

# Tropical Times

May 10, 2012



*Lt. Erika Kullberg (right) and Ensign Makia N. Fox review Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Taylor L. Smith's officer package during the Enlisted Commissioning Fair in Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, May 4.*



**Submitted By**  
**Lt. Cmdr. Robert Spencer**  
**Command Chaplain, NSF Diego Garcia**

Several months ago I wrote how Chaplain Kaehr had the good fortune to see his son when his submarine pulled into port. Since that time they have had several reunions with repeated port calls. Chaplain Kaehr also participated in one of their Changes of Command ceremonies. Recently he also had the opportunity to be a "rider" or a guest on this sub for a short underway period while number one son was still a member of the crew. What a cool thing to do. I believe it is unusual for a chaplain to ride on a sub because chaplains are not assigned to them. They are rather assigned to a submarine squadron instead of a particular boat. I would think that it would even be more unusual for a father/son combination to ride simultaneously.

# C hapter Corner

## Like Father, Like Son (Part 2)

Chaplain Kaehr is very proud of his Navy son as any dad would be. He is a proven success and if he decides to depart the Navy, he takes with him a very marketable skill that will pay him quite handsomely. Good old mom and dad have done a good job as parents.

I know the feeling in a similar way being the son of a proud father. A few years ago when I was assigned to a ship, I was visiting my dad during my pre-deployment leave. Our ship would soon sail for the Gulf. When it was time for us to say our good-byes, my dad told me that he envied me. I was taken aback by his comment. For my dad to say this after he had survived the great depression, a world war, raising a family of five kids and

being married to my mom for 58 years was very humbling. Why was he envious? Very simply, he wanted to deploy himself again as he did years ago during WWII. Then he was young and active and a full participant in the war effort. He had most of his life ahead of him. Being in the Navy as a young adult when the world was at war was one of his defining moments as a man as it was I'm sure for probably most of the Greatest Generation. Who would not want to be young again when you are now staring down old age and failing health? I'm sure that years from now all of us will probably have similar yearnings. Until then, make wise use of the time that you have especially if you are a parent or if a loved one is getting old. It is important

to develop and to maintain those relationships that we all long for and will look back upon.

***“Children obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord.”***

***(Colossians 3:20)***



# Enlisted Commissioning Fair



# Diego Garcia NEWS

## Diego Garcia Hosts Enlisted Commissioning Fair

By NAVSUPPFAC Diego Garcia Public Affairs Office

DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (May 4, 2012) – The wardroom of U.S. Navy Support Facility (NAVSUPPFAC) Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, hosted an Enlisted Commissioning Fair at Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Liberty Center May 4.

"The purpose of the fair was primarily to provide Sailors information on the multiple paths to earning a commission," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ronald Ramsey. "We also wanted to inspire Sailors, into becoming Naval Officers. The Navy is always looking for promising Sailors to lead our next generation and ensure the Navy's continued success."

Officers representing several commissioning programs and NAVSUPPFAC's Career Counselors were

on hand during the event to provide feedback to possible applicants. Many officers present were prior enlisted Sailors, thus candidates were provided with personal experiences.

"I advise applicants to improve themselves-enhance their character, education, experience, ability and leadership," Ramsey said. "Continuous improvement will always increase the strength of their application and chances of earning a commission, as well as create opportunities in life."

Attending the fair was helpful and informative for Sailors desiring to continue their Navy careers as officers.

"The increased authority, trust and responsibility are a few reasons why I want to become an officer," said Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Salimu Waziri. "I appreciate



DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (May 4, 2012) - Sailors stationed at U.S. Navy Support Facility, Diego Garcia, receive information regarding officer programs at the Enlisted Commissioning Fair May 4. Officers from Diego Garcia volunteered to help enlisted Sailors with any questions they had involving officer programs. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Emmanuel Rios)

the officers coming out to educate Sailors on the different programs available. Their experience and knowledge is beneficial for anyone interested in applying."

"I am always looking to do better and I want to be as successful as I can be," said Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Mary Veazey. "There was a lot of valuable information given out-listening to their experiences and what they did to achieve their goals is what I will take back with me."

While most Sailors attended the fair seeking advice for their packages, for Logistics Specialist 1st Class (AW/SW) Wankeisha Ross, it was an opportunity to in-

crease her knowledge on programs that junior personnel might be interested in.

"Being a mentor to my Sailors is important-helping them mold into Navy leaders is key to retention and the future of the Navy," said Ross. "The fair will be beneficial to me if and when my Sailors are interested. I will be able to provide them with necessary answers they may need to submit a package."

# NEWS *from around the fleet*

## 2012 EOD Memorial Ceremony Honors Fallen Warriors

By Ensign Elizabeth Allen and Ed Barker,  
Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

EGLIN AFB, Fla. - Multiple service chiefs were on hand to help commemorate fallen Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) warriors in a solemn ceremony at the Kauffman EOD Training Complex on Eglin Air Force Base, May 5, where the names of 18 fallen EOD warriors were added to the memorial's wall.

Gen. Norton Schwartz, Air Force Chief of Staff, was the guest speaker for the event, and Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations, presented a flag flown over the EOD Memorial to each of the families of Navy EOD technicians whose names went up on the wall at the ceremony.

"This 43rd annual EOD Memorial Ceremony was an opportunity for the joint service EOD community to appropriately honor our fallen EOD technicians and recognize the sacrifices of their families," said Lt. Cmdr. Rudy Schoen, executive officer of Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal (NAVSCOLEOD). "This year we added to the EOD

Memorial wall the names of five Army, five Marine, three Navy, and five Air Force EOD technicians who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our nation."

The event is sponsored by the EOD Memorial Foundation, a nonprofit organization established in 1969 and dedicated to honoring the legacy of fallen EOD warriors by providing for the maintenance and upkeep of the memorial at Eglin. Hosted by NAVSCOLEOD, all preparations were coordinated and executed by staff volunteers from all four services at the school as well as members of the foundation.

"Thank you for your selfless sacrifice," Schwartz said. "You provided such deeply personal meaning to the service of your loved ones. We will forget neither their courage and self-sacrifice, nor the price that continues to be paid-that will always be paid-by those whom they left behind. Your loved ones' commitment to making the world a safer place inspires us all, and their sacrifice strengthens our lasting commitment to that enduring ideal."



EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (May 5, 2012) Lt. Cmdr. Rudy Schoen, right, and Command Master Chief Stacey McClain face the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Memorial wall and prepare to unveil the addition of three shipmates' names during the EOD 43rd Annual Memorial Service at the Kauffman EOD Training Complex. The names of eighteen Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines were added to the EOD Memorial at Eglin Air Force Base, bringing the total to 287 names of service members who have sacrificed all in the name of honor to country and service. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Peter D. Lawlor)

The additions this year bring the total names on the wall to 287 EOD technicians who have died in the line of duty since 1942, 110 of them since September 11, 2001.

"Their legacy is simple, it is sacrifice --they gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. It is also a lesson that freedom isn't free," said Greenert. "We will never forget the service and sacrifice of these warriors and their families. They are all in our thoughts and prayers."

The school's Commanding Officer, Capt. Joseph Polanin, noted that reading the names placed on the wall at the annual memorial is a sobering reminder that EOD technicians risk their lives every day at the tip of the spear. All of the fallen warriors added to the wall in this

year's ceremony received their training at the EOD School at Eglin.

"Today we honor the eternal memory and ultimate sacrifices of 18 fallen EOD technicians while recalling the bravery of all our courageous heroes. Their selfless acts of valor saved countless lives," said Polanin. "Their indomitable spirit will live on in the hearts of those who follow them."

For more information about the Navy School of Explosive Ordnance Disposal, visit:  
<https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/ceneoddiv/eods/CommandInfo.aspx?ID=3>.

# NEWS *from around the fleet*

## Junior SWO Bonuses Combined and Senior Bonus Eliminated in FY12 Plan

*From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON -- NAVADMIN 156/12 released May 7 announces the fiscal year (FY) 2012 Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) and SWO Continuation Pay (SWOCP) programs with major program changes. "All bonuses are continually reviewed to ensure the Navy provides the right incentives to ensure the retention of critical skills to meet Navy mission needs," said Rear Adm. Tony Kurta, director, military personnel plans and policy. "These revisions ensure we have the right mix of incentives to retain the right number of officers with critical skills for mission success."

The FY 12 program eliminates the Senior CSRB for previously designated O5 and O6 billets and combines of the Surface Warfare Officer (SWO)

Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) and Surface Warfare Officer Continuation Pay (SWOCP) programs into the Revised Junior CSRB Program. The lieutenant commander SWO CSRB remains unchanged. A review of the unrestricted line community management resulted in decision to eliminate the CSRB for commander and captain. Any existing eligible contracts received before Oct. 1, 2011 will continue until the anniversary payments are completed.

The new Revised Junior CSRB consolidates SWOCP and Junior CSRB into a single CSRB program providing the same \$75,000 bonus for the same service commitment through two department head tours. CSRB acceptance must occur before six years of commissioned service in order to receive full \$75,000 amount and prior to eight years of commissioned ser-



MANZANILLO, Mexico (April 23, 2012) Lt. j.g. James Masterson, weapons officer aboard the littoral combat ship USS Independence (LCS 2), stands watch as conning officer on the bridge as the ship pulls into Manzanillo, Mexico, for its first foreign port visit since its commissioning in 2010. Manzanillo is home to the Mexican navy Pacific Naval Force and 6th Naval Region. Independence's Gold Crew and embarked Mine Countermeasures Detachment 1 are underway for the ship's transit to their homeport of San Diego. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Trevor Welsh)

vice in order to receive any of the bonuses at all. Annual payments are sequentially lost if accepted after six years of commissioned service. Officer whose six years of commissioned service or eight years of commissioned service anniversary dates fall between Dec. 16, 2011 and the release of this NAVADMIN, May 7 can still take the Revised Junior CSRB if they apply within 90 days of the NAVADMIN's release. This provision ensures that no officer is disadvantaged

as the result of the processing time associated with construction and release of the message. The complete information on the bonus program is in NAVADMIN 156/12 at [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil). For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit [www.navy.mil/local/cnp/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cnp/).

# What's happening in Diego Garcia

## ATTENTION POSTAL CUSTOMERS:

EFFECTIVE 16 MAY, 2012, ALL LITHIUM BATTERIES WILL BE RESTRICTED IN ALL INBOUND/OUTBOUND FPO/APO/DPO AND INTERNATIONAL MAIL. THIS INCLUDES IDS/MPS MAIL.

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR THE POST OFFICE AT 370-4114.

## Outstanding Kabayan 2012 Awards

CHOOSE AND NOMINATE YOUR ROLE MODEL IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

1. SKILLS AND LABOR
2. MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION
3. SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
4. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
5. PROFESSIONALISM

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES BEFORE MAY 31. FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO OBTAIN A NOMINATION FORM, PLEASE CONTACT: FRANCIS DE LUNA 370-4540.

## Bingo Bonanza

WHERE: FILMAU CLUB  
WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 12, 8 P.M.  
\$7,000 BLACKOUT JACKPOT GAME  
\$1,000 BLACKOUT MINI JACKPOT  
TICKET PRICE IS \$30, \$35 IF PURCHASED ON BINGO NIGHT.  
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO VARIOUS COMMUNITY PROJECTS.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT THE FILMAU CLUB AT 370-2876.

## Blood Donations

THE BLOOD BANK IS CURRENTLY IN NEED OF ALL BLOOD TYPES. ALL HANDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO GET SCREENED FOR ELIGIBILITY. TO DONATE PLEASE CONTACT THE BRANCH HEALTH CLINIC AT 370-4211.

## Ombudsman Search

DIEGO GARCIA WILL NEED A NEW OMBUDSMAN AS OF JUNE 2012. IF YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER OR SPOUSE IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING THE NEW OMBUDSMAN PLEASE CONTACT THE CMC.

## MWR Flea Market

WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 12, 10-2 P.M.  
WHERE: MULTI-PURPOSE COURT  
OPEN TO ALL HANDS, GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL SELLERS WELCOME.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT 370-2982/2792.

## MWR Duathlon

WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 12, 7:30 A.M.  
WHERE: MARINA  
WHAT: 12M BIKE, 5K RUN.

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Moonlight Wanderer  
Fitness Center  
7 p.m.

Duathlon  
Marina  
7:30 a.m.

200m Pedal Boat Race  
Marina  
5 p.m.

100m Sidestroke  
Swim Competition  
Base Pool  
6 p.m.

Skiing in DG Race  
Field 1  
5:30 p.m.  
**Military Only**

Farthest Drive Challenge  
Golf Course  
5:30 p.m.

DG Tennis  
Tournament  
(singles)  
Court A  
5 p.m.

**The Girl With The  
Dragon Tattoo**  
Mystery  
R  
8 p.m.

**We Bought A Zoo**  
Comedy  
PG  
8 p.m.

**The Darkest Hour**  
Action  
PG 13  
10 p.m.

**Sherlock Holmes: A  
Game Of Shadows**  
Action  
PG 13  
10 p.m.

**Mission Impossible: The Adventures Of  
Ghost Protocol**  
Action  
R  
8 p.m.

**The Adventures Of  
Tintin**  
Action  
PG  
8 p.m.

**The Devil Inside**  
Horror  
R  
8 p.m.

**Chronicle**  
Drama  
PG 13  
7 p.m.  
Island Room

**Joyful Noise**  
Comedy  
PG 13  
8 p.m.

### Tropical Times

United States Navy Support Facility  
Diego Garcia British Indian Ocean  
Territory

**Commanding Officer**

Capt. David L. Tidwell

**Executive Officer**

Cmdr. Stephen E. Petras

**Command Master Chief**

CMDCM(SW/AW) Robert L. Johnson

**Public Affairs Officer**

MC1(SW/AW) Ryan B. Tabios

**Tropical Times Editor**

MC3 April D. Adams

**Command Journalists**

MC2 (AW/EXW) Emmanuel Rios  
MCSN Eric A. Pastor

This funded newspaper is an  
authorized publication for  
members of the U.S. military  
services.

Contents of the Tropical Times  
are not necessarily the official  
views of, or are endorsed by, the  
U.S. Government, Department of  
Defense, or Department of the  
Navy.

All editorial content is prepared  
by U.S. Navy Support Facility,  
Public Affairs, Diego Garcia.

**Submissions to the Tropical Times are  
due to the editor no later than close of  
business Tuesday**

### SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Anyone can be a victim of sexual assault.

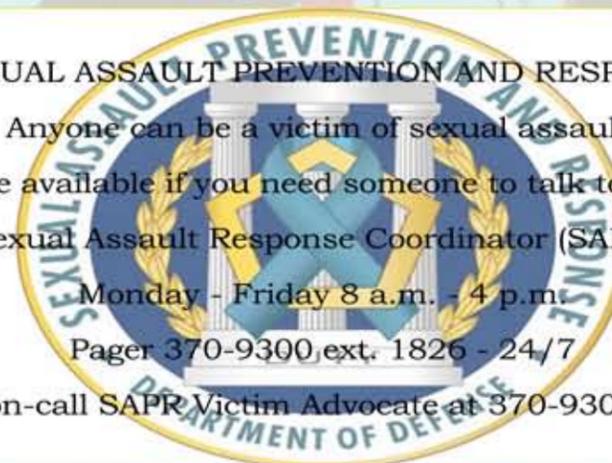
Resources are available if you need someone to talk to confidentially.

Contact the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) at 370-4421

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Pager 370-9300, ext. 1826 - 24/7

Page the on-call SAPR Victim Advocate at 370-9300 ext. 1825.



MWR

MOVIES