

THE SKYLINE



Volume 49, Number 16

On the Web: <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Meridian> and on facebook

August 4, 2011

On Base...

Beat the Manager Bowling Special at McCain Rec

Wednesdays in August from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Challenge the manager and if you beat him bowling, you'll get that game free. Regular bowling rates apply during this challenge. LIMIT 3 games free.

Captains Cup Staff League Meeting set for Aug. 23 at 4 p.m. at McCain Lanes.

The Military Sport Bike Rider Course

will cover two half days instead of one day due to extreme outdoor heat conditions. Classroom portion of the course will be Aug. 11 from 7:30 a.m. to noon; range portion will be Aug. 12 from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

Completion of both portions of the course is required to receive credit.

Completion of the BRC is a prerequisite. This is the only MSRC scheduled for the remainder of 2011. Register in ESAMS or call Jerry Snow in the Safety Office at (601) 679-3756.

Other Safety Classes include:

AAA: Aug. 8

Basic Rider Course: Aug. 9-10

The NAS Meridian Fire Prevention Office

holds free fire safety, fire extinguisher and fire warden training classes which can be scheduled Monday through Friday from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. New fire wardens assigned to facilities on board NAS Meridian must complete initial training provided by NAS Meridian Fire Prevention Office. Facilities with established fire wardens must complete fire warden training through ESAMS.

A Day in Naval History

August 4
1947: Birthdate of the Medical Service Corps

August 5
1882: Authorizing of first steel warships, beginning of the modern Navy.
1990: Navy and Marine Task Force (USS Saipan, USS Ponce, and USS Sumter) begin evacuation of U.S. citizens and foreign nationals from Liberia during civil war.

August 6
1945: Atomic bomb detonated over Hiroshima, Japan. Navy weaponeer, Captain W.S. Parsons, USN, armed the atomic bomb on the B-29 bomber, Enola Gay.
1990: President George Bush orders Operation Desert Shield, largest overseas deployment since Vietnam, to protect Saudi Arabia after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

THE SKYLINE IS A CHINFO AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

Welcome Capts. Moore and Lobdell



Photo by MC2 Flordeliz Valerio

Lamar McDonald, Director of the Mississippi Military Communities Council, left, congratulates Capt. Charles C. Moore II as Moore's children, Charles and Maggie, look on. Capt. Moore became the 23rd commanding officer of Naval Air Station Meridian during a change of command ceremony on July 29. Moore relieved Capt. Charles M. Gibson III. NAS Meridian celebrates its 50th anniversary this year during the Centennial of Naval Aviation.

NAS bids Gibson farewell after 3-year tour as commanding officer

By Penny Randall
Editor

Capt. Charles M. Gibson III was relieved by Capt. Charles C. Moore II during a change of command ceremony on board Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss., July 29, 2011.

Moore takes command of NAS Meridian during the installation's 50th anniversary and the Centennial of Naval Aviation.

"It is my absolute honor and privilege to stand before you today as the 23rd commanding officer of NAS Meridian," Moore told an audience of nearly 200 military members, civilians and dignitaries. "Over the years NAS Meridian has enjoyed an unparalleled reputation of success. Sarah and I have been very humbled by the welcome that we have received from everyone on the base and in the community. I look forward to continuing Capt. Gibson's culture of engagement he has made with the tenant commands and the community."

Serving as the guest speaker for the ceremony was Rear Adm. Townsend "Tim" Alexander, Commander, Navy Region

Southeast.

"Charlie, I cannot overstate the impact your leadership has had," Alexander said. "You've guided your team through many changes and significant challenges. The Navy and the local community are better because of your drive and determination."



Gibson

Alexander shared his hopes for the incoming commanding officer, Capt. Moore. "Chris, I know you are the most excited person here today and I congratulate you on this significant milestone," Alexander said. "You bring an impressive record of past accomplishments, and I'm sure you are up to the myriad challenges you will face in command. I have every confidence that you will provide the leadership and expertise required in the months ahead. Make every moment in command count; time goes by awfully fast in these jobs."

Capt. Gibson served as NAS Meridian commanding officer from July 2008-2011 managing a \$35 million annual budget and overseeing the completion of \$45 million in critical infrastructure

● NAS Meridian, page 3



Photo by Penny Randall

Capt. David Lobdell, the incoming commodore of Training Air Wing One arrives at the formal change of command ceremony in the hangar on board NAS Meridian, Aug. 2. Lobdell relieved Capt. Keith Taylor who served as the wing's commodore for two years.

TW-1 says goodbye to Taylor

By Penny Randall
Editor

A new commodore took the helm of Training Air Wing One on Aug. 2, following an official change of command ceremony in the hangar on board Naval Air Station Meridian.

Capt. David Lobdell relieves Capt. Keith Taylor, who served as commodore of Training Air Wing One since Sept. 18, 2009.

"I was thrilled when I found out I was coming to Meridian," Lobdell said. "Capt. Taylor has done a phenomenal job running TW-1, and I'm grateful to him for handing over such a smooth running organization. I appreciate this opportunity to serve my country and train the finest aviators in the world."

The guest speaker for the event was Rear Admiral William Sizemore, Chief of Naval Air Training.

During Capt. Taylor's tour, Training Air Wing One flew more than 70,000 flight hours, meeting all production goals, while reducing student aviator time-to-train from 61 to an unprecedented 48 weeks.

Capt. Taylor also initiated a comprehensive review of Chief of Naval Air Training's strategic vision, spearheading an innovative effort to identify training cost efficiencies by "downloading" training from higher cost-per-flight-hour

platforms to lower cost platforms, with a projected savings of \$400 million across the Future Years Defense Program.

Working in concert with Naval Strike Air Warfare Center and the fleet, he authored a joint Tactical Standing Operating Procedure for the Strike Training Wings, bringing the training squadrons in line with fleet standing operations and enabling a seamless transition from Training Command to the Fleet Replacement Squadron.

Capt. Taylor's vast tactical experience was the driving force behind a comprehensive Air Combat Maneuvering syllabus rewrite, bringing the outdated training from 1970's tactics into the 21st century.

"When I took command of TW-1, I had three goals - mission, safety and self," Taylor told the audience. "Mission - to train the best aviators; safety - to keep everyone and everything at Training Air Wing One returning to work each day in a safe condition; and self - to take care of each and every person who works at TW-1. They have all been met in spades. This has been the most rewarding tour for Carrie and me. We have loved Meridian's 'Southern Charm' and will never forget our time here."

● TW-1, page 3



Taylor

HOT NAVY BEAN SOUP SERVED AT THE 'FAIR'

Aviation Boatswain's Mate Handling 1st Class Markeith Mack and Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate Equipment Demetrius Jenkins hand out souvenir planes to youngsters at the 122nd Neshoba County Fair's Meridian Day on July 27. Nearly 25 volunteers from NAS Meridian experienced great atmosphere, great food and met people at the fun-filled extravaganza all while promoting the Navy during one of the hottest days of the summer. Military personnel also took photos with fairgoers and served Navy bean soup.

Photos by MC2 Flordeliz Valerio



Aviation Boatswain's mate Handling Jeremy Chase, in a Navy shirt, and Lt. Stephanie Titus invite people to try the Navy bean soup at the Neshoba County Fair's Meridian Day. It's a tradition for volunteers from NAS Meridian to attend the event and promote the Navy and Marine Corps team. This year NAS Meridian is also celebrating its 50th anniversary and the centennial of Naval Aviation.

Congratulations Chief Selectees

ACC(sel)(AW) Dwayne Hinson and ACC(sel)(AW/SW) William Nolan - NAS Meridian; HMC(sel)(SW) Thomas Jay Wolff and HMC(sel)(SW/AW) Robert Harold Spahr (currently deployed to GTMO) - Naval Branch Health Clinic Meridian; PSC(sel)(SCW/EXW) Darien Lemont Johnson - Naval Technical Training Center Meridian; and HTC(sel) Norvel Baptiste King, YNC(sel) Natalie Starr O'Quinn and MAC(sel)(SW) Markko Lee King - Naval Operational Support Center Meridian

Look Inside

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U.S., Vietnam establish formal military medical partnership



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Bonhomme Richard completes first MV-22 Osprey recovery



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ITT plans trip to Mississippi Braves baseball game



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CNIC helps national community as 'Feds Feed Families'



Photo of the Week



Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Jeremy Ware

Marine Barracks Washington hosted Commandant General Royal Marines, Maj. Gen. Buster Howes July 27, 2011. Howes, alongside Lt. Col. Jonathan Langlois, the parade commander, and followed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James Amos, and the MBW commanding officer, Col. Paul Montanus, perform "inspection of troop" during the early morning ceremony held at the Barracks' historic parade grounds.

Area Happenings

AUGUST

5: The Riley Center presents The Righteous Brothers' Bill Medley in concert at 7:30 p.m. Preshow party at 6 p.m. The center is at 2200 5th Street, downtown Meridian. Tickets are \$46 and \$40. For information, call the box office at (601) 696-2200 or go to: www.msurileycenter.com.

6-7: The Meridian Area Coin Club is sponsoring its 47th Annual Coin Show. Times are Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Best Western Motel, 2219 South Frontage Road, behind the Checkerboard Restaurant. The local coin club is a non profit club that has a large number of retired military personnel. Door prizes during the show. Admission is \$1 for adults. Children under 12 are free. You can buy, sell or have coins or paper money appraised. For information email: jarwfr@gmail.com or call (601) 479-2581.

10-Sept. 24: Meridian Museum of Art presents its 38th Annual Bi-State Art Competition -- the oldest juried art competition in the region. The museum is at 628 25th Ave., Meridian. Hours are Wednesday-Saturday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is free. For information, call (601) 693-1501 or go to: www.meridianmuseum.org.

12: Moonlight Run sponsored by the City of Meridian Parks and Recreation at Northeast Park on Highway 39 North. Run begins at 10 p.m. For information, call (601) 485-1802 or (601) 485-1895.

13: Slow Poke 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Fun Run will be hosted by the Mississippi Track Club. All proceeds benefit Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital. Start time is 7:30 a.m. at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Register by calling Michael Duneheew at (601) 728-1721. Multiple prizes will be given in various age categories for individuals and teams.

20: Magnolia Cyclist Downtown Bicycle Criterium Race through the streets of downtown Meridian. Time: Noon to 8 p.m. For information, call Maurice Malone at (601) 527-5552.

20: Community Yard Sale in Balfour Beatty Housing on board NAS Meridian, 8 a.m. to noon. Rain or Shine! Yard Sale is held on the third Saturday of each month in August and September. Call Jamie at Balfour Beatty Communities at (601) 679-7669 or e-mail at jkwilliams@bbcgrp.com to sign up or for more details.

SEPTEMBER

3: Dixie Thunder Run sponsored by Operation First Response, "The Better Life Foundation" and "Chunky River Harley Davidson." The run begins at Chunky River Harley Davidson near Bonita Lakes Mall. Motorcycle ride to benefit deployed soldiers' families. Time: 8 a.m.-6 p.m. For information, call (601) 527-1744.

3: "Music on the Grounds" at the Lauderdale County Agri-Center featuring Steve Forbert and Webb Wilder. Time: 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Admission: \$20 per person (Dixie Thunder Run Riders only \$10 per person)

10: Gospel Concert featuring "Ernie Hass and Signature Sound" at 7 p.m. at The Temple Theatre, 2320 8th Street in downtown Meridian. For information, call Richard Ferguson (601) 416-1630.

Off Limits Establishments

The following establishments located in the city of Meridian are off limits to military members stationed at NAS Meridian.

The Underground (Bonita Lakes Mall)	Club Flame Throwers (advertised as "Club End Zone")
Meridian Underground Music Exchange	Club Fusion (Formerly Club Swaggards and Club Midnight Sun)

Performance boards ready to review senior enlisted

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Navy Personnel Command will compile the list of eligible Sailors for the fiscal year 2012 performance-based senior enlisted continuation board Aug. 31.

According to NAVADMIN 194/11, active, Full Time Support and Reserve E-7 to E-9 Sailors with 19 years of service and three years time in rate as of Sept. 1 will be considered by the board, which will convene Dec. 5.

"Performance is the key," said Navy Personnel Command (NPC) Force Master Chief (AW/SW/NAC) Jon Port. "The Navy requires our senior enlisted to lead Sailors and enforce our standards. One of the major ways they do this is by living our standards and conducting themselves professionally and ethically. Those master chiefs, senior chiefs and chiefs out there who achieve great success through team and personal performance set the example for others to follow."

The board will focus on performance within the last five years or since advancement to current grade, whichever is later. Among the specific performance indicators the board will consider are:

- * Documented misconduct involving either UCMJ (non-judicial punishment) or civilian offenses;

- * Moral or professional dereliction such as relief for cause or detachment for cause;

- * Continuity gaps in evaluation/fitness reports greater than 90 days;

- * Evaluation/fitness reports with marks suggesting substandard or marginal performance;

- * Any documented circumstance related to performance which results in a Sailor's inability to perform in his or her rating or duties.

"The board will look at these factors and the entire record," Port said. "They will use their judgment when determining who to select for continuation. Bottom line: we want to keep the Sailors who are best for the Navy."

Some senior enlisted who otherwise meet the time in service and grade criteria will be exempt from the board. These Sailors include:

- * Sailors with an approved transfer to the Fleet or Retired Reserve;

- * Selectees for command senior and master chief;

- * Personnel enrolled in Navy Safe Harbor;

- * Fleet, force and command master chiefs, chiefs of the boat and command senior chiefs who possess the Navy Enlisted Classification Code (NEC) 9580, 9579 or 9578;

- * Sailors with nuclear NECs;

- * Sailors with orders to or serving in the first two years of an overseas or Department of Defense area tour at the board convening date.

The Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center will publish the names of board-eligible Sailors on Sept. 15. The names will be posted to both the Navy Enlisted Advancement System website at <https://neasos.cnet.navy.mil> and on Bupers Online (BOL) at <https://www.bol.navy.mil> for command representatives to view.

Individuals can view their board eligibility profile sheet on the Navy Knowledge Online Advancement Center Page at <https://www.nko.navy.mil/portal/careermangement/navyadvancementcenterbyselecting> "Enlisted Retention Board Eligibility Profile."

The board must receive candidates' correspondence by Nov. 15. Any letters must be originated by the eligible Sailor. This is also the last day for commands to resolve eligibility issues and problems. Sailors who are on the list on this day will be considered eligible for review and requests for removal after this date will not be approved.

Once the continuation board results have been approved, commanding officers will have seven days to notify and counsel those members who have not been selected for continuation. Sailors who are not selected must submit their Fleet Reserve or retirement paperwork by May 15, 2012, with an effective date no later than Sept. 30, 2012.

For more information, read the message at the NPC website at www.npc.navy.mil or call the NPC Customer Service Center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC (1-866-827-5672).

-- From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Information, cyber security: A continuous battle

By Mike Conroy

Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

By definition, information security is the on-going process of exercising due care and due diligence to protect information and information systems from unauthorized access, use, destruction, modification or disruption.

Since the early days of writing, heads of state and military commanders understood that it was necessary to provide some mechanism to protect the confidentiality of written correspondence and to have some means of detecting tampering.

Julius Caesar is credited with the invention of the "Caesar Cipher" in 50 B.C., which was created to prevent his secret messages from being read by the enemy. Today that battle continues, particularly in cyberspace.

Recently, websites masquerading as Department of Defense (DoD) and other government websites have been created with the intent to harvest login credentials or exploit hosts visiting the site. Army Knowledge Online (AKO) is one example of a legitimate portal that was targeted. Search engines, such as Google, displayed the illicit web site often before the real website, according to the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division's Information and Intelligence Center.

In 2006, the personal data of over 26 million military veterans and spouses was stolen from the Veterans Administration computers and just last March, 24,000 files containing Pentagon

TRICARE Prime referrals for specialty care

When you enroll in TRICARE Prime, you have an assigned primary care manager (PCM), either at a military treatment facility (MTF) or from the TRICARE network, who provides most of your care.

There are times when you will need to see a specialist for a diagnosis or treatment that your PCM cannot provide. Your PCM will provide referrals to access services from specialty providers and will coordinate the referral request with your regional contractor, if necessary. If you receive specialty care without a referral from your PCM, you will be using the POS option,* resulting in higher out-of-pocket costs. For cost details, visit www.tricare.mil/costs.

*The POS option does not apply to ADSMs, children for the first 60 days following their birth or adoption, emergency care, or beneficiaries with other health insurance. Visit your regional contractor's Web site or call the toll-free number to learn about region-specific referral requirements and for details about obtaining referrals.

If you live near an MTF and are

referred for specialty care, inpatient admissions, or procedures requiring prior authorization, your regional contractor will first attempt to coordinate your care at the MTF. If the services are not available at the MTF, the care will be coordinated with a TRICARE network

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Specialty-to-Specialty Referrals

If your PCM refers you to a specialist who would like to refer you to another specialist, the specialist will need to contact your PCM. Your PCM or the specialist will contact your regional contractor to obtain authorization for additional specialty care, if necessary.

The above and more detailed information is available via Tricare.mil. Another resource is your Regional Contractor. Your South Region contractor is Humana Military which you may access via Humana-Military.com, 1-800-444-5445. Humana Military TRICARE Service Center inside NBHC on board NAS Meridian is open 7 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday through Friday except federal holidays.

The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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● **NAS Meridian**

upgrades. During Hurricanes Ike and Gustav his superb direction enabled the command to process and house more than 450 evacuees while ensuring no disruption to day-to-day operations. His goal-oriented leadership style resulted in more than 619,000 uninterrupted flight operations at two airfields, the winging of 357 naval aviators from Training Air Wing One, and the training of more than 14,000 enlisted professionals from Naval Aviation Training Center and Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One.

Gibson's next assignment will be at Joint Functional Component Command for Space and Global Strike at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

Gibson expressed his sincere appreciation for the hard work of the command during his tenure at NAS Meridian.

"To all the NAS personnel that made this day possible - thank you," Gibson said. "Where does time go? Seems like yesterday that I was so excited to get to Mississippi - it was of course my number one choice. I've been honored to be the commanding officer of NAS Meridian - it's the best tour of my career."

Capt. Moore was designated a naval aviator in January 1991. Following flight training in the A-6E Intruder in May 1994, his subsequent Intruder squadron assignments included Attack Squadron 95 aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln

(CVN 72) and Attack Squadron 196 aboard the USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70).

Moore transitioned to the EA-6B Prowler in 1997 and then received orders to Carrier Air Wing 11 aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) as an Air Wing Landing Signal Officer in 1998. Capt. Moore was then ordered to Electronic Attack Squadron 139 aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) where he completed his fourth Western Pacific/Persian Gulf Deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2002.

Moore went on to command the Fighting Red Hawks of Training Squadron 21 (VT-21) in Kingsville, Texas, flying the T-45 Goshawk from May 2006-August 2008.

He has also served on the Joint Staff Directorate of Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (J-6) and U.S. Seventh Fleet staffs. Capt. Moore most recently completed the U.S. Army War College Strategic Leadership class of 2011.

Moore's military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various campaign and unit awards. He has accumulated more than 3,500 flight hours and nearly 700 carrier arrested landings.



Above, NAS Meridian Color Guard opens the change of command ceremony by posting the colors.

Left, Meridian Mayor Cheri Barry congratulates incoming commanding officer, Capt. Charles Moore.

Photos by MC2 Flordeliz Valerio



Above, Capt. Charles Gibson is presented his end of tour award by Rear Admiral Townsend Alexander. Right, Capt. Charles Moore's family watches from the audience as he takes command of NAS Meridian on July 29.



● **TW-1**

Captain Taylor's next assignment will be Deputy Commander, Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, NAS Fallon, Nev.

Capt. Lobdell comes to us from Commander Naval Forces Europe / Naval Forces Africa / Sixth Fleet, where he served as the Strike Operations Officer and spearheaded the Ballistic Missile Defense capability in that theater.

Capt. Lobdell graduated

from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering and a Coast Guard Third Assistant Engineer License.

He flew in the training command at NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville, Texas, and earned his wings in July 1990. He then transferred to NAS Miramar, Calif., for fleet replacement training in the F-14A Tomcat with VF-124.

Upon completion of training, Capt. Lobdell reported to VF-111 with CVW-15 aboard the USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63) in October 1991. During his tour with the "Sundowners" he participated in a repositioning cruise around the Horn and two Western Pacific deployments.

In January 1995, Capt. Lobdell transferred to Holloman AFB, N.M., and reported to the 8th Fighter Squadron. Flying

the F-117A, he completed numerous deployments to Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait. In April 1998, he went to NAS Oceana with VF-41 and CVW-8 aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt and USS Enterprise.

In December 2001 Capt. Lobdell transferred to Canberra, Australia where he attended the Australian Command and Staff College and earned JPME 1 credit and a Master's Degree in Defense and Strategic

Studies from the University of Canberra in December 2002 as well as a Certificate in Maritime Studies from the University of Wollongong. After completing Joint Forces Staff College, he went to Headquarters, U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany in April 2003.

In January 2006 Capt. Lobdell reported for refresher training at VFA-125 in NAS Lemoore, Calif., with follow-on

orders to VFA-25 "Fist of the Fleet" as executive officer. He reported to VFA-25 as executive officer in April 2006 and took command of the Fist of the Fleet in August 2007. He led VFA-25 through an aggressive work-up cycle culminating in a Western Pacific deployment in 2008 supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Captain Lobdell has accumulated more than 4100 flight hours and 870 carrier landings.

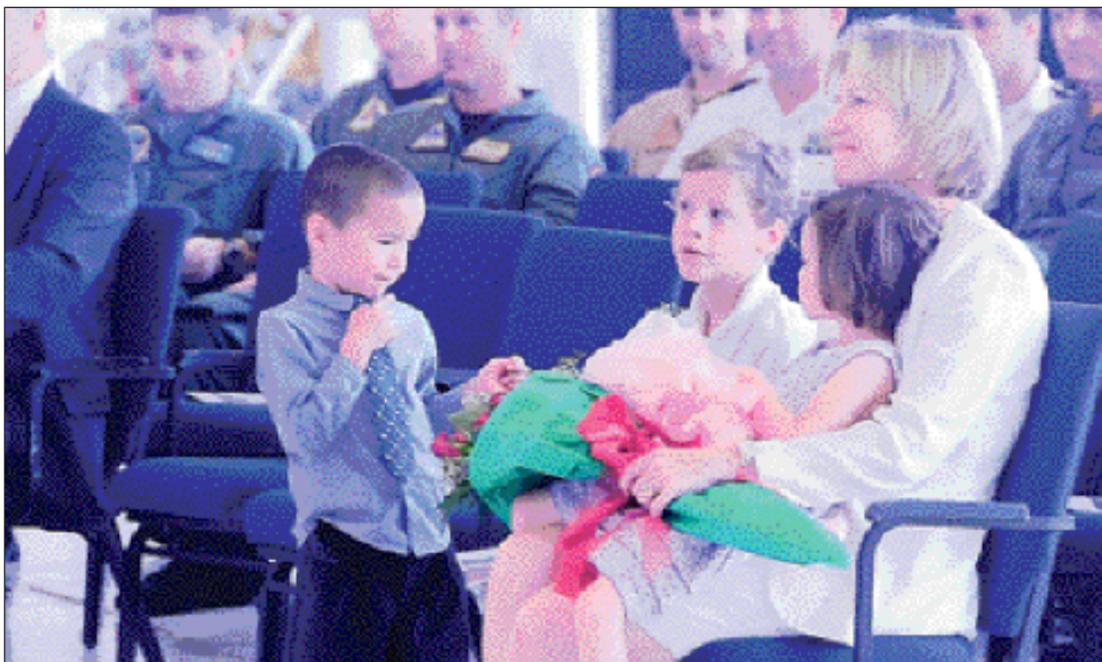


Rear Adm. William Sizemore, Chief of Naval Air Training, left, joins Capt. Keith Taylor, outgoing commodore of Training Air Wing One and Capt. David Lobdell, incoming commodore of TW-1, as NAS Meridian Command Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Allen Ford delivers the benediction concluding the change of command ceremony on Aug. 2.

Photos by Penny Randall



Above: Navy Band New Orleans performs prior to the Training Air Wing One change of command ceremony.



Right: Kerry Lobdell, wife of Capt. David Lobdell, and three of their four children, watch as Capt. Lobdell speaks to the audience at the Training Air Wing One change of command ceremony on board NAS Meridian, Aug. 2.

Photos by Penny Randall

U.S., Vietnam establish formal military medical partnership

HANOI, Vietnam (NNS) -- Navy Surgeon General Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson, Jr. participated in a signing ceremony Aug. 1 with the Vietnamese Ministry of National Defense, establishing the first formal military-to-military relationship between the U.S. and Vietnam since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1995.

Representing the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Robinson signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) on Military Medical Cooperation with Senior Colonel Vu Quoc Binh, director general of the Vietnamese Ministry of National Defense's Military Medical Department. U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires Claire Pierangelo and Vietnam's Deputy Minister of National Defense Lt. Gen. Le Huu Duc witnessed the signing.

The signing ceremony represented progress on one of the key areas of military cooperation that former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and Minister of Defense Phung Quang Thanh agreed to pursue in October 2010.

The SOI builds on a long trend of cooperation between the U.S. and Vietnamese militaries and will be the foundation for all future military medical and interagency medical engagements that will include subject matter expert exchanges, workshops, conferences, Medical Civil Action Projects (MED-CAPS), clinical exchanges, and medical research collaboration.

"This is an important day between our two nations," said Pierangelo. "This

growing military medical partnership will benefit the U.S. and Vietnam and also contribute to increasing our health cooperation in the region."

According to Robinson, this historic agreement is the culmination of over three years of diplomatic visits and discussions and begins a bright future regarding the medical opportunities between the two countries.

"This historic bilateral agreement is not about personalities or politics," said Robinson. "Medicine and medical research are universal languages that all countries and cultures understand. Diseases affect us all in the same way. By working together in areas such as infectious disease research, we not only help each other, we help the world meet these global health challenges."

The foundation for this historic agreement began with a meeting between Robinson and Vietnamese Lt. Gen Chu Tien Cuong, who was then the director of the Military Medical Department of Vietnam, at the annual Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS) conference in St. Louis in November 2009. During their initial meeting, they discussed opportunities to increase military medical collaboration between the U.S. and Vietnam. Numerous follow-on diplomatic meetings and discussions followed culminating in the agreement to formalize a military medical partnership.

Robinson participated in the signing ceremony while visiting Hanoi to co-chair a planning conference on bilateral mili-



Photo by Capt. Cappy Surette

The United States Navy Surgeon General Vice Admiral Adam M. Robinson, Jr., left, signs a Statement of Intent (SOI) on Military Medical Cooperation with Sr. Col. Vu Quoc Binh, director general of the Vietnamese Ministry of National Defense's Military Medical Department, building on a long trend of cooperation between the U.S. and Vietnam militaries. U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires Claire Pierangelo and Deputy Minister of National Defense Lieutenant General Le Huu Duc witnessed the signing.

tary medical cooperation with the Vietnamese Ministry of Defense. Topics of discussion will include Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response, infectious disease research, aerospace and under-sea medicine and more.

As the Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Robinson leads 63,000 Navy Medicine

personnel that provide healthcare support to the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, their families and veterans in high operational tempo environments, at expeditionary medical facilities, medical treatment facilities, hospitals, clinics, hospital ships and research units around the world.

From U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

Attention NAS Meridian hunters

One requirement to hunt on board NAS Meridian during the upcoming 2011-12 season is to show proof of having passed a state-approved Hunter Education Class. It can be from any state, and is a requirement for every hunter 12 years old and older on the installation.

If you don't have proof of having taken a class in the past, enclosed is a schedule of classes being offered by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks for Lauderdale and surrounding counties. Call now and pre-register for the classes to ensure availability.

It is now also possible to obtain partial Hunter Education certification via the internet, followed by only three (3) hours of classroom study. Details for internet certification are found at <http://home.mdwfp.com/Education/info.aspx?id=49>. If you have any other questions, please call NAS Meridian Wildlife Biologist Chris Bucciantini at (601) 679-3539.

MDWFP Hunters Education Class Schedules

Lauderdale County

Date: Aug. 20, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: East Mississippi Power Company
For information: (601) 859-3421

Date: Sept. 17, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: Mitchell Distributing (MDWF&P Central Region)
For information: (601) 859-3421

Date: Oct. 8, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: G.V. Montgomery Air National Guard Complex
For information: Rhonda Cason (601) 484-9827

Kemper County

Dates: Aug. 20, Sept. 22 or Oct. 22,
Location: Kemper County Sheriff Office, 330 Stennis Industrial Park, Dekalb
For information: (601) 859-3421

Noxubee County

Dates: Aug. 27, Sept. 24 or Oct. 22, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: Railroad Depot, Philadelphia
For information: (601) 859-3421

Clarke County

Dates: Aug. 13 or Oct. 22, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: Clarke County Multi-Purpose Building, Quitman
For information: (601) 776-3951

Date: Sept. 24, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
MeKenna Ranch, Pachuta
For information: (601) 776-3951

Newton County

Dates: Aug. 27, Sept. 24 or Oct. 29, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: MSU Coastal Plains Experiment Station, 51 Coastal Plains Road, Newton
For information: (601) 859-3421

Jasper County

Dates: Aug. 20, Sept. 17 or Nov. 12, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Location: Bay Springs Courthouse, Bay Springs
For information: (601) 670-1055 or (601) 670-4460

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Pfc. Danielle Toglena

MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Peoria, Arizona

Pfc. Danielle Toglena comes from a proud heritage. As a full-blooded Navajo Indian, Toglena's family knows what it means to value tradition.

That is one reason she joined the Marine Corps in December 2010. She is the daughter of Jan and Sanford Toglena.

"My heritage makes me proud," said Toglena who graduated from Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One on board NAS Meridian on Aug. 2.

"I joined to better myself mentally and physically, and become a stronger female. I'm looking forward to traveling and experiencing new cultures. I'm not afraid to try new things."

Toglena is not the only person in her family proudly supporting the military. Her younger brother, Lance Cpl. Irvin Toglena is currently serving in the infantry in Afghanistan.

"He is due home soon -- I can't wait to see him," said Pfc. Toglena who lists her brother as the person she most admires.

"I can't image how much he has sacrificed and it's so honorable and makes me proud." Pfc. Toglena will be stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

OOORAH!



always tried to help me out in every situation, even if it means he has to make sacrifices. He never complains."

Lance Cpl. Edward Winkler

MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Jacksonville, Fla.

In his short time in the Marine Corps, Lance Cpl. Edward Winkler has already experienced a successful career.

He was named "Honor Grad" at both Boot Camp and his infantry Training Battalion. As a student at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One, he serves as his class leader.

Winkler, 20, joined on Dec. 13, 2010.

"I wanted to do something with my life that could make a difference," Winkler said. "I played a lot of sports in high school, and baseball in college for a while. I love working out and now I wake up every morning to PT -- it's great."

Winkler's hobbies include football, baseball, basketball and martial arts. Winkler is the son of Monday and Eddie Winkler, and is engaged to Jennifer Smyth.

The person he most admires is his father. "He

Promotion



Photo by Penny Randall

David Williams is promoted to the rank of gunnery sergeant on Aug. 1. His sister, Cheryl Williams, and his nephew, Willie Williams, have the honor of placing his new rank insignias on his uniform. Williams is an Aviation Operations Specialist instructor and a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program instructor at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One.

Budget woes top list of concerns in Afghanistan

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan -- Budget cuts -- not operational issues -- are the main concern of soldiers and Marines assigned here.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is holding troop talks throughout the country and is being peppered with questions about the U.S. debt crisis and the future of military benefits.

Mullen thanked service members in Kandahar and here for their sacrifices. At both talks he stressed the effects of change and being ready for unexpected change. He also stressed the need for leadership at all levels.

Then he threw the floor open for questions. In both places, soldiers and Marines expressed concern about the debt negotiations. "The discussion really centers on providing by law an increase in the debt ceiling so the United States can pay its bills," the chairman said. "And the bills really run the full spectrum. I really don't know the answer to the question to how, if we default, how that will work out."

The U.S. Treasury delivers service members' pay checks, and sends them to veterans and Social Security recipients. "That's something that the government leadership will have to figure out," he said. "I honestly hope we don't get there. But I don't expect it will affect -- certainly in the short term -- operations here and operations around the world."

Assuming a solution to the debt crisis is reached, the chairman discussed what the defense budget will look like. He said there is increasing pressure overall on the federal budget to reduce the deficit. This has to be addressed, he said.

"I've said for a long time, I believe that the single biggest threat to national security is this growing debt," he said. "The more that grows the more likelihood that the defense budget will get smaller."

This is a problem because no one knows what could confront the United States in the future. "We have some significant national security requirements to meet now, and the best I can tell, they are not going to go away," Mullen said. "As that budget pressure builds ... we're going to have to make decisions on what we're going to do and what we're not going to do."

Still, the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are on the top of the Defense Department's priority list. All the defense leaders, he said, "are very focused on getting you what you need here in the fight. I don't see any circumstances where that won't be at the top of the list."

Marine sergeant major, son serve together in Afghanistan

By Cpl. Rashaun X. James
2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Fwd)

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan -- Upon hearing the news that his son would be deploying to Afghanistan, Sgt. Maj. Robert Allen of Marine Wing Support Squadron 272 began making the arrangements to join the fight.

"After I came off of recruiting duty I started trying to get into a unit that was deploying so I would be here with him during his first deployment," said Allen. "I wanted him to have someone to talk to and vent to."

The elder Allen works in the support squadron's compound on Camp Leatherneck and spends most of his days literally across the street from his son, also Robert Allen, a Marine lance corporal and motor transport operator with Combat Logistics Battalion 8.

"This experience has been helpful for both of us," the sergeant major said. "We talk all the time. We laugh and we kid around with each other, and it makes the days go by a bit quicker."

But knowing all too well the pitfalls young Marines encounter, the senior Allen said he works in earnest to steer his son away from them.

"In my experience, young Marines are so eager to come out here and do great things that they forget about the need to have a balance between work and taking time to call their spouses to see how they are doing back home," said the sergeant major.

Lance Cpl. Allen and his wife, D'Lee, were married Jan. 2, just 22 days before he deployed.

"He definitely keeps me in check," the younger Allen said about his father. "There was one time when I hadn't called my wife in about a week and a half and he came and got me out of bed and made me call her at 11 o'clock at night."

Among other lessons he has imparted on his son, Allen said he has stressed the need to stay physically fit, keep a positive attitude and remain humble.

"It's not about ribbons or medals out here, it's about being a part of a team and doing the best job you can do," said the elder Allen. "It's not about the recognition."

While the experience of deploying together has further bonded the two Marines, both agree the person who has faced the brunt of heartache and stress has been Leslie Allen, the wife of the elder Allen, and mother of the younger.

"This whole thing has driven my mother crazy," said the younger Allen. "Growing up, my dad's deployments really weren't that bad because after a while we just got used to them, but this is all completely different with us both being here."

Leslie said her feelings about the deployment fluctuate daily, but her heart bursts with pride knowing two generations of the Allen family are fighting side-by-side.

But the sergeant major, with 26 years of Marine Corps service, said he knows never before has his wife faced the possibility of such a devastating loss as during this deployment.

"My son and I went on a convoy together, and it was one of the worst convoys they'd had in a long time, with four improvised explosive devices hitting and three [medical evacuations]," said Allen. "I'd say she's probably aged ten years since we've both been out here. She deserves all the credit in the world. She's been taking care of everything on the home front, all while continuing to be a great wife to me



Photo by Cpl. Rashaun X. James

After hearing that his son would be deploying to Afghanistan, Sgt. Maj. Robert Allen of Marine Wing Support Squadron 272 began making the arrangements to join his son in Afghanistan. The elder Allen works in the support squadron's compound on Camp Leatherneck and spends most of his days literally across the street from his son, also Robert Allen, a Marine lance corporal and motor transport operator with Combat Logistics Battalion 8.

and a wonderful mother for him."

"I've been seeing my husband off for 25 years now, that I got used to, but this is my first time sending my son off as well," said Leslie. Both Leslie and her husband are natives of Portland, Maine, and the family claims the New England state as their home outside of the Marine Corps.

"I now understand the feelings of a mother as opposed to a wife," Leslie Allen said. "While many of the feelings are the same, it's somehow different with a child."

In the near future, the younger Allen will head back to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. Leslie Allen said she and her daughter-in-law, D'Lee, have been busy in North Carolina, preparing for the young Marine's return.

"D'Lee just signed the contract to move into base housing, so that's been keeping us busy getting their first home ready for when Robert gets back," Leslie Allen explained.

A few months after the lance corporal's return, his father will join him in the Jacksonville, N.C., area, bringing their time serving in Afghanistan together to a close.

"This has been great," said the younger Allen. "Having someone in your family in the same branch of service deployed overseas with you is something that everyone in the Marine Corps dreams of while they're here. I never thought this would happen."

Both men share a common belief in the importance of loyalty. It is something that has been passed down from father to son and has evolved into a creed between the two.

"My son's got a tattoo on his arm that says, 'Family and Loyalty,' and it's something we live by," said the elder Allen. "He's finally seeing what I've talking about for all these years, that while he and I are a family, the Marine Corps is our family, too."

"To see my son put on a uniform and help defend his country with such zeal and honor has proven to be the culminating feature of my career," said the sergeant major. "I feel even better going home to retire now that my son is a Marine. I know he's got it, and everything is good to go."

Safety Is Our Duty

Energy tips for your windows

Windows can be one of your home's most attractive features. Windows provide views, daylighting, ventilation, and solar heating in the winter.

Unfortunately, they can also account for 10 to 25 percent of your heating bill. During the summer, your air conditioner must work harder to cool hot air from sunny windows.

Install ENERGY STAR windows and use curtains and shade to give your air conditioner and energy bill a break. If you live in the Sun Belt, look into low-e windows, which can cut the cooling load by 10 to 15 percent. If your home has single-pane windows, as many U.S. homes do, consider replacing them with new double-pane windows with high-performance glass (e.g., low-e or spectrally selective). In colder climates, select windows that are gas filled with low emissivity (low-e) coatings on the glass to reduce heat loss. In warmer climates, select windows with spectrally selective coatings to reduce heat gain. If you are building a new home, you can offset some of the cost of installing more

efficient windows because they allow you to buy smaller, less expensive heating and cooling equipment.

If you decide not to replace your windows, the simpler, less costly measures listed here can improve their performance.

Warm-Climate Window Tips

- Install white window shades, drapes, or blinds to reflect heat away from the house.
- Close curtains on south- and westfacing windows during the day.
- Install awnings on south- and westfacing windows.
- Apply sun-control or other reflective films on south-facing windows to reduce solar gain.
- Installing, high-performance windows will improve your home's energy performance. While it may take many years for new windows to pay off in energy savings, the benefits of added comfort and improved aesthetics and functionality may make the investment worth it to you.

-- From www.energysavers.gov/pdfs/energy_savers.pdf

Lawn mower safety tips

Nearly 210,000 people -- about 16,200 of them children younger than 19 -- were treated in doctors' offices, clinics and emergency rooms for lawn mower-related injuries in 2007.

Most injuries such as severed fingers and toes, broken bones, burns and eye injuries are caused by careless use.

The following are safety Do's and Don'ts for lawn mower season.

- Buy a mower that has a "kill switch" built into the handle, so that when you release the handle, the engine stops and the mower stops moving.
- There are sensible age limits for mowers. To use a riding mower, you ought to be at least 16 years old. For regular, walking mowers, 12 years old.



- Wear strong shoes or boots, not flip-flops or sneakers.

- Pick up rocks, sticks, pinecones, and toys before mowing, even if you are using a mower that collects the clippings automatically.

- Wear goggles or safety glasses, and wear hearing protection. Once you get used to protecting your hearing, you'll be amazed at how annoyingly noisy a mower is

when you aren't wearing anything.

- Don't mow when other people are nearby.

- Put gas in your edger and mower outside, and do it before you start, not during.

- If you are going to remove or replace the blade, disconnect the spark plug first.

- Turn off the mower and wait for the blade to stop spinning before you empty the grass catcher, unclog something from the blade or under the mower, or push the mower across rocks or gravel.

- Riding mowers aren't meant to carry passengers.

- Never pull backward or mow in reverse unless it is absolutely necessary, and then only when you have good traction.

-- From Naval Safety Center

Bonhomme Richard completes first MV-22 Osprey recovery

By MC1 Kurt Riggs
USS Bonhomme Richard
Public Affairs

PACIFIC OCEAN (NNS) -- Sailors in the air department aboard USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) recovered their first Marine Corps MV-22 Osprey July 28 while the ship was in transit to Seattle.

A Wasp-class amphibious assault ship, Bonhomme Richard's primary mission is to provide transport and logistical support to the Marines Corps. A tilt-rotor aircraft that combines the vertical flight capabilities of a helicopter with the speed and range of an airplane, the Osprey's primary use is for troop transport, as well as expeditionary assault, raid operations, cargo lift and special warfare.

Capt. Jonathan Harnden,

Bonhomme Richard's commanding officer said he is excited about having Marines aboard to join them in upcoming missions.

"This is an impressive aircraft that brings a new level of capability to this ship. But, what impressed me most was how well our flight crew did in operating with it for the first time," said Harnden. "In fact, the Osprey is one of the first aircraft we have handled since the recent end of a long maintenance period. The aircraft will be with us all the way through Seattle Seafair, and I know the MV-22 will be a big hit there."

Bonhomme Richard recently received its air operations certification after completing an extensive maintenance period in dry dock. The ship is scheduled to return to San Diego following its appearance at the 62nd annual Seattle Seafair.



Photo by MC2 Julio Rivera

An aircraft director guides an MV-22B Osprey assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 263 (Reinforced) to a landing aboard the multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5). Bataan is deploying to the Mediterranean Sea.

Vice Chief of Naval Operations outlines priorities at senate hearing

By Karen Parrish
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- President Barack Obama's choice to be the next Chief of Naval Operations outlined his priorities during a Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing July 28.

Navy Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert will be the 30th officer to serve in the Navy's top uniformed post, succeeding retiring Navy Adm. Gary Roughead, if the Senate confirms his nomination.

"If confirmed, my priorities will be to remain ready to meet the current challenges today, to build a relevant and capable future force, to continue to take care of our sailors, our civilians and their families, and institute a manning strategy that recruits and nurtures a motivated, a relevant and a diverse future force," Greenert said.

Meeting those priorities in the current budget environment will not be easy, he acknowledged. "We must be clear-eyed in communicating what we will and what we won't be able to provide the nation in the future," he said.

Half of the Navy's ships are underway, and 43 percent are deployed, he said, while 12,000 sailors are on the ground supporting U.S. Central Command and another 10,000 are serving as individual augmentees to current operations.

"Your Navy remains ready. It is agile, and it's global, and it's relentlessly been busy," Greenert said. "Operating tempo has been high, [and] our missions have evolved."

The Navy's key mis-

sion, he said, is to "assure the security and freedom of the seas, in all the domains, so that the economies of the world can flourish." To accomplish that mission, the Navy must be forward deployed, able to influence events, assist allies and provide the United States an offshore option, the admiral added.

Large cuts in the defense budget would create a conundrum that will require a strategic approach to resolve, he said.

"Our options are limited; we can't hollow the force," he said. "If we reduce force structure, that would exacerbate the problem we already have. And if we reduce modernization -- that is, go to the shipbuilding and aircraft accounts -- I'm concerned about the industrial base."

Greenert said that as

vice chief of naval operations, he has provided data for the Defense Department strategic review, but is not currently involved in major deliberations.

"We have been told we would be part of any final ... decision process in this comprehensive review," he said.

Committee members asked Greenert for his views on China's expanding naval capabilities, noting that Chinese military officials said in June they are refurbishing a never-completed Soviet-era carrier.

"I believe it's clearly ... a prototype for what they ultimately want to have, which is a better aircraft carrier, indigenously built and tailored to their needs," the admiral said.

An aircraft carrier is typically an offensive capability, made to project power, Greenert noted. "The

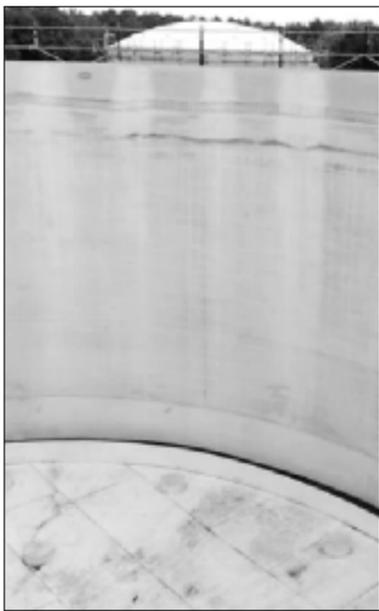
Chinese say they built it for defensive measures," he said. "It's hard to gauge their intent."

The admiral said China's recent growth in maritime capabilities shows that nation is "interested in expanding its operations to blue water" -- open-ocean depths -- and thereby expanding its influence.

Greenert's career as a submariner includes assign-

ments aboard the USS Flying Fish, USS Tautog, Submarine NR-1 and USS Michigan and as commander of USS Honolulu. He also served as commander of Submarine Squadron 11, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, U.S. 7th Fleet in the Pacific and U.S. Fleet Forces Command before he assumed the Navy's No. 2 uniformed post in August 2009.

Fuel tank project complete



Submitted photos

On July 19, the existing geodesic dome from the JP 8 jet fuel tank 13 on board NAS Meridian was lifted off and replaced. A few days later, the dome on Tank 12 was replaced also. The domes were cut into pieces and hauled off site as salvage aluminum for recycling. The tanks are 65 feet in diameter and 48 feet 3 inches in height. The contract was awarded to Pond Contractors Inc. of Atlanta, Ga. NAS Meridian Facility, Engineering and Acquisition Division (FEAD) oversaw quality of work and safety. Each tank can hold about 1 million gallons of fuel.

NAS Whidbey Island commemorates Centennial of Naval Aviation

By MC2 Nardel Gervacio
Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Det. Whidbey Island

OAK HARBOR, Wash. (NNS) -- Thousands of local residents poured onto Naval Air Station Whidbey Island to witness Navy history in the present during the base's Centennial of Naval Aviation Celebration (CONA) July 28-30.

In a tribute to 100 years of progress and achievement in Naval Aviation, the open base celebration had vintage aircraft from local heritage collections, Navy aircraft with historic paint schemes, as well as current military aircraft being flown around the world.

"I think this is a great opportunity for the community to see the history of Naval aviation from its beginning to what it is currently today," said Lt. Thomas Amano of Beaverton, Ore., air terminal officer at NAS Whidbey Island. "You've got the latest and greatest aircraft on display, and you have some of the oldest airplanes in history here. It's great for the public to see how we progressed over the years and to get an opportunity to look how far we've come along in Naval aviation."

Along with classic aircraft such

as the F7F Tigercat, F8F Bearcat, and the B-25D Mitchell, on display, attendees observed Search and Rescue (SAR) air demonstrations, a car show featuring Northwest (NW) Region Ferrari Club of America, Majestic Glass Corvette Club of Anacortes, Pacific Northwest (PNW) DeLorean Club, Club Lotus NW, and Porsche Club of America PNW Region. Residents also experienced normal festival fare including concessions, memorabilia, youth area with inflatable play areas, climbing wall, carnival games and a quilt show.

A strong military presence was available to interact with guests, and to provide information on static displays.

"With the historical flights and the planes that we have here today, it's amazing how far we've gone," said Quartermaster 1st Class (SW) Webster Clay of Louisville, Ky., assigned to operations department at NAS Whidbey Island. "One of the biggest things I see in the crowd today is that they get to see a lot of history and they also get a chance to meet someone who have experienced it all."

The "Tales of Naval Aviation," staged in historic Hangar 1, presented an opportunity for guests to hear from

scholarly naval aviation experts. Stephen Coontz, author of "Flight of the Intruder" and retired Cmdr. Harry Ferrier, a Battle of Midway survivor, were two of the speakers who provided their personal accounts throughout the day.

"These events are great for everyone to see current and vintage aircraft that have survived over the years and to hear stories from those [who] lived it," said Kyler Lent, of Sacramento, Calif. "It's a great turn out; it's been exciting for me to see aircraft like the F-18 and the B-52 fly today."

The Centennial of Naval Aviation is being celebrated with a variety of events and commemorations throughout the year, including with air shows, art exhibits, flyovers and demonstrations. The Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard among other organizations, are working together to ensure that proper recognition is given to this year-long celebration of naval aviation excellence over the past 100 years.

Since 1942, NAS Whidbey Island has been home to seaplane, patrol, reconnaissance, heavy attack, medium attack, electronic attack, transport and search and rescue aircrews, support personnel and their families.

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- Step 4: Step into your new ride!**

Last hospital corpsman class graduates aboard Naval Station Great Lakes

By ET3 Trisha Teran

Navy Medicine Support Command Public Affairs

GREAT LAKES, Ill. (NNS) -- More than 100 Sailors -- comprising the last class to complete studies at the largest U.S. Navy 'A' School -- graduated during a July 28 ceremony at Naval Station Great Lakes, the last class to complete initial requirements to become U.S. Navy corpsmen.

Naval Hospital Corps School (NHCS) classes 11125A and 11125B recited the Hospital Corpsman Pledge at the NHCS schoolhouse during the hour-long ceremony, marking the end of courses at the facility that has operated in a training capacity for nearly 100 years.

After nearly a century of providing initial training to the U.S. Navy's enlisted medical professionals, the Hospital Corps' premier training facility closed its doors during a disestablishment ceremony following the commencement proceedings, something NHCS Great Lakes Commanding Officer Capt. Theresa Gee

(NC) said represents a shift in the manner enlisted medical professionals are trained.

"It's bittersweet because we have the long history here on the base but we do need to embrace our future," said Gee. "And that future is training with our fellow services. But this was bittersweet -- seeing this Naval Hospital Corps School that's been here so long go away, and I know that the corpsmen who graduated this morning feel that this is historic and that they are now part of that history."

Force Master Chief Laura Martinez, Hospital Corps director, said the history of the institution, as well as the excitement of seeing new corpsmen enter the Fleet, is something toward which she feels a sense of pride.

"Anytime we have a class that's graduating, it's a thrilling event," she said. "I graduated from this same schoolhouse over 30 years ago, and every time I come back, I'm thrilled at the caliber of young Sailors who are going to the fleet."

Martinez also said that corpsmen choosing to become instructors at the

largest 'A' school are a select group, epitomizing the Navy core values.

"I'm proud of the staff because they're committed to training the very best Sailors and corpsmen to meet the Navy's and Navy Medicine's mission -- wherever and whenever around the world."

Naval Hospital Corps School graduating class valedictorian Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Benjamin Burke echoed her sentiments, saying he was eager to apply the skills he learned at the Navy's premier enlisted initial training site.

"I waited a year and a half on my ship to be able to come here and do this, and now I'm really looking forward to going out to the fleet," he said. "The classmates I have -- we're very close. From the first day we did all of this together."

As the final commanding officer of the Navy's largest 'A' School, Gee said the accomplishments these newly rated corpsmen will experience are directly reflective of her experiences while supervising, instructing and working with the Navy's most decorated rating.

"I love the Hospital Corpsman rate," she said. "There is nothing to equate to a corpsman on the outside [in the civilian world]. They're trained by nurses and doctors to do their jobs where nurses and doctors cannot go. They do whatever needs to be done, and they do it extremely well. I'm glad I came full circle and ended up as the final commanding officer of this school because they hold a special place in my heart."

Naval Hospital Corps School initially opened in January 1917, one month before the onset of World War I, and bears the distinction of being one of the first two schools established at Naval Training Center Great Lakes. The school was closed in 1921 after World War I, but subsequently reopened two decades later to facilitate corpsman training for U.S. involvement in World War II, remaining active since.

In 1997, the Navy's remaining Hospital Corpsman 'A' Schools were consolidated, and NHCS Great Lakes became the Navy's only training facility for basic enlisted hospital corpsman training.

Navy seeking applicants for LDO/CWO programs

By MCC (SW) Maria Yager

Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- The Navy announced July 27 it is seeking applications from highly qualified Sailors in pay grades E-6 through E-9 for the Fiscal Year 2013 Active Limited Duty Officer (LDO) and Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) programs.

"Limited duty officers and chief warrant officers bring a variety of experience and perspective into the wardrobe from their enlisted service," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mitch Allen, assistant LDO/CWO community manager, Bureau of Naval

Personnel. "The LDO /CWO career paths provide additional leadership opportunities and enhance a Sailor's ability to contribute to the Navy."

The LDO and CWO communities have designators in the surface, submarine, aviation, general series and staff corps communities and serve in a variety of leadership billets within their technical fields, ranging from division officer to commanding officer ashore.

Eligibility requirements for LDO include US citizenship, serving in pay grade E-7 through E-9 or an E-6 who has passed the exam for E-7. Active-duty appli-

cants for LDO must have at least eight, but not more than 16 years of active-duty service.

Eligibility requirements for CWO include US citizenship, serving in pay grade E-7 through E-9. Active-duty applicants for CWO must have at least 12, but not more than 22 years of active-duty service.

These programs do not require applicants to have a college degree. Applications must be postmarked no later than Oct. 1, 2011.

Eligible Sailors should apply for the designator for which they are most qualified, regardless of their current rating. Upon com-

missioning, Sailors selected for LDO/CWO will attend the four-week Officer Development School in Newport, R.I.

Sailors may learn more about the LDO/CWO communities in the 2011 LDO/CWO Guidebook available at http://www.public.navy.mil/buper-s-npc/officer/community-managers/ldo_cwo/Pages/GUIDEBOOK.aspx.

Complete application procedures, eligibility requirements and links to other resources can be found in NAVADMIN 224/11, available on the Navy Personnel Command Web site at www.npc.navy.mil.

CREDO Southeast hosts 'Celebration of Marriage'

By MC2 (SW) Greg Johnson

Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (NNS) -- The Chaplain's Religious Enrichment Development Operation (CREDO) Southeast honored married couples by hosting a celebration of marriage at the Navy Exchange aboard Naval Air Station Jacksonville, July 27.

During the music-filled

celebration, CREDO Southeast chaplains passed out literature promoting a healthy marriage and spoke with dozens of married men and women about their marriage experiences.

"The purpose of today's event was to get people to come out and celebrate marriage, and to emphasize the permanence of marriage," said Lt. Lee Brown, a Navy Chaplain and CREDO Southeast acting director.

The festivities drew a wide variety of people from many different backgrounds. One thing they all had in common was that they all were married.

"With so many marriages ending badly these days, it's kind of a good thing to see that there is a group of people out here trying to promote it and show the positive side of marriage," said Elizabeth Watson, who attended the

celebration. "I personally feel that it's good for younger people to see that a marriage can be successful for a long time."

CREDO Southeast chaplains handed out necklaces with numbers drawn on them to represent the number of years each participant was married. Those numbers ranged from one to 38, representing both newcomers and seasoned veterans of married life.

"I've had a long marriage because I let nobody interfere with my family life," said Norie Basset, a celebration attendee who has been married to her husband and retired Seabee, Edward, for 38 years. "Nowadays, young kids sometimes don't value marriage. It's unfortunate because sometimes, not only the spouses, but children are affected."

Marcella Montilla, who also attended the celebra-

tion, has been married to her husband, Sergio Romeu, for one year. She said CREDO Southeast's recognition of married couples was something even newlyweds could appreciate.

"Being married one year is just as hard as 30," she said. "During the first year, you're still getting used to your mom not cooking and having to get used to living together, so it's good that there are other people out there acting as a support team. Being newly married, you always hear about things the military has to support you, but many people wouldn't have known without this presentation today."

Brown said he thought the event accomplished what it was intended to do.

"I hoped for a lot more people, but I think just to be here and be a presence out in the public eye made it a success."

NAS Meridian Chapel

211 Fuller Road

Protestant Sunday Services 9 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer Lunch 11:15 a.m.

Those wishing to attend Catholic service in Meridian should meet in Chapel parking lot no later than 10 a.m. for a ride to and from St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Come Worship With Us! Call (601) 679-3635

August FFSC Events, page 9

Sign up for Meridian Community College fall classes at NAS Meridian

Term I: Aug. 15-Oct. 7 5-7:45 p.m.

Monday/Wednesday

English Composition I

World Civilization

Tuesday

Human Growth & Development*

Thursday

Art Appreciation*

Registration is open now for NAS personnel and dependents. MCC will pay half the cost of tuition, up to \$363 per semester, for NAS dependents.

Contact Ardra Govan, 601-679-2450, for details.

*Hybrid classes. Contact Ardra Govan for details.

Term II: Oct. 12-Dec. 8 5-7:45 p.m.

Monday/Wednesday

English Composition II

World Civilization II

College Algebra

Public Speaking

Thursday

Marriage & Family*

KIDS STUFF

Children's play kitchen set with plastic plates & food. Asking \$50; **3 different girl's electric jeeps**. All in pretty good condition, but need batteries. Asking \$40 each. Call (904) 923-9356/9357.

Graco color blocked play yard in good condition \$25. Call between 10 a.m. & 10 p.m. only please, (601) 917-6935.

Rainforest Jump-a-roo in excellent condition. Asking \$50. Call between 10 a.m. & 10 p.m. only please, (601) 917-6935.

ELECTRONICS MUSICAL/COMPUTERS

Two 12" powerbass subwoofers. Asking \$100. Call (601) 678-9177.

Klipsch Proedia 2.1 Speaker System in used, working condition. Call Bill at (601) 934-8718.

Fender American Standard Stratocaster. Humbucker pick-ups with S-1 switch, sunburst red, deluxe carrying case, purchased new last year, played very little. Also Peavey Vyper 30 watt modeling amp. Paid \$1,550. New, will sacrifice all for \$995. Call (601) 938-9627.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

Bowflex Extreme 2 includes leg attachments. Max weight 310 pounds. Asking \$500. Call (601) 481-4893.

ProForm XP 160 Elliptical Crosstrainer. Asking \$399.99. Like new -- was used a handful of times. Call (559) 410-1608.

BIG STUFF

25 Foot Prowler 5th Wheel camper. Call Darin at (601) 480-4132 or Ann at (601) 480-4134.

16 Foot aluminum fishing boat with 75 hp Mercury. Call Darin at (601) 480-4132 or Ann at (601) 480-4134.

2007 Fleetwood Revolution LE 40ft. Very low miles and very low hours. 400 Cat engine w/ Allison push button transmission w/ fuel economy mode. One piece fiberglass roof, 95 gal. Fresh water system, 40 gal. waste tank, 60 gal. grey water tank, Spartan chassis, automatic leveling, trailer hitch. Plenty of space for storage under coach, storage slide outs. There are 3 wall slide outs, 2 in the living room and one in the bedroom. Has 1 and 1/2 baths and a shower, washer dryer combo, bedroom includes a

sleep numbers bed and wall mount 23" TV. With 26" LCD TV Digital Satellite System Home Theater System in the main coach, round table w/4 cushioned chairs (opens to seat 6 w/2 folding chairs to match). Galley has 4-door refrigerator/freezer w/ ice maker and water on the door. GE microwave/convection oven over regular 3 burner gas range w/oven. Cori an counter tops in kitchen and baths. Beige colored carpet throughout, with ceramic tile in kitchen and baths. NON SMOKER RV is in really good condition. Must see to appreciate. Asking \$149,000. Call Gail Brennhof at 601-679-

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

2408 or 601-678-9504.

34" widescreen Trinitron Sony HDTV. Remote & Memory Card slot, works great. Asking \$150. Call (601) 621-4417.

8-inch deep Stainless Steel kitchen sink, 33" x 22". New, still in box. Asking \$95. Call (601) 693-5578.

Butterfly couch and chair with the pillows. Asking \$500 set. Color is forest green. Call (417) 664-5420.

GE Chill Water Dispenser, great condition, includes 2 (5 gallon) jugs. Call Bill at (601) 934-8718.

Brand new in box, International Silver 70 Piece Service for 12 (San Marcos pattern) 24K Goldplated Flatware Set with Bonus Flatware Chest. \$25. Call between 10 a.m. & 10 p.m. only please, (601) 917-6935.

Solid Cherry Wood Entertainment Center, 7 1/2 foot tall, Holds up to a 40" TV. Beautiful piece of furniture -- Like New. Asking \$600. Call (601) 679-8052.

Queen Size Airbed with electric air-pump built inside, used one time excellent condition. Asking \$60. Call Lisa at (601) 679-8052.

Two nice, light brown couches, less than 2 years old, no stains, no sagging and from a smoke free home. Asking \$150 each OBO. Call (904) 803-8776.

Two 36-inch TV's (not flat screen). Asking \$200 each. **Oak Entertainment Center**, \$250. **Pine Book Shelves**, ready to stain for \$100 each. Call Clinton at (601) 323-1003.

NEW! 2007 Toyota Avalon Limited Edition. Gloss black, good condition, 51,906 miles. Asking

\$22,000 or best offer. Call 601-678-5152.

2002 Ford Explorer XLT. Great condition, only one owner (me). 131,000 miles (highway). Pioneer GPS navigation system, touch screen, Bluetooth capability for hands free calling. Also plays CD, DVD, MP3, iPod. 22" chrome rims and tires, and stock rims and tires also included in price. Asking \$6,000 OBO. Call (619) 512-6630.

2003 Gold Chrysler, 300M loaded, heated leather, CD, XM satellite, sun roof, nice interior. High mileage but well maintained. One owner, new transmission and battery, fairly new tires, needs motor work. Asking \$1350 OBO. Call (601) 679-2636 or (662) 803-9007.

2008 Honda CR-V EXL. Fully Loaded 43k miles. Asking \$19,999. Call (559) 410-1608.

2005 Ford Explorer, sunroof, leather interior, low mileage. Asking \$75,000 OBO. Call (601) 490-3905.

20in Chrome rims and tires (Toyo Proxy-295/45R/20). 6 lug. Only 10k miles. Asking \$750. Call (757) 814-9739 / (601) 479-3446.

1998 GMC Sonoma SLS 3rd door 4.3L Vortec V6, 5 speed, PW, PDL, PM, tilt, cruise, CD, new AC as of last year, has 205,000 miles, legal tinted windows, vent visors, new spray in bed liner, custom grill, integrated fog lamps, K&N air filter. Asking \$4500. Call between 10 a.m. & 10 p.m. only please, (601) 917-6935.

Mercedes C230 Coupe, 2004, loaded -- mint condition, silver, leather, Bose, 6 CD changer, A/C, 65K miles. Asking \$14,200. Call (361) 442-4489.

2005 Pontiac Montana SV6, 3.5L, Minivan, 65k. Excellent interior and exterior condition. Dark grey, new tires, new front brakes, CD, DVD Video, power sliding door, power driver seat. Asking \$8,700. Call (210) 250-0187 or email: acrcalais@gmail.com.

Tonneau cover, black snap down roll up type -- brand new in box. Fits Ford F-250 1980-98 long bed. Made by Sure Fit. Bought at 4 wheel online. Asking \$100. Call

MOTORCYCLES/GEAR/ATV

John at (601) 484-7244.

2008 Yamaha Majesty Scooter, 400CC and rides very good, 1008 miles, and it will go 90 MPH easily. Gets about 57 MPG. Contact Darin at (601) 480-4132 or Ann at (601) 480-4134.

4-wheeler for sale. Asking

\$800. Call (601) 483-3801 for details.

2005 350 Rancher 2 wheel drive 4 wheeler. Call Darin at (601) 480-4132 or Ann at (601) 480-4134.

2008 Kawasaki Ninja 250R, blue with jacket and helmet included, 3800 miles, Asking \$2000. Call (601) 562-6508.

2004 Honda VTX1300C, burnt orange, very clean, runs great, many accessories. Can email pics and more details. Call Frank at (601) 513-1738.

2005 Yamaha Scooter. In storage for 2 1/2 years, 3500 miles, like new, 75 MPG, perfect for commuting around the base. Asking \$1,650. Call Murvis at (601) 632-1167 or (601) 679-2361.

2006 Honda VLX, 3,500 miles with new windshield. Great bike in very good condition. Asking \$3,200. Call (601) 632-1167.

Honda CRF 100. Great dirt bike for a youngster to start on. Garage kept. Includes boots, pants, chest protector and gloves. Asking \$1000. Call Jerry at (601) 513-2624.

2005 Yamaha FJR 1300. 145 hp., 8020 miles, electric blue, power adjustable windshield, ABS front & rear brakes, front & rear adjustable ride. 2 hardshell (removable) side bags with inserts. 2 helmets & 2 "Joe Rocket" jackets included. Just serviced and is in perfect condition. garaged kept. Call (601) 934-6615.

2006 Triumph Speed Triple 1050, white, 3k miles. Asking

HOMES/APARTMENTS

\$6,500. Call (210) 313-5874.

For Sale: 2007 Deer Valley single wide home 16 X 80 feet. Three BR/2 full BA, walk-in closet in master bedroom with walk-in shower & garden tub. Call (601) 986-8841 for more information.

For Rent: 4000 38th St., 2 BR/2 BA (duplex), covered parking, \$650 per month with 1 year lease, \$650 deposit. Call (601) 616-8767. Pets allowed, \$400 deposit.

For Rent: 1414 24th Ave., 3 BR/2 BA (triplex), hardwood floors, covered parking, \$1100 per month with 1 year lease, \$1100 deposit. Call (601) 616-8767. Pets allowed, \$400 deposit.

For Rent: 414 24th Ave., 1 BR/2 BA (triplex), hardwood floors, covered parking, \$400 per month with 1 year lease, \$400 deposit. Call (601) 616-8767. Pets allowed, \$400 deposit.

For Rent: 5903 19th Ave., (house) 3/2, carport, fenced yard, Poplar Springs school district, gran-

ite, stainless appliances, new carpet in bedrooms and study, new interior & exterior paint, \$1450 per month with 1 year lease, \$1450 deposit. Call (601) 616-8767. Pets allowed, \$400 deposit.

For Sale: Home in Meridian city limits at 4408 King Road, red brick home, 3 BR/1-1/2 BA and oak floors. Asking \$110,000. Call (601) 604-6838 or (601) 679-3775 before 8 p.m.

For Sale: 4 BR/2.5 BA in West Lauderdale School District. Indian Springs Subdivision. Original Owner. Pergo Hardwood flooring, tiled kitchen and entrance way. Over-sized 2 car garage. Open floor plan w/9 foot ceilings, crown molding, gas fireplace and coffered bedroom ceiling. Plantation blinds and more. Master bath w/separate whirlpool tub and shower. His/Hers sinks and closets. Two walk-in closets in bedrooms.

Honda CRF 100. Great dirt bike for a youngster to start on. Garage kept. Includes boots, pants, chest protector and gloves. Asking \$1000. Call Jerry at (601) 513-2624.

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split floor plan; upgraded kitchen with granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, new flooring and breakfast nook, formal dining room; master bath has jetted tub with separate shower. Indoor laundry; large garage with storage room. Nice yard with privacy fence and covered patio. Outside trim painted with new gutter in 2010. Asking \$185,000. Call (601) 604-2015.

For Sale: Beautiful home on Confederate Drive, 4BR/3.5 BA, 3 fireplaces, solid oak floors throughout, enclosed pool with shower, half-bath and hot-tub, 2.75 acre lot, new roof, remodeled master bath and updating throughout, two-car carport with large storage room and upstairs storage. Under appraised value at only \$328,500. Can see full details at Militaryowner.com, or

For Sale: 4 BR/2.5 BA in West Lauderdale School District. Indian Springs Subdivision. Original Owner. Pergo Hardwood flooring, tiled kitchen and entrance way. Over-sized 2 car garage. Open floor plan w/9 foot ceilings, crown molding, gas fireplace and coffered bedroom ceiling. Plantation blinds and more. Master bath w/separate whirlpool tub and shower. His/Hers sinks and closets. Two walk-in closets in bedrooms.

MWR Mission First... Sailors Always



August Specials

Aug. 23: CAPTAINS CUP STAFF LEAGUE MEETING
4 p.m. at McCain Lanes

BEAT THE MANAGER BOWLING SPECIAL:

Wednesdays in August from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Challenge the manager and if you beat him bowling, you'll get that game free. Regular bowling rates apply during this challenge. LIMIT 3 games free.

MONDAYS: BUDDY BOWLING SPECIAL from 5-9 p.m.
~ You and a buddy bowl together and pay \$10 to bowl 3 games each. This includes rental shoes.

THURSDAYS: COLORED HEAD PIN SPECIAL from 6-9 p.m. ~ Get a strike on the colored head pin after notifying the counter person. That game is FREE. Limit 3 games per person.

FRIDAYS: COSMIC BOWLING NIGHT ~ Disco lights going and black lights on lanes from 7-10 p.m. Regular rates apply.

SATURDAYS: KIDS BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. ~ Parents bowl at regular rate, kids 16 and under bowl at \$1.50 a game.

SUNDAYS: NTTC/MATSS1 STUDENT SPECIAL from 3-9 p.m. ~ \$2 a game, \$1 for shoes.

Golf Champs

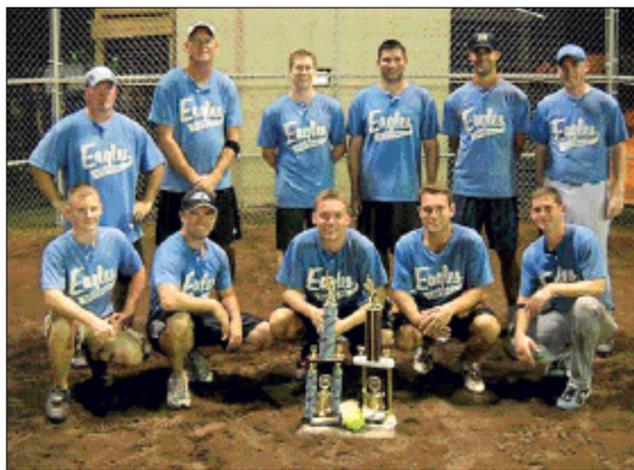


Jamie Brown, Lance Coe, Wayne Boren and Steve Wade pose with their first place trophy for capturing the top spot in the regular season for Captain's Cup Golf. Their team, PWD, finished the regular season with a record of eight wins and no losses. The PWD team completed its second straight undefeated Captain's Cup Golf regular and end of season slate.

Golf EOS Tournament

1st: PWD	TS- 102	4th: Fidelity	TS- 123	DNP: Eagles
2nd: NTTC	TS- 113	5th: Hookers	TS- 124	DNP: Fore!
3rd: NBHC	TS- 115			DNP: Bird Hunters

Softball Champs



The Eagles of VT-7 took home first place in both the regular and end of season softball tournaments. The tournament to crown the end of season softball champ was played July 29-30 at Bernath Field.

Softball Standings

Regular Season	EOS Tournament
1st: VT-7 Eagles	1st: VT-7 Eagles
2nd: Air Ops	2nd: VT-9 Tigers
3rd: Field Support	3rd: Air Ops

SUMMER IS ALMOST OVER....

MAKE PLANS NOW FOR THAT LAST CAMPING TRIP OF THE SUMMER. THE OUTPOST HAS 4 DIFFERENT SIZE CAMPERS TO RENT. ALL THE CAMPERS ARE EASY TO OPERATE & ALL HAVE COLD "A/C"!! RENTAL PRICES START AT



JUST \$40 FOR THE WEEKEND. DID YOU KNOW?

THE OUTPOST WILL BE OPEN ON SATURDAY AUG. 12 FROM 8 A.M.-4 P.M. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (601) 679-2609.

ITT BUS TRIP TO BRAVES GAME

AUG. 20
GAME TIME: 6:05 P.M.
COST: \$32 PER PERSON
LOCATION: JACKSON
DEPARTURE TIME: 3 P.M. FROM ADMIN
255 PARKING LOT
CALL 679-3773 FOR INFORMATION



Outdoor Movie ~ Aug. 26, 8 p.m. ~ All Hands Pool
"Red Riding Hood" ~ Free FAMILY Event!

The Sandtrap

Now Serving Breakfast Monday-Friday from 7:30-9:30 a.m.; and Saturday-Sunday from 7-9:30 a.m.
For more information, call (601) 679-2780.

Library Hours

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
For more information, call (601) 679-2326.

ITT Office

Come checkout the great specials for Walt Disney World and other summer hot spots at the ITT Office located in ADMIN Building 255, beside Navy Federal Credit Union.
For more information, call (601) 679-3773.

Rudders

Stop by for Country music Hour until 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Call (601) 679-2636 for information.

Ponta Creek Golf Course

Weekday Special Monday-Thursday
18 Hole Green & Cart: \$20
9 Hole Green & Cart: \$12

Carts Rates for Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays:

18 holes: \$14 ~ 9 holes: \$7

Greens Fees

	18 holes	9 holes
E-1-E-5	\$9	\$5
E-6 and up	\$12	\$7
DOD/NL	\$14	\$8
Others	\$16	\$9

Pro Shop Hours: Monday-Sunday: 8-5 p.m.
For more information, call the Pro Shop at (601) 679-2526.

AT THE MOVIES

There are three scheduled movies per week at McCain Lanes Theater. The movies are shown at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays; and at 1 p.m. on Saturdays. On Fridays you can select from the 780 movies on file. Movies on this schedule will not be available for open viewing until after their scheduled showing date. Call (601) 679-2651.

Admission is Free!

- August...
- 4: "The Guardian" (PG-13)
 - 6: "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Roderick" (PG)
 - 9: "Sucker Punch" (PG-13)
 - 10: "Red Riding Hood" (PG-13)
 - 11: "Adjustment Bureau" (PG-13)
 - 13: "Mars Needs Moms" (PG)



The following are activities scheduled for single and unaccompanied active duty military on board NAS Meridian. For information or if you have an idea for a trip or event, call (601) 679-3760. The Liberty Program is housed on the second floor of NTTC Admin Building 220. Hours of operation: Monday-Thursday: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-9 p.m.; Friday: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-11 p.m.; Saturday: 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

August

- 10th:** Ping-Pong Tournament begins at 7 p.m. in the Liberty Center. No entry fee - prize awarded to winner. Register day of event at Liberty Center.
- 13th:** Geyser Falls Trip Beat the heat by plunging into cool water and having fun in the sun! Bus leaves from Liberty parking lot at noon. Cost is \$10 per person. Must register & pay for the trip by Aug. 10. Minimum of 20 people needed for trip to run - NO REFUNDS (unless trip is cancelled).
- 15th:** Double Elimination Pool Tournament begins at 7 p.m. in the Liberty Center. No entry fee - prize awarded to winner. Register day of event at Liberty Center.
- 18th:** FREE bowling to all Liberty patronage at McCain Rec Center from 6-8:30 p.m.
- 22nd:** Video Game Tournament at 7 p.m. Prize awarded to winner. Register day of event at Liberty Center.

Open Enrollment for Headstart at the CDC on board NAS Meridian for the 2011/2012 school year has started.

For more information contact Geneva Burton in the Region Office at (601) 483-2225.



Fitness Center

Group Exercise Schedule:

- Mondays ~ 11:30 a.m.:** Belly Dancing with Stacey
 - 6 p.m.:** Self Defense with Dawg Kerwood
 - Tuesdays ~ 11:15 a.m.:** Cardio Mix with Shannon
 - Wednesdays ~ 11:30 a.m.:** Belly Dancing with Stacey
 - 6 p.m.:** Self Defense with Dawg Kerwood
 - Thursdays ~ 11:15 a.m.:** Cardio Mix with Shannon
 - Fridays ~ 11:30 a.m.:** Belly Dancing with Stacey
 - **P90X and Insanity available any time!****
- Fitness Center Policy: The Sonny Montgomery Fitness Center will conduct a 100 percent ID check of all fitness center patrons.
- 1.) ID check will be administered to ALL unless wearing issued PTa gear or are in uniform.
 - 2.) If NO issued PTa gear is worn, then you must show ID to enter the workout zones.
 - 3.) If any civilian is sponsored by authorized personnel, they must pay the daily fee of \$2.
 - 4.) All contractors must pay the daily fees or monthly dues and show ID to enter workout zones.
- The NAS Meridian Fitness Center is in its temporary location in Building 266 (Behind Starbase Atlantis). Call (601) 679-2367.

Meridian/NAS Bus Schedule

Have exact cash change ready when boarding the bus. Fare: \$4.

Union Station	MATSS-1	NTTC	McCain Lanes	Bonita Lakes Mall	Wal-Mart
FRIDAY					
4:35 p.m.	5 p.m.	5:05 p.m.	5:10 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	6:40 p.m.
	6 p.m.	6:05 p.m.	6:10 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	
7 p.m.	8:10 p.m.	8:20 p.m.	8:30 p.m.	9 p.m.	
	10 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	10:10 p.m.	Drop off if any.....	
SATURDAY					
9:30 a.m.	10 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	10:10 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	11 a.m.
11:10 a.m.	12 p.m.	12:05 p.m.	12:10 p.m.	12:50 p.m.	1 p.m.
1:10 a.m.	2 p.m.	2:05 p.m.	2:10 p.m.	2:50 p.m.	3 p.m.
3:10 p.m.	4 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	
	5 p.m.	5:05 p.m.	5:10 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	
	6 p.m.	6:05 p.m.	6:10 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	
7:40 p.m.	7 p.m.	7:05 p.m.	7:10 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	
	8:10 p.m.	8:20 p.m.	8:30 p.m.	9 p.m.	
	10 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	10:10 p.m.	Pass. Drop off if any.....	
SUNDAY					
12:30 p.m.	1 p.m.	1:05 p.m.	1:10 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	
	2 p.m.	2:05 p.m.	2:10 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	
3:40 p.m.	3 p.m.	3:05 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	
	5 p.m.	5:05 p.m.	5:10 p.m.	6 p.m.	6:05 p.m.
6:10 p.m.	6:40 p.m.	6:45 p.m.	6:50 p.m.	Pass. Drop off any	7:20 p.m.

Applebee's Restaurant (upon request only)

Belly Dancing Group Class

Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the Gym. Not just for ladies either, men welcome...that means come join us~! (harder exercise than most may think). Stacey Jemison is the instructor. For information, call (601) 679-2379.



It's Your Turn...

We asked children at the School Age Care Center Summer Program, "What are you looking forward to when you go back to school? Why?"

Photos by MC2 Flordeliz Valerio



T'shya Ruffin
Age 8

"I like to study math and science especially Biology."



Sigarrie Nettles
Age 8

I'm excited to study math because I want to learn how to multiply."



Shaun Cosby
Age 10

"I'm excited to study math and science. It's fun to me."



Joshua Everrette
Age 8

"Math is my favorite subject."



Madison Field
Age 10

"I love to see my friends and also learn math and science."

Fleet & Family Support Center

Command streamlines moves during busy season

By Army Sgt. 1st Class
Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, July 26, 2011 - Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command officials are working hard to continually improve process for military families moving to new duty stations during an exceptionally busy summer, the command's personal property branch chief said yesterday.

The command, with headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., is the Army component of U.S. Transportation Command, which also has its headquarters at Scott.

Major points of emphasis for the peak moving season are the newly designed Defense Personal Property System and new rules to accompany it, John Johnson said.

"In November of 2008, we started phasing in a new IT system and a new set of business rules to move personal property. So 2011 is the second year we've actually been using the system," Johnson said. "We're also learning new aspects of the system as we go along, and we're continuing to discover better ways to move personal property."

Johnson said comparisons of the last two years can be deceiving, because the first year was split between the old and new systems.

"Between last year and this year, the old, legacy system program has gone away," he said. "So we had a separate set of challenges last year than we have this year. But I think, overall, this year people were more informed on how to prepare themselves for moves, so I think that was

a success."

Crossfeed among the services, industry and Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command officials has led to adjustments along the way and better communication with personal property shipping offices worldwide to facilitate shipments this summer, Johnson said, noting that the command is using "hot washes," similar to after-action reviews, to tackle persistent issues.

"Our big job is really to make sure that we've got a healthy program with qualified carriers, and rules and policies in place, so folks know how to move personal property specifically for [the Defense Department]," Johnson said. "Then we really try to help facilitate the moves or any issues or challenges that come up in the movement of the personal property, working extensively with the military services and the Coast Guard.

"We talk to industry a lot as well," he added. "Industry is broken up into an international market and a domestic market. So there are two associations that we deal pretty exclusively with."

With so many movements across the Defense Department during a popular time to move, Johnson said, resources have become somewhat strained.

"From May 15 to probably July 31 is what we typically call our peak season, when everyone wants to move in the summer," he said. "So the competition for resources is a little tight. It's always a challenge to get people picked up.

"But we've had additional chal-

lenges as well the last three years, because the economy hasn't been that good," he continued. "Industry infrastructure is kind of reduced in size, so there are just not as many trucks, drivers and local agents to do the packing as there was three or four years ago."

Johnson said another challenge presented itself this summer, as well, noting that many major companies have been relocating people, stretching the moving industry thinner.

"They saw that business increase, so again, [that creates] even more competition for the scarce resources to move [military] folks in the summer," Johnson said. An additional 15,000 to 17,000 Army-specific moves resulting from base realignments and closures also are part of this summer's equation, he added.

Implementation of the Defense Personal Property System, developed in part by U.S. Transportation Command, emphasizes convenience and customer service to service members and DOD civilians, Johnson said.

"What we're really looking to do is make sure personal property is picked up and delivered at the other end with the least amount of damage or inconvenience to the customer," Johnson said, noting that the days of the job going to the lowest bid are over.

"It's based on best value, not low cost like it used to be," he said. "So the carrier that comes to your door should be one that has been providing good service to get that business in the first place."

Related Sites: Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
<<http://www.sddc.army.mil/who/default.aspx>>

Overhauled Tennessee, families return to Kings Bay

By MC1 (SW) James Kimber
Commander, Submarine Group 10
Public Affairs

KINGS BAY, Ga. (NNS) -- USS Tennessee (SSBN 734) returned to its homeport at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga., July 29, following a 30-month refueling and overhaul (ROH) at Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

The ROH period required more than 400,000 workdays to ensure the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine can perform its critical global nuclear deterrent missions.

The reactor found in Navy nuclear-powered ships typically uses up its nuclear fuel about halfway through the desired 50-year lifespan. At the same time a ship is refueled, an overhaul is performed to provide extensive maintenance and renovation to extend the ship's service life. This can include removing systems and equipment onboard and replacing them with contemporary equivalents, as Tennessee had with some analog gear being upgraded to digital electronics.

According to the submarine's project supervisor Dennis Bevington, a project manager at Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, Va., Tennessee received a thorough cleaning and modernization during the ROH.

"We performed a complete overhaul of its steering and diving systems," said Bevington. "We also overhauled numerous hull valves and components based on the planned maintenance schedule. We then installed the reverse osmosis, a new battery and installed the first alteration on its engineering plant control systems, upgrading it from analog to micro-processor controls."

"This was the first major availability performed on a Trident that had an upgraded missile fire control system," said Bevington. "This made the testing program and follow on operational checks very challenging. The dedi-

cation and skill of the mechanics involved was always at the highest level though. We also implemented numerous improvements in our project management strategy."

The improvements included the employment of updated programs like Lean Release 3.0. The streamlined Navy project management program assists planners to better prioritize evolutions during maintenance periods. This maximized efficiency at the executive level leads to increased production in the project team and ship's work force efforts.

"Projects like this cannot be accomplished without the highest level of cooperation and teamwork between the ship and the yard," said Bevington. "Our focus and attention to safety and cleanliness led to the best safety record of any refueling to date. The crew of the Tennessee was the best, most highly motivated group of professionals I have ever seen. Our shipyard team also put in long, hard hours and overcame numerous obstacles along the way. In the end, the Tennessee was a perfect integration of not only the project and the ship, but every single shop and department in the yard. We all got there together as a shipyard team."

The submarine's move from the shipyard in Virginia to the submarine base in Kings Bay may offer battle commanders an additional asset in the protection of national security, but it also created an unavoidable matter for family members living in the Old Dominion: a mass permanent change of station, or PCS.

Tennessee command ombudsman, Michelle King, said the boat's command helped provide as much assistance as needed for families feeling the inevitable stresses of relocation.

"[The command] arranged a Smart Move meeting for the Sailors and their families last February," said King. "The meeting covered change-of-homeport letters, who would be affected and

what to know when planning a move back down to Kings Bay. Representatives from personal property, the Camden County Chamber of Commerce, MWR, TRICARE and base housing attended the meeting and provided information to make the transition to Kings Bay a smooth one."

The meeting's name was borrowed from the Naval Supply Systems Command's online portal Smart Web Move, a program developed to help active duty personnel and their families plan and arrange household goods moves from their home computer. Tennessee Family Readiness Group (FRG) president Sarah Suarez said the command's initiative to push this web-based program and in inviting the experts to talk to the soon-to-be travelling families was appreciated.

"Happy families make happy Sailors," Suarez said. "Family readiness practices good moral values for families and because of that it makes a huge impact directly relating to the morale of the Sailor. Our husbands' mission is to go underway, get the job done right and return home safely to their families."

In addition to the command's proactive efforts, the FRG provided support and advice to other families who may have been transferring for the first time, or facing other strains.

"Our purpose is to help our families by building social bonds," Suarez said of the importance of the FRG. "Positive attitudes are more likely to grow along with a better understanding of deployments, and FRG meetings are a great way for the commands to hear the voice of family members."

No meeting was necessary to hear the voice of family members at the homecoming held at the Clubs of Kings Bay on base; this group was glad the Tennessee family was back at homeport.

"[Kings Bay] has such a small town feel to it," said Amy Murray, ● Kings Bay, page 10

FFSC Briefs

To register for any of the following workshops, please call (601) 679-2360. The class will not be presented if no one registers, so please make sure you sign up if you're interested. If you can't attend at the scheduled time, call anyway -- the workshop facilitator may be able to meet with you one-on-one, give you materials, or let you know when the class will be scheduled again. All active duty, reserve, retired military and their families are eligible for programs and services provided by the FFSC. Civil service employees can utilize the services on a space available basis.

Positive Parenting: Handling Behavior Problems: Aug. 9 from 2-3:30 p.m. or Aug. 31 from 9-10:30 a.m. Why do some children sail through childhood with few behavior problems while others seem to have constant struggles with behaving well? Both good and bad behaviors are shaped by the rewards the child receives from parents and other authority figures -- and, sometimes, parents accidentally reward bad behavior. Attend this workshop to learn strategies to help guide your child to improved behavior.

Gambling Awareness: Aug. 10 from 10-11 a.m. or Aug. 23 from 3-4 p.m. Gambling has become an acceptable form of entertainment in the United States and abroad. With more than 11,000 legal gambling casinos in the country and more than 2,000 online sites for gambling, it has become big business with big gains for the "house," but not for the gambler. And, although there are no specific military directives that restrict Sailors and Marines from gambling, readiness and retention are threatened and negatively affected when gambling becomes a problem for service members (or their families). For more information about gambling awareness and the "house edge", attend this informative workshop.

Ombudsman Basic Training: Aug. 11-13 from 8a.m.-2:30 p.m. An Ombudsman (the spouse of an active duty Sailor) volunteers to support the command by providing communication, outreach, referrals, information, and advocacy to and for command family members. Every command, afloat and ashore, is required to appoint an Ombudsman. This class is the required training for all command-appointed Ombudsman candidates. For more information, please call the FFSC. Registration is required.

Mid-Term CONSEP Training: Aug. 15-18 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. FFSC is presenting the Career Options and Navy Skills Evaluation Program (CONSEP), a mid-career training for Sailors with six to 12 years of active duty who are within 18-24 months of EAOS. The class will assist Sailors in making educated career decisions in order to be competitive, thereby maximizing their potential in the Navy. Participants will learn to market themselves, evaluate their individual skills, set goals, compare civilian and military careers, explore Navy upward mobility options, and enhance financial stability. Spouses are invited.

IA Spouse Discussion Group: Aug. 19 from 9:30-11 a.m. FFSC hosts this IA Spouse Discussion Group over coffee! Join other military spouses to talk about the challenges of IA deployment, share survival tips, discuss the impact of deployment on kids, remind one another about the benefits of deployment, or just kick back and chat!

Managing Workplace Conflict: Aug. 24 from 10-11 a.m. Conflict is normal, even in the most high-functioning workgroups. We all have different styles, points of view, and ways of communicating. However, when a conflict between two individuals or within a group lingers or goes unresolved, it can waste time, lower energy and morale, and leave those involved with hurt feelings that are hard to forget. If you need to improve your coping-with-conflict skills, come to this workshop to learn the mediation method and other tips to manage the sticky situations in your life.

Controlling Anger: Aug. 29, 3-4 p.m. Everyone gets angry every now and then from normal frustrating life events, but some people handle angry feelings better than others. Your upbringing, personality, and other factors affect how you display anger and how you argue with others. However, you aren't a slave to those patterns, and you CAN learn better ways to express angry feelings and argue constructively. If you frequently "blow up" or if the way you currently handle anger is threatening your relationships and/or work, come to this workshop to learn better anger management techniques.

NMCRS seeks volunteers

The NAS Meridian branch of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is in need of volunteers who can commit one or two days a week. The office is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and they reimburse volunteers for gas and childcare. This is a great way for people to learn office skills, improve resumes, and make new friends. NMCRS has branches at nearly every Navy and Marine Corps base worldwide, and therefore experience is transferable. NMCRS helps active duty and retired military with budgeting, financial assistance, and getting service members home when they have received a Red Cross emergency message from their families. On board NAS Meridian, contact NMCRS Chair of Volunteers Jenny Enderlin at (601) 679-2504.



Photo by MC3 Daniel Viramontes

An F-35C test aircraft CF-3 is brought to launch position on a test catapult by Navy test pilot Cmdr. Eric "Magic" Buus. The test demonstrated proper catapult hook-up in preparation for the first launches at Lakehurst, N.J., scheduled for later this month. CF-3 is the designated carrier suitability test aircraft. The F-35C carrier variant of the Joint Strike Fighter is distinct from the F-35A and F-35B variants with its larger wing surfaces and reinforced landing gear.

F-35C launches to new milestone

LAKEHURST, N.J. (NNS) -- The F-35C Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) completed its first steam catapult launch July 27 marking another milestone toward initial ship trials in 2013.

A TC-13 Mod 2 test steam catapult was used to launch F-35C test aircraft CF-3 into the sky. Steam catapults are currently used on board U.S. Navy aircraft carriers to launch various aircraft.

Video of the launch can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkNZfu3EdvA>.

The F-35C carrier variant of the Joint Strike Fighter is distinct from the F-35A and F-35B variants. It has larger wing surfaces and reinforced landing gear for slower catapult launch and landing approach speeds and deck impacts associated with the demanding carrier take-off and landing environment.

Assigned to the F-35 integrated test facility on board Naval Air Station Patuxent River, CF-3 is the designated carrier suitability testing aircraft.

"It was great to be able to be a part of this milestone in the F-35C test program," said Navy test pilot Lt. Chris Tabert. "Due to the hard work of the entire test team, the event went very well and I look forward to seeing the airplane operate from the carrier."

Tabert is the most junior test pilots to fly any variant of the F-35, which reflects a deliberate shaping of the test force which balances experienced military and contractor test pilots with more

newly-qualified test pilots with more recent experience.

"Our first trip here to Lakehurst went very smoothly because of the true collaboration and hard work from the integrated team," said Tom Briggs, government air vehicle engineering manager. "We look forward to another productive visit and staying on track for initial ship trials."

In addition to the catapult launches at varying power levels, the integrated test team will execute a test plan over three weeks to include dual-aircraft jet blast deflector testing and catapult launches using a degraded catapult configuration to measure the effects of steam ingestion on the aircraft.

The ability to degrade the catapult is unique to the test facilities at Lakehurst.

"We are pleased to have NAVAIR Lakehurst support the first F-35C steam catapult launch," said Kathleen Donnelly, senior executive for Support Equipment and Aircraft, Launch and Recovery Equipment (ALRE). "Our dedicated personnel, along with our shipboard representative steam catapult, enable the Navy to have accurate and timely test data necessary to evaluate the compatibility of this critical weapons system with ALRE systems."

The F-35C is undergoing test and evaluation at NAS Patuxent River prior to eventual delivery to the fleet.

From Naval Air Systems Command, F-35 Integrated Test Force Public Affairs

On board NAS Meridian, donation boxes are located at Administration Building 255, Training Air Wing One, Commissary, chapel and schoolhouses. All donated food items will be taken locally to LOVE'S Kitchen in Meridian. Suggested items for donation include: canned vegetables, grains, soups, multigrain cereals, canned fruits, canned proteins, juices, snacks, hygiene items, paper products and household cleaning items. For more information, call the Chapel at (601) 679-3635.

feds feed families

2011 Goal: 2 million pounds!

Children and families are in great need of donated food this summer.

Federal employees and the CHCO Council are joining together to collect 2 million pounds of food nationwide.

Starting June 1, 2011, please bring non-perishable items and place into a designated donation box.

Boxes will be picked up:

- June 29, 2011
- July 27, 2011
- August 31, 2011

FedsFeedFamilies@opm.gov
www.FedsFeedFamilies.gov

Feds Feed Families | Facebook | Twitter | FedFoodDrive

Reenlistment



Photo by MC2 Flordeliz Valerio

Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Dwayne Hinson holds his certificate of reenlistment with wife, Sheila, who read the reenlistment oath during her husbands ceremony on July 25. Hinson reenlisted for five years. He is transferring to the USS Essex (LHD-2) in Sasebo, Japan, next month.

Retirement



Photo by Susan Junkins

Cmdr. James Hoskins received his certificate of retirement from former NAS Meridian commanding officer Capt. Charles Gibson during a ceremony on July 22. Hoskins served 21 years in the U.S. Navy, the last serval as NAS Meridian as the Air Operations Officer.

Comic-Con



Photo by MC3 Christopher K. Hwang

SAN DIEGO -- Sailors assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) pose for a photograph with CBS television series "NCIS: Los Angeles" cast members Chris O'Donnell and LL Cool J during a special guest visit at Comic-Con International 2011. Sailors were invited to attend a Comic-Con International 2011 after party hosted by CBS after an interview panel.

Changes take effect this month on Post-9/11 GI Bill

The following are changes that recently came into effect on the Post-9/11 GI Bill through the Veterans Education Assistance Improvements Act that was signed into law in 2010.

Effective Aug. 1, 2011

For veterans and their transferees - simplifies the tuition and fee rates for those attending a public school and creates a national maximum for those enrolled in a private or foreign school

- Pays all public school in-state tuition and fees;

- Private and foreign school costs are capped at \$17,500 annually;

- The Yellow Ribbon Program still exists for out-of-state fees and costs above the cap.

For active duty members and their transferees - creates a national rate for those active duty members enrolled in a private or foreign school pursuing a degree

- Pays all public school in-state tuition and fees;

- Private and foreign school costs are capped at \$17,500 per academic year (an academic year begins Aug. 1)

- Allows VA to pay MGIB (chapter 30) and MGIB-SR (chapter 1606) 'kickers', or college fund payments, on a monthly basis instead of a lump sum at the beginning of the term

- Prorates housing allowance by the student's rate of pursuit (rounded to the nearest tenth)

- A student training at a rate of pursuit of 75 percent would receive 80 percent of the BAH rate

Break or interval pay is no longer payable under any VA education benefit program unless under an Executive Order of the President or due to an emergency, such as a natural disaster or strike.

- This means that when your semester ends (e.g. Dec. 15), your housing allowance is paid for the first 15 days of December only and begins again when your next semester begins (e.g. Jan. 10) and is paid for the remaining days of January.

- Students using other VA education programs are included in this change. Monthly benefits will be pro-rated in the same manner.

- Entitlement that previously would have been used for break pay will be avail-

able for use during a future enrollment.

- Allows reimbursement for more than one "license or certification" test (previously only one test was allowed). However, entitlement is now charged

- Allows reimbursement of fees paid to take national exams used for admission to an institution of higher learning (e.g., SAT, ACT, GMAT, LSAT)

- Allows those who are eligible for both Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (chapter 31) benefits and Post-9/11 GI Bill (chapter 33) benefits to choose the Post-9/11 GI Bill's monthly housing allowance instead of the chapter 31 subsistence allowance.

- NOAA and PHS personnel are now eligible to transfer their entitlement to eligible dependents

Effective Oct. 1, 2011

Allows students to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for:

- Non-college degree (NCD) programs: Non-college degree (NCD) programs offered at non-degree granting schools: Pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees or \$17,500, whichever is less. Also pays up

to \$83 per month for books and supplies.

- On-the-job and apprenticeship training: Pays a monthly benefit amount prorated based on time in program and up to \$83 per month for books and supplies.

- Flight programs: Per academic year, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees assessed by the school or \$10,000, whichever is less.

- Correspondence training: Per academic year, pays the actual net costs for in-state tuition and fees assessed by the school or \$8,500, whichever is less.

- The full-time rate for an individual eligible at the 100 percent eligibility tier would be \$673.50 for 2011.

- Allows students on active duty to receive a books and supplies stipend.

More information on these changes go to: http://www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/post_911_gibill/Post911_changes.html

• Kings Bay

a Tennessee family member from Saratoga Springs, N.Y. "I have no family in the area, but if I'm ever sick or need help taking care of my son for a few hours, somebody will be at my door probably before I can even get out of my bed. I really like this area."

Jennifer Lanclous, another Tennessee spouse who recently separated from the Navy, said despite the heat and

gnats in the southern Georgia summer, she feels the community is very supportive.

"The submarine community is a tight-knit community," said Lanclous, an Afghanistan veteran. "There's good communication and everyone here is friendly and trustworthy."

USS Tennessee (SSBN 734) is the fourth U.S. Navy ship to be named for the Volunteer State.

• Cyber

viruses per month; blocks 9 million spam messages and investigates 1,200 unclassified intrusion attempts per month.

Adding the human layer of defense in cyber security practices is also a key to victory in the battle. According to Lynn Herbert, Navy Region Southeast Information Assurance Manager, training and awareness is our greatest asset. "We have several systems in place to coordinate

cyber security efforts, but it starts with the individual at the keyboard," said Herbert.

Something as simple as a "phishing" attack is an example of how one person can protect or compromise an entire network. Phishing is defined as using email to get the recipient to click on a corrupt link or attachment.

Herbert provided five tips to help identify phony messages and avoid getting "hooked": be skeptical of all emails, if it doesn't make

sense, delete it; be wary of attachments; ignore requests for action on your part; check out the link if it is suspicious; make a phone call to verify or contact the sender.

"Just remember to always be aware, make sure you know the sender and that the email is valid," said Herbert.

The old expression from World War II, "loose lips sink ships" was a cry for information security and it makes even more sense

today. Just ask the new Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta. At his Senate confirmation hearing last month Panetta cited "a strong likelihood that the next Pearl Harbor" could well be a cyber attack that cripples the U.S. power grid and financial and government systems. He also stated that cyber security will be one of the main focuses of his tenure at the Pentagon.

It should also be one of ours.