

## USS Charlotte returns from western Pacific

Story and photos by  
MCC Josh Thompson

Commander Submarine Force  
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs  
Office

USS Charlotte (SSN 766) returned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor from a six-month western Pacific deployment on July 24.

"I've never been associated

with such a talented group of men assembled from throughout the United States," said Cmdr. Butch Dollaga, USS Charlotte commanding officer. "I'm proud of each and every one of my crew members for their professionalism, perseverance and passion in completing all of our national tasking in the last six months."

Since departing Pearl Harbor on Jan. 26, Charlotte conducted numerous operations vital to national security and in support

of Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet.

Charlotte also visited Guam, Okinawa and Yokosuka, Japan, Singapore and Saipan. The crew participated in the Liberation Day Parade while in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.

"Words are not enough to describe how proud I am of what the crew of Charlotte accomplished while deployed away from our families," said Dollaga.

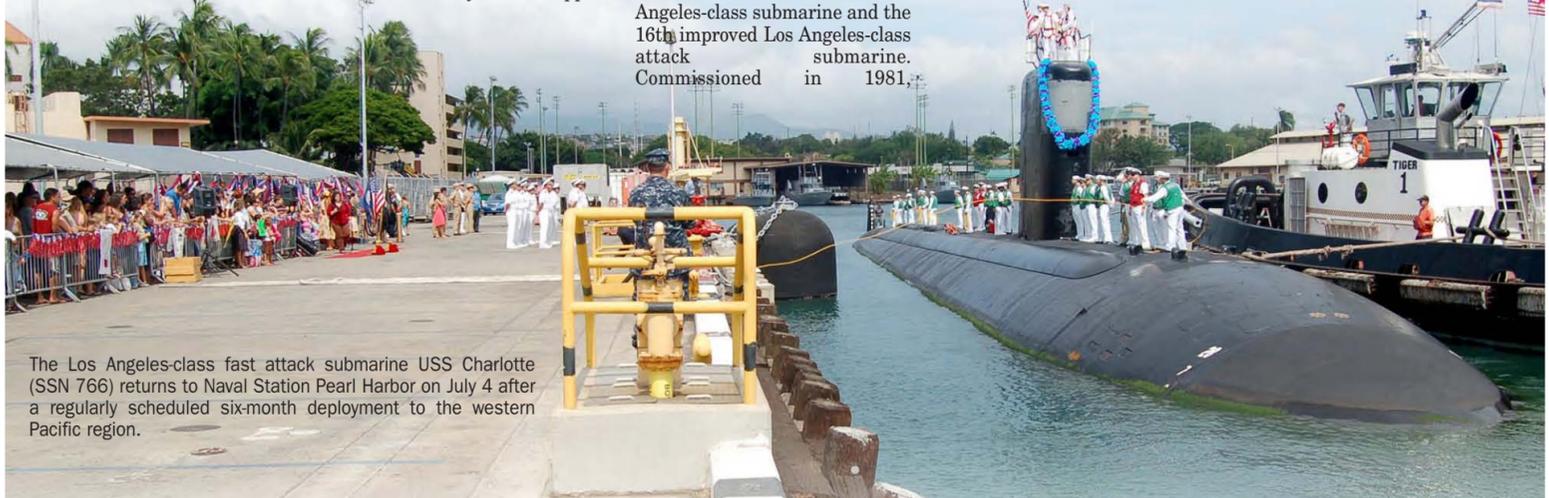
Charlotte is the 54th Los Angeles-class submarine and the 16th improved Los Angeles-class attack submarine. Commissioned in 1981,



Chief Electrician's Mate Mike Mercer receives the first kiss from his wife.

Charlotte is the fourth ship of the U.S. Navy to be named after the North Carolina city.

Los Angeles-class submarines are ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and special forces missions. This stealth, when combined with the submarine's Tomahawk cruise missiles, mines and torpedoes, provide the operational commander with an unseen force multiplier.



The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Charlotte (SSN 766) returns to Naval Station Pearl Harbor on July 4 after a regularly scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific region.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Michael Hight

Members of the Pa Ku'i a Lua perform a traditional Hawaiian haka during the arrival ceremony for the Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) on July 23. USS Hawai'i is the third Virginia-class submarine constructed and the first submarine to bear the name of the aloha state.

## Pearl Harbor welcomes namesake submarine USS Hawai'i with aloha

Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet  
Public Affairs

USS Hawaii (SSN 776), the first Virginia-class submarine to be homeported in the Pacific, arrived July 23 to a warm local style welcome that reflected Hawai'i's diverse cultural heritage at the submarine piers at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

The state's namesake sub-

marine made Hawai'i its home during the 50th Anniversary of Statehood Commemoration activities.

More than 200 people took advantage of the opportunity to view USS Hawai'i from the Ford Island seaplane ramp as the submarine sailed into Pearl Harbor, and many more lined the banks of the naval station near Hospital Point and along Hickam Air Force Base.

Guest of honor was the ship's sponsor, Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle, who briefly boarded USS Hawai'i via a small boat prior to the ceremony to greet the crew and raise the Hawai'i state flag aboard the namesake submarine.

At the sierra nine pier next to Submarine Force Pacific headquarters, family members of the crew and

See USS HAWAII, A-8

## NAVFAC Hawai'i helps NEX get energy efficient

Story and photo by  
James Johnson

Naval Facilities  
Engineering Command  
Hawai'i Public Affairs

Significant upgrades to lights and fixtures are being performed by employees of Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i at the Navy Exchange (NEX) in an effort to reduce energy costs at Pearl Harbor.

A five-man electrician team is upgrading approximately 2,400 overhead light fixtures inside the NEX building. By replacing existing bulbs, diffusers and reflectors with the newest generation of lighting technology, shoppers will have better lighting that uses significantly less energy. This will yield an estimated cost savings of \$137,000 per year.

"This NEX project is a part of the overall energy conservation strategy for Navy Region Hawai'i," said Greg Gebhardt, energy program manager for Navy Region Hawai'i and NAVFAC Hawai'i.

"We are also implementing energy efficient lighting at other parking lots and replacing older street-



Light fixtures in the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange are receiving upgrades that will improve lighting and reduce energy consumption. By February 2010, all overhead lights in the NEX Pearl Harbor complex will be replaced.

lights on Navy property. In addition to quick, three-to-five year saving paybacks, the longer life new 'induction' lighting technology greatly extends the life of these lights, which reduces the number of costly light replacements," Gebhardt explained.

Because of safety concerns, sections of the store are closed to shoppers as the electricians work overhead.

The work is expected to be completed in February 2010, after a pause in the work during the Christmas shopping season.

"So far, this is going a lot smoother than anticipated," said Aaron Abaya,

NAVFAC Hawai'i maintenance leader. "Coordination with everyone from the Navy Exchange has been good."

Outside, lights in the NEX parking lot have also been retrofitted. In June, all 180 fixture lamps were replaced with 400-watt, pulse-start metal halide lamps. These offer a 60 percent reduction in energy use compared with the old 1000-watt lamps.

The project will assist Navy Region Hawai'i in reaching its federally-mandated goals of reducing energy consumption in federal facilities by three percent per year from a fiscal year 2003 baseline.

## Free seminar gives 'Moneywise' advice to military members

Story and photo by  
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

Navy Region Hawai'i's Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) offered free seminars at various local military installations, called "Moneywise in the Military," from July 28-Aug. 1.

The seminars were held in four-hour increments on multiple bases. For Navy Sailors, the event took place on July 28 and 29 at Sharkey Theater at Naval Station Pearl Harbor and was held in conjunction with a financial fair at Lockwood lanai.

The seminars were open to



Peter Bielagus, "Young America's Financial Coach," gives a July 28 lecture on managing finances to military service members during "Moneywise in the Military," a seminar aimed at securing greater financial futures for military families. Bielagus was one of four renowned financial experts invited to give direct financial assistance to active duty service members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and family members.

any military ID holder, including active duty, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and family members.

Cryptologic Technician (Networks) (SW) Master Chief Harry Smith of Commander Navy Region Hawai'i said the event was a chance to bring renowned financial experts to the military population for direct financial assistance.

"Poor money management contributes to poor attendance, low energy, mission loss, marriage problems and, in some cases, even suicide," said Smith, who also served as the program coordinator. "By attending 'Moneywise in

the Military," all service members and their spouses will step onto the fast track to improving their financial lives the very day of the event."

The event also provided a forum for military participants to receive tips and insight from nationally lauded financial experts including panelists Peter Bielagus, "Young America's Financial Coach," Arty Arteaga, president and CEO of the Defense Credit Union Council; Holly Petraeus, director of the Better Business Bureau's Military Line; and Kelvin Boston, host of the PBS series "Moneywise."

"In the current slow econo-

my, everyone needs to understand how to manage their finances effectively," said Boston. "This is especially true for military members who often have family members and loved ones who depend on them."

During his presentation, Boston also encouraged military members to take advantage of all of the resources and opportunities made available to them, such as their GI bills, VA loans and special pensions.

"I like to remind military members that they can reach their primary financial goals if they have a plan, reduce

See MONEYWISE, A-8



Patton relieves Weston as USS Russell CO See page A-2



ATG MIDPAC, FACSAC Sailors help clean up Ford Island See page A-7



Lake Erie beats unbeaten Port Royal for title See page B-2



Medal of Honor winner, John Finn, feted on 100th birthday See page B-1



U.S. Navy photo by ET2 (SW) Tyler Kirkland

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, delivers a speech to the crew of USS Russell (DDG 59) while Lt. Dennis Kelly, a chaplain for Naval Station Pearl Harbor; Cmdr. Rodney Patton, incoming commanding officer of Russell; and Cmdr. Jeffrey Weston, departing commanding officer of Russell, look on during a change of command ceremony held July 10 on Russell's flight deck.

## Patton relieves Weston as USS Russell CO

Lt. j.g. Douglas Marks

USS Russell (DDG 59)

Cmdr. Rodney M. Patton relieved Cmdr. Jeffrey D. Weston as commanding officer of USS Russell (DDG 59) during a change of command ceremony held July 10 on the ship's flight deck.

Weston expressed his gratitude to the crew and praised their successes while under his command, "Now let me talk about the recognition that the crew has earned: Battle E winner three years in a row and lined up for number four with only half the year completed, best cruise missile tactical qualification, best force protection exercise seen by C3F, highest supply management certification scores seen in Hawai'i in years, runner-up for the 2007 Ney Award for food service, nominated by the CNO as one of only two ships for the SECDEF maintenance award, engineering certification scores above fleet average, 3M inspection scores well above fleet average with the highest ACF seen in years."

Weston added, "I salute your drive and determination

and could not be prouder of what Russell has accomplished."

He turned over command of Russell after a successful tour which included a six-month deployment to the [U.S.] 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility. He came to Russell after completing an executive officer tour during the decommissioning of USS Oldendorf (DD 972) and sea swap onto the USS Fletcher (DD 992).

His shore duties before commanding Russell included embassy duty in Manama, Bahrain in the Central Command's office of military cooperation and assignment to the OPNAV Staff, N86 surface warfare directorate as a requirements officer for network integration and combat systems.

Weston departs Russell to assume duties at the program executive office (PEO) for the integrated warfare systems at the Navy Shipyard in Washington, D.C.

Patton graduated from Ohio State University and received his commission in 1992. He began his career in surface warfare aboard the guided missile frigate USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG 49).

He returns to Hawai'i for another tour of duty after successful assignments with USS Russell (DDG 59) as the chief engineer and as the material officer for Destroyer Squadron 31. In June 2004, he served as the executive officer for USS Chancellorsville while deployed as the air defense commander for the USS Kitty Hawk and USS Enterprise Strike Groups.

Patton spoke to the Sailors he will lead aboard Russell and expressed his optimism for the upcoming deployment.

"I cannot tell you how excited I am to have this opportunity, the chance to lead motivated, well-trained Sailors aboard one of the most technologically advanced ships, serving in the world's greatest Navy," said Patton. "You have just completed months of training. It is now time to deploy and carry out the tasking of the nation's leaders. We will continue to work hard and train hard so we are prepared for any mission that may arise."

Russell is scheduled to deploy soon in support of the global war on terrorism to the western Pacific.

## DESRON 31 changes command in Singapore

Lt. Ed Early

Commander, Destroyer Squadron 31 Public Affairs

Capt. Richard L. Clemmons Jr. relieved Capt. William A. Kearns III as Commander, Destroyer Squadron (COMDESRON) 31 in a ceremony held aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) on July 30 at Changi Naval Base.

"To say it has been a remarkable 17 months in command of DESRON 31 would be an understatement," said Kearns, whose next assignment will keep him in Hawai'i as executive assistant to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. "I can't imagine a commodore having a more fulfilling tour."

During his command tour at DESRON 31, which began in January 2008, Kearns implemented the Pacific Fleet's Middle Pacific Surface Combatant (MPSC) Operational Employment concept.

Kearns also served as mission commander for Pacific Partnership 2008, a humanitarian mission aboard the hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), as well as task group commander for Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT), a series of bilateral exercises in Southeast Asia.

During the four-month Pacific Partnership mission, more than 90,000 patients were treated by embarked medical teams in various locations and 26 engineering projects were carried out in various locations in Southeast Asia and Oceania.

"From the jungles of Papua New Guinea to the marshes of Mindanao, and to so many other people and places in need, you brought hope and goodwill ashore," Kearns said of his staff's



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Bill Larned

Capt. William A. Kearns III, the outgoing commander of Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 31, addresses the guests at a change-of-command ceremony for DESRON 31 aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) in Singapore on July 30.

involvement in Pacific Partnership.

In all, the DESRON 31 staff worked with 17 navies and visited 12 nations during Kearns' command tour, demonstrating the commitment and goodwill of the United States.

The MPSC concept enhances the U.S. Pacific Fleet's warfighting readiness and operational effectiveness by capitalizing on the strategic location of Pearl Harbor and increasing surface combatant presence in the western Pacific.

In addition, MPSC established DESRON 31 as the staff of Task Group 73.5 for CARAT, which consists of exercises with the armed forces of the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei and Indonesia. As the CARAT task group staff, DESRON 31 is responsible for tactical control of the task group's ships and centralized coordination with the armed forces of participating nations.

Of the eight ships assigned to DESRON 31, four – Crommelin and the guided-missile destroyers USS Chafee (DDG 90), USS

Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), and USS Russell (DDG 59), all homeported at Pearl Harbor – are participating in CARAT 2009.

Prior to assuming command of DESRON 31, Clemmons served as executive assistant for the deputy chief of naval operations for operations, plans and strategy (N3/N5). The Pittsburgh native previously commanded the guided-missile destroyer USS Roosevelt (DDG 80) from March 2005 to November 2006, receiving the 2006 Vice Adm. James B. Stockdale Award for his leadership during his time in command.

"I firmly believe that today, there is no destroyer squadron with a stronger reputation for operational excellence than DESRON 31," Clemmons said. "You are an extraordinarily talented and accomplished squadron, and you should be justifiably proud of that fact."

In addition to commanding DESRON 31, Clemmons will also assume responsibility as Commander, Task Group 73.5 for future CARAT exercises.

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Navy seeking Sailors' participation in PSD Quick Poll

MCC (SW) Maria Yager

Navy Personnel Command  
Public Affairs

The Navy is currently polling more than 7,500 Sailors for the Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) Quick Poll to assess views on pay and personnel issues in the Navy. The poll remains open until Aug. 5.

Participants should have been notified by their command career counselor, according to Carol Newell, research psychologist at Navy Personnel Research, Studies and Technology (NPRST), the division responsible for conducting quick polls and other Navy surveys. Maximum participation in this scientific quick poll is desired to achieve the best results.

"We want to remind the Sailors notified to complete the poll. We're seeking opinions from 3,500 members of the personnel specialist (PS) rating and an additional 4,000 officers and enlisted Sailors in the rest of the Navy for this online poll," said Newell.

"Sailors were randomly

selected for inclusion in the poll," said Newell. "A Navy message was then sent to each of the selected commands. Each message listed Sailors selected at the command and requested that the commanding officer designate the command career counselor as the point of contact to invite those listed to take the poll. Participation is completely voluntary," she added. There is a login required for security.

Quick polls are designed to target one or two topics with a limited number of questions and provide Navy leaders with results within a few weeks. The results provide the Navy with valuable information. The purpose of the PSD Quick Poll is to assess career progression issues for those in the PS rating as well as customer satisfaction with PSD among those in the rest of the Navy.

The Quick Poll Web site will only allow the randomly selected Sailors notified via Navy message to log in and complete the poll.

"Participation in this poll is very important

because the views of those who complete the poll represent the entire fleet. Please be assured that your responses will remain anonymous and confidential and will not affect your career in any way. The poll should take just 10-12 minutes to complete," said Newell.

Quick polls provide reliable, credible and representative data with +/-5 percent or less margins of error. Recent topics assessed on other quick polls include perceptions of the financial health of Sailors and the physical readiness program. Results of previous quick polls conducted by NPRST are also available on the Quick Poll Web site <http://quickpolling.nprst.navy.mil/results.htm>.

Personnel Specialist Seaman Casey Flett from Mount Pleasant, Utah searches for service records in the personnel office aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). John C. Stennis is on a scheduled six-month deployment to the western Pacific Ocean.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Josue L. Escobosa



IT'S A WOMAN'S WAR TOO!

JOIN THE WAVES  
YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU NOW

*This week in Naval History*  
July 27

1953 - Korean War armistice signed at Panmunjom, Korea and Korean cease-fire went into effect at 10 p.m.

*July 28*

1915 - Sailors and Marines land in Haiti to restore order.

*July 30*

1942 - President Franklin Roosevelt signs act establishing WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). During WWII, over 80,000 officer and enlisted women served in the WAVES.

*August 2*

1943 - PT-109, under command of Lt. j.g. John F. Kennedy, cut in half by Japanese destroyer AMAGIRI.

1943 - Naval task groups bombard Japanese forces on Kiska, Alaska.

1950 - Amphibious force ships land Marine First Provisional Brigade at Pusan, Korea to help save this last area of South Korea from capture.

*As the flag proudly waves...*

Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives

Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, known as "WAVES," visit USS Missouri (BB-63) in an east coast port during August 1944. Notice the Navy jack flying proudly behind them on the main deck at the bow. On July 30, 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed the WAVE act, allowing women to serve in the U.S. military.

Hawai'i Navy News

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# Family of Utah XO pays respects at USS Utah Memorial

Story and photo by Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

Every year, hundreds of visitors make their way off the beaten path to visit the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island just to get a glimpse of history.

But during her July 23 visit to the Utah Memorial, Shawn Will, granddaughter of former USS Utah (AG-16) executive officer (XO), Cmdr. John Ford Warris, said her trip hit close to home.

In her first trip to Hawai'i and to the memorial, Will explained that this visit was her chance to not only reconnect with her grandfather, but also pay respects to the many Sailors who gave their lives when the Utah capsized on Dec. 7, 1941.

"I've heard [the stories] about [the USS Utah] all of my whole life and I wanted to see it for myself," said Will, a Seattle native. "I remembered my family saying that all they could do was sit and wait by the radio for three days to hear what had happened to my grandfather and the [men on the] Utah since it [capsized] or 'turned turtle,'" she noted.

During the first wave of attacks early on Dec. 7, Warris was reportedly on leave and off the ship, according to Navy records. However, Will said once her grandfather heard the blasts from the other side of the island, he returned to his ship as soon as possible.

"One thing I've always heard about 'grandpa' was how concerned he was for his [Sailors],"



Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor Liaison, gives Shawn Will, granddaughter of former Cmdr. John Ford Warris, USS Utah (AG-16) Executive Officer (XO), a tour of the USS Utah Memorial on a July 23 visit to Ford Island. It was the first trip to Hawai'i for Will and her family, who enjoyed the sights at Pearl Harbor, including the USS Utah and USS Arizona Memorials.

she recalled. "My mother would always talk about how concerned he was for the people who died [onboard] and how he would always [lament] that he wasn't there [when the first bombs hit] like he should've been," she added.

An avid stamp collector for many years, Will said her grandfather had always kept his collection in his desk onboard the ship. When the Utah capsized, all of his personal effects went down with the ship.

It wasn't until February 1942 when a diver was exploring the passageway on the port side of the USS Utah and discovered a floating wooden desk that was blocking a doorway. Realizing it was the XO's desk, the diver promptly returned to the surface to call him.

Warris asked the diver to look for a safe locker attached to the underside of the desk, which the diver found and pried loose to be sent to the surface.

"This was a big [story] in our family because the fact that grandpa's stamp collection was recovered [during the salvage process] was amazing," recalled Will.

Will recalled that her grandfather was able to save one-fifth of his stamp collections and noted that the greatest change to the stamps were the change in colors on some of them.

"After grandpa had recovered them, he noticed some of them had changed their colors," she said. "What was really interesting was that of all the stamps, the

Japanese ones had been affected more than any other country."

After his ship had capsized, Warris went on to be the commanding officer of the USS California (BB-44) for the rest of WWII. A heavy smoker for most of his life, Will said her grandfather died Jan. 20, 1962, just before her first birthday.

Now a wife and mother of two, Will said she was finally ready to make the long journey back to Pearl Harbor to not only pay her respects, but also to reconnect with her own family history, almost 50 years after her grandfather's death.

"It is different being an adult

and asking these questions than being a child and asking your mom and uncle questions [about grandpa]," she admitted. "But being here in this moment brings history alive and you can't help but feel a real connection. I can't tell you how emotional it is," she added as she observed the memorial.

Standing on the pier that overlooks the sunken remnants of USS Utah, Will said only now is she able to begin to understand what happened during Pearl Harbor and the indelible impression it had on the lucky few who survived, including her grandfather.

Members of the salvage division at Pearl Harbor discuss USS California salvage at Pearl Harbor, circa February-March 1942. (From left to right): Chief Shipfitter J.M. Ephland, master diver; Lt. Wilfred L. Painter, officer in charge of work; Cmdr. John F. Warris, temporary commanding officer, USS California; Capt. Homer N. Wallin, salvage officer; Lt. James W. Greely, assistant salvage officer; Lt. Wilbert M. Bjork, assistant salvage officer; and Lt. James W. Darroch, assistant salvage officer.

Official U.S. Navy photograph, from the collections of the Naval History and Heritage Command



*Hurricane Preparation*  
**Important telephone numbers**

- Emergency police, fire, ambulance – 911
- Department of Emergency Management (DEM) – 723-8960
- State Civil Defense – 733-4300
- National Weather Service (*weather advisories*) - 973-4381
- American Red Cross – 734-2101
- HECO Service Center – 548-7961 (*to report power outages, downed power lines, trees on power lines*)
- Board of Water supply troubleline – normal hours - 748-5000 after hours - 748-5010
- Hawaiian Telcom telephone repair service – 611
- The Gas Company emergency service – 526-0066
- Streetlights out – City - 768-5300 State - 831-6714

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

- July 31 - Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam with Navy Region Hawai'i
- Aug. 6 - Biggest Little Air Show in Town – Pacific Aviation Museum
- TBD - Sustainable energy program in Navy housing - Forest City Residential Management
- TBD - Doing business with Defense Commissary Agency
- Aug. 27- Small Business Industry Forum – Naval Facilities Engineering Facility Pacific (The segments air at about 6:25 a.m. each Friday.)

# Pearl Harbor Highlights



Sailors aboard the USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) work to secure lines as the Virginia-class attack submarine moors pierside. The USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) is the third Virginia-class submarine constructed and the first submarine to bear the name of the Aloha state. Measuring 377 feet long, weighing 7,800 tons when submerged and with a complement of more than 130 crew members, Hawai'i is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, irregular warfare, and mine warfare.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Sarah Murphy



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Mark Logico  
The girls of Halau Hula Olana (school of living hula) perform a traditional hula dance for the arrival of the Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776).



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Michael Hight  
Chief Storekeeper Randy Riley receives a kiss from his wife following an arrival ceremony for the Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776).

(Left) Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle raises the Hawai'i state flag for the first time aboard Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776).

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Michael Hight



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Michael Hight  
Crew members man the bridge as Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) arrives at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Michael Hight  
Kahuna Pule Gantotise performs a traditional Hawai'ian blessing for the Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) and its crew members during an arrival ceremony July 23.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup  
Sailors man the rails onboard the Virginia-class attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) as she pulls into her new homeport at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on July 23.

# ATG MIDPAC, FACSFAC Sailors help clean up Ford Island

Story and photo by  
MC2 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Naval Public Affairs  
Support Element West  
Detachment Hawai'i

Sailors from Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATG MIDPAC) and Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) participated in a Ford Island cleanup on July 22.

Approximately 90 volunteers from the two commands collected trash and debris along a four-mile stretch of Ford Island's coastal area, helping the local ecosystem and beautifying the base.

"We take great pride in the historical significance of the



Sailors from Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATG MIDPAC) and Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) participate in the annual Ford Island cleanup, held July 22. Approximately 90 volunteers from the two commands collected trash and debris along a four-mile stretch of the island's coastal area.

island and the many monuments and artifacts here," said Senior Chief Fire Controlman (SW) Craig

Hohnstein, assigned to ATG MIDPAC. "We are honored to do our part to make it a place worth visiting. Ford Island

cleanup is special to us because this is our home."

Ford Island's last cleanup, organized by ATG MIDPAC,

was in October 2007. This year the cleanup focused on high-visibility tourist areas such as the Pacific Air Museum and the Battleship Missouri Memorial as well as the waterfront seaplane landing.

"I think this is one of the best things we can give back to the community and to the environment," said Cmdr. Les Cardenas, executive officer for ATG MIDPAC. "This is not just a place where we work. A lot of the Sailors live here as well so we want to make this island a clean place for families to live."

ATG MIDPAC participates in community service projects throughout the year and conducts environmental cleanups throughout Oahu.

It also partners with Iroquois Point and Aiea Elementary Schools and works with local organizations such as the Special Olympics of Hawai'i and the YWCA.

"It is always an honor to work on this historic island. There is a lot of history here and it is important to give it the respect that it deserves," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW) Ryan Anderson, assigned to ATG MIDPAC. "This is just one of the ways that we as a collective group can help the local community and protect the delicate marine [environment] in Pearl Harbor."

During the cleanup which lasted about two hours, the Sailors collected roughly five truck beds full of trash.

## Seabees volunteer at benefit carnival

Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit  
303, Detachment Pearl Harbor

Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU) 303, Det Pearl Harbor, and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i Self Help volunteered their time and services at the Armed Services YMCA carnival July 18-19 at Central Oahu Regional Park.

The carnival was a benefit for the Honolulu Armed Services YMCA and their Wounded and Fallen Hero's Fund. The carnival included rides, food, flying trapeze acts and entertainment in addition to various military displays and demonstrations.

The Seabees set up a static display that included a high-mobility, multi-purpose wheeled vehicle, medium tactical vehicle replacement, backhoe and tractor-trailer, military gear issue, and various display boards showcasing the various Seabee ratings and projects/events that they have been involved in over the last year.

"It was overall a very successful and highly effective event," said Lt. Steve Slaby, officer in charge of CBMU 303 Det Pearl Harbor. "The Seabees display was hands down the best display out there and provided a lot of fun for the parents and their children as we dressed up the children in our gear and let them get up and crawl around all of our equipment. The display boards we presented gave the public a better idea of the type of work that we do and the good times that we have doing it."

"We had a great time talking about the Seabees, explaining to the kids the different types of equipment and what each one does - why each is important to us. I think what the kids enjoyed most was the opportuni-



U.S. Navy photos by BUI (SCW) Michael Holloman

A youngster checks out a backhoe as part of a display set up by Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303, Det Pearl Harbor and Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i Self Help at the Armed Services YMCA carnival on July 18 at Central Oahu Regional Park.

ty to honk the horn on each individual piece of equipment. All that noise ended up giving us better visibility and actually drew more of a crowd to our display," said Slaby.

Currently, CBMU 303 Det Pearl Harbor Seabees continue construction of a 9,000 square foot pre-engineered building to serve as a maintenance shed at the Navy Marine Golf Course near Honolulu International Airport and a 1,425 square foot concrete slab to serve as the foundation of a playground structure at Pearl Harbor Elementary School. These construction efforts combined with their community relations continue to show people that Seabees "can do."

## Navy supports Wounded and Fallen Warriors Heroes' Fund at local carnival

MC2 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Naval Public Affairs Support  
Element West Detachment Hawai'i

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One (MDSU-1) and other military commands demonstrated their jobs at the second annual Central Oahu Carnival, which benefits the Armed Forces YMCA and the Wounded Warrior and Fallen Hero Fund.

The carnival was held July 18-19 and included an 800-gallon dive tank supported by MDSU-1. Ten volunteer Sailors from Naval Station Pearl Harbor also helped with parking for the event.

"By providing these displays, the community has a chance to learn what we as military members do and that we are no different than them. We just have a different job," said Senior Chief Navy Diver (MDV/ DSW/ SW) John Klukas, assigned to MDSU-1.

MDSU-1 provides combat ready, expeditionary, rapidly deployable detachments to conduct harbor clearance, salvage, underwater search and recovery and underwater emergency repairs

in any environment.

MDSU-1 was commissioned as Harbor Clearance Unit One in February 1966 in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines. The command was immediately put to the test in Vietnam. During the conflict, salvage teams conducted numerous harbor clearance operations in Vietnamese rivers, harbors and coastal areas. The unit's professionalism resulted in the command being awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation and Presidential Unit Citation.

Navy Diver 1st Class (DSW) Nicholas Zaborski of MDSU-1, company 18, explained how important it is to support the Sailors and Soldiers who have been hurt in the line of duty.

"I do this every chance I can. It's just nice to come out into the community to represent the Navy and meet new people in the process," he said. "It's important to show the public what we do, all the different jobs you can do in the Navy, and inform people what Sailors do from day to day."

(See photo in Hawai'i Navy News, July 24, 2009 edition, page A-5.)

## Seminar teaches money management

Continued from A-1

their debts, increase their savings, and use all of their military benefits," he added.

Petraeus gave a presentation about how BBB resources can help military members become smarter consumers and how to make wise buying decisions.

"Military paychecks aren't large ones and it's important to make that money go as far as possible, both to provide a cushion for emergencies now and to have a comfortable retirement later on," she said.

Petraeus, who has also been a military spouse for 33 years, said many times military families face unique financial challenges because they are always "on the move."

"Military families are often in the position of moving into new towns where they don't know the local 'players' in the business community," she explained. "BBB has reliability reports on millions of businesses and gives them letter grades based on their complaint record of the past 36 months."

Utilitiesman 2nd Class (SCW) Danny Dellamonica from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i, who attended the event, said he found the lectures to be very helpful and applicable to his life.

"I think the credit score [lecture] hit home the most with me," he said. "Being in the military, sometimes you can be sheltered and I think this

[event] is a good thing because we all could stand to learn more about finances in general."

Ensign Abigail Adams from Commander Naval Service Group Middle Pacific (CNSG MIDPAC) said that at 23 years old, she admits she still has much to learn when it comes to her financial future.

"Sometimes the [military] can throw a lot of money at you to be a military officer and you don't always know how to [manage] your spending," she said. "This event was great because it helped me organize my needs from my wants and I realized that I buy a lot of things I don't need."

Adams also added that the lectures were particularly useful because, unlike civilian employees, military service members can face serious repercussions if they are not financially responsible.

"If you are a civilian and have bad credit, you won't always lose your job," she explained. "But for a lot of military members, they can [risk] losing their security clearance if they are in financial trouble. So it is vital for military members to keep their financial life in check so they can keep their clearance for their job."

Military members in need of financial assistance are encouraged to contact their command finance specialists or register for specialized FFSC financial classes. For more information on the FFSC calendar and programs, call 474-1999 or visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

## Sailors receive 'local style' welcome

Continued from A-1

invited guests enjoyed the ceremony preceding the arrival, which featured a Hawai'i Air National Guard flyover and participation by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, the Kamehameha Alumni Glee Club, Halau Hula Olana Ai performing a hula, Kahuna Pule Ganotise providing a traditional Hawaiian blessing, and a haka by Pa Ku'i a Lua. Once the brow was across, the crew debarked into the arms of their loved ones who had not seen the crew since USS Hawai'i's departure from Groton, Conn. in May.

Shortly after the ceremony, families and crew of USS Hawai'i were treated to a reception, hosted by the Navy League of the United States Honolulu Council at historic Lockwood Hall aboard the naval station. Danny Kaleikini sang the National Anthem and Hawai'i Pono'i.

"Today is a very important beginning for the people of Hawai'i, the crew of the fine submarine USS Hawai'i, the submarine force, and the U.S. Pacific Fleet," said Rear Adm. Douglas McAneny, commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"We recognize that without the support of the great people of the state of Hawai'i, we cannot succeed day in and day out with the mission our country asks us to do," he said.

"Officially today, I welcome you and your families as members of our ohana," said Lingle. "I am honored to serve as this ship's sponsor and I have been with you every step of your journey home. Today you start a new tradition, while building a more secure future for our country."

"I know I speak for the officers and crew of the USS Hawai'i, when I say, 'wow!'" said Cmdr. Edward Herrington, the submarine's commanding officer. "I felt a little like a rock star today - all the people on the shoreline cheering you along, the governor coming out on the boat and the fly over. It was fantastic."

Measuring 377 feet long, weighing 7,800 tons when submerged and with a complement of more than 130 crew members, Hawai'i is one of the Navy's newest and most technologically sophisticated submarines.

The state-of-the-art submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, irregular warfare and mine warfare.

Commissioned May 5, 2007, Hawai'i was the third Virginia-class attack submarine constructed and the first submarine to be named after the 50th state. During her maiden deployment,

USS Hawai'i became only the second naval submarine in history to receive the U.S. Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Citation for her efforts in support of Joint Interagency Task Force South counter-drug operations.

Recognizing the importance of the Asia-Pacific region and the increased threat posed by the proliferation of submarines in the Pacific, the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review mandated that 60 percent of the U.S. Navy's submarines be homeported in the Pacific by the end of 2010.

USS Hawai'i joins five Los Angeles-class submarines assigned to Pearl Harbor-based Submarine Squadron 1, commanded by Capt. Lee Hankins. In addition to the USS Hawai'i, the Virginia-class submarine USS Texas (SSN 775) will transfer from Groton, Conn. to Submarine Squadron 1 this fall and Los Angeles-class USS Albuquerque (SSN 706) will transfer from Groton, Conn. to Submarine Squadron 11 in San Diego later this summer.

By the end of 2009, 31 of the U.S. Navy's 53 fast attack submarines will be homeported in the Pacific, with 18 of those 31 homeported in Pearl Harbor. COMSUBPAC officially announced the impending arrival of Virginia-class submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) to Pearl Harbor in December 2008.