

Happy New Years!

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future. - President John F. Kennedy

# Hawai'i Navy News

Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

January 8, 2010

www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii

Volume 35 Issue 01

## YEAR IN REVIEW AT PEARL HARBOR

Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

As we begin a new decade, the time has come to reflect on some of the many headlines and achievements of Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Sailors and commands in the past 12 months. Though there were far too many newsworthy actions and accolades of our Sailors and commands to mention in this simple year-end review, here are just a few of the important headlines that have graced our pages in 2009.

The spirit of change captured the country when a new president was sworn into office on Jan. 20, 2009 in Washington, D.C. Hawaii-born Barack Obama made history as the first African-American Commander in Chief when he became the 44th president of the United States.

Change also continued that month when Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) hosted a change of command ceremony on Jan. 30 at the Washington Navy Yard welcoming Vice Adm. Michael C. Vitale who relieved Vice Adm. Bob Conway Jr. as the officer leading the Navy's shore infrastructure.

In January, three Pearl Harbor-based vessels, USS Chicago (SSN 721), USS Columbus (SSN 762) and USS Los Angeles (SSN 688), earned prestigious Battle "E" awards for demonstrating a maximum condition of readiness for their class and for their capability to perform wartime responsibilities.

In February, Pearl Harbor Sailors enjoyed rubbing elbows with pro athletes as they visited various ships celebrating Super Bowl Sunday and the final National Football League (NFL) Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium, ending a 30-year tradition.

In March, the Pacific Fleet announced Pacific Partnership 2009, which included a series of annual U.S. Pacific Fleet humanitarian civic assistance missions. Also that month, Pearl Harbor continued to go green when it received the first of five new ferry boats to replace the existing 20-year-old U.S. Navy-operated tour boats that transport 1.5 million visitors per year to and from the USS Arizona Memorial. The new biodiesel ferry boat was named John W. Finn, in honor of a Pearl Harbor survivor and oldest living Medal of Honor recipient.

Several prestigious awards were also granted in March. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) recognized Naval Station Pearl Harbor for exceptional environmental service by presenting it with three top awards for environmental stewardship. Honolulu officials also presented the Navy with a Good Neighbor Award, while Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Pearl Harbor earned two flagship awards for its local community efforts.



April was the Month of the Military Child and was commemorated when Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, signed a child abuse prevention proclamation in a ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Services Center (FFSC). Adm. Robert F. Willard, then commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, also de-

buted a new Facebook page on April 15 in hopes of discussing Navy issues via the contemporary communication forum. In honor of Earth Day, Pearl Harbor Sailors volunteered for several community outreach projects, including cleaning up Pearl Harbor's historic bike trail.

In May, CNRH held its first Hawaii Regional First Class Petty Officer Leadership Symposium. During his tour of Pa-

cific installations, Vice Adm. Michael C. Vitale, Commander, Naval Installations Command (CNIC), also met with Pearl Harbor Sailors and various commands. Later in the month, Pearl Harbor welcomed the aircraft carrier, USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74), when it made a quick pit stop in Hawaii during a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific.

Throughout the summer,

the Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force base moved forward with the transition into a joint base, projected to take place by Oct. 2010. A joint base newsletter, "Transitions," debuted in June.

On July 23, the USS Hawaii (SSN-776) changed her homeport from Groton, Conn. to Pearl Harbor. The Virginia-class submarine is the first commissioned warship of the U.S. Navy to be named for the

50th state.

Pearl Harbor's oldest Medal of Honor recipient, John W. Finn, celebrated his 100th birthday on July 27. Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard received a Public Affairs Officer of the Year Award while Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) received its third consecutive Bingham Award.

In August, Pearl Harbor found itself once again in the headlines when a category four storm, Hurricane Felicia, barely missed the Hawaii islands. A Pearl Harbor-based ship, USS Hopper (DDG 70), scored an intercept during a ballistic missile training event in Kauai.

The Air Force Thunderbirds graced the Hawaiian skies during a visit to the Pacific in September. In the wake of the swine flu pandemic, military medical services all over the island tried to combat flu season by offering a variety of vaccinations to service members and their family members.

Furlough Fridays were introduced to the island in October, and Family Fleet Services Center and other Navy childcare services extended a helping hand to the Navy community with school-aged children.

After 10 years as a decommissioned museum ship at Ford Island, Battleship Missouri Memorial was pulled into a Pearl Harbor dry dock for long overdue renovations.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presided over a change-of-command ceremony on Oct. 19 as Navy Adm. Timothy J. Keating passed the U.S. Pacific Command helm to Navy Adm. Robert F. Willard.

USS Texas (SSN-775), a Virginia-class submarine, moved its homeport to Naval Station Pearl Harbor in November, during an inner-fleet transfer from Groton Submarine Base, Conn.

At Thanksgiving, the Navy community volunteered canned goods to Armed Services YMCA that provided more than 100 Thanksgiving meals to needy Sailors and their families. Sailors and volunteers from the Naval Computer Telecommunications and Area Master Station joined with the North Shore community to help feed needy families for the 20th annual Operation Aloha in Waialua.

The year came to an end with the 68th anniversary commemoration of the Dec. 7, 1941 Japanese surprise attacks on Pearl Harbor. The solemn two-hour ceremony included a special Hawaiian blessing, rifle salute and impressive missing-man flyover executed by the Hawaii Air National Guard. Fifty Pearl Harbor survivors were in attendance and many retold stories about their valiant efforts during one of America's darkest days.

As 2009 came to a close, we at Hawaii Navy News now look forward with anticipation as to what 2010 will bring to our pages.



Navy Region Hawaii emphasizes energy conservation See page A-2



'Forgotten ship' remembered with new additions added to memorial See page A-4



Diverse views See page A-4



2009: A look back at sports/leisure See page B-1

# USS Russell deploys to western Pacific

## Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Guided-missile destroyer, USS Russell (DDG 59), departed Pearl Harbor on Jan. 5 for an independent deployment to the Middle East and western Pacific, the U.S. 5th Fleet and U.S. 7th Fleet's areas of responsibility.

Russell, commanded by Cmdr. Rodney M. Patton, is deploying under the middle Pacific surface combatant (MPSC) deployment concept in which Pearl Harbor-based ships deploy in support of operations in the U.S. 5th and U.S. 7th Fleet operating areas. Her crew of about 24 officers and 247 enlisted Sailors



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

will conduct integrated operations in conjunction with coalition partners deployed to the Middle East and with the Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) Carrier Strike Group.

Guided-missile destroyers are multi-mission surface combatants, capable of anti-air warfare (AAW), anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and anti-surface warfare (ASUW) missions.

Patton also expects to support the wider mission areas of maritime interdiction operations (MIO) and theater security cooperation (TSC). When asked about deployment preparations, Patton said, "For the last month,

Russell has been busy conducting repairs and training. We have also tried to maximize the time at home with family and loved ones. If we are asked to track submarines or ballistic missiles, I think that Russell Sailors are prepared for any [U.S.] 5th or [U.S.] 7th Fleet tasking. It should be a very successful deployment."

Russell will participate in integrated training while operating in the western Pacific. Operating in the western Pacific will afford the crew the opportunity to improve its operating proficiency in U.S. 7th Fleet's naval presence and theater security cooperation missions.



U.S. Navy photo by YNI Matt Lawyer

Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 2nd Class Roberto Hernandez, VP-4, assists students in trying on flight gear that is used by crew members of the P-3C Orion Navy aircraft.

## CPRW2 powers up a different kind of classroom for 'furlough Friday' students

### Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two Staff

Officers and Sailors from Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two (CPRW2) participated in a Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe-sponsored 'furlough Friday' event on Dec. 11, 2009.

The CPRW2 staff, Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) and Patrol Squadron Four (VP-4) supported 12 volunteer students with a hands-on display and tour of P-3C Orion in front of hangar 104.

The eager students toured the P-3 aircraft and were given the opportunity to sit in the flight station, observe tactical crew duties, and try on the emergency parachutes. Flight Engineer Aircrewman 2nd Class Mary Fernandez provided answers to the future pilots' questions and about the complexity of managing the four-engine aircraft during a flight mission.

Additionally, the students had an opportunity to try on aircrew gear, including the survival vest and helmet. Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 2nd Class Roberto Hernandez

and Aircrew Survival Equipmentman Airman Apprentice Dylan Braly were on hand to answer questions on how an aviator can survive and signal for help in a distressed situation with the myriad of items in their vest.

"It was an opportunity for the Navy and Marine family on Kaneohe to give back to the children affected by 'furlough Friday' academic calendars and hopefully, spark interest and passion for a career in the armed forces," said Lt. Cmdr. Steve Platt, CPRW2 operations officer, in summarizing the successful event.

## Navy Region Hawaii requires new energy conservation efforts

### Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Energy Team

Energy conservation is of critical importance and a high priority for the U.S. Navy and the nation. The Pacific region faces aggressive energy reduction goals stipulated in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and Executive Order 13514. In addition, it faces a substantial utility budget deficit of \$1.5 million for fiscal year 2010.

In order to achieve these energy reduction mandates, all commands occupying facilities within Navy Region

Hawaii, regardless of branch of service, are to actively participate in energy reduction efforts. Efforts should include improving energy awareness of command personnel, identifying energy and water waste and taking corrective actions, and exploring potential energy saving projects.

Required actions include identifying an "energy" point of contact within each command that will serve as the contact for any energy-related issues. Also, all commands should make sure that a building energy monitor (BEM) has been identified by and commands have attended BEM training of-

fered by Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Energy Team by Jan. 31.

NAVFAC Hawaii recommends that command facilities should be inspected to ensure they are not consuming excessive energy or water. Everyone at Navy Region Hawaii plays a key role in achieving energy goals. Execution of the preceding requirements will make Navy Region Hawaii a more efficient work place.

For more information, contact Krista Stehn, NAVFAC Hawaii's energy manager, at 471-0040 or email at Krista.stehn@navy.mil.

## Martin Luther King observance planned at Hickam

The Hickam Air Force Base African-American Heritage Association will sponsor the Martin Luther King Jr. annual observance from noon to 1 p.m. Jan. 15 at Nelles Chapel on Hickam. Col. Keith Darlington, HQ PACAF command chaplain, will be the guest speaker for the event. Pupus will be available afterward so no one will miss lunch. For more information, contact Ronald Sampson at 428-2912.



## 26th Annual Great Aloha Run

In support of the 26th annual Great Aloha Run, Borchers Gate will be closed during the race and Luapele Gate will be open from 4 a.m. to noon on President's Day on Feb. 15. Additionally, Center Drive and Radford Drive will not be accessible via Kamehameha Highway, including Makalapa Gate, which will not be accessible until 9:45 a.m.

The 8.15-mile race will start at sunrise from the Aloha Tower Marketplace, wind down Nimitz and Kamehameha Highways, and end at the Aloha Stadium. Several water aid stations will be available along the route, including a water aid station on Kamehameha Highway near Borchers Gate. More than 20,000 participants are expected and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Navy Region Hawaii's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) programs. For more information about the event, visit <http://www.greataloharun.com>.

## Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam plans open house and town hall meeting

A Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) open house and town hall meeting will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 26 at the Hickam J.R. Rockers Enlisted Club. The open house will provide JBPHH information for many of the Air Force and Navy functions that will be transitioning to create the new joint base.

Everyone is invited, including military and civilian NAF and APF employees, residents, contractors and tenant commands.

There will be a one-hour town hall meeting conducted from 1 to 2 p.m. with Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor who is the prospective joint base commander, and Col Giovanni Tuck, commanding officer of 15th Airlift Wing at Hickam Air Force Base, they will be on hand to answer questions.

For the purpose of timeliness and preparedness, please email any questions in advance to [lancaster\\_vickie@bah.com](mailto:lancaster_vickie@bah.com) by Jan. 15.

# Hawaii Navy News Editorial

## Navy at Pearl Harbor to receive new photovoltaic systems funded by Recovery Act money

Denise Emsley

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Public Affairs

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii awarded a firm-fixed price task order on Dec. 30 to install photovoltaic (PV) systems on top of Navy buildings at Pearl Harbor. The award for \$15 million was made to Niking Corporation, Wahiawa, Hawaii.

The PV systems will be installed on the roofs of five large buildings on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, including the Navy Exchange

and Navy Commissary. "With the increased emphasis on renewable energy, this photovoltaic project will assist the Navy in Hawaii with achieving federal, state and Navy renewable energy goals," said Capt. Richard W. Kitchens, commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

"The new photovoltaic systems on Oahu are estimated to produce approximately 3.4 gigawatt hours of energy annually which is equal to the annual energy needs of approximately 440 homes. In addition, the utilization of renewable energy resources like photovoltaics will assure our energy in-

dependence and national security," explained Kitchens. This task order is part of the Navy in Hawaii's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) efforts. It was awarded to Niking Corporation through a competitive selection of proposals submitted under a multiple award construction contract.

The project provides for the design and construction of grid-tied PV power systems on various buildings and other incidental work. The design-life of the system shall be at least 20 years in a corrosive environment. The PV power systems shall produce aggregate

energy output of 3.4 gigawatts during the first full year of operation and shall produce an aggregated annual output equal to and at least 80 percent of the first-year target for the remainder of its 20-year life.

Estimates indicate the new PV system will provide an annual avoidance of approximately 5,667 barrels of oil and 3,118 tons of carbon dioxide emissions. In addition, annual energy produced is enough to provide all annual energy needs for approximately 440 average residential customers on Oahu and carbon dioxide avoided is equivalent

to taking 550 passenger cars off the road.

Niking Corporation, which has offices at Wahiawa, Oahu, Hawaii, is a locally-owned and operated, award-winning, Hawaii-based general contractor with more than 22 years of intensive building experience with the federal government.

"We are extremely excited to have this contract," said Robert L. King, Niking Corporation president. "It will be good for our economy to have a local contractor execute this work and we feel it will help preserve and create needed jobs here in Hawaii."

The PV project at Pearl Harbor is scheduled for completion July 2011. The contract task order awarded was for \$15,237,555.

The Department of Defense received \$7.4 billion from the ARRA, which is less than one percent of the \$787 billion total amount. The Navy in Hawaii received \$124 million to modernize Navy and Marine Corps shore infrastructure, enhance American's energy independence, and sustain a steady and robust maritime force for decades. In order to help put local contractors to work, ARRA funds will be spent as quickly as possible.



The Halsey Terrace community center saves approximately 266 barrels of oil per year with the use of its photovoltaic solar power system.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

### Letter to the Editor

#### The importance of volunteering in the local community

Last month, a Habitat for Humanity home in the Hawaiian Homeland area in Waimanalo was finally turned over to the new Hawaiian homeowners after about six months of construction - and just in time for the holiday season.

During the Ne family's thanks toward those in attendance, they began by expressing their heartfelt appreciation to the many military volunteers who helped throughout the construction process and were impressed that they helped without expecting anything in return. He then thanked other community members for their help, too. He finished up by once again thanking the many military volunteers and was deeply appreciative to those in the military who serve overseas in harm's way to protect the freedoms we enjoy. The local community absolutely notices military volunteers who strive to make a difference.

Now is a great time to begin formulating a New Year's resolution to help those in need during 2010. Volunteerhawaii.org is a great local Web site to help you get started because it lists hundreds of volunteer opportunities throughout Hawaii.

John Burns  
Safety Office, Code 106.2  
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard



**Hawaii Navy News** ONLINE

Readers can view Hawaii Navy News at two online sites.

Visit <https://www.cnmc.navy.mil/hawaii> to access PDF versions of HNN. The site includes HNN archive issues back to 2004.

Visit [www.hawaiinavynews.com](http://www.hawaiinavynews.com) to access complete HNN stories and related photos. This site is managed by the Honolulu Advertiser, the publisher for HNN.

### Bob Hope receives Distinguished Public Service Award in 1971



Photo courtesy of Navy Historical Center

Entertainer Bob Hope (center) and other platform guests render honors as the "Star Spangled Banner" is played during ceremonies held to present the Distinguished Public Service Award to Hope on Jan. 11, 1971. The ceremony took place at Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego, Calif. on the pier beside the First Fleet flagship, USS Providence (CLG-6). Secretary of the Navy John Chafee is second from left.

**Hawaii Navy News**

**Commander, Navy Region Hawaii**  
Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith  
**Chief of Staff**  
Capt. Melvin Lee  
**Director, Public Affairs**  
Agnes Tauyan  
**Deputy Director, Public Affairs**  
Bill Doughty  
**Leading Chief Petty Officer**  
MCC Bart Bauer  
**Managing Editor**  
Karen Spangler  
**Leading Petty Officer**  
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico  
**Staff Writer**  
MC2 Robert Stirrup  
**Contributing Writer**  
Blair Martin  
**Contributing Writer**  
Randy Dela Cruz  
**Layout/Design**  
Antonio Verceluz  
**Technical Advisor**  
Joe Novotny

Hawaii Navy News is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawaii.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com) World Wide Web address: <https://www.cnmc.navy.mil/Hawaii/>.

Hawaii Navy News is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii

or the Honolulu Advertiser.

Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

Hawaii Navy News is delivered weekly to Navy housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 538-NEWS (538-6397) if they wish to discontinue home delivery.

# 'Forgotten ship' remembered with new additions added to memorial

Story and photo by Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

The USS Utah (AG-16) Memorial has long been dubbed "the forgotten ship," but in preparation for this year's 68th annual Pearl Harbor Day ceremony, the ship received several new additions in hopes of attracting more visitors to the memorial.

In October, a special solar light was added to the memorial's flag post so that an American flag could be displayed 24 hours a day over the Utah. The ship currently rests in the waters off the northwest shore of Ford Island.

Two white buoys were also added to the ship's forecastle and fantail that still are submerged under water, revealing her true length to visitors to the memorial.

According to Christine Carr, lead dive officer for the National Park Service (NPS), the buoys were a necessary part of protecting and preserving the ship.

"The main reason for the buoys is to protect and preserve this ship for future generations," she said. "Visibility can be low around the ship so the buoys offer protection for tour boats and harbor vessels."



Christine Carr, lead dive officer for the National Park Service (NPS), shows where additional white buoys were added to the forecastle and fantail of the sunken USS Utah (AG-16). Carr said the buoys not only reveal the true size of the ship but also will help in the preservation of the memorial site.

Carr also witnessed a few close calls herself during her routine monthly dives when she and a dive team cleaned and monitored the ship.

"The harbor boats would literally cross over the ship and not even know," she recalled.

Carr said that because the Utah sank at an angle, the size of the wreckage underneath the surface is often misleading not only to other ves-

sels in the harbor, but also to many tourists who visit the ship.

"People have no idea how big she really is," said Carr. "It would just break my heart if someone accidentally hit her. She is a part of history and any part of her that would get damaged or broke would just be a tremendous loss."

Once a former battleship more than 521 feet in length,

the Utah was recommissioned in 1932 and became a target ship used for bombing exercises.

In September 1941, she sailed to Pearl Harbor for additional training exercises and was moored at F-11 on Ford Island during the surprise Japanese attacks on Dec. 7, 1941.

According to historical reports, Utah was one of the first

ships to be torpedoed by Japanese planes. It was later reported that Japanese pilots were told to ignore the Utah as she was a non-combat ship. But two torpedoes were dropped on her, including one torpedo that slammed into her port side at 8:01 a.m. while the crew raised the flag on her fantail. As water filled the ship rapidly, Sailors were ordered to abandon ship on her starboard side.

At about 8:12 a.m., Utah capsized after her mooring lines snapped from the shore. Most of the ship's crew survived the attack, but more than 40 Sailors still remain entombed on the ship today.

Carr said that over the past six decades, the ship's wreckage has evolved into an entire ecosystem supporting live coral, several sea horse colonies and turtles that have made the ship their home.

"She is such a beautiful ship," Carr said. "People look at what remains above water and just see rusting metal, but underneath the water there is a whole ecosystem of life and vegetation. It is my hope that the buoys will not only serve as an interpretive moment for visitors to realize the USS Utah's true magnificence, but also protect a piece of history that lies underneath," she added.

Retired Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Jim Taylor, who now serves as the Pearl Harbor survivor liaison for Navy Region Hawaii, said he believes the Utah's ceremonial presence serves as one of the most reverent and peaceful memorials on Pearl Harbor.

"As the Navy's survivor burial coordinator, I chose the USS Utah to be the site where we conduct interments and scatter the ashes of our Pearl Harbor survivors who wish to return to their shipmates," he said. "It is a beautiful place where families can come out for the ceremony and say their final farewell to loved ones."

Taylor said that since the ship became a national historical monument in 2008, thanks to a bill signed by President George W. Bush, it is under the care of the National Park Service with future plans for the memorial to become one of the stops on the NPS Ford Island bus tour.

"In the past, not many people knew too much about the ship because it was not heavily advertised like the USS Arizona Memorial and not a part of the Ford Island tour," he said. "But now that it has national monument status, there are future plans for drawing more attention and the ship finally getting the attention and recognition she deserves."



## Diverse Views

What do you look forward to in 2010 career wise?



Hospital Corpsman  
**Klevenger Williams**  
Naval Health Clinic  
Hawaii

"I look forward to deploying this year and I plan to take some college courses. I want to get into a C-School program, too."



Chief Fire Control Technician (SS)  
**Ed Brennan**  
USS Hawaii (SSBN 776)

"I'm excited about USS Hawaii deploying. It will be the first Virginia-class submarine to deploy in the Pacific region."



Utilitiesman Constructionman  
**Rodrigo Diaz**  
Naval Facilities HI

"Hopefully, I'll learn more about my rate and make E-4 this year. I want to take advantage and go to college, too."



Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (SW)  
**Brooke Cannon**  
Naval Station Pearl Harbor  
Security

"Advancing to first class is my biggest priority this year. I also look forward to helping the base's auxiliary security force meet its yearly requirements."

# Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico  
Service members from the U.S. Navy and Air Force participate in a beautification project at Aliamanu Middle School on Dec. 21, 2009 as part of the military's community service.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh  
Amber Duldulao (left), a student from Waimea High School on Kauai, and Jerry Nishihira, Waimea High School math teacher, follow the progress of a launched model rocket as it pierces the morning sky at the U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Kauai. PMRF engineers and Nishihira supervised the seventh annual rocket day with Waimea High School held at PMRF on Dec. 19.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Guttridge  
The crew members of USS Hawaii (SSN 776) at Pearl Harbor demonstrate their holiday spirit with lights and displays during the 2009 holiday season. Hawaii is the first Virginia-class submarine to be homeported in the Pacific.

(Below) Ensign John Briggs, aka Santa, aboard USS Lake Erie (CG 70) waves to the USNS Alan Shepard while the officer of the deck Lt. j.g. (SW) Matthew Thrasher, and the conning officer, Ensign Connie Thornton, are focused on the replenishment at sea.

U.S. Navy photo by STG2 (SW) Eric Ocampo



The guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) and the Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Henry J. Kaiser (T-AO 187) are decorated with Christmas lights at port in Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Guttridge  
(Left and above) Ensign Tom Kerman of USS Tucson (SSN 770), homeported at Pearl Harbor, explains periscope operations to members of the University of Nevada football team "Wolf Pack" during a tour of the improved-Los Angeles attack submarine USS Tucson on Dec. 23. Months earlier, Cmdr. Mark Behning, commanding officer (CO) of USS Nevada (SSBN 733) visited with the then O-3 Wolf Pack and talked about trust and teamwork. Nevada went on to win eight of its last nine games, becoming bowl eligible and finishing second in the Western Athletic Conference where it earned the bid to the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl which took place at Aloha Stadium on Dec. 24. Chris Ault, University of Nevada coach, credits Behning's talk with turning the season around and dedicated his team's performance in the Christmas Eve game to the crew and CO of USS Nevada.

# 137 petty officers frocked at Naval Information Operations Command, Hawaii

CTI2 Theresa M Buitron

Naval Information Operations Command, Hawaii

Sailors at Naval Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii were frocked to the ranks of first, second and third class petty officers during a ceremony held Dec. 11, 2009 at NIOC. Overall, 137 Sailors were frocked including 39 Sailors advanced to E-4, 76, advanced to E-5 and 22 Frockes to E-6.

"As a former enlisted Sailor, I really enjoyed the frocking ceremony for petty officers. With each step, Sailors continue their career advancement in a proud manner following Navy tradition," explained Capt. James E. Hagy, NIOC commanding officer.

Navy-wide, advancements were down compared to the spring cycle. The chance to advance this fall was almost



U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Melissa Ocasio

Capt. James Hagy, commanding officer of Naval Information Operations Command Hawaii, congratulates Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class Jennifer Hinkley on her promotion to first class petty officer. Hinkley was among 137 petty officers who were frocked at NIOC Hawaii on Dec. 11, 2009.

five percent less than this past spring. However, NIOC Hawaii saw a good number of Sailors advance within their rates this fall cycle.

"I feel great about our numbers from this advancement cycle. It demonstrates the commitment of the chain of command to the success of our Sailors. All the hard work the training department invested in workshops and training is paying off," Hagy said.

The quota for cryptological technician interpretive (CTI) second and first class advancements for groups three and four was 62 Sailors Navy-wide. At NIOC, 35 Sailors advanced, accounting for more than 50 percent of the total number who made rank.

In the cryptological technician collection (CTR) rating, many Sailors advanced across the Navy, with 16 Sailors advancing to CTR3,

28 to CTR2, and seven to CTR1 at NIOC.

In the information systems technician (IT) rate, less than 11 percent of all IT2s in the Navy made it to IT1; two NIOC Sailors were able to advance to this rank.

This cycle, NIOC Sailors saw a drop in some rates for advancement and an increase in others. But the opportunity for those who were frocked to become stronger, more dedicated non-commissioned officers in the Navy was the theme of the day.

"It was a long and hot ceremony, but it was nice to see so many people getting frocked. These new first, second and third class petty officers will now have a chance to take on more leadership roles and help others to get to where they are now," said new Cryptological Technician (Interpretive) 2nd Class Michelle R. Morgan.

## Naval Information Operations Command, Hawaii celebrates end of year with masquerade ball

CTI2 Theresa M Buitron

Naval Information Operations Command, Hawaii

The holiday party committee at Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC), Hawaii shook up the annual end-of-year get-together by selecting a masquerade ball theme, something that hadn't been seen in recent memory.

The committee worried that the theme may have been a little outlandish, but the Sailors of NIOC showed their enthusiasm for the theme in style. Many of the partygoers came in feathered masks and some even had masks painted on their faces. Some came in black tie or little black dress,

and some came in embroidered velvet jackets and black leather pants. "It was awesome to see the Sailors get into wearing masks and dressing up, and giving them this opportunity to do it and have a great time was very rewarding," said Cryptological Technician (Interpretive) 1st Class Alyssa Chubbuck, holiday party committee vice-president.

The great thing about the holiday party was the chance for all of the Sailors to get together and let their hair down, so to speak. "Working together and having fun together is a great sign of team work," commented Capt. James E. Hagy, NIOC commanding officer. (Hagy wore an unmistakable Phantom of the Opera mask to the party.)



U.S. Navy photo by CTRL (SW/AW) Carlos Ocasio

Ensign Melissa Ocasio and Lt. j.g. Alexis Pospischil masquerade at the Navy Information Operations Command, Hawaii holiday party held Dec. 5 at Hilton Hawaiian Village.

Seeing the creativity of the Sailors and the variety of costumes that came out that night was quite a sight. "This was a nice change from the regular

shirt and tie," said NIOC Command Master Chief Terry Piper.

The holiday masquerade ball took place Dec. 5 at the

Hilton Hawaiian Village's Tapa Ballroom in Waikiki. Approximately 250 Sailors attended and dined on Hawaiian dishes and salads and an array of tortes and pastries for dessert. During dinner, guests were treated to a show of Malia in Hawaii - three Middle Eastern dancers performing traditional belly-dances using curved swords and painted canes as props. It was something new and different from the usual Polynesian dances that many experience on the island. "This party was a hit for our NIOC holiday party committee," commented Piper.

After dinner, Sailors were welcomed to the dance floor to sounds of NIOC's own DJ, Cryptologic Technician (Collections) 1st Class (SW) Alex

Neil. Throughout the rest of the evening, various door prizes were handed out. Some lucky guests went home with a brand new digital camera, a PS3 and a 32-inch flat screen TV, just to name a few.

Coordinating this kind of production is a year-long process for the holiday party committee. From choosing the location to choosing the theme, raising the money needed to keep ticket prices low, and promoting the event, the small but dedicated committee of Sailors worked hard to put on a successful party.

"It's like planning a wedding that was all about everyone else and not about the bride and groom," Chubbuck explained. "It was a lot of work, but very well worth it."

**Navy Region Hawaii** 

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) is now on Facebook (Navy Region Hawaii) and Twitter (twitter.com/NavRegHawaii). Feel free to follow CNRH on these Web sites and check out the latest updates and news about the Navy in Hawaii.

**Joint base newspaper needs a name**

Do you have ideas for a great name for the new joint base newspaper? We're seeking suggestions for a name for the combined newspaper for Pearl Harbor and Hickam.

Hawaii Navy News, the Navy newspaper that now serves the Navy in Hawaii, and the Hickam Kukini, the Air Force newspaper which serves the Air Force community in Hawaii, will combine next year as the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam reaches full operational capability.

If you have an idea for a name for our joint newspaper, a name that would represent two great services and one special installation, please share it with us. The deadline for suggestions is by close of business on Jan. 15.

This is your opportunity to participate in the naming of the joint base newspaper, your newspaper. We look forward to hearing from you, our readers.

Please email your suggestions to Karen Spangler, managing editor of Hawai'i Navy News, at Karen.spangler@navy.mil.

# NIOC Sailor helps those in pursuit of higher education

CTII (AW/NAC) Jennifer Schooley

Naval Information Operations Command, Hawaii

In the past few years, there has been a huge push in the Navy for Sailors to obtain a college degree or technical certification. In fact, it is not uncommon to find Sailors working a full day and also enrolled in classes. This shift in the enlisted workforce has brought about new programs designed to help today's Sailor attain educational goals.

At Naval Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii, Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 1st Class Jamar Salters is the resident expert of Navy education benefits and how to quickly earn a degree or certification. He currently provides training to his fellow Sailors on how to obtain their higher education and put their Navy education benefits to good use.

Salters created a presentation, the Navy Apprenticeship College and Training Course (Navy ACT) which he shares with not only his fellow NIOC Hawaii Sailors, but also the Sailors of the USS McCampbell (DDG 85) and other Sailors from various commands. This presentation is his way of "paying it forward" with his focus being to increase Sailorization and awareness with fleet Sailors.

"I try to encourage my peers and subordinates to assume additional responsibility and authority. I started by working on improving career management opportunities for Sailors by providing training," explained Salters.

The programs Salters promotes include: USMAP, Navy Cool, MYCAA, AEV, ALLHANDS Career Handbook, Peterson Learning, college accreditation, SAT/ACT prep and CLEP/Dantes testing. Within the first two months, his training led to 29 personnel cumulatively earning more than 153 college credits and 23 certifications in homeland security.

It has been 11 months since he started his training and, according to Salters, "the numbers are too overwhelming to keep track of." Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 1st Class (SW/AW) Dereck A. Stevens, the Fleet Information Op-



U.S. Navy photo by Jeddiah Dyer

Cryptologic Technician (Collection) (SG/SW/AW) 1st Class Jamar Salters presents his brief on Navy ACT at NIOC Hawaii.

erations Center Hawaii, N9 department career counselor, said "First let me begin by saying great job on the information put out! I have been in [the Navy] for 15 years and have not had that level of expertise given to me. Now with that said, I am eager to start/restart my degree path and obtain my degree before leaving this command."

While many Sailors know about SAT/ACT prep and CLEP/Dantes testing, many are unaware of the other different educational programs available to them. USMAP, which is the United States Military Apprenticeship Program, is the Department of Labor (DOL) sponsor for all military apprenticeships. This program is free and requires no off-duty hours. You receive national recognition as a DOL apprentice, you have documented proof of work experience, and DOL registered apprentices are sought after by employees.

Navy COOL, Credentials Opportunity On-Line, helps Sailors find civilian credentials related to rates, job occupations or designators. MYCAA, the Military Spouse Career Advancement Account, is a Department of Defense program which provides up to \$6,000 of financial assistance for military spouses who are pursuing degree programs, licenses, or credentials leading to employment in portable career fields.

AEV is the Navy's Advancement Education Voucher Program which pays for an advanced degree (bachelor or master) for selected Navy senior enlisted (E-7 through E-9). The *All Hands* Career Handbook is a comprehensive guide of programs and benefits available to Sailors, as well as providing information

about career opportunities available to the fleet.

Peterson Learning is a leading provider of education solutions in print and online for students, families, schools and educators in the areas of test preparation, admissions, financial aid and career guidance. Peterson Learning has partnered up with the Navy to provide service members and their families a suite of educational products and services designed to help them reach their educational and professional goals.

Salters said his goal is to promote higher education and camaraderie within all commands as well as give all Sailors, from new recruits to salty shellbacks, a good educational foundation. He stresses the importance of diversification as it pertains to career progression. Salters shares with his ship-

mates the necessity of an education and how it emphasizes the vision of a well-rounded Sailor.

Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Collection) (SW) Kyucca-Ali Simpson, Fleet Information Operations Center Hawaii leading chief petty officer, agreed with this wholeheartedly. "The Navy ACT program benefits Sailors of every rate and rank. It provides information that is rarely covered

in formal courses or general military training. It has both personal and professional uses and I regularly refer Sailors to it. Thanks to Petty Officer Salters, I have added the Navy ACT program to my mentorship toolbox," said Simpson.

Salters explained, "Helping Sailors is what makes it all worth it for me." He has so far been awarded the Sea Sailor of the Quarter at NIOC Hawaii and received

the Navy Achievement Medal from the USS McCampbell (DDG 85), as well as a nomination for mentor of the year for all of his efforts. Salters said, "Honestly, there is no better feeling, when a Sailor takes the information you have provided to them and accomplishes their goals with it. It is definitely a humbling experience and what pushes me to keep passing the word."

## Web site recommendations

**In Rate Civilian Certifications / Licenses / Apprenticeships Programs**  
United States Military Apprenticeship Program

• <https://usmap.cnet.navy.mil>

**Navy Credentials Opportunity On-Line**

• [www.cool.navy.mil/](http://www.cool.navy.mil/)

**SAT/ACT/Clep/Dantes/AVSAB Study Preparation Petersons**

• [www.petersons.com/dod](http://www.petersons.com/dod)

• <http://www.petersons.com/dantes/>

**Air Force Association**

• <http://www.afa.org/links/nfl.asp>

**Eknowledge**

• <http://sat.eknowledge.com/military.asp>

**Defense Language Institute Foreign Language School**

• <http://www.dlflc.edu/index.html>

**Instance Certification**

• [www.instantcertonline.com/](http://www.instantcertonline.com/)

**Assessment and Learning In Knowledge Spaces**

• [www.aleks.com/](http://www.aleks.com/)

**Spouses/Dependents Educational Programs**

**Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts**

• <https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa>

**Chiefs' Educational Program**  
Navy Advance Education Voucher Program

• <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/aev/>

**Officer Package/STA-21 Check List Seaman To Admiral - 21**

• <https://www.sta-21.navy.mil/>

**E-Learning and Other Resources**  
Navy Knowledge Online

• [www.nko.navy.mil](http://www.nko.navy.mil)

• [www.courses.cnet.navy.mil/](http://www.courses.cnet.navy.mil/)

**Sailor/Marine American Council On Education Registry Transcript**

• <https://smart.navy.mil/>

**American Council on Education**

• <http://www.acenet.edu/>

**U.S Department of Education Database of Accreditation**

• <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/>

**Navy Fleet and Family Support Center**

• <https://www.nffsp.org/skins/nffsp/home.aspx>

**Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System**

• <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil/>

• <http://www.navy.mil/>

• <http://www.militarytimesedge.com/>

• <http://www.navyadvancement.com/>

• <http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

## KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawai'i Navy News upcoming segments

Jan. 14 - Surface Navy Women's Symposium

Jan. 21 - Surface Damage Control Trainer

Jan. 28 - Battleship Missouri Memorial

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.khon2.com/content/news/navynews/default.aspx>)

### Got a story for KHON Hawai'i Navy News?

Email [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com) or call Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.