1.44	1.44	1.44	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Nitrate	0.01	0.01	0.01	1	1	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
05-08	Selenium	7.3	5.2	8.9	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits and mines.
05-08	Cbnd radium 226 & 228	0.03	0	0.15	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
05-08	Beta emitters	5.9	3.7	7.8	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
05--08	Alpha emitters	7.6	4.3	11	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

* Arsenic value effective Jan. 23, 2006. In the event of a violation, you will be notified. Organic Contaminants Testing Waived or Waived.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Avg	Min.	Max	MRDL	MRDLG	UoM	Source of Disinfectant
2008	Chloramine Residual	0.76	0.4	2.0	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Avg	Min.	Max.	MCL	UoM	Source of Contaminant: Byproduct of Disinfection Byproducts.
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	19.3	9.4	33	60	ppb	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	59.8	33.5	103.7	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts. This evaluation is sampling required by EPA to determine the range of total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acid in the system for future regulations. Samples are not used for compliance, and may have been collected under non-standard conditions. EPA also requires that data reported here.

Year	Contaminant	Avg Lvl	Min Lvl	Max Lvl	MCL	Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Total Haloacetic Acids	25.6	0	89.5	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2007	Total Trihalomethanes	104.9	0	361.6	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Contaminants NOT REPORTED OR NONE DETECTED

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	90th Percentile	Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant:
2002	Lead	3.9	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Copper	0.215	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead

All water systems are required by EPA to report the language below starting with the 2009 CCR to be delivered to you by July of 2010. We are providing this information now as a courtesy. *"If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water supply is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."* **Turbidity-Not Required. Total Coliform-- Reported Monthly, Tests found NO Coliform Bacteria. Fecal Coliform-Reported Monthly Test found NO Fecal Coliform Bacteria**

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated (No associated adverse health effects)

Year	Constituent	Avg	Min.	Max.	Scndry Lvl	Unit	Source of Constituent
2008	Bicarbonate	227	223	242	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
05-08	Calcium	23.4	18.5	32.5	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Chloride	255	245	258	300	ppm	Abundant occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct oil field activity.
05-08	Copper	0.01	0.003	0.028	1	ppm	Corrosion h/h plumbing systems, corrosion/ntrl deposits; leaching/wood preservatives
05-08	Hardness as Ca/Mg	101	87	104	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
05-08	Iron	0.037	0	0.148	0.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities.
05-08	Lead	0.002	0	0.006	NA	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
05-08	Magnesium	9.1	7.6	11.6	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
05-08	Manganese	0.0012	0	0.0046	0.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	P Alkalinity as CaCO3	2	0	2	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	pH	8	7.7	8.1	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
05-08	Sodium	308	289	336	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Sulfate	209	145	225	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	230	227	242	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	Dissolved Solids	968	877	991	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
05-08	Zinc	0.016	0.011	0.024	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) Highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) Level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Treatment Technique (TT) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Abbreviations:

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

MFL - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos).

pCi/L - picocuries per liter (measure of radioactivity).

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

ppb - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l).

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter.

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter.

You Can Become a CASA Volunteer

NAS Kingsville personnel have a great opportunity to get involved in an awesome community service program that allows the volunteer to serve a great cause for children in need. The name of the program is Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). CASA volunteers serve as the "voice" for abused or neglected children in need, looking out for the child's best interests.

CASA of Kleberg County began in 2001 at the request of Judge Martin Chiuminatto and is the 52nd CASA program established in Texas since 1988.

After a request by Jim Wells and Brooks County Judge Richard Terrell it was decided to also offer services to the neighboring counties of Jim Wells, Brooks, Kenedy and Duval.

CASA Volunteers (Guardian Ad Litem) are everyday people who share the desire to speak out for some of the most vulnerable children in their communities. It doesn't require and special background or specific training or knowledge to become a volunteer. All volunteers receive training from CASA so they can work effectively and with confidence on behalf of abused or neglected children.

"CASA volunteers get to know the

child and speak to everyone involved in the child's life, including their family members, teachers, doctors, lawyers, social workers, and others," said ABF2 (SW) Raymond Gross, assigned to NALF Orange Grove. Gross became involved with the CASA program as a volunteer a couple of months ago. He admits the program has been eye-opening.

"Being a volunteer at CASA takes commitment and dedication," Gross said. "I think this is a great opportunity for military personnel to serve their communities, and I'd like to see more military people get involved, whether it's as Judge Advocate advisors or simply by volunteering for certain special events or as mentors. The children will welcome volunteers with open arms."

The CASA of Kleberg County representative will conduct a presentation on board NAS Kingsville Wednesday, June 17 at 11 a.m. at the Captain's Club. The event is open to anyone who has an interest in the CASA Program. More information about CASA will be provided along with other programs and how to get started. Everyone is invited to attend.

Points of contact: ABF2 Gross and ABH2 Sammy Mitchell (516-6180).

Focus on Safety

Summer fun can hurt!

We are just entering the Critical Days of Summer, and activities have taken their toll. Recently, one member of the Team Kingsville staff took a round about trip to the hospital by route of a tubing trip in San Marcos. One might wonder how an innocent tubing trip can (and did) result in 10 lost work days and a trip to the emergency room. Well, nothing the Sailor did was really wrong, but the end result was costly.

It was a nice day in San Marcos for tubing down the river, and along the route are places to stop for a rest, or to jump or swing into the river. Our Sailor decided to use a rope swing at one of the stopping points. As he was swinging out over the river he realized that there were people swimming directly under him, directly in line with the drop off point. Applying time critical Operational Risk Management, the Sailor determined that he would avoid the potential hazard by simply riding the rope back to the bank. What he didn't realize was that although he avoided one hazard, another one was on the way. As he arrived back at the bank there he was promptly greeted by a large tree root properly positioned to have a major impact on the Sailor. Upon arrival his foot struck the tree root, breaking four of his toes. This was, for all intents and purposes, the beginning of the pain and the end of the tubing and the fun. He was transported to the nearest medical facility, and the end result was surgery to put his toes back where they belong.

I interviewed the Sailor regarding the circumstances, and he determined that it may have been prudent on his part to first ensure the area where he planned to land was clear, and that any personnel in



Kordeen Kor
NASK Safety Manager



the river would not arrive at the drop off point at the same time as he did. His second consideration would be to wear a pair of canvas shoes or some type of foot protection - not only for the situation with the tree - but also the potential hazards under water.

Because most sports and recreational activities are seen as healthy and fun, particularly among children and young adults, they're not considered dangerous or risky, even though they can be. There are estimates which suggest that more than 6,000 deaths in the United States each year are associated with recreational activities.

So what can you do to avoid being a statistic? Plan your activity, try to anticipate potential hazards and avoid the circumstances that might put you in harm's way. Make sure you are properly outfitted for the activity, including shoes, safety glasses, mouth guards, protective clothing, sunscreen, etc., whatever the event dictates. In diving we say plan your dive, and dive your plan. Don't deviate from your plan without first communicating it with all involved in the activity. Don't over do it, and make sure you are in good enough physical shape for the activity.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Don't let the summer fun hurt you.

Flying K Mailbag

The following letter was submitted by Ms. Darla Etheridge, an employee with Securiguard, Inc. at the NASK Pass & Tag Office.

Team Kingsville:

I am a contractor and I work in the Security Department at Pass and Tag. I wanted to inquire about the possibility of writing a "thank you" to the CDC, as well as to the paramedics here on base and having it published in the paper.

About three weeks ago, my 15-month old son had a seizure during school. The NAS Kingsville Child Development Center (CDC) was so wonderful in the way they handled the situation. They contacted the paramedics at the base Fire Department who were just as wonderful!

I have wanted to do something to let them know how much I appreciate everything they did for my son. I don't know if you have any children, but as a single mother of 4, I truly feel blessed with the care that my children receive here on the air station. My 9-year old, and 6-year old also attend the Youth Center, and I have never felt worried or uncomfortable with leaving them with the staff at the CDC and Youth Center. I have thanked the CDC and Youth Center staff members repeatedly for everything they have done, but I would like to share my story with everyone here at NAS Kingsville.

I want everyone that utilizes the facilities for child care, to know that the staff was more than qualified to handle this very scary situation.

Sincerely,

Darla Etheridge

Securiguard Employee

Local Command Information

During Hurricane Season:

When hurricanes or tropical depressions threaten NAS Kingsville or the local area, base personnel may stay up-to-date with official announcements and Conditions of Readiness by logging in to the NAS Kingsville command Web site.

Check the site often during hurricane season for updates.

(<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/kingsville>.)

Summer Swim Lessons. (Various dates & Times): Start Summer Swim Lessons. It's summer and MWR will be providing swim lessons for all ages!

The first swim session starts June 15-25 beginning at 0930. If your child attends the Youth Center or CDC their lessons will be held at 9 a.m. Levels included are Parent and Child Aquatics ages 6 months to 3 yrs); Pre-School Swimming Level 1-3 ages 3-5; and Swimming Levels 1-6, ages 3-teen. We will also be offering adult classes this month on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Also, we will be offering a Water Aerobics class for people of all physical activity.

For more information and registration contact Kristy Lenzy at 516-6172, or contact the MWR pool at 361-516-6113.

Intro to the Whisper Room (June 16 7-8 p.m.) Introducing the Whisper Room. A wonderful sound-isolating space that will allow you to "Jam" to your hearts content.

Don't have equipment? No problem! We have a full setup complete with electronic drums, guitar, and keyboard. We also have a variety of gaming options.

For more information contact the Information Ticket & Tours (ITT) office at 516-6449.



Softball Tournament June 20. Start time 4 p.m. All teams MUST turn in complete roster before June 18. Prizes for winners and Free BBQ! Though the tournament is during softball league, any team can participate. Teams must have eight or more players to compete. For more info, contact Renee Hill at 361-516-6371.

Father's Day 12-Hr Overnight Deep Sea Fishing Trip, Saturday June 20.

"What better place to be on Father's Day then on a 12-hour overnight deep sea fishing trip with dear ol' dad? We will be going on the 80-ft. long "Scat Cat." Fish to be caught will be Amberjack, Ling, Shark, and of course Snapper! Snapper Season this year is limited to only 30 days, and this trip is in the 30-day season.

Rod and reel furnished. Bait furnished. All participants will need a Texas Fishing License. Boat will be going 35 to 50 miles offshore. Participants can NOT bring aboard food or drinks aboard, but there

is a concession stand aboard selling food, drinks, and adult beverages. Centrally heated & air-conditioned cabins. Transportation over and back included with trip.

Departure time 8 p.m. at Outdoor Rec, returning at noon the following day. Cost of trip is \$110, and children 12 & under are half price. For more information, contact Frank at Outdoor Rec, 516-6191.

50 Mile Swim Club: Registration (Ongoing). Register at the MWR Pool front desk to start keeping record of your swims. Contestants will have all season to complete their 50 miles. For all registered contestants that complete their 50-mile swim they will receive a free t-shirt. Registration is free to all eligible patrons. Call the pool at 516-6113 for more information.

Recruiting CD Home Providers.

Child Development Homes (CDH) Provider's Training, always recruiting. Do you want to have your own business at home? Looking for active duty military spouses interested in becoming a certified Child Development Homes Provider. All training is free and a Lending Library is included. You must be 18 or older, be able to read, speak and write English, and pass an extensive background check. Contact Carmen Chapa at 361-516-6569 for info

MWR Pool Season now open

Prices;

Navy League:

Daily Single \$2
Month Single \$15
Season Single \$50
Daily Family \$2
Month Family \$30
Season Family \$75

Hours:

Lap swimming
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
weekdays.
Recreational swimming:
1-8 p.m. week-
days, weekends
& holidays.

Family Members & Authorized Civilians:

Daily Single \$1
Month Single \$10
Season Single \$20
Daily Family \$1
Month Family \$15
Season Family \$35
Guests \$3 each

MILITARY: Active Duty, Retirees and Reservists can use pool free of charge. Dependents and DOD/NAF employees can lap swim from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. free of charge.

PARTIES: Private pool parties \$50 per hour with minimum of 2 hours. Public pool parties \$50 flat fee includes designated shaded area with table and chairs for 3 hrs. * Paid reservations must be made no later than two weeks prior to party.

GET HOOKED

FISH FOR:
*RED SHAPPER, TUNA,
SHARK, AMBERJACK, LING
AND MORE!

JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING NIGHT
OF DEEP SEA FISHING ABOARD AN
80 FOOT SCAT CAT OUT OF
THE FISHERMAN'S WHARF
IN PORT ARANSAS!

\$110 FOR TRIP

*INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION

KIDS 12 & UNDER 1/2 PRICE

AIR CONDITIONED & HEATED CABINS

RODS, REELS & BAIT PROVIDED

MAY NOT BRING OWN FOOD OR DRINKS

SODA, BEER, HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, AND
OTHER SNACKS & DRINKS AVAILABLE.

BOAT WILL DEPART PORT ARANSAS AT
2200 ON 20 JUNE & RETURN AT 1000 21 JUNE

VANS WILL DEPART FROM NASK AT 2000
& RETURN AT 1200.

Kids College starts July 13 at Kingsville Coastal Bend College Campus

The Kingsville Campus of Coastal Bend College will host their first Kids College, for ages 6 thru 12, beginning July 13, 2009. The Kids College 2009 theme is Icons of the 1960s and 1970s. Participants in the summer day camp at Coastal Bend College will learn the music, dress, slang, crafts and important social and scientific issues that were raised during this period. For the final performance on July 30, 2009, the students will present Broadway Show tunes and music from pop culture of the era.

Kids College runs from July 13 to July 30, Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The theme class, music/drama class, computer class and lunch make up the morning session. The afternoon session includes classes in Art, Guitar and Dance. All segments of Kids College will be lead by qualified, creative instructors and supervised by the Continuing Education Division. CBC will provide snacks in the morning and afternoon, but students will need to bring their own lunch.

Parents have the option to enroll their kids in the morning only, afternoon only, or full day program. Kids College is \$199 for morning only or \$135 for afternoon only. The full day program is \$325. A Groovy t-shirt is included in the morning and full day enrollment.

To register, contact CBC Continuing Education Division at (361) 592-1615 ext 4053 or 4055, or stop by CBC Kingsville Campus at 1814 S. Brahma Blvd in Kingsville.

Air Traffic Controllers

(continued from page 7)

natural controlling abilities. Qualifications are standard throughout the Navy, but NAVAIR 00-80T-114, the NATOPS Air Traffic Control Manual, sets the maximum total training hours (TTH) of on-the-job training allotted for each operating position. Once a controller is qualified they assume all responsibilities that are assigned to that position. FAA regulations prevail and all military facilities follow the same rules that civilian centers follow.

“Everyday something new happens that you have to adjust to,” says AC2 Anthony Mason, from Baton Rouge, La., who reported to NAS Kingsville in 2004 and works at the NALF Orange Grove facility. Mason feels it’s the different challenges each day that make the job as an air traffic controller unique.

Mason’s outlook is shared by most controllers who, despite having to work occasional weekends and holidays and day and night shifts, with very few complaints.

“All in all, we’ve got a great staff of

ACs on board,” said Lt. Jody Kite, Air Traffic Control Division Officer. “I’m very proud of the way our Sailors handle their responsibilities and their performance as air traffic controllers. [NAS Kingsville is] very fortunate to have such dedicated Sailors controlling the skies.”

AC2 (AW) Daniel Barnett, who has more than six years of active duty under his belt, was previously stationed aboard *USS Dwight D Eisenhower*. Since reporting to NAS Kingsville Barnett has attained four individual qualifications and Control Tower Operator (CTO) certification. He admits it can get difficult keeping up with the training requirements related to the job. “It’s hard keeping up with new information,” he said, “but I still love what I do for the Navy. My favorite part about being an AC is the thrill.”

At NAS Kingsville there are four branches that ACs will work in during their tour of duty. They are expected to obtain as many qualifications as possible at each branch. Obtaining qualifications is what motivates these Sailors. (See diagram below).

AC1 (AW) William R. Bowman and



ACs man the Radar screens. The NAS Kingsville Radar Room serves as the hub for controlling aircraft flying in the NASK operating area.

AC2 Andrew Monacelli, are both FAA CTO examiners which makes them vigilant Tower Chiefs for NAS Kingsville and Orange Grove.

Bowman, current NAS Kingsville Sr. Sailor of the Quarter, has learned how important Controllers are - especially in a training environment like NAS Kingsville. “What I enjoy most about my job is saving lives daily. That’s how ACs have to look at it ... what we do requires a commitment to be the very best Controller that we can be. The safety of others depends on that.”

ACC (AW) William Hornbeak is not only an Air Traffic Control Specialist but an examiner for the FAA. Having an FAA-approved examiner on board makes obtaining the ATCS qualifications easier for the 72 controllers being trained and qualified at both Kingsville and Orange Grove. But Hornbeak insists he is tough when it comes to qualifying.

AC1 (AW/SW) Michael Downes from Manchester, N.J., reported aboard NAS Kingsville in March from the *USS Enterprise*. As you might expect from a senior AC, Downes hit the deck running and made a significant impact. He says his favorite part of his job is “watching the plans he has put into place, work out safely for everyone involved.”

How do they know they’re doing a good job? Feedback - from their fellow ACs and the Instructors and student pilots who depend on them for current - and accurate - information.

At Kingsville, confidence in the Control Tower -- and the ACs that man it -- runs high, according to Training Air Wing TWO Chief Staff Officer and occasional Instructor Pilot Cmdr. Tim Carr.

“As aviators, we rely on the Air Traffic Controllers day-in and day-out to provide traffic separation calls and to bring us home in all kinds of weather,” Carr said. “Their dedication and professionalism have earned our trust and are a prime example of teamwork in action.”

Professionalism on the job is key. And despite all the challenges, constant studying, and collateral duties that come with being a Sailor, most AC’s love what they do. “It would be hard for me to be interested in another rate,” said AC2 (AW) Jeremy Whitely, from Noblesville, Ind.

Whitely should know. He reported to NAS Kingsville two years ago as an E-2 and has already advanced three paygrades. And that’s pretty much the norm for NAS Kingsville ACs. They tend to advance fast because they are consistently tested on every aspect of their job.

The training is long, the qualifications are plenty, but at the end of the day, most ACs will tell you there is no better rating in the Navy.

Air Traffic Controller Qualification Requirements

All Air Traffic Controllers are expected to obtain individual qualifications at every ATC station during their tour of duty. Individual station include: Flight Planning; Tower, RADAR, and NALF Orange Grove Control Tower. Each station has a number of positions that ACs must learn. In order to obtain qualification status, ACs must be observed by a Supervisor and recommended for qualification.

Flight Planning: Once ACs complete all requirements in flight planning they earn the Flight Planning Supervisor (FPS) qualification.

Tower: Controllers can qualify on four positions and earn the following qualifications leading up to Tower Supervisor:

- Flight Data (FD)
- Ground Control (GC)
- Local Control (LC) and
- Final Qual: Tower Supervisor (TS)

RADAR: There are different positions in Radar for qualifying. They are:

- Military Operations Area (MOA)
- Radar Final Control (RFC)
- Clearance Delivery (CD)
- Arrival Control (AC)
- Approach Control (AP)
- Radar Supervisor (RS) and
- Facility Watch Supervisor (FWS)



AC3 Charles Craft looks over a pilot’s flight plan in the Flight Planning office.

At NALF Orange Grove, ACs strive to meet all requirements leading up to gaining Tower Supervisor or Facility Watch Supervisor. Positions include:

- Flight Data/Ground Control (GC)
- Local Control (LC) and
- Final Qual: Tower Supervisor (TS)/ Facility Watch Supervisor (FWS)

Qualifications remain in service records and can be used worldwide due to its FAA certification. In other words, qualifications are very important to continue a career in aviation control. Receiving the Air Traffic Control Specialist (ATCS) or Control Tower Operator (CTO) designation, is highly important because it is likely to guarantee a position with the FAA, Department of Defense (DoD) or any air traffic control facility in the nation. These qualifications are what all ACs strive to obtain.

Special thanks: The Flying K staff would like to thank Cmdr. Tim Carr; Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Paddock; Lt. Jody Kite; ACCS (AW/SW) Mike Garcia; ACC (AW) Mike Presnell; and the men and women of Air Traffic Control for contributing to this story.

Editor’s Note: In our next issue. Part II of our focus on Air Operations will feature Field Support and Ground Electronics.