

Rocketeer II

Vol. 5, Issue 12

The official newspaper of the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake community

Thursday, June 16, 2011



China Lake initiates EIS/LEIS process

NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION CHINA LAKE, Calif. – The Department of the Navy, with the cooperation of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), will be conducting public scoping meetings for the proposed Congressional renewal of a public land withdrawal for land comprising the ranges and connecting routes of the station for a period of 25 years.

The scoping meetings are part of the initial stages of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement/Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/LEIS) to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with the proposed renewal.

The meetings are to encourage public comment to ensure that potential environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives are identified and considered in the EIS/LEIS. Representatives of China Lake and BLM will be on hand to explain the land withdrawal and EIS process, as well as the mission and operations of China Lake.

The scoping meetings will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at the following locations:

- Tuesday, July 19 – USO Building, 230 W. Ridgecrest Blvd., Ridgecrest, Calif.
- Wednesday, July 20 – Statham Hall, 138 Jackson St., Lone Pine, Calif.
- Thursday, July 21 – Trona Community Senior

EIS, Page 2

VX-31 changes command

By Theresa Goldstrand
NAWCWD PAO



Cmdr. Brady Bartosh

Courtesy Photo

Cmdr. Brady Bartosh transferred command of the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 31 June 9 to his successor, Lt. Col. Andre Mercier in a ceremony held at the Dust Devils' Hangar 3. Before assuming command of VX-31, Bartosh served as the chief test pilot under Cmdr. Eric Holmberg.

Under Bartosh's leadership, the Dust Devils performed over 6,000 flight hours without any Class A or B mishaps during the eighteen months he served as commanding officer. Bartosh has been transferred as military director to the Naval Air Systems Command Support Equipment and Aircraft Launch and Recovery



Lt. Col. Andre L. Mercier

Photo by Joy Lewis

VX-31, Page 11

China Lake welcomes new CMC says farewell to outgoing

By Michael Roach
Editor, Rocketeer II

China Lake has a new Command Master Chief, Charles Grandin, a native of Jamestown N.Y. Grandin brings with him 26 years of experience, the depth of which has literally reached naval boundaries.

In January of 1985, after a year of college Grandin decided to enlist in the Navy to pay for the rest of his tuition. "After four years I ended up really enjoying it and decided to stay in and make a career of it," said Grandin.

After attending Submarine School in Groton, Conn., Grandin began his career below sea level and has served aboard the USS Scamp, USS Barbel, USS Michigan, USS Henry M. Jackson, USS Dolphin, USS Portsmouth and the USS Topeka. Additionally, he has been stationed around the world as far as Sasebo, Japan, where he spent six years.

Throughout all of his tours of duty, there are three occasions that stand out in his mind as

Grandin, Page 10



Photo by Michael Roach

Master Chief Robert L. Corkish, retired (left), stands alongside Command Master Chief Charles Grandin after Corkish's retirement ceremony on June 13 at the Paradise Community Center. Grandin has taken over for Corkish as the deckplate leader for NAWS and NAWCWD. Corkish gave his thanks to all of those that he has served alongside and summarized his time in the Navy by saying "it has been more than an adventure, it has been my life."

Commentary

From the frontlines, to your iPad

Atlanta, April 11, 2011 – The Third U.S. Army's Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS), today announced its 'Military 24/7' App for iPad is available for free download on the App Store. 'Military 24/7' extends the global outreach of military service members, engages civilians with user friendly interactive elements and connects media outlets with timely incoming footage from the frontlines.

'Military 24/7' is designed to combine strong visual elements with text stories, photo galleries and on-demand content reported by service members. Users can choose between top military news stories, extensive photo galleries, the latest videos, newscasts and programming or filter material instantly based upon branch (DVIDS iPad Demo Video). These fully searchable news features allow users to stay up-to-date on military missions and operations. Most importantly, all material is created by deployed military personnel. Users can share information with friends and family via email, Facebook and Twitter.

The dvidshub.net site has also been upgraded with a new layout and design and is available on the iPad with full functionality.

App, Page 4

COMFISCS, FISC Command Names to Change July 1

SAN DIEGO, June 3—On July 1, the official command name for Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers (COMFISCS) will change to NAVSUP Global Logistics Support.

New names are being given to COMFISCS and its seven Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISCs) to better emphasize their specific role in NAVSUP's global logistics support enterprise.

This change is part of the Naval Supply Systems Command's 'One NAVSUP...One Enterprise' branding initiative to provide customers and stakeholders a clearer understanding of the capabilities of all NAVSUP organizations.

For China Lake this means that the local name will change from FISCSD Site China Lake to NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center San Diego Site China Lake.

"Our names are changing but our mission remains to deliver the right operational logistics solutions to the Navy and our joint warfighters," said Heinrich. "The COMFISCS team of military, civilian logistics professionals, contractors and foreign nationals located around

the world will continue to supply the Navy's ships, aircraft, shore commands, and expeditionary forces with the essential items needed to execute their missions."

For more COMFISCS news, go to <https://www.navsup.navy.mil/navsup/ourteam/comfiscs/news>.

Connect with COMFISCS on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/comfiscs>.

EIS, Front Page

Center, 13187 Market St., Trona, Calif.

The Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS/LEIS for Renewal of the NAWS China Lake Public Land Withdrawal was published today in the Federal Register.

For a copy of the NOI or for more information about NAWS China Lake, the LEIS and how you, the public, can participate and offer comments, go to <http://www.chinalakeleis.com/>.

If you would like to be on the NAWS China Lake LEIS mailing list, please e-mail peggy.shoaf@navy.mil or call (760) 939-1683.

Rocketeer II



NAWS China Lake

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All copy is reviewed by the Public Affairs Office of NAWS China Lake. The editor reserves the right to edit, copy, run and/or delete stories submitted. Correspondence, articles and photographs for Rocketeer II submitted by the public or NAWS personnel should be e-mailed to Peggy Shoaf at peggy.shoaf@navy.mil or

rocketeer2@verizon.net. Fax information to (760) 939-2796, or call the Rocketeer II office at (760) 446-4284 or (760) 939-1683 (DSN 437), respectively. Rocketeer II's office is located in the Headquarters Building, Room 1040. Submissions should be sent no later than noon the Wednesday a week before the publication date.

Correspondence, articles and photos from the following commands should be submitted to the person indicated:

- Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division and Explosive Ordnance Detachment Mobile Unit 3: NAWCWD Public Affairs at (760) 939-3511
 - Air Test and Evaluation Squadron THREE ONE: Lt. Brian Culver at brian.culver@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-3529
 - Air Test and Evaluation Squadron NINE: Lt. Bryan Haney at bryan.haney@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-5525
 - Marine Aviation Detachment: Lt. Col. James Coppersmith at james.coppersmith@navy.mil or (760) 939-8094
 - Naval Facilities Engineering Command: Patricia Sbrocca at patricia.sbrocca@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-0082
 - Branch Health Clinic: Lt. Cmdr. Richard Stacey at Richard.stacey@med.navy.mil, or call (760) 939-8002
 - Navy Expeditionary Combat Command: CWO3 John Hammond at john.d.hammond@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-6341
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Command Chaplain Lt. Derrick Horne

Rev. James Dowds, Catholic priest

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Ladies of the Chapel-High Tea:
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Communication Resources

Naval Air Weapons Station:
www.cnic.navy.mil/chinalake

Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons: www.navair.navy.mil/nawc wd

Social Media

NAWS China Lake can now be found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/NAWSChinaLake>, Twitter at https://twitter.com/NAWS_CL and Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nawschinalake>.

A YouTube channel is currently under development and can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/NAWSChinaLake>. Use of any of these channels is totally voluntary and not a requirement.

Rocketeer II online:
<http://www.chinalakenews.com>

Navy Family Ombudsman

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naws_ombudsman@yahoo.com

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(HQ): (619) 522-1429

Military

Farewell Lt. Cmdr. Miller



Photo by Michael Roach

Cmdr. Stan Kloss, Public Works officer, NAVFAC Southwest China Lake Detachment, presents Lt. Cmdr. Edward Ben Miller (right), with a medal to commemorate his service as the Public Works deputy. The event was held at the Grape Leaf and served as a chance for Miller's department to give him a sendoff, which featured multiple gifts and a verse from the song "It's Hard to be Humble," sung by his coworkers. Miller will be heading to his new station at Port Hueneme where, he will deploy from in December.

Welcome Lt. Kaber

By Michael Roach
Editor, Rocketeer II

Lt. Cmdr. Select Timothy Kaber is the new Deputy Public Works Officer for the Public Works Department, China Lake. It is a job he volunteered for, and one that he looks forward to doing well.

Originally from Susanville, Calif., a small town eight hours north of China Lake on 395 that also boasts the Sierra's to the west and deserts to the east, Kaber is excited to be back in a familiar climate. "It's a small town just like where I'm from," said Kaber happily. "I haven't been able to go fishing or enjoy the outdoors in the last two or three years. I am looking forward to enjoying the East Sierras."

Kaber joined the Navy in 2001 through the Civil Engineering Core Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program, while still attending California State University Chico. "I didn't want to sit in an office," said Kaber. "A CEC accessions officer came in with a pitch, and I said 'that is



Photo by Michael Roach

China Lake's new Deputy Public Works Officer Lt. Cmdr. Select Timothy Kaber.

what I want to do."

After attending Officer Candidate School in 2002, Kaber was stationed at the Public Works Center in Jacksonville, Flor. From there he went to Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, Calif., then Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Five at Port Hueneme.

Most recently he was stationed in San Diego, while he obtained his Masters in Civil Engineering at San Diego State University.

Thus far in his career, he has served two tours in Afghanistan and one in Iraq. In 2005—2006 he did an Individual Augmentation

Kaber, Page 11



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Military

Richmond students visit VX-9



Photo by Adelle Collier

Richmond Elementary School students visited VX-9 for their annual career field trip. Students interested in careers as military officers, pilots, engineers, computer scientists were able to meet members of VX-9 in these career fields. VX-9 members explained their mission and responsibilities and responded to questions, then the students were given a tour of the hangar and learned about the various aircraft and were allowed to go inside a UH-1Y helicopter.

Honoring the battle of Midway



Photo by Michael Roach

NAWS Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Dodson (left) and Cmdr. Lee Johnson, executive officer NAWS China Lake, present a ceremonial wreath before laying it at the foot of the Administration Building flagpole June 3. The wreath commemorated the Battle of Midway. Between June 4 and 7, 1942, the U.S. Navy combated a Japanese flotilla in the Pacific, ultimately sinking four of the six aircraft carriers that attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. The battle changed the tide of the war, putting the United States on the offensive.

App, Page 2

Register on the site to download content from the extensive library of military content for free.

"As communications among the American people and their military have evolved, we felt compelled to come up with a creative and interactive way for our military service members to connect to the interested public sector," said Maj. Scott Betts, DVIDS director

of operations. "The public seeks the news they are interested in via methods they choose. It is not just about watching a broadcast news source any longer. This app will allow mobile users to obtain informative reports, photos and videos from the field with the tap or swipe of a finger."

"The fully-searchable, easy-to-use design of the app makes it effortless for interested readers to

keep up with the U.S. military," said Anthony Burian, director of technical operations. "It is a new way to provide the public and media outlets alike with transparent access to military news and insight around the world."

"Military 24/7" for iPad is now available for free download on the App Store. For more information and to view a demo of the DVIDS App, go to <http://www.dvidshub.net/ipad>.

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Military/News

Sailor receives Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal



Photo by Jessica Armstrong

Information Systems Technician Second Class Manuel Luna is presented a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal from NAWS China Lake Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Dodson June 2. Luna received the award for consistently performing his duties "in an exemplary and highly professional manner," while serving as a computer security/technician in the NAWS Information Technology Department.

Dragon wins float competition



Courtesy photo

Continuing to celebrate the NAWCWD Employee Appreciation Day event, Weapons Airframe Division employees Brett Tanner (left), Jaimie Combs (center) and Josh Galbraith show off their winning float entitled, "Dragon the Competition Down." The float submissions were judged on creativity, curb appeal and innovation by anonymous ballot voters. "Dragon" won first place over five other competitors during the May event.

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Command Safety Message

Electrical safety and tips for the summer

Electrical safety refresher

Electricity is an integral part of today's modern world, and sometimes it is easy to forget the risks. Given the right circumstances, it can cause you to be shocked or burned (causing a serious injury or fatality), damage sensitive equipment or ignite combustible materials.

When conducting workplace inspections, safety personnel look for unsafe conditions that could potentially lead to mishaps. Deficiency notices, describing the unsafe conditions, are written and provided to the affected codes for immediate corrections. Currently, our NAWS China Lake Installation has 129 open deficiencies.

The most frequently cited deficiencies are in the "electrical" hazard category, comprising about 30% of those currently open. Common electrical deficiencies found are: circuit breaker power panels not labeled and/or exposed electrical issues; broken or missing cover plates on electrical receptacles; frayed cords; surge protectors "daisy chained" (plugged one into the other) and excessive extension cord use in lieu of fixed wiring.

Below are reminders from the Naval Safety Center to help ensure that your workplace and home is free of electrical safety hazards.

Mishap data

- An estimated 600 people die every year of electrical causes. Most of these mishaps involve low voltage (600 volts or less).
- An estimated 3,600 people suffer disabling injuries from contact with electricity each year in the U.S.
- Electrical fires in homes kill an average of 485 Americans each year and injure more than 2,300.
- Most electrical mishaps are caused by misuse and poor maintenance of electrical appliances, incorrectly installed wiring and overloaded circuits and extension cords.

You can find the OSHA standards for Electrical Safety in 29 CFR 1910 Subpart S. Take the time to self-inspect your workplace to find and correct electrical hazards that could lead to a serious mishap. Remember to always use caution when working near electricity.

Calendar Year 2011 OSHA Recordable Mishap Update Through May:

26

- 1) CL Police: Stepped off curb to wipe snow from vehicle's base access sticker and slipped on ice.
- 2) CL Police: Slipped and fell on ice patch going down stairs to help another employee who had fallen on ice.
- 3) J26000D: Slipped and fell on patch of ice while exiting the building.
- 4) N9: Laceration on hand when eight inch knife slipped while cutting string off of towel bundles.
- 5) 418300D: Strained elbow moving crates while collecting helicopter parts.
- 6) 472400D: Strained back while lowering missile into container during packing operation.
- 7) CL Police: Tripped over floor mat used to cover heater cable at guard post and twisted knee.
- 8) 418000D: Employee was torching metal when hot slag landed in ear canal.
- 9) 52540MD: Attempted to lift air conditioning compressor into back of truck and strained shoulder.
- 10) 418300D: Strained shoulder while climbing a 20 foot caged ladder.
- 11) 476300D: Lacerated finger when attempting to close a three inch pocket knife.
- 12) 485500D: Strained back while packing boxes for an upcoming move to a new building.
- 13) N9: Strained back after being knocked down by a child while providing care at SAC facility.
- 14) N9: Rolled ankle when foot slipped off of the side of an uneven sidewalk during housekeeping duties.
- 15) N9: Contusion/strain to top of foot when foot struck crib during fire evaluation drill.
- 16) N9: Pain in left knee while kneeling and standing during tile rip out procedures in pool locker room.
- 17) 470000D: Tripped and fell in CLPL parking lot resulting in multiple fractures.
- 18) 526210D: Lacerated finger while bouncing pry bar on a spool of steel banding.
- 19) Fire Dept: Pulled muscle in back/neck while doing pull-up exercises in Fire Station Dorm.
- 20) 474000D: Hit head on metal structural beam while standing up from a kneeling position.
- 21) CL Police: Allergic reaction to OC Pepper Spray during police training exercise.
- 22) 466200D: Skin irritation from exposure to chemical in water while TDY conducting mishap investigation.
- 23) CL Police: Insect bite to leg resulted in bodily reaction, fever and swelling at the site.
- 24) N9: Strained back while attempting to stop a run-away utility golf cart during grounds maintenance.
- 25) N9: Finger laceration while trimming meat in preparation for lunch service.
- 26) 526200D: Electric shock experienced when doing a voltage check on a foreign radar system.

Critical days of summer

Summer is typically the time of year when most of us plan for vacations, outdoor recreation, backyard barbecues, swim parties, etc. Lots of China Lakers will take off on road trips to visit family and friends. These are all great things, but it's important to remember that these activities carry some risk. This is typically the time of the year when the Navy typically experiences an increase in mishaps. The days between the Memorial Day weekend and the Labor Day weekend are the considered the "Critical Days of Summer."

The good news is that risk can be managed. Most things that can go wrong during summer fun outings are easy to anticipate and avoid. Use ORM before and during your summer activities. Taking the time to do a quick safety evaluation, making smart decisions, and taking action, can go a long way toward the prevention of mishaps. The Naval Safety Center has some tools that can help manage your summer time risk.

Check out the Naval Safety Center Website at <http://www.safetycenter.navy.mil/> all summer long for safety information and regular updates. This website will have up-to-date statistics, stories and more.

Electric do's and don't's

- Insulation is a primary protection against electric shock, but it can get worn or cracked. Inspect it regularly. Look for frayed cords on power tools.
- Replace damaged electrical equipment or have it repaired at an authorized repair center. Replace frayed cords, broken plugs or cracks that could cause hazards; cut and throw out damaged cords.
- Plug grounded (3-wire) tools only into grounded outlets.
- Don't pick up power tools by their power cords.
- Read and obey all signs and posted warnings. Don't let these important sources of information become an unnoticed part of the landscape.
- Don't work with electricity in the rain or while standing in water. Use ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection when working where water is near electricity to protect against electric shock.
- If you are working with someone who gets shocked, first make sure you shut down

the source of the current. If the victim appears to still be touching the source of the shock, move him or her away using something made of wood or plastic.

- Make sure that all appliances and equipment are approved by an independent testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

- Make sure power strips and surge suppressors are designed to handle the load for their intended use. Don't overload circuits by plugging too many items into the same outlet.

- Assume that all overhead wires are energized at lethal voltages. Never assume that a wire is safe to touch even if it is down or appears to be insulated. Never touch a fallen overhead power line.

- If an overhead wire falls across your vehicle while you are driving, stay inside the vehicle and continue to drive away from the line. If the engine stalls, do not leave your vehicle. Warn people not to touch the vehicle or the wire. Call or ask

someone to call the local electric utility company and emergency services.

- Don't run electric cords under rugs or in high traffic areas.

- Don't run extension cords through doorways, or through holes in ceilings, walls or floors.

- Immediately shut off, then professionally replace, light switches that are hot to the touch and lights that flicker.

- If an extension cord is not marked for outdoor use, use it indoors only. The UL label will tell you if it is suitable for outdoor use.

- Inspect the cord before you use it. Look for areas that are cracked or frayed. If you find any, dispose of the cord.

- The appliance or tool that you are using and extension cord with will have a wattage rating on it. Match this up with your extension cord. Don't use a cord that has a lower rating.

- Make sure the appliance or tool is off before you plug it into the cord.

- Don't remove, bend or modify any of the metal parts

any electrical plug.

- Don't plug a three-prong plug into a two-hole cord.

- If the plug is too loose in the outlet, the outlet may be too old and needs to be replaced.

- Keep extension cords away from water and don't use it when it is wet.

- Never plug one extension cord or surge protector into another.

- Don't drive or walk over electrical cords or lay anything on them.

- After using extension cords, immediately remove cord from an outlet by pulling on the plug, not the cord and store indoors to prevent damage.

- Know where your circuit breaker panel is located. Ensure that nothing blocks access and that each circuit is clearly labeled.

- Finally, leave technical, complicated or confusing tasks involving electricity to electricians and other specialists. A little knowledge can definitely be a dangerous thing when it comes to wiring, troubleshooting and repairing electrical devices and circuits.

News

NAWCWD Team Award presented to ARM TPO

Capt. Thomas Mascolo, military director for Weapons and Energetics Department, recently presented the NAWCWD Team award to employees of the Weapons and Energetics Anti-Radiation Missile (ARM) Technical Project Office (TPO). The Weapons and Energetics team successfully completed the test program for the High-speed Anti-Radiation Missile (HARM) Block 5A upgrade and software upgrades to the AGM-88C HARM.

As a result of this achievement, NAWCWD provided critical capability enhancements to the Fleet to counter a wide array of radar threat systems, including enhanced suppression of enemy air defenses and provided vital force protection for strike aircraft and their crews.

Mike Keeter, head of the ARM TPO, said, "What makes this achievement special to me is that it is totally organic and multi-disciplinary in nature, starting with Intel and our Foreign Material Assessment efforts—through technical research, design, implementation of the software, testing, fleet interaction, and the



Photo by Greg Turnbaugh

Members of the NAWCWD Weapons and Energetics Department received the NAWCWD Team Award from Capt. Thomas Mascolo, military director for Weapons and Energetics. Employees include (L-R) back row: CAPT Mascolo, Dennis Ikenoyama, Dave Kenny, David Cordes, Mike Kauppi, Mark Passwater, Steve Bridges, Pam Evans, Billie Evans and Will Jones. Front row: Stan Jacobsen, Walter Runkle, Ken Beck, Paul Miller, Houg Le, Virginia Collins, Dorothy Leuallen and Donna Smiley-Auborn.

supporting functions that made it all come together. It all happened here at China Lake, from inception to an improved warfighting capability."

Scott O'Neil addressed letters

of appreciation to each member of Keeter's team for their efforts citing, "...the fruits of this effort will improve the quality of products for the warfighter. As such, you

and the other members have garnered positive recognition from organizations within and outside NAWCWD and have furthered the Navy's ability to fulfill its

mission."

Mascolo added, "It is my pleasure to come down and recognize such great work. I want to thank you for a job well done."

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Volunteers from EYH conference receive awards



Photo by Dan O'Connor

Award recipients are (back row left to right) Jenny McLaughlin, Julia Marshall, Michael Whitham, Cassie Whitham, John Rettig, Alyse Dannenberg, Denise Canadas, Patricia Backes, Mary Ellen Adams, Aleta Wright, Laura Arns, Carrie Schmidt, Andrea Pelch, Melissa Hileman, Jeremiah Jones, Alicia Blueyes, Scott O'Neil, Leticia Neal and Scott Howes; (front row left to right) Benson Wong, Linda Homer, Susan Riley, Meghan Baronowski, Shelly Rounds, April Browne, Elissa Carey, Linda Finco, Elaine Riendeau, Annie Hohmann, Stephanie Patterson, Jessica Hurst, Sheila Mohatt, Amber Fankhuaser, Michael Tonelli and Kody Stone.

Scott O'Neil, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) executive director, recently presented letters of appreciation at the Michelson Laboratory Management Center to the 85 volunteers who supported the tenth annual Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference.

Citing their extraordinary commitment of time and service, O'Neil praised the volunteers that included scientists, engineers, mathematicians, technicians and others across the broad scope of NAWCWD community.

Andrew Tree, branch head of Weapons Environments and Simulations, received a

special recognition when chosen by his volunteer peers as the "Best 2011 Volunteer." O'Neil commended those who encouraged the youngsters' interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics – core courses for careers in the technology industry.

Ridgecrest Women of Math

and Science, headed up by EYH president, Linda Homer, hosted the 2011 EYH conference at NAWC China Lake. Young ladies who attended the May event learned about the "Power of Possibilities." Ten years ago, NAWC China Lake was the first military station to host an EYH conference. EYH began in San

Francisco by a group of women scientists and educators who were concerned about low female participation in math courses. In 2012, the EYH conferences are poised to expand into the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, Calif., and White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

NAWCWD says 'YES' to local volunteers

NAWCWD Commander Rear Adm. Mat Winter, and NAWCWD Executive Director Scott O'Neil, recently recognized 60 volunteers at the McLean Laboratory who donated an enormous amount of time and energy to the successful 2011 Young Engineers and Scientists (YES!) of Ridgecrest conference.

After a brief video presentation and introductions by volunteer coordinator Erica Beeler, volunteers were individually called up and received a letter of appreciation and portrait with the NAWCWD leadership. Citing their accomplishments for time and effort "spent on the local community" and "improving the educational opportunities for young men in the Indian Wells Valley" Winter and O'Neil personally congratulated the volunteers who were present to receive their awards.

The (YES!) of Ridgecrest program is led by scientists, engineers, technical professionals and many others who helped generate enthusiasm and excitement about science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts in the youngsters.

Student surveys gave high marks to the 14 hands-on workshops that



Photo by Joy Lewis

Young Engineers and Scientists (YES!) of Ridgecrest conference volunteers received letters of appreciation from NAWCWD Executive Director Scott O'Neil. Rear Adm. Mat Winter and O'Neil presented the awards in recognition for their successful efforts. (Standing) Rear Adm. Mat Winter, Jared Rowe, Alicia Carson Jill McConaghy, Brittany Barth, Jason Zehendner, Mark Everitt, Jeremiah Jones, Zack Beeler, Lea Clark, Chris Scheuber, Erica Beeler, Mark McCoy, Shelley Rounds, Chris Sibrel, Theresa Goldstrand, John Boberg, Scott O'Neil, (kneeling) Thomas Fulenwider, Virginia Arroyo, Jessica Scott, Cathie Sipes, Tony Walls and Susan Riley.

included "Ice Cream from Thin Air," a bottle rocket "Blast Off," a catapult launch, cornstarch "slime" and a quick sand demonstration. Lt. Cmdr. Matt "Cube" Menza, an EA-18G "Growler" pilot from Air Test

and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 31, outfitted a young volunteer in his flight gear and helmet for a specialized "gadget gear" workshop.

This year, over 127 students (almost twice as many over last year)

participated in the second annual event, headed up by president Kristy Visconti. From the volunteers' point of view, seeing the children get excited about what they were learning was part of the reward.

Grandin, Front Page

especially significant.

The first took place while he was stationed on the USS Scamp in 1987 in the North Atlantic. "We surfaced during a hurricane, a big freighter went down and we rescued a Merchant Marine," said Grandin. "We subsequently took on a lot of water, there was quite a bit of flooding, submarines usually go underneath the bad weather, but we made it back to port."

Then in 2002, while serving his first stint as Chief of the boat, on board the USS Dolphin, the world's deepest diving submarine, the vessel experienced fire and flooding. "The whole crew abandoned ship, everybody was recovered and we didn't lose anybody... That was an exciting night," said Grandin.

Finally in October 2004, Grandin was assigned as Command Master Chief of Deep Submergence Unit (DSU), San Diego, Calif. It was during this time that he led a rescue team to Petropavlovsk, Russia, in order to aid in the recovery of the crippled Russian submersible

Grandin, Page 13

Son of Dr. William B. McLean tours namesake



Photo by Theresa Goldstrand

Don Blake, associate department head for Surface Launched Weapons (far left), hosted a tour of the Dr. William B. McLean Laboratory for Don McLean, son of the late Dr. William B. McLean and "LaVie" McLean, and his wife Pat. While admiring the \$60 million facility, McLean stated, "I was unable to attend the grand opening ceremony, but I'm very impressed with what they have done here." McLean and his wife spent time perusing the exhibit cases in the lounge area that house many of the artifacts that were donated by the McLean family.

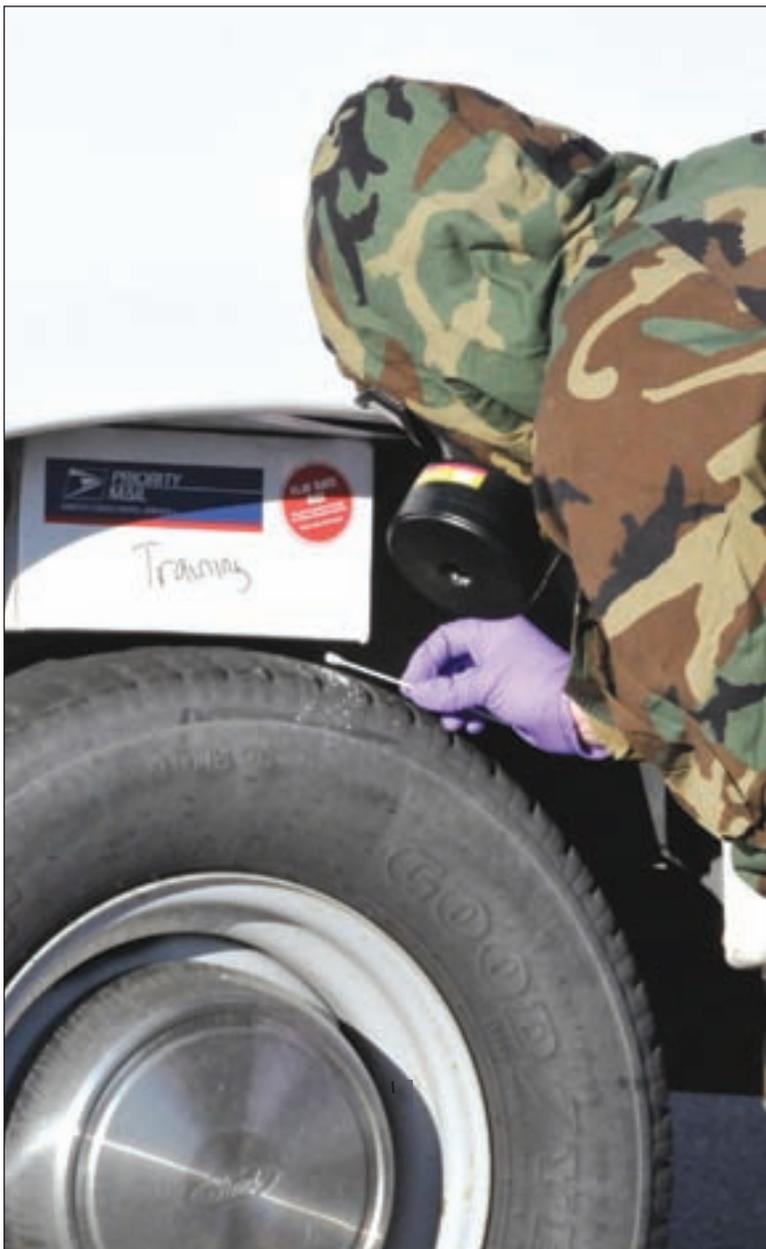


Photo by Jessica Armstrong

An explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) technician from EOD Mobile Unit THREE detachment China Lake tests a white powdery substance during a suspicious package training drill June 2. The drill, orchestrated by NAWS China Lake's training and emergency management offices, successfully tested the integrated response efforts of the installation's emergency services.

NAWCWD hosts international conference



Photo by Michael Johnson

Arun Majumdar, senior scientist of the Physics Division and director of the Optical Beam Control & Atmospheric Propagation Program (second from right) hosted the first annual Technical Cooperation Program (TTCP) held at China Lake. Participants are (left to right) Kenneth Grant, senior research scientist from the Defence, Science and Technology Organisation, Australia; Alan Hays, laser scientist, U.S. Army; Kenneth Schepler, principal scientist, U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory; Kenneth McEwan, Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, United Kingdom; G. Charmaine Gilbreath, head of Free Space Photonics Communications, Naval Research Laboratory; and Georges R. Fournier, research scientist, Defence Research and Development, Canada.

Arun Majumdar, senior scientist of the Physics division and director of the Optical Beam Control & Atmospheric Propagation program at Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) recently hosted a conference at China Lake for the Technical Cooperation Program (TTCP).

TTCP is an international cooperation agreement between five principle countries, United States, United Kingdom, Canada,

Australia, and New Zealand that encompasses basic research, exploratory development and demonstrations of advanced technology development.

This scope includes the exploration of alternatives and concepts prior to development of specific weapon systems; feasibility demonstrations of innovative new concepts, techniques or equipment and their test and evaluation; the pursuit of alternative solutions to potential

military problems; and generic systems.

As a part of an on-going effort to support the TTCP Sensors sub-group (TTCP SEN-TP-5), Majumdar coordinated the China Lake conference and then the group continued discussions at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, San Diego. Representatives from the other four countries along with the U.S. Navy and Air Force scientific community were in attendance.

VX-31, Front Page

Equipment Engineering at Lakehurst, N.J.

Mercier was the former chief test pilot (CTP) of VX-31 for over a year. He is being succeeded by (CTP) Cmdr. Andrew "Face" McFarland from Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md.

A native of Edgartown, Mass., Mercier was commissioned in August 1989 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering through the NROTC program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He was designated a Naval Flight Officer in July 1991 at NAS Pensacola, Fla.

Mercier trained as an EA-6B Prowler Electronic Countermeasures Officer (ECMO) at VAQ-129 in Whidbey Island, Wash., and then transferred to VMAQ-4 in Cherry Point, N.C., in January 1992. He completed two deployments to Japan and one to Italy, flying 28 combat missions during operation "Deny Flight."

He was assigned to VAQ-129 in Whidbey Island, Wash., as an FRS instructor from June 1996 to June 1999. He remained at Whidbey from June 1999 to May 2000 as the requirements technology

officer (N83) on the staff of the Commander Electronic Attack Wing Pacific, where he defined simulator and aircraft requirements and served as a member of the ICAP III Mission Software IPT and Fleet Project Team.

In 2000, Mercier reported to NAS Patuxent River for U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (TPS). In July 2001, he joined VX-23 as a project officer.

Under Mercier's leadership, the ICAP III test team won the Captain Steven A. Hazelrigg Award for test team excellence in June 2004, and he personally won the 2003 A. C. McMullen award for leadership in test and evaluation from the Association of Old Crows.

From February to June 2004 Mercier served as the operations officer for VX-23 where he managed aircraft, aircrew and facilities coordination for over 30 test projects, on 31 unique test aircraft, across three aircraft models. He earned a Master of Science degree in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee in May 2004.

Through June 2006, Mercier served as executive officer, Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron Three (VMAQ-3), where he deployed to Afghanistan, flying

48 combat missions. He then served as the mission systems IPT lead on the F-35 program.

His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with Combat V) and U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Kaber, Page 3

into Baghdad with the Army Corps of Engineers. "We did a lot of construction in and out of the Green Zone," said Kaber.

Kaber first went to Afghanistan in 2009 and then again in 2010 as part of the troops surge. He worked alongside Marines both times an experience he described as "enlightening."

But now at China Lake, serving as Deputy Public Works Officer for the first time Kaber is pleased with the new challenges in front of him. He says that his mission is to "keep the base looking good, keep the mission operating (and) to not impact the mission."

"I am looking forward to that golf course," Kaber joked, stating that he was excited to pay seven dollars for a round of golf and a cart.

Announcements/Human Resources

Paradise prime-rib

The success of Thursday's prime-rib lunch menu at the Paradise Community Center has led MWR to establish an additional day for the local favorite. Throughout the month of June, Monday's and Thursdays will feature prime-rib lunches from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Uniforms at NEX

Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Selectees can pay for their newly required uniforms using the MILITARY STAR® Card Uniform Payment Plan at any NEX Uniform Shop worldwide. The MILITARY STAR® Card Uniform Payment Plan provides zero percent interest for 12 months with no minimum purchase amount. However, minimum monthly payments are required.

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Tri-Care, Page 13

Leave Transfer Program

Leave Transfer Program - The employees listed have been approved as leave recipients under the Leave Transfer Program. These employees have exhausted annual and sick leave because of medical emergencies and anticipate being in a leave-without-pay status for at least 24 hours. Employees who wish to help a leave recipient may donate annual leave to the employee by submitting a completed OPM 630-A Request to Donate Annual Leave (Within Agency) form. Send your completed form to Code 731000D Stop 1316, Attn: Madonna Archibeque, or you can fax to 939-1423. For more information regarding the Leave Transfer Program, please call Madonna Archibeque at 939-8103 or DSN 437-8103. The 2011 leave year ends on 1 January 2012.

NAME	CODE	NAME	CODE
Anderson, Jeffery B.	N3AT2WN	Mauldin, James V	473100D
Ashley, Thia R.	475500D	McCullough, Leann F.	254200D
Baldwin, Barbara	410000D	Mendez, Deanna C	71321AD
Bales, Trisha M	71323AD	Millis, Maryanne	783000D
Bellino, Frank J	52330MD	Roberts, Billie Jo	478600D
Bendot, Kathleen R.	452100E	Rodriguez, Patricia	658300E
Bodine, Brittney	731000D	Rubio, Gerardo	413100D
Chunduri, Narendra	423000D	Sangchan, Ronnapop	473100D
Franco, Maria E	412000E	Smith, Brian K.	784200E
Fuller, Thomas	NAVFAC	Soules, Charity C.	730000D
Giles, Brandy	782000D	Swaney, Allyson A	K00000E
Gonzalez, Heather M.	254100D	Tanner, Sarah	451400D
Hartman, Linda Jill	685100D	Turbett, Jennifer J.	52J400D
Hiser, Mary Ann	474000D	Wallis, Joanne	414200E
Jackson, Sonja R	423000D	Waltz, Jennifer	52720MD
Jenkins, Melissa A	685100D	Wilson, Cindy L.	783200E
Jones, Donald T.	475100D	Wirtz, Anne Marie	4J2400D
MacArthur, Carol D.	783100D	Zuniga, Annette V.	71320AE

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Ridgecrest United Methodist Church is hosting Vacation Bible School for children age 3 to students entering 5th grade in the fall.

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6:15 p.m. Caravan 4 years - 6th grade
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Tri-Care, Page 12

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- TriWest Tobacco Quitline: 1-866-244-6870
- TRICARE Tobacco Free: www.tricare.mil/tobaccofree
- DoD-sponsored website: www.ucanquit2.org
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: www.smokefree.gov

Hunter education course

Hunters education course will be held Aug. 13-14 from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at James Monroe Middle School. To register for the course go to Kerr McGee Center Lobby July 30 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. or Aug. 2 between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

It is \$10 per person to register. The course focuses on the basics of hunters safety, upon successful

completion, students will receive a Hunter Education Certificate which is good for life. The certificate is valid in all 50 states and many countries. This is the last course that will be offered in 2011.

For more information contact Gary Speegle at (760) 375-8903 or Bob Gould (760) 446-7475.

405 to be closed for a weekend in July

Starting before midnight on Friday, July 15, until early Monday, July 18, the northbound 405 will be closed between U.S. 101 and Interstate 10 so that workers can demolish half of the Mulholland Drive bridge as part of the \$1-billion widening project. A four-mile stretch of the southbound 405 will also be closed.

"In The Fight" Now Available On Demand in Comcast California

Atlanta, GA – U.S. Third Army's Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS), the leading provider of U.S. military imagery and the connection between media around the world and service members, has partnered with the Comcast California to offer "In

The Fight" to Comcast digital subscribers.

"In The Fight" is a monthly half-hour program that offers an incomparable, rare insight into life on the frontlines, reported directly by U.S. Military service members. The show lets viewers engage in untold stories of military operations, humanitarian missions and daily life, all told from a first-person perspective.

Comcast digital subscribers in California can access "In The Fight" through Comcast's signature video on demand service by going to: Get Local/ Military Stories/ In The Fight.

Religious services

Bible Study each Wednesday from 1130-1230 at the VX-9 Airfield Training Room (on the west side of the Bat's Mess). Free sandwiches, cookies, chips, and drinks for all that attend.

Ladies Do Lunch- will be held on Tuesday, June 14 at 1200 in our East Wing. This is for Military spouses and their children. We will have a movie and coloring for the kids. It is a great way for the spouses to network and have a good meal.

Ladies of the Chapel-High Tea with the military wives of China Lake will be held on Thursday, 16 June at 1800 (East Wing). Come out and enjoy a joyous time of fellowship.

Corrections

The following mistakes were made in the Rocketeer II, Volume 5 Issue 11:

Firstly the cover story entitled "CMC Corkish to retire after 30 years," was written by Desiree Jones from NAWCWD, not by Michael Roach, the editor of Rocketeer II.

Additionally on page 10 of the Rocketeer II, Volume 5 Issue 11, in the photo entitled "Remembering the Fallen," the Marine officer pictured was not Col. Mark Johnson. It was in fact Lt. Col James R. Coppersmith, executive officer Marine Aviation Detachment China Lake.

The Rocketeer II apologizes for any confusion or inconvenience these mistakes may have caused and will work to prevent similar mistakes in the future.

Grandin, Page 10

Priz. Fortunately the seven crew members on board were rescued, "a good-news story," said Grandin.

At China Lake Grandin will serve as the Command Master Chief for both Naval Air Weapons Station and Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division.

It is an assignment that he is excited about. "Out here I am kind of like a kid in a candy store, everything is new to me," said Grandin. "Everybody's got a smile on their face, it seems like everyone's got a great attitude, and the weather is great."

At previous stations Grandin has launched projects to increase the quality of life and he wants China Lake to be no different. His mission, he says, is to "leave it better than it was and make a positive impact."

But, first things first, "everyone to this point has been really helpful, and I am looking forward to meeting everyone," said Grandin.

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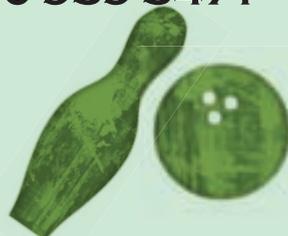
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**Shopping trip
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**Military sign up June 17-July 1
DoD sign up June 24-July 1
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The **ONLY** personnel eligible to place free ads in the Rocketeer II are:

- Active Duty Military and DoD personnel stationed at NAWA China Lake and their dependents, and retired military.

The **ONLY** Classified ads that are available as free ads to above listed personnel are:

- Pets - Free To Good Home
- Roommate Wanted
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- Cars & Trucks (Except RV's)
- Furniture & Appliances
- Misc. For Sale
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Motorcycles
- Misc. Wanted

All other categories are paid.

If you are eligible use the form below:

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One word, phone number, price per space.

20 Words Maximum. Limit 2 Free Ads Per Family, Per Week

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| • Lots | • Townhomes | • Services |
| • Hotels & Motels | • Industrial Properties | • Employment Opportunities |
| • Commercial Rentals | • Mobiles For Sale | • Child care |
| • Loans | • Mobiles For Rent | • Condos For Rent |
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- Lost & Found
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- Furniture & Appliances
- Misc. For Sale
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Motorcycles
- Misc. Wanted
- Roommate Wanted
- Rooms For Rent

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| <input type="checkbox"/> HOUSES FOR RENT | <input type="checkbox"/> MISC. FOR RENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APTS FOR RENT | <input type="checkbox"/> ACREAGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LOTS | <input type="checkbox"/> INCOME PROPERTY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HOTELS & MOTELS | <input type="checkbox"/> FARMS & RANCHES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL RENTALS | <input type="checkbox"/> MISC. FOR SALE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LOANS | <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INVESTMENTS | <input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES | <input type="checkbox"/> PETS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION VEHICLES | <input type="checkbox"/> CARS & TRUCKS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MOTORCYCLES | <input type="checkbox"/> FURNITURE & APPLIANCES |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> LOST & FOUND | <input type="checkbox"/> GARAGE & YARD SALES |
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