Education: Launch your future

JULY 1996
Aviation Machinist’s Mate 3rd Class Thomas Respondek, a search and rescue air crewman at Operations Maintenance Division, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, recently captured the Texas State Golden Gloves light/heavyweight championship. Respondek, a Lubbock, Texas, native, will now enter national level competitions hoping to gain a spot on the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team.

Senior Chief Avionics Electronics Technician (AW) Craig J. Schneider, of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 113, received the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. The Anaheim, Calif., native is a CPR instructor for the American Red Cross, and has trained more than 1,500 civilian and 750 military personnel. He is also a volunteer tutor for the local Special Olympics program.

Radioman 1st Class Amanda Alston was selected for Military Sealift Command’s 1996 Shore Sailor of the Year. She currently troubleshoots and maintains the MSC local area network and personal computers. A native of Memphis, Tenn., Alston is very active in the community while enrolled at the University of Maryland, Guam, pursuing a bachelor’s degree in computer science.

Signalman 1st Class (SW) Aurelio Sanchez was named USS Fletcher (DD 992) 1995 Sailor of the Year, and Destroyer Squadron 31’s 1995 Senior Sea Warrior of the Year. Sanchez, from Stockton, Calif., is the signal bridge leading petty officer. He is working on his bachelor’s degree and has spent more than 160 hours establishing Fletcher’s “Total Quality Leadership Indoctrination Course.”

Aerographer’s Mate 1st Class David H. Watson was named 1996 Sailor of the Year for the Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Detachment, Oceana, Va. Watson, a native of Bel Air, Md., was cited for his weather forecasting proficiency and his efforts as the detachment’s training petty officer. He also volunteers his time in the Virginia Beach, Va., school system.
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    Find out what Navy education can do for you – around town and around the world.

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On the Cover

Front Cover and Page 19: Photos by PH2 Ephraim Rodriguez, Naval Media Center; Art by Sharon Coles, Pentagon Graphics.
Back Cover: Photos by JO2 Rodney Furry, San Diego.
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Goal Cards

The Navy is helping first-term Sailors set goals and achieve them.

The Navy Goal Card Program, announced May 1, features a personalized Navy Goal Card and Navy Pocket Goal Card which are specific to each new Sailor's job choice.

The cards are important career planning tools designed to give recruits direction from the moment they make their commitment with their recruiters at a Military Entrance Processing Station. From there, the cards will be updated as Sailors go through training and will continue after they reach their first command.

The Goal Cards include information on advanced training and education for the individual's rating; Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits and goals; voluntary education, including tuition assistance and Service Members Opportunity College Navy Degree Program; officer programs; advancement; career milestones; the Apprenticeship Program; and job descriptions.

The Navy Pocket Goal Card is a smaller, trifold form on durable paper aimed at newly recruited Sailors. It will include Delayed Entry Program goals, Navy core values, recruit training goals, the Sailor's creed, fleet goals and personal priorities (including education). There is also a space for Sailors to write in their own goals.

"This is a solid program to help us mentor and counsel our newest Sailors," said VADM Frank L. Bowman, Chief of Naval Personnel. "I'd like everyone in the chain of command to review the Goal Card and use it as a one-on-one leadership tool to help our Sailors."

For more information see NAVADMIN 106/96.

PN1 Omar Zeciri, a Navy classifier at the Military Entrance Processing Station in Baltimore, explains different job ratings to a prospective recruit who will be issued a Navy Goal Card before shipping out to boot camp.

Claims

The most common insurance claims filed are for household goods that are lost or damaged when shipped or stored at government expense or located in government quarters.

Previously, the maximum payment was $40,000. The new limit is $100,000 if the claim arose from an emergency evacuation or from extraordinary circumstances. The new amount is retroactive to the establishment of the statute in 1964.

To receive additional compensation for past losses, claimants must prove they have filed a claim with the Navy, and were paid the maximum amount authorized by the statute at that time.

If it can be substantiated that the value of the claim was greater than the maximum amount payable at the time the original claim was filed — $40,000 before Feb. 10, 1996; $25,000 before 1988; $15,000 before 1982; and $10,000 before 1974 — a claimant may now be entitled to the full amount, up to $100,000.

Personnel who may be entitled to payment under the amendment, should submit their claim by Feb. 10, 1998 to: Office of the Judge Advocate General, Code 353, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, Va. 22332.
Summer has traditionally been a busy Space-Available (Space-A) travel season, and officials believe this year could be even busier because of new travel categories authorized during the past year. Also, full plane load charter bookings are expected to increase, affecting space-available travel opportunities.

DOD's new policy change also affects family members traveling in CONUS. Family members may now accompany their sponsor in an emergency leave situation and one family member may travel with his or her sponsor during permissive temporary duty for house hunting, with permanent change of station orders.

According to Air Force Maj. Gregory V. White of Air Mobility Command's International Passenger Operations, “Space-A opportunities happen only when there is space on an aircraft left over after all official passengers and cargo requirements are met. DOD does not allow flights to be scheduled solely for Space-A travel purposes.”

Serviceman's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) coverage automatically increased to $200,000, up from $100,000, for all service members May 1, 1996. Because the automatic coverage doubled, the monthly premium also doubled to $18, unless a Sailor elects to reduce coverage. If you accept the new coverage benefit, the change takes effect automatically. If a lesser amount of coverage is desired, you must complete a new SGLI election form.

More information on the automatic increase in SGLI coverage, specific procedures for changing coverage amounts and options for designating beneficiaries is contained in NAVADMIN 93/96. Bureau of Naval Personnel points of contact are Mr. Peter Darby (PERS 662) at DSN 223-0804 or (703) 693-0804 and Disbursing Clerk 1st Class Denise Woods (PERS 331D4) at DSN 227-6808 or (703) 697-6808.

The Shore Special Programs Assignment Branch of the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) has been sending teams of 'A' school assignment specialists to the fleet to screen applicants and offer Sailors available 'A' school slots.

Sailors benefit by walking into a meeting with the 'A' school detailers and walking out with orders. Commands benefit by reducing the general detail backlog, and the BUPERS team benefits by fulfilling critical 'A' school training requirements to support the fleet.

The 'A' school detailer team traveled to the Mediterranean in May, then to Norfolk, Jacksonville, Fla., and Mayport, Fla., in June.

Sailors interested in getting an 'A' school quota should work with their command career counselor when submitting their requests.

The BUPERS point of contact to request an 'A' school detailer visit is LT Robertson (PERS 4010S) - DSN 223-1326, (703) 693-1326 or e-mail: p4010s@bupers.navy.mil.
What exactly do you do with those old computers lying around offices after they've been replaced? Do you redistribute them? Let them gather dust?

Commander Naval Surface Force Pacific (COMNAVSURFPAC) recently found a new home for $76,000 worth of computers after the command received an equipment upgrade. Under an executive order signed by former President George Bush directing all federal agencies to support math and science education in public schools, the command decided to donate their old computers to the students of the San Diego Community School District.

CAPT Tom Flaherty, assistant chief of staff, information resources for COMNAVSURFPAC, watched as Sailors loaded 40 computers onto a truck for delivery to the school district. "If the computers had not been donated to the schools, they would have been distributed to one of the DOD Automated Information Systems Centers," he said. The Automated Information Systems Centers redistribute computer equipment within DOD.

The computers were picked up by members of the district's Regional Occupational Program (ROP) who will make sure students in the Computer ROP inspect the equipment. They will reformat hard drives and make repairs or upgrades to prepare them for new software installation. The computers will then be distributed to traditional classrooms for use by students.

According to Bill Berggren, one of the program's resource teachers, the school district is extremely pleased to receive the donation. "The donation allows many classrooms to have a computer even though they don't have a budget that affords one," he said. "They will be very practical for many uses, including the school's tutorial programs and word processing."

The donation marks a new step in the command's participation in the Commander Naval Base's Partnership in Education Program which includes programs involving Sailors in the education and lives of local youths.

Furry is a San Diego-based staff writer for All Hands.
Navy volunteers bring new life to old house

Story and photos by JO1 Sherri E. Bashore

Community relations projects are common occurrences when Sailors visit a port in a foreign land. But more and more, the Navy is reaching out and providing assistance to their neighbors right here in the United States. Members of the Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi, Texas, Chief Petty Officer's Association (CPOA), Seabees of NAS Corpus Christi Public Works and other volunteers joined forces recently to help a Corpus Christi resident keep a roof over his head.

The Navy groups learned that city code and enforcement officials planned to demolish Bill Walton's home. Walton, a Vietnam veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder, would be homeless.

The Nueces County Community Action Committee provided more than $3,000 in materials and the necessary tools while the people of NAS Corpus Christi provided labor.

Chief Master-at-Arms (SW/AW) Tom Sidel, NAS Corpus Christi command master chief and project coordinator, got the CPOA involved, but they couldn't do it alone. "I realized the scope of the work was slightly beyond our technical expertise," said Sidel, a native of Rockville, Md. So he contacted the Seabees.

"They jumped on the bandwagon," said Sidel.

Initially, plans included replacing the roof, scraping and painting the house and installing new windows. "We [finally] ended up siding the entire front of the house," Sidel said.

The home's interior was also in bad shape. Extensive sheet-rock work was done, a hot water heater was replaced, plumbing was installed in the kitchen and bathroom, the kitchen floor was replaced and new window frames were constructed by the volunteers.

Yeoman 3rd Class William Wright, a native of Charleston, S.C., assigned to Commander Mobile Assembly Group, was one of many who volunteered. "It makes you feel good to get out here and help someone like this," he said. "My grandfather's a retired vet and any time he needed help, I was there. [This] gave me a feeling of being home again."

Bashore is assigned to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, public affairs office.
USS Constellation leaves its heart in San Francisco

Story by JO3 Russell Fleming, photos by PH1 (AW/SW) Michael Strand

Many San Franciscans will remember USS Constellation’s (CV 64) five-day visit for a long time — and it’s not because of the stares “Connie” attracted while steaming through the bay.

For hospital and charity workers, World War II veterans and others, there are the memories of Connie’s clowns, craftsmen and other volunteers unselfishly giving their time.

Connie’s clown patrol kicked off the projects at the Shriner’s Children’s Hospital. The clowns performed magic tricks, made balloon animals and passed out children’s coloring books featuring artwork by Constellation Sailors.

The following day the clown patrol took their antics on the road and visited St. Luke’s Hospital. Assistant command Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor (DAPA) Aviation Boatswain’s Mate (Aircraft Handling) 2nd Class Richard H. Starkey, alias “Sparkey” the Clown, was one of the volunteers taking part in the festivities.

“It gave me a chance to help the kids,” said Starkey. “I get a spiritual reward for brightening their day.”

Starkey said elderly patients enjoyed the clown visit too. “They asked me to return and visit them after removing my costume and makeup just to talk. Often they are forgotten and just want someone to share their company.”

The clowns weren’t Constellation’s only busy volunteers during the port visit. The National Liberty Ship Memorial SS Jeremiah O’Brien needed painters, electricians and general cleaners. Docked at Pier 32 at the Embarcadero, this World War II ship carried troops and cargo to the war-torn countries of Europe.

Aviation Electronic Technician 1st Class Richard F. Johnson, was one of 12 crew members who volunteered time to the national landmark. “It was a blast,” Johnson said. Most of the volunteers who work there on a regular basis are World War II veterans. “There was a lot of experience on that boat. About 14 of them were old-time merchant seamen. I learned a lot of really neat things and heard some great sea stories.”

Fleming is assigned to USS Constellation (CV 64) public affairs office.
Sigonella reaches out to children with HIV

Story and photo by JO3 Sarah Felts

People at Naval Air Station Sigonella recently collected 15 triwall containers of furniture, food, clothing, toys and medical supplies to donate to Casa Speranta, a hospice for abandoned children with AIDS in Costanta, Romania.

The project, spearheaded by Chaplain Jim Fisher, consisted of a three-week collection period and a day-long delivery mission to Romania.

"People at Sigonella probably don’t know how much they have touched the lives of these kids," Fisher said. "I’d like to think we touched their spirits as they definitely touched the spirits of those of us who went over there."

"Food, medical supplies and all the things you struggled to bring to us are only a part of it, it’s more than that,” said Marolen Mullinax, head of Casa Speranta. "It's knowing you are thinking of us ... That's the best part of all.”

Dewert Sailors aid an Italian convent

Story by CWO2 K. Wezniak

A group of civic-minded Sailors from the guided-missile frigate USS Dewert (FFG 45) spent part of a recent port visit in Naples, Italy, helping a local convent clean a home that houses the mentally handicapped and provides meals to the homeless.

The Sailors cleaned rooms and the courtyard. They also discovered an inoperable water heater that services the entire building.

"These people had no hot water for cleaning, cooking or [heating],” said Operations Specialist 1st Class (SW) James Boatner. "We made that our [first] priority."

The Sailors returned to Dewert and got the help of Chief Electrician’s Mates (SW) Dale Pitzz and Douglas Waker. The two chiefs restored hot water to the building. “It wasn’t too difficult to fix,” said Waker. “The nuns had not asked a repairman to come because they thought it would cost too much to fix,” Pitzz added. "I’m glad we could help.”

Wezniak is the public affairs officer onboard USS Dewert (FFG 45).
Helping people overseas is what USS Guam is all about

Story by JO1 Douglas M. Scherer and JO3 E. Michael Wagner

Sailors and Marines stationed aboard the Norfolk-based amphibious assault ship USS Guam (LPH 9) recently did their part to promote community relations overseas.

During the ship’s three-day visit in Valletta, Malta, volunteers converged on homes for the elderly and the handicapped to assist with a variety of cleaning and maintenance projects.

At Id-dar tal-Providenza, a group of residential homes for the handicapped, Guam Sailors painted a nursery, a kitchen and several pieces of furniture. Actually, Guam volunteers “worked together” with Sailors aboard USS America (CV 66) without knowing it.

According to Bernard Zammid, assistant Clerk of Works at the homes, Sailors from the aircraft carrier volunteered at the home during a port visit last December. Guam’s volunteers finished painting the kitchen America’s Sailors started last year.

“We aren’t very high in number as a maintenance staff so we appreciate volunteer work here very much,” Zammid explained.

Joe Sultana, a World War II veteran and maintenance general at Dar Sagra Familja (Holy Family), Naxxar, a church home for elderly residents, was also thankful for the efforts of Guam’s volunteers. “Every bit of volunteer service we can get, we appreciate,” Sultana said. “The work here is really nonstop.”

Chief Warrant Officer Daniel A. Woods, Guam’s air boatswain said, “I was impressed by the Sailors who went out there. They worked together in assembly-line fashion without any prior planning.”

According to one Sailor, participating in community relations projects overseas helps people from other lands perceive the U.S. Navy in a more positive light.

“It helps other people look upon us as more than just an armed force,” said Airman Lorne O’Malley of Elmira, N.Y. “They see us as an armed service.”

Scherer and Wagner are both assigned to USS Guam (LPH 9) public affairs office.
Elrod exemplifies goodwill deployment

Story by LT Dan Salmore

The Norfolk-based guided-missile frigate USS Elrod (FFG 55) returned home from a highly successful Arabian Gulf deployment in which the crew became goodwill ambassadors in numerous projects.

Though its primary mission was to perform maritime interception operations in support of United Nations sanctions against Iraq, Elrod's crew aided vessels in distress on four different occasions.

One of these gave crew members a chance to use portable damage control equipment to prevent an Indian-flagged dhow (small Arabian wooden boat) from sinking. Elrod's crew also proved to be an excellent diplomatic asset hosting three highly successful receptions aboard ship.

The first was in Kuwait City, followed by one in Doha, Qatar, with the final one in Aqaba, Jordan. All of these receptions were attended by several ambassadors and senior personnel from the diplomatic community.

Elrod crew members also hosted 50 students from The American School in Poha, Qatar. The tour gave the students an educational opportunity to learn how the U.S. Navy works and what a guided-missile frigate consists of.

"The kids had a great time and livened our stay as we were on the last leg of our cruise," said Chief Engineman Don Blasingame of Decatur, Ga. "They really brightened our day and we enjoyed it a whole lot. We took lots of pictures with the kids to keep for our scrapbooks and had a great time," he concluded.

Salmore is the public affairs officer onboard USS Elrod (FFG 55).
When the Virginia Special Olympics organizers were looking for volunteers to help with their basketball championships, Sailors from USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) answered the call.

Ike's Sailors assisted in the running the individual basketball skills competition at Hampton's Bethel High School, Hampton, Va.

Ike's participation in the Special Olympics tournament was coordinated by Chief Storekeeper (SW) Margo Bower, Senior Chief Master-at-Arms (SW) John Cornish and Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (SS/DV) Anthony Ringold.

Bower said that Dave Ballard, the organization's director of event management, sought the assistance of Ike's Sailors because of their help with the regional competition.
AMCS(AW/SW) Beth Blevins, encourages Mark Ayers during the spot shot at the basketball individual skills competition.

Keith Miller of Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD), Transportation Division, gets three of the Special Olympians pumped up for the 10-meter dribble.

earlier this year.

"He called because they liked the work we did for the regional Special Olympics tournament," Bower said.

The athletes were divided into four divisions based upon gender and age (ages 15 and below, 16 and up). The winner of each division goes to the national competition in September.

Each athlete competed in three events: the spot shot, the target pass and the 10-meter dribble. In the spot shot, athletes took six shots from each side of the free-throw line. The target pass required athletes to bounce a basketball into a square on the wall 10 times.

Ike Sailors helped with these two events by retrieving the basketballs and keeping score. The 10-meter dribble challenged each athlete to dribble a basketball across the court as quickly as possible.

Ike sailors timed the athletes and gathered loose balls. They also registered the athletes, escorted them to events and provided medical support.

SK3 Carolyn Toney directed the athletes in the 10-meter dribble. She volunteered to help because she enjoys working with the Special Olympics athletes.

"I like helping them out with each event," she said. "It's so much fun to see the excitement on their faces when they win."

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Beth Beecher provided medical assistance because she had previously worked in special education.

"I worked for special education when I was a teacher's aide in Long Island, N.Y.," she said. "I taught them and always volunteered for Special Olympics [because] it's a good program."

Cornish, who coordinated the individual skills competition, said it's valuable for Ike Sailors to assist with events like Special Olympics.

"Volunteering for Special Olympics gives Ike Sailors the chance to see how hard these athletes try and the effort they put into this," he said. "They see what other people take for granted and it gets them involved with the community."

Glass is assigned to USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) public affairs office.
Sailors clean up neighborhood lot

More than 35 Naval Station Ingleside, Texas, Sailors traveled to Taft, Texas, a city 30 miles northwest from the base, to help clear a vacant lot, earlier this year.

Minnie Salazar, organizer of Community Voices, a citizens’ group in Taft, called Naval Station Ingleside to see if “the Navy” would help with what the community saw as their main problem.

Personnelman 2nd Class Lance Partain, who lives in Taft, participated in the clean up. “I wanted to do something for the people of my community,” he said. “As more Navy people are moving to South Texas, they are also moving to Taft,” said the Fort Worth, Texas, native. “We may not come in contact with our neighbors every day, but we do care about the community. I wanted to show we do care.”

When volunteers arrived, they were led to the vacant lot with an abandoned, burned-out house. The grounds were covered with high grass and brush. Litter and debris were strewn everywhere.

According to Salazar the lot was not only an eyesore, but used as a hideaway by kids. Volunteers were enthusiastic about cleaning and clearing the lot.

Sailors put on gloves and safety glasses and immediately went to work. People pitched in wherever they saw a need. They even formed a line handing debris from one another to a pile at the corner of the lot.

“The volunteer effort in Taft was a great way to increase the Navy’s community involvement,” said PN2 Keith Knisley, a Watonga, Okla., native assigned to the personal support detachment. “I live in Taft and took great pleasure in being able to give something back to the community.”

Kieschnick is assigned to Naval Station Ingleside, public affairs office.
The making of a masterpiece

Recruit division commanders turn civilians into Sailors

Story and photos by JO1[AW] Michael R. Hart

They're like sculptors, yet they don't use a hammer and chisel to create their masterpieces. Their tools of trade are various military drills and personnel inspections, physical training, classroom instruction and good old-fashioned discipline. Recruit division commanders (RDC) use these tools to sculpt each recruit, chipping away the rough edges, shaping them into Sailors.

Each year, more than 50,000 prospective Sailors from around the country pour into Recruit Training Command, (RTC) Great Lakes, Ill., the Navy's only boot camp and one of its largest training centers. RTC is the first stop on an adventure that will take many of
After 8.5 weeks of training, Sailors are ready for an adventure that will take them to ships, submarines, aircraft and naval bases worldwide.

Previous page: FTC(SS) David C. Lynch, an RDC from Lewistown, Mont., shows one of his recruits how to salute.

these recruits to ships, submarines, planes and naval bases scattered throughout the world.

This is where the Navy begins instilling its core values — honor, courage and commitment — into its leaders of tomorrow. Here is where it all begins...

“Keep your hands out of your pockets and look straight ahead when you’re standing at attention,” RDC Air Traffic Controller 1st Class [AW] Renae E. Morin told a new recruit, who had just stepped off the bus at the RTC in-processing building. Morin wasn’t yelling, but her voice had an authoritative, forceful tone. The recruit made an effort at what he thought was the position of attention.

Morin couldn’t resist commenting on the new recruit’s bright orange hair. “Are you a Chicago Bulls fan, a Dennis Rodman fan?” she asked, referring to the colored hair of the Bulls’ power forward.

“Yeah, I like the Bulls,” he replied nonchalantly. “Don’t lean against the wall when you’re at attention,” she snapped back. “That hair’s gonna be on the barber shop floor in the morning.”

Recruits and RDCs become quite familiar with the early hours of the day. During the first few weeks of “pushing” a division, RDCs start sculpting their future masterpieces around 4:30 a.m. and don’t end until 10 p.m. An RDC’s day is filled with teaching, counseling, marching, reprimanding and passing on fleet experience to the recruits.

"Molding and shaping new recruits is a tremendous responsibility," said Morin, a Plymouth, Mich., native. Morin is working in the RTC in-processing office until she picks up her next division of recruits. At the in-processing office, she’s in charge of each recruit’s Processing Days (P-days) schedule. Morin is one of the first Sailors the new recruits see at bootcamp.

“First impressions are lasting impressions,” said Morin, a squared away Sailor, from her shined shoes up to a perfectly creased shirt. “I can’t come in here and have no military bearing when that’s what I’m trying to instill in them,” she said. “I let them know right off the bat that this isn’t a summer camp or a pajama party. This is serious business.”

Over in another division, it’s anything but business as usual. A recruit in his fifth week of training has received 11 hits during a folding and stowing inspection. His RDC, Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class [SW] Javier R. Joglar, is not happy. A look of frustration, disappointment and determination is on Joglar’s face.

“Attention to detail. Attention to detail,” he said to the flustered recruit, their faces just inches apart. “That’s what you’re learning here. Not paying attention to detail could get someone hurt in the fleet. Is that what you want?” Joglar asked. “No petty officer!” the recruit said.

“It’s my job to make sure these recruits get trained properly,” said Joglar, a San Juan, Puerto Rico, native. “I just take one day at a time and slowly mold them
▲ Marching is the only mode of travel for recruits at boot camp. These recruits are headed back to their division.

▼ FN Shundon C. Roy, of Port Arthur, Texas, enjoys liberty with his mother and fiancée after boot camp graduation.
A 101(AW/NAC) Leon P. Forrest double checks his troops before their final military drill/ personnel inspection before graduation. "I try to give them the core values the Navy wants instilled in its Sailors," said Forrest.

into Sailors. They are the future of our Navy."

Part of that future is Seaman Recruit Alejandro Guadiana, a San Antonio native in his third week of training. "So far, the training I've received has been great. The Navy has taught me so many things — like respect, commitment and honesty," said Guadiana. "It's also made my mom proud of me."

Guadiana's RDCs have set high standards for him and his new shipmates. He said the RDCs have been strong disciplinarians, but Guadiana, who's heading for Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Launching and Recovery Equipment) 'A' School, understands it's for the best.
"They're hard on us because they want us to work as a team," he said. "The Navy is teaching me how to commit myself to the team. It's given me so much energy to carry on with my life and be somebody."

Teamwork and attention to detail are drilled into the recruits from their first day of boot camp to graduation. RDC Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class [AW/NAC] Leon P. Forrest is preparing his division for their last military drill before graduating. His division graduates in three days, but the Charleston, S.C., native continues to impress on them the importance of attention to detail and teamwork. He doesn't let them know, but he's impressed with their military bearing. They look sharp.

"In the beginning they're individuals and they bicker," said Forrest. "After a while they become a team." Forrest chose this assignment because he enjoys being a teacher and a disciplinarian and sending prepared Sailors to the fleet. He leans on the Navy's core values as the basis of his training.

"I try to give them values that the military wants instilled in its Sailors — commitment, honor, courage ... I will not lie, cheat or steal," said Forrest. "If I carry myself professionally, the recruits are going to do the same."

It's Friday morning and nine divisions, including Forrest's, are ready to pass and review. The energy and excitement are overwhelming as the graduating recruits enter the drill hall. Proud parents, brothers, sisters, girlfriends and boyfriends are snapping photographs during the ceremony and giving hugs and high-fives after the graduation has ended.

Fireman Shundon C. Roy, of Port Arthur, Texas, one of the graduates, is ready to enjoy liberty with his family and friends. "The overall atmosphere [of boot camp], along with our RDCs, made [our division] want to excel," said Roy, who is heading for Electrician's Mate 'A' School. The joy and pride on Roy's face was unmistakable. Walking across the drill hall floor where he just experienced "one of the biggest accomplishments of my life," he turned back and said, "We came in as 85 and left as one."

Then he headed out the door. ☣

“A recruit's first buzz cut — boot camp style.”

"The Navy has taught me so many things — like respect, commitment and honesty.”

- SR Alejandro Guadiana

Hart is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.
It's a restaurant capable of serving 12,000 "customers" a day. This restaurant — the galley at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., — serves one of the largest numbers of meals per day in DOD.

The portions of food prepared there are monstrous. They have to be, especially with a clientele of thousands of hungry recruits who've been marching, drilling and PTing all day.

"My first day on the job, one of the MSs went to bring out some fish to fry for lunch. I thought it would be a few cases," said Mess Specialist 1st Class Kevin Kamensky, a galley watch captain, still laughing at the thought. "He came back with pallets and pallets full of cases. I was speechless."

The amount of food the mess specialists, civilian workers and recruits prepare each day is phenomenal. The menu includes 1,500 to 2,000 portions of bacon; 1,500 portions of grits and/or oatmeal; and 1,250 pounds of hashbrowns.

Sometimes the only stress relief recruits get from the daily routine of mental and physical challenges is a good, hot meal. "We try to keep the food tasty and appealing to the eye," said Kamensky. "We try to keep the recruits happy."

Hart is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.

Feeding Frenzy

Galley Size — 90,000 sq. ft. or two aircraft carriers

Seating capacity — 2,500; can feed up to 12,000 per meal at 18 min. intervals

Servings: 52,300 gals. of milk/quarter.
96,350 lbs. of bread/quarter.
52,000 lbs. of chicken/quarter.
27,000 meals/day during summer months
Education is your future

Special All Hands
Education Supplement
There was a time when a mere high school diploma could get you a pretty decent job, before or after your Navy career. Today, as a high school graduate you'd be lucky to get a job flipping burgers, slinging hash or working in a car wash.

As our Navy changes with the economy, so do the expectations for its service members. If you're expecting to succeed and prosper in your Navy career or academic arena, you may need more education.

The Navy offers a continuing education program called Navy Campus, which provides many avenues to help active-duty Sailors receive a degree or certificate of some kind from a college, university, vocational or technical school. The program is available to eligible Sailors ashore or aboard ship. It also offers financial assistance to defray tuition costs at accredited colleges.

The Navy is always seeking highly qualified Sailors. So don't wait. Navy Campus can help you reach your education goals.

**Navy Campus offers Sailors the key to success**
Navy Campus

Each major shore installation has a Navy Campus Education Center staffed by civilians who provide information and guidance to people interested in furthering their education. Sailors can earn their high school diplomas, work on technical/occupational certificates or improve basic academic skills to pursue college degrees — all under Navy Campus.

The Navy invites colleges and universities to teach classes on base at times most convenient for Sailors. Completed courses count for credit toward a college degree. Courses may also be taken at a local campus. Navy Campus combines on-duty and off-duty study. Sailors can enroll in the educational programs offered by Navy Campus. This adds credits toward degrees as they progress through their Navy careers. An associate’s or bachelor’s degree can earn promotion points that can affect a person’s rate of advancement.

Navy Campus is also available to Sailors stationed overseas. Sailors at sea can attend classes aboard ship under the Navy’s Program for Afloat College Education (PACE).

Financial Aid

There are three basic programs Sailors can use to obtain financial help: the Navy’s in-service college support program, Tuition Assistance (TA); the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) or Vietnam-era G.I. Bill (VGIB); and the Navy College Fund. Sailors who apply for the fund must first enroll in the MGIB.

Tuition Assistance

Tuition Assistance is a financially based program aimed at helping active-duty Sailors E-4 through E-6 and O-3 through O-4 pay for a portion of their college tuition leading to an associate’s or bachelor’s degree. High school diplomas or equivalency certification courses are paid by the Navy.

As of Oct. 1, 1996, the Navy pays 75 percent of the total cost of tuition not exceeding $2,500 per person per year for undergraduate and $3,500 per person per year for graduate studies. This increase gives Sailors and Marines greater selection over colleges and programs.

The program works slightly different for officers. Officers incur a two-year obligation in service (OBLISERV) or prorated payback. As of Dec. 9, 1992, officers who separate involuntarily, who are accepted for a temporary early retirement authority (TERA) or who are involuntarily released from active duty, are exempt from the OBLISERV and repayment.

The Montgomery GI Bill Program (MGIB)

Sailors who entered active duty for the first time after July 1, 1995, except Naval Academy and NROTC scholarship graduates, can enroll in the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB). First-time enlistees who enroll in the MGIB program pay $100 per month for their first year of active duty, totaling $1,200. After that point, Sailors earn up to $14,000 for college expenses.

Depending on their enlistment contracts, Sailors may use this money while on active duty after two or three years of active-duty service or up to 10 years after receiving an honorable discharge.

To cash in on this benefit, Sailors who don’t have high school diplomas must first earn equivalencies or 12 semester hours of college credit before completing their obligated periods of service.

Navy College Fund

The Navy College Fund requires enrollment in the MGIB, but increases the total educational benefits to $30,000 ($14,400 through the MGIB and $15,000 through the Navy College Fund).

Active-duty Sailors can use this fund on a part-time basis after two years of continuous service.

Initially, the fund was devised for high school graduates who were academically qualified for college, but needed financial help covering the high cost of a college education. It is also available to Sailors in selected rates where critical personnel shortages exist.

DANTES

You may be eligible to receive college credit before taking a class through nontraditional college credits. Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support (DANTES) is a DOD activity that supports the voluntary education programs of all active and reserve military services. DANTES provides tests for service members that can lead to earned credits. The majority of the following tests are given free at Navy Campus Education Centers and aboard large ships:

- the General Educational Development Examination (GED);
- the College Level Examination Program (CLEP);
- the DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST);
- the American College Testing - Proficiency Examination Program (ACT-PEP); and
- the Assessment of Experience, earned through the Experiential Learning Assessment (ELA) process.
Available college admissions examinations include the following:

- The ACT assessment;
- The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT);
- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE);
- The Graduate Management Admission test (GMAT);
- The Law School Admission Test (LSAT);
- The National Teacher Examination (NTE);
- Certification examination;* and
- The California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE).*

(*fee required for exam)

DANTES publishes the Independent Study Catalog, that lists hundreds of independent study courses from accredited colleges and universities and the DANTES Guide to National Home Study Council Schools, which lists approved home study programs for private educational institutions. If you complete courses from either of these publications, the Navy can reimburse you a portion of the fee.

Course Avenues

Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, Navy (SOC-NAV) is a consortium of more than 1,100 colleges from which service members can earn an associate's or bachelor's degree in a field directly related to their rate. Service members can transfer credits among this network of colleges to continue pursuing their college degree when transferring to another duty station.

Under SOCNAV, a Sailor's educational background, Navy technical courses and job experiences are evaluated to determine the credits needed to complete either a two- or four-year degree.

SOCNAV-2 is a two-year college program. It offers associate's degrees in 19 areas of study. SOCNAV-4 is a four-year college program. It works the same as SOCNAV-2 except 25 areas of study are available at the bachelor's degree level.

Program for Afloat College Education (PACE) provides college and college preparatory courses on some ships at sea. Ships receive college and academic skills courses using computer-based technology and, if berthing space permits, may also carry instructors to provide courses in a more traditional setting.

Most participants pay only the costs of registrations and book fee. PACE courses are also provided electronically to some submarines.

Training and Professional Advancement

National Apprenticeship Program

The Department of Labor and the Navy have an agreement that allows Sailors to earn a certificate that equates Navy skills to civilian career fields.

Sailors who have worked an apprenticeship in specific skill areas may be eligible for journeyman status in nationally recognized civilian trades after leaving the service.

You can get an updated list of apprentice positions by contacting the Navy Campus Education Center.

Selective Training and Reenlistment (STAR)

STAR allows Navy men and women in their first enlistment the chance for guaranteed basic and advanced technical school training, career designation and possible automatic advancement from E-4 to E-5.

Enlistees who are satisfied with their ratings, but are interested in obtaining advanced technical school
training, financial assistance and other rewards that go with a Navy career, should consider reenlistment under the STAR program.

Selective Conversion and Reenlistment (SCORE) program
SCORE allows Sailors to convert from their current ratings to new high-priority ratings where openings exist.

Changes in job ratings require training at the new ratings’ basic schools. This is followed by advanced training and automatic promotion for eligible Sailors.

Many Sailors with 21 months to 15 years of active-duty service can qualify for the SCORE program.

The RESCORE program offers similar opportunities for conversion and retention in a selected specialty to former members of the Navy who return to the service.

Technical Education and Training

Foreign Language Education
Foreign language instruction is conducted at the Defense Language Institute, Monterey, Calif., and prepares service members for assignments requiring foreign language proficiency.

For those on board ship or overseas, free self-study foreign language survival tape kits or courses are available.

Olmsted Scholarship Program
A total of three commissioned Navy or Marine Corps officers with exceptional scholastic ability and a strong aptitude for a foreign language are selected each year from a highly competitive field for an Olmsted Scholarship. Selectees pursue two years of graduate study at a foreign university while receiving full pay and allowances. This program requires students to become fluent in the language of the country in which they are studying.

Commissioning Programs for Prospective Officers

Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST)
This program prepares selected personnel from educationally deprived, financially disadvantaged or culturally differentiated backgrounds for entry into the Naval Academy, Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Scholarship Program or NROTC Scholarship Program Nurse Corps Option.

Individuals selected for this program must be interested in pursuing a Navy career and have the potential to complete college-level work. Participants who have not graduated from high school may earn a diploma while in BOOST.

The participants joining from the fleet attend BOOST School in Newport, R.I., for 10 months of preparatory training in math, science, English, computer science, campus skills, and military training.

The deadline for application submission for BOOST is Oct. 1, annually. For more information on this program, see OPNAV Notice 1500 or call the BOOST Program Coordinator at DSN 922-4944, toll free 1-800-628-7682, or commercial (904) 452-4944.

Navy-Marine Corps NROTC College Scholarship program
Sailors interested in becoming Navy or Marine Corps officers can receive Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) benefits by joining the four- or two-year NROTC scholarship programs. Participants attend a civilian college of their choice with a NROTC program on campus or a college with an agreement with a NROTC institution.

Participants must be 21 or younger to qualify for the
Each year hundreds of Sailors find themselves with orders to Japan. One of the most asked questions that detailers have to answer as they assign Sailors to the Land of the Rising Sun is, "Can I still complete my education if I take these orders overseas?"

The answer is yes. From PACE programs offered aboard forward-deployed ships to shore-based classes offered through U.S. colleges, Sailors can complete their degrees or certificates just as easily as if they had never left home. This month *All Hands* takes a look at overseas, off-duty education opportunities in Japan.
NAF Misawa, Japan (Sailor Pop. 13,000)

Base Programs: No Navy Campus Education Center. Tuition assistance is received through Yokosuka, Japan.

Sailor Advance Opportunities

- SOCNAV 1: 5 FY03 Participants

- SOCNAV 2: 7 FY03 Participants

An Academic Skills Learning Center is projected for August 1996.

**JAPAN**

- Sapporo
- Sendai
- Tokyo
- Osaka
- Kitakyushu
- Okinawa

**USS Blue Ridge**
**USS Guadalupe**
**USS John Ericson**
**USS Thach**
**USS Bunker Hill**
**USS McClusky**
**USS Rodney M. Davis**

**offering the PACE II program**

**Yokosuka, Japan (Sailor Pop. 9,400)**

PACE: Installed on 11 forward-deployed ships (USS O’Kieff was scheduled for installation).

**Base Programs:** Certificate, Associate Degree, Bachelor and Master Degree programs available through Central Texas College, the University of Arkansas, the University of Texas at Dallas, and the University of Oklahoma.

Sailor Advance Opportunities

- SOCNAV 1: 5 FY03 Participants

- SOCNAV 2: 7 FY03 Participants

- SOCNAV 4: 26 FY03 Participants

An Academic Skills Learning Center is projected for November 1996.
program or not older than 25 with prior Navy experience. Waivers of up to 48 months are available to those with prior active military service. Scholarships leading to Nurse Corps commissions are also available as an option.

The Navy pays full tuition, fees and provides textbooks. NROTC scholarship students also receive a tax free, $150-a-month allowance during the school year. The Navy pays for summer training and official travel. NROTC scholarship programs are extremely competitive and those not selected may apply for the NROTC Navy-Marine Corps College program.

For more information on this program, see OPNAV-NOTE 1533.

**Navy Nurse Corps NROTC**

The Navy Nurse Corps four-year NROTC scholarship program is available to students interested in pursuing bachelor's degrees in nursing. Scholarships are awarded annually, based on a competitive selection process that considers the enlisted Sailor's high school class standing, college entrance exam scores, extracurricular activities, leadership qualities and academic accomplishments.

The Navy pays all tuition and textbook costs, lab fees and a $150 monthly allowance. Upon graduation, Nurse NROTC scholarship program midshipmen are commissioned as ensigns in the Navy Nurse Corps.

For more information call 1-800-USA-NAVY.

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**The Navy's Postgraduate School**

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPGS) is located in Monterey, Calif., and is noted for its outstanding faculty.

After three years of commissioned service, qualified Navy officers are selected to attend and study one of the 40 technical and managerial curricula that are relevant to the Navy. Officers may also earn advanced degrees at civilian institutions in programs not offered at NPGS.

While attending NPGS, officers continue to receive full salaries, benefits and allowances. On average, a naval officer will earn a master's degree at NPGS in 21 months.

NPGS also offers a continuing education program where officers can take no-cost correspondence courses for academic credits while at any duty station, aboard ship or on shore.

**U.S. Naval Academy**

The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., is the academic training ground for future naval officers. The Academy prepares young people — morally, mentally and physically.

All Naval Academy applicants must have a nomination from an official source to be considered for appointment (e.g. congressman or president). There are many other nomination sources; applicants should apply to all of them.
Each year the Secretary of the Navy appoints 170 regular Navy and Marine Corps enlisted personnel. The Academy offers a fully subsidized education, plus a Navy salary, resulting in a bachelor's degree and commission as an officer in the Navy or Marine Corps. Candidates not initially selected for the Naval Academy will be considered for admission to the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) and subsequent acceptance by the Naval Academy.

Naval Academy applicants must be the following:
- A U.S. citizen
- At least 17 years old and not yet 22 years old on July 1 of the year of admission.
- Unmarried, not pregnant and have no legal obligation to support a child or other individual
- Of good moral character.
- Scholastically, medically and physically fit.

Active-duty personnel must have an active-duty pay entry base date (PEBD) one year prior to July 1 of the year of admission.

Reservists on active duty or assigned to a drill unit must have a PEBD one year prior to July 1 of the admission year.

**U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School**

The U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS), Newport, R.I., accepts qualified applicants from regular and reserve units of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and civilian personnel who were not selected for direct appointment to the Naval Academy.

NAPS provides an intensive instruction and preparation for the academic, military and physical training curricula at the USNA.

NAPS convenes each August with the course continuing through May of the following year for candidates seeking July admission to the Academy.

OPNAVINST 1531.4 (series) covers admission to the USNA and NAPS.

**Navy Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship program (HPSP)**

The Navy's Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) is the major source of Navy physicians. It supports more than 1,200 medical students enrolled in universities and colleges throughout the United States. AFHPSP recipients receive tuition payments, reimbursement for required equipment, books and a monthly stipend of more than $850 that increases annually. AFHPSP students are required to serve a 45-day Active Duty for Training (ACDUTRA) period as an ensign for every year of scholarship participation.

The Navy offers two-, three- and four-year scholarships. The active-duty obligation to the Navy for scholarship support is year-for-year, with a minimum payback of three years. Students must be accepted into a fully accredited college or university to be eligible for the program.

During the 1995/96 school year, the AFHPSP included students planning to attend schools of optometry and dentistry. For more information regarding the AFHPSP, contact the nearest Navy Medical Programs recruiter.

**Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate (NUPOC)**

If you have an interest in the high-tech nuclear field, and are a high school junior or senior this program may be for you. Students selected for this program receive more than $1,500 a month while completing their college degree requirements.

After receiving their college degrees and graduating from Officer Candidate School (OCS) in Pensacola, Fla., Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidates attend the Nuclear Power School, Orlando, Fla., for approximately six months and receive an additional six-months of hands-on training at a nuclear reactor facility.

**Navy Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) Collegiate Program**

Qualified college junior and seniors enrolled in accredited engineering or architectural programs receive monthly Navy salaries for up to 24 months en route to becoming commissioned officers in the Civil Engineer Corps.

**Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program (BDCP)**

This is an incentive program for students in four-year colleges to continue their education and graduate with a baccalaureate degree while being paid a monthly Navy salary.

Students who complete baccalaureate studies under this program enter Officer Candidate School. Upon completion, they are commissioned ensigns in the naval reserve.

**Professional Advancement Programs for Enlisted**

**Enlisted Education Advancement Program (EEAP)**

This program allows selected active-duty enlisted
Sailors to attend college and earn as many college credits as possible toward an associate's or bachelor's degree in 24 months of full-time college. At a minimum, selectees are required to complete requirements for associate's degrees. They remain on active duty, drawing full pay and allowances while paying their own educational expenses.

If eligible, they may use their in-service MGIB or Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) benefits.

Eligibility and application requirements are available from Navy command career counselors or education services officers.

**Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP)**

If you have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of transferable college credits for a technical major or a minimum of 45 semester hours of transferable college credits for a non-technical major, you may be eligible for this program.

The Enlisted Commissioning Program allows students with a grade of 'C' or above to complete requirements for a bachelor's degree and earn a Navy commission while drawing full active-duty pay and allowances. This can be done in a technical area in 36 months or less, or 30 months (or less) in a non-technical degree area through full-time study at an ROTC college or university. Candidates are commissioned at their NROTC units upon graduation.

Applicants must have between four and 11 years of active service; be at least 22 and able to complete degree requirements and be commissioned before their 31st birthday.

**Seaman to Admiral Program**

The Seaman to Admiral Program allows active-duty enlisted Sailors in the regular Navy and Navy Reserve (including Training and Administration of Reserve (TAR) Sailors) to become officers. The Seaman to Admiral board selects the 50 most-qualified applicants for appointment as unrestricted line (UL) officers.

After graduating from Officer Candidate School (OCS), selectees are appointed permanent ensigns in the naval reserve and assigned to one of the following UL communities: surface, submarine, special operations, special warfare or aviation (pilot or naval fight officer).

Officers are screened for selection to a bachelor's degree program at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., after successfully completing their initial sea duty and warfare qualifications.

For a complete list of eligibility requirements and the application format, see NAVADMIN 077/96, or call your nearest Navy Campus.

For more information on Navy Campus and other Navy educational programs, contact your local Navy Campus Office, your Education Services Officer or your command career counselor.

**The Department of Veterans Affairs**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) manages the following basic educational assistance programs for service members and veterans: the Vietnam-era GI Bill (VGIB); the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP); and the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB).

For personal assistance with VGIB, VEAP or MGIB contact the following:

- Bureau of Naval Personnel (Pers 602B) Washington, D.C. 20370-5000, Phone toll free 1-800-962-1425; DSN 224-5934/5; (703) 614-5934; or Fax (703) 693-6593.
- For personal assistance with Reserve Montgomery GI Bill contact: Commander Naval Reserve Force (CODE 009E) 4400 Dauphine St. New Orleans, La. 70146-5000, phone: DSN 363-2960/1.
Want to go to college? Help is available.

Here is a mini list of scholarships and financial aid services contained in the booklet "Need a Lift" for family members of Sailors and other service members. For a complete list of financial sources, send for "Need a Lift," The American Legion, National Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206. Contact your nearest Navy Campus for further information on "Need a Lift."

All services are eligible for the following:

- All Ahead Education Loan Program
- Federal Family Education Loan Program
- Armed Forces Communication & Electronic Association Educational Foundation
- Gen. John A. Wickham Scholarships
- Gen. Emmett Paige Scholarship
- AFCEA ROTC Scholarship Program
- AMVETS National Scholarship
- The Anne M. Gannett award for Veterans (National Federation of Music Clubs)
- Budweiser-USO Scholarship Program
- Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary
- Grand Army of the Republic Living Memorial Scholarship
- Knights of Columbus Educational Fund
- Manhattan College Tuition Scholarships for Children of U.S. Service Personnel
- Mobile Corporation-Desert Shield

Navy Campus Sites Overseas

Activity

Telephone number

U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
Naval Support Facility Diego Garcia
NCTAMS WESTPAC Guam
Naval Activities Guam
U.S. Naval Forces Keflavik, Iceland
Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy
Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy
Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Italy
Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan
Naval Air Facility Kadena, Japan
U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo, Japan
U.S. Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan
Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
Naval Station Rota, Spain

(804) 444-4063; DSN: 723-3960 ext. 4769
DSN: 370-4321
DSN: 355-5554
DSN: 339-8291/92
011-354-425-7795/6226; DSN: 450-7795
011-39-95-56-4492; DSN: 39-95-86-2519
DSN: 624-4492 [on base]; DSN: 56-4492 [off base]
9-011-39-81-724-4243; DSN: 624-4243
011-39-95-56-4492; DSN: 624-4492 [on base]
DSN: 56-4492 [off base]
011-81-3117-64-3280; DSN: 264-3280
011-81-6117-34-8298; DSN: 634-8299/8298
011-81-3117-52-3514; DSN: 252-3511
DSN: 234-7574/5058
(787) 865-4052; DSN: 831-4052
9-011-34-56-82-2798/2711/2916;
DSN: 727-2798/2711/2916

* Most calls require going through a Navy operator. Also note time differences.
Back to basics
Sailors improve their futures at learning center

Story and photos by JO1 Ron Schafer

Whether they're making themselves more competitive for advancement or polishing their skills as they prepare for college courses, Sailors at Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Va., are going back to basics to continue their education.

The Academic Skills Learning Center at Little Creek is a computer-based, self-paced education facility designed to help students improve their reading, language arts and math skills.

The center, which replaces the basic functional skills class, uses the PLATO system of educational computer software to help students through a 10-week curriculum.

Students attend the center two hours a day, five days a week to complete the course. “Most of the students enrolled in the program are preparing to retake the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery),” explained Trent Webb, the center’s manager. “But, anyone enrolled will be prepared to take any type of test, whether it’s the ASVAB, the SAT or college placement exams.”

The center is used by personnel in paygrades E-3 to O-3 at no cost which, Miller said, many people find surprising. “Many students, I think, come to the center with the attitude that this is a “dummy school.” That’s wrong. This program serves people who want to brush up on their academic skills before they pursue graduate or post-graduate studies. The fact that such a diverse population takes something meaningful away from here is significant.”

Beth Thomas was a student who took something significant from the center. As a quartermaster 3rd class, she wanted to convert to the legalman rating but found she needed to improve her ASVAB scores before submitting a lateral conversion package. After completing the course, the Shippensburg, Pa., native raised her ASVAB scores by 21 points and is now a legalman 3rd class at the Navy Legal Service Office in Norfolk.

“At ‘A’ school for court reporting, you have to know where to put your commas and be able to decipher sentences,” said Thomas. “I know a lot of people had to take extra classes for their language skills, but I had no problems. I’ve recommended the course to several people and they all loved it.”

The facility at Little Creek and another in Jacksonville, Fla., are the only two in operation. Used originally as pilot sites, their success has had a lasting impact. Officials have recommended opening approximately 60 additional sites throughout the fleet, with some targeted to open as early as Oct. 1, 1996. 

Schafer is a Norfolk-based staff writer for All Hands.
Located about 30 minutes north of Chicago and a stone’s throw from Lake Michigan, is Naval Training Center (NTC), Great Lakes, Ill. This is where 17,000 to 19,000 Sailors at any given time throughout the year — in boot camp, ‘A’ school or ‘C’ school — are indoctrinated into the Navy or receive their technical training before heading to the fleet.
(Previous page) A military evaluator checks a recruit's "dog tags" to make sure she's wearing them correctly. Paying attention to detail is drilled into recruits from the time they enter boot camp.

SR Elizabeth McClam of Sumter, S.C., puts the finishing touches on her rack during an inspection.
These future Sailors, still in their Processing Days (P-days) of training, can only imagine what the next eight weeks will bring.

NTC is now home to the Navy's one and only Recruit Training Command, and the mission of its Service School Command is also expanding. Throughout the transformation, which began in 1994, the quality of training and the quality of recruits has remained high. "We're here to turn each Sailor into the best person that we can," said Electronics Technician 1st Class Justin DeLoach, an ET "A" school instructor from San Antonio. "It doesn't matter if they're going to be a technician, a QM (quartermaster), MM (machinist's mate) or whatever. We're here to quench their thirst for knowledge."

RTC Great Lakes, Ill., will graduate nearly 55,000 recruits this year. This division is headed to the confidence course.

Core values training is part of the boot camp curriculum. Recruits are encouraged to ask questions to understand what's expected of them when they get to the fleet.
SR Mabel A. Zafra, a Chino, Calif., native, climbs down a rope on the confidence course. Being a Sailor gives her “a feeling of responsibility to serve for the United States,” she said.

“I like the instructors here a lot,” said Seaman Frank Vanhoof, an ET ‘A’ school student from Daytona Beach, Fla. “They set a good example for us, and they’ve got a lot of sea stories to tell,” he said. “Because of them I’m a more reliable person. I’ve got more commitment.”

Reliability and accountability start at boot camp, according to instructors and recruit division command- ers (RDCs) alike. Although the number of recruits at RTC has increased, the commitment of the RDCs remains relentless — and the recruits are reaping the benefits.

“My RDCs are very professional,” said Seaman Recruit Mabel A. Zafra, a Chino, Calif., native. “I’m thankful for their service and the responsibility they’ve taken in making us Sailors and better citizens. Because of [my] boot camp [experiences], I know I’ll be a productive, responsible person.”

Responsibility, discipline, attention to detail and the Navy’s core values are common threads taught throughout NTC Great Lakes. The workload may be heavier but the rewards are even greater. “Sending the best Sailors possible to the fleet, that’s what we do,” said Deloach. “This is one of the greatest commands I’ve ever been [assigned to].”

Hart is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.
Nobody comes to boot camp without getting at least one haircut.

GS 'A' school students (seated from left), GSEFA Alejandro Garcia, of Woodward, Okla.; GSEFN Joseph Webb of Beckley, W.Va.; GSEFA Dustin McElhaney of Coshocton, Ohio; and GSEFN Robert Molter of Coloma, Mich., work on an electric plant control console. Instructor GSM1(SW) Scott Montgomery of Chesterton, Ind., supervises.

SK2 Gary Bly of Danville, Ill., issues uniform shoes to new recruits.

Facts and Figures

- NTC total area — 1,628 acres
- RTC will graduate approximately 55,000 recruits this year
- Service School Command average student population — 7,000
- 'A' schools — IC, EM, GS, MM, BT, EN, HT, DS, ET, FC, GM, TM, QM, SM
- 'A' schools under construction — RM, MR, DC
- Average number of recruits in training — 8,000 to 12,000
- NTC military staff — 4,500
All in a day's work

Recruit division commanders 'teach, teach, teach'

Story and photos by JO1(AW) Michael R. Hart

At 3:15 a.m., a shrill, high-pitched sound sliced through the stillness of the night. The recruit division commander (RDC) blindly reached for the snooze button on his alarm clock. Time to go back to work, even though he left his recruits barely five hours ago.

Still half asleep, thoughts of the day's schedule began racing through his mind. There's breakfast at 5:30 a.m., a folding and stowing drill at 7 a.m., a courtesy inspection at 7:50 a.m., classroom at 11 a.m., a military drill at 2:30 p.m. ...

For the eight weeks of boot camp, RDCs are everything to their recruits: teacher, counselor, disciplinarian, mother and father. Every day there are new challenges and expectations.

"We teach, teach, teach," said RDC Engineman 1st Class (SW) James Webster, shortly after his division completed a folding and stowing/personnel inspection. "My expectations get higher and higher each day," he said. The inspection, according to Webster, is very important. "It's a test to see if they've been trained properly. It's a tool to build morale and confidence," said the Wyaconda, Mo., native.

FC2(SW) Jeff Wroblewski double checks paperwork on one of his recruits. "This is the behind-the-scenes work, but it's equally important as everything else."

Webster doesn't "push" these recruits alone. He's got two partners: Chief Fire Control Technician (SS) David C. Lynch and Fire Controlman 2nd Class (SW) Jeff Wroblewski. "We have to work together," said Wroblewski, of North Chase, Wis. "The recruits see us working together and they want to do the same."

"The days are long, but the work is rewarding," said Lynch, of Lewistown, Mont. "Nothing makes you prouder than seeing recruits grasp something you taught them, [and] then teach it to another shipmate."

Hart is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.
JULY 1996

V FTC(SS) Lynch marches his division to breakfast.

Just another day at the office
A.M.

4:30 — FTC(SS) Lynch arrives at the division

5:00 — Reveille

5:30 — FTC(SS) Lynch marches recruits to chow

7:50 — Courtesy fold and stow/personnel inspection

9:30 — EN1(SW) Webster marches recruits to lunch

11:00 — Military customs and courtesies class

P.M.

2:30 — Military drill

3:30 — FC2(SW) Wroblewski double-checks recruits' records

4:15 — Evening meal

6:00 — EN1(SW) Webster gives recruits military instruction

7:00 — Night study

8:00 — Paperwork, prepare for tomorrow
FIRE!

Miramar fights fire with fire

Story by JO1 Scott D. Williams, photos by PH1(AW) Rich Oriez

When a series of fires broke out in a remote section of Naval Air Station Miramar, Calif., local federal and civilian firefighters sighed with relief. In fact, in a dramatic reversal of their usual occupation, they skillfully ignited several more.

"Burn, baby, burn," crowed one federal firefighter as he watched a huge wall of flame advance up a hill carpeted with thick brush. Oddly enough, firefighting officials claimed they were burning the area to the ground for the good of nature.

About 50 firefighters, including Miramar's Natural Resource Manager Mike Scott, used drip torches and flame-throwing guns mounted on heavy equipment to get the fire started and keep it going.

Experts said the intentional burning of almost 340 acres of brush will reduce the risk of major brush fires during the summer fire season. Additionally, clearing the land allows local wildlife to flourish.

Scott said the "prescribed burns" were part of an ongoing watershed management project that promotes vegetation growth by removing live and dead brush that is old and dangerously susceptible to fire. Responsible for more than 24,000 acres on Miramar, Scott placed a high priority on hedging against the summer brush fires that often destroy thousands of acres and threaten nearby homes.

"The brush in the area of the prescribed burn was 45 to 75 years old," said Scott. "The dead and decayed brush became so dry that it was very conducive to ignition. A lot of people see brush fires negatively, but actually they are nature's way of removing the old to make way for the new. We just help nature do its job."

In addition, Scott said the burn rejuvenates flora and improves the wildlife habitat. "Old brush, some as high as 20 feet, gets very thick and almost impassable to larger animals such as deer and coyote," Scott said. "The thinning out of vegetation also helps water runoff and water quality."

The prescribed burn took place only after wind direction, relative humidity and air quality were measured. Once safety and air quality standards of the surrounding civilian communities were met, the first
As flames mount, a firefighter backs away.

The drip torch, held by a firefighter, is commonly used to start backfires. Backfires are set in a perimeter around a brushfire and spread toward it, eliminating fuel that stops the progress of the main blaze.

A firefighter walks away from the wall of flame he created with a drip torch.

Fires were lit.
It took several days, but eventually all 340 acres were burned according to plan. The exercise gave credibility to the notion that sometimes it takes fire to fight fire.

Williams is the assistant editor of The Navy Compass, San Diego. Oriez is assigned to the Fleet Imaging Center Pacific, San Diego.
The Blizzard of '96 and the lingering winter tried our souls, tested our patience — and tortured our cars. No doubt everyone's ready for summer, but can our winter-weary cars take the heat?

"Now is the ideal time to take care of important preventive auto maintenance," said Bob Livingstone, director of American Automobile Association (AAA) Potomac's Auto Services. "Sauna-like temperatures can be just as harmful to your car's battery and other systems as cold weather.

"If the needle of your temperature gauge enters the red zone, pull over immediately and call for service," Livingstone said. "This is particularly important because today's smaller lighter aluminum engines work at higher temperatures and are less tolerant to overheating. Don't let a failed $60 cooling fan end up costing you $6,000," he added.
PHAN Jermaine D. Hughley, of Chattanooga, Tenn., calls for help while Richard Kyle, of Washington, D.C., looks under the hood.

PHAN Hughley checks the oil level in his car making sure it's in the "safe zone" as part of preventive auto maintenance for the summer months.

Checking your car's tire pressure is an important part of your car maintenance plan.

To help keep your car rolling through summer, AAA offers the following guidelines:

- Help your car keep its cool. Regularly check the coolant level and the antifreeze mixture in the radiator. If coolant is rust-colored, flush the system. As a general rule, the system should be flushed every two years.
- Guard against "tired" tires. Keep a tire gauge handy and check the pressure weekly, according to the recommendations in your owner’s manual. To ensure even wear, tires should be rotated every 6,000 to 8,000 miles.
- Keep it straight. Pothole-ravaged streets have wreaked havoc with car alignments. If your car pulls to one side or you notice uneven tire wear, have your car’s alignment and suspension systems checked.
- Keep your battery charged. Make sure your battery is securely in place. Clean and tighten corroded connections and, if your battery is not maintenance free, be sure to check the water.
- Oil: Time for a change. Change your car’s oil and filter every three months or 3,000 miles, whichever comes first. Make sure the oil level is always in the “safe zone” on the dipstick to prevent engine wear.
- If your temperature gauge approaches the red zone:
  - Avoid congested traffic to allow flowing air to cool your engine.
  - In stop-and-go traffic, keep a sizable cushion of space in front of your car to avoid absorbing heat given off by the car ahead of you.
  - Try to survive without air conditioning, which makes your engine work harder and hotter.
  - Turn the fan on high, which will vent some of your engine’s excess heat.
  - Occasionally put your car in neutral gear and rev the engine at a fast idle to speed up the fan and fluid flow through the cooling system.

While these guidelines will prepare your car for summer, be sure to consult your owner’s manual for exact maintenance schedule and specific measures.

Anderson is a writer for the AAA Potomac News, Fairfax, Va. Alves is a staff writer for All Hands.
Searching for cannons isn’t something Sailors at Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo, CFAS Japan, often do. But lately, cannons have been sprouting up around the base.

The first cannon was discovered by Japanese construction workers near the fleet activities’ port operations building, according to LTJG George Minick, CFAS public affairs officer. The cannon had Chinese inscriptions revealing it was made by the “Third Plant, Taishieh Company” in 1876. The cannon weighed approximately 1,300 pounds.

Three days later a chief petty officer discovered the second cannon during a training exercise.

“I was teaching a man-lift operation class for USS Holland,” said Chief Equipment Operator (SCW) Thomas Dougherty, who found the cannon near piers used by the Japanese Navy. “I looked over and saw this thing sticking out of the ground with a familiar shape to it.”

The object he saw was a cannon buried muzzle down. “A little bit of the cannon had been exposed for a long time,” Minick said. “Someone had painted it haze gray.”

Two days later, armed with a pick and shovel, Dougherty dug around the object looking for a fuse hole to verify it was a cannon. His assumption was correct, so he arranged for a backhoe to dig it out. Then Dougherty and Boatswain’s Mate 3rd Class Vitolio Paulo began digging.

It seemed like an easy job to both men, but a turn for the worse came at about 1.5 feet deep when the backhoe hit concrete.

Discouraged but not ready to give up, he called his counterparts at Naval Construction Battalion 4 for help.

Three days later EOCA Brian Edwards and Builder 3rd Class John Von Badinski arrived at the scene. The three men were determined to break through the cement with an electric jackhammer. An hour and a half later Paulo arrived to help.

After a few hours of digging, a large piece of cement was broken up. The digging became easier because the men had more room to move in the deepening hole.

After clearing the area, Edwards used the backhoe to ease the cannon out of its resting spot.

It took almost six hours of digging but the men had finally freed the cannon. Dougherty said he hoped the cannon will be put on display in a museum.

Story by JO2 Steve Sitland, assigned to Commander Fleet Activity Public Affairs, Sasebo, Japan.
VAQ-132 Sailor saves St. Martin boy

The scorching St. Martin, West Indies, sunset brought an end to the first day of the USS Enterprise’s (CVN 65) recent port visit. The air had cooled, but Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class William White of Navy Tactical EW Squadron (VAQ) 132 still found himself wiping sweat from his brow. Pulling his sweat-dampened uniform away from his skin, he made his way down the pier at fleet landing.

He was supposed to be one of the ship’s duty drivers, but was reassigned to count people taking liberty boats back to the ship.

As he walked toward the liberty boats at the end of the pier, White noticed two women and two children walking just ahead of him. The adults walked ahead of the children when, one little boy fell into the water. A moment later the boy reappeared screaming and flailing in panic.

“At first I thought he’d jumped in,” said White, a 10-year Navy veteran. “But when he started screaming, I knew he’d fallen. The boy’s mother also panicked and became hysterical.”

Without a moment’s hesititation, the Dallas native jumped into the water after the boy. “I didn’t really give it much thought,” White said. “Someone had to get him out of the water and I was the closest.”

White grabbed the boy and passed him up to another Sailor on the pier. When White went back to check on him, the boy gave the Sailor a big hug and thanked him.

For his heroism, White was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

NMCB 4 constructionman beats black belts

Painters tour Italy, wine makers visit France and martial artists often tour any one of many countries in the Far East.

Construction Mechanic Constructionman Jamie E. Sherry of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4, ended up in Okinawa, Japan, the country of her art’s origin. Sherry, a native of Poulsbo, Wash., has been studying Okinawan Goju Ryu, a form of karate, since she was nine and is currently a first degree black belt.

Recently, Sherry had the chance to demonstrate her talent during the Kadena Cup Challenge at Kadena Air Force Base, Okinawa.

“I was particularly interested in this competition,” said Sherry. “Since it is Okinawan Goju Ryu that I study, I was very excited about performing my kata skill.”

The tournament attracted more than 100 competitors from different belt levels and martial arts disciplines. Sherry went up against nine other black belts during the kata competition. A tie between her and one other competitor required both to perform another kata to determine the winner. In the end, Sherry earned the title of Grand Champion in kata.

Story by JO2 Art Picard, assigned to USS Enterprise (CVN 65) public affairs office.
It is said that youth is impatient. The son of Operations Specialist Seaman Susin Sims, Elizah Isiah Rahjon, started life impatiently this spring. Early in the afternoon, Sims, a student at Tactical Training Group Atlantic, Dam Neck, Va., had indications that her first child was on the way.

At 9:30 p.m., Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana Branch Medical Clinic emergency medical technicians (EMTs) Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Anthony Michaux and HM3 Timothy Wilber responded to a call by Dam Neck Fire Department. "On scene, we discovered Sims' contractions were 12 minutes apart and lasting for 30 seconds," says Michaux. "In any normal scenario, that's more than enough time to get a patient to a facility."

They radioed Portsmouth Naval Hospital. The doctor agreed that indications suggested there was enough time to transport the 20-year-old mother-to-be to the naval hospital.

About 10 minutes down the road the EMTs were forced to stop. State troopers were halting traffic flow at 20-minute intervals for road repairs. Michaux and Wilber knew they weren't going anywhere. They could see the long stretch of red tail lights from cars stopped ahead and no way to get through.

Sims' contractions increased to three minutes apart and lasted for a couple of minutes. Wilber, a native of Pulaski, Tenn., pulled off on the side of the road, leaving the ambulance lights on. He radioed for an assist from Norfolk paramedics and joined Sims and Michaux.

Neither Wilber nor Michaux had ever delivered a baby during their careers. Their only experience was in transporting laboring mothers. Michaux said Sims was calm, listening to everything he had to say, and that calmed him.

"I envisioned childbirth, based on what you see in the movies, as a lot of yelling from pain," said Michaux, a Vero Beach, Fla., native. "Of course she groaned, but it was nothing like I expected. The baby delivered perfectly."

Wilber cut and clamped the cord and placed the baby in a blanket.

Both men were amazed at how all their training kicked in automatically. "I was focusing on her and the baby and making sure that everything went fine," said Michaux. "I was going on the training I had. I didn't have to think about it. It's something I'm not going to forget."

Story by Annette Hall of Naval Air Station Oceana, Va., public affairs office.
Sailor's art soars at supersonic speed

The high flying art of Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 3rd Class Bryan Faulkner, of Attack Squadron (VA) 34, may never end up next to DaVinci's "Mona Lisa." But, if you ever have the chance to catch a glimpse of the Blue Blaster aircrew preflighting onboard USS George Washington (CVN 73), you can't help noticing his masterpieces.

The native of Springdale, Ark., uses aviators' helmets as his canvas. He first discovered his creative abilities in high school and has been improving his artistic form ever since.

Faulkner’s current project has been to take a standard, white aviator helmet and, using reflective tape of assorted colors, turn it into an extraordinary piece of contemporary art.

He begins by detailing the helmet with the intricate Blue Blaster insignia. Then, using the aviator's call sign he visualizes and creates a design to fit the appropriate nickname.

"I get my design ideas from magazines, books and pictures," he said.

He does all of this within Navy regulations which limit non-white reflective tape use on helmets to no more than 30 square inches. The final product creates an individual sense of style with a certain panache. Faulkner's "frescos" are admired throughout Carrier Air Wing 7.

As a matter of fact, the commanding officer has placed an order for two!

Story courtesy of VA 34 public affairs office onboard USS George Washington (CVN 73).

Navy recruits at Los Angeles Grand Prix

For Los Angeles-area Navy recruiters, Indy Car racing is a contact sport.

Navy Recruiting District Los Angeles lived up to its recruiting motto of full speed ahead at this year’s Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach by being the only military recruiting representative at the largest motor sports event in the Western United States.

Recruiters from stations around the district used the Grand Prix to show potential prospects how the Navy’s high speed career opportunities can help them reach the finishing line with their own personal goals.

"I've been to the Grand Prix many times in the past as a specta-

A "Leap Frog" lands on the narrow race track in front of a capacity crowd.

tor, but this year was the first time as a Navy recruiter. It was great, fantastic and couldn't have been better," said Senior Chief Master at Arms (SW) Pauline M. Bullock, recruiter in charge of Navy Recruiting Station North Hollywood, Calif.

Bullock worked the Navy recruiting booth at the Long Beach, Calif., event.

Story and photo by JO1 Walter T. Ham IV, assigned to Naval Recruiting District Los Angeles, public affairs office.
 Around The Fleet... 

**Honorary chief ...**

When does a captain get selected as a chief petty officer? Only when the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) gives the OK. That OK was bestowed on CAPT Richard Boyd recently when his departmental chief petty officers removed his eagle collar devices, and pinned on the anchors worn by chiefs.

The honorary title was earned, according to Master Chief Postal Clerk John Curry, because, Boyd trusts his chiefs to run their shops.

"I give the chief petty officers the responsibility to manage their own people and their workload and I hold them accountable," Boyd said. "I trust them and their judgment and give them the latitude to exercise their judgment."

Boyd was awarded a certificate of appointment signed by the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, a plaque and a ball cap from the chiefs.

CAPT Richard Boyd can now answer as Master Chief Boyd.

**New aircraft ...**

The first U.S. Air Force T-1A Jayhawk aircraft recently arrived at Training Wing 6, Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.

As part of the consolidation plan to create the Joint Navigator/Naval Flight Officer Training Program (JNNT), the T-1A will function as a training platform for the intermediate phase of the Navigator/NFO training syllabus at Training Squadrons 10 and 4.

More than 216 U.S. Air Force personnel are assigned to the JNNT program at NAS Pensacola, including 26 instructor navigators, 36 instructor pilots, seven enlisted personnel and more than 150 students. Ultimately, about 365 U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, 360 Air Force and 105 Saudi Arabian, German and Italian navigators will be trained annually.

The T-1A is a militarized version of the Beechjet 400A corporate aircraft powered by twin engines with 2,900 pounds of thrust each, providing a maximum speed of 468 knots or 538 miles per hour. The aircraft measures 48 feet 5 inches in length, 13 feet 11 inches in height and has a wingspan of 43 feet 6 inches.

**Self help ...**

The largest self-help project in Naval Air Atlantic (AIRLANT) history ended when CAPT Ronald L. Christenson, commanding officer of Norfolk-based USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), cut a ribbon opening five new berthing compartments for 558 Sailors aboard the carrier.

Roosevelt Sailors did the work instead of using outside contractors. This saved taxpayers $2,649,959, according to LT Ken Jalali, Roosevelt’s self-help project officer.

Speaking to the rehab crew just before he cut the red, white and blue ribbon, Commanding Officer CAPT Ronald L. Christenson said, “I congratulate all of you. I know it was a lot of hard work, extra work, and the quality and professionalism you showed is the right way to do business on Theodore Roosevelt.”

**Award ...**

The nuclear-powered, fast attack submarine USS Boston (SSN 703) homeported at Groton, Conn., was selected recently to receive the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for 1995.

The award is given to the ship or aircraft squadron of each fleet selected by its Fleet Commander in Chief for achieving the greatest improvement in battle efficiency during the calendar year based upon the Battle Efficiency Competition.

“When you need something done well, Boston is the ship to do it,” said CAPT Stephen W. Larimer, Commander Submarine Squadron 2. “Boston has achieved new heights of operational readiness and is therefore richly deserving of the Arleigh Burke Trophy.”
During a recent ceremony, Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 4’s (NMCB 4) Second Class Association President, Engineering Aide 2nd Class Alan D. LaCombe, cut a ribbon to reopen the Coffee House at Camp Shields, Okinawa.

The Coffee House was an all hands recreation room, but lack of interest in the facility left it underutilized and in need of attention. These needs became apparent to NMCB 4’s newly formed Second Class Association as they looked around base for an association living room.

“It was outdated and in disrepair,” said Gunner’s Mate (Guns) 2nd Class James M. Barron, the association’s secretary. “We saw there wasn’t a non-alcoholic, non-smoking place on base, so we decided to take this over and turn it into the ultimate non-smoking, non-alcoholic place for people to come [socialize].”

After getting permission, the association gave the coffee house a facelift. Association members cleaned the facility, acquired furnishings from the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) and purchased a variety of board games, using their own money, that could be checked out to patrons.

“I’m happy to see the Second Class Association come to life, and more importantly, to take on something like this,” said CDR Stephen E. Barker, NMCB 4’s commanding officer. “This is really a benefit to the whole command. We all know the burden of alcohol abuse, what it does to the command and to individuals. It’s great to have people willing to put some effort into it, keep it up and make it a place where people want to come.”

Hull Technician 1st Class Patrick Wetherell, assigned to the Engineering Department onboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70), got a chance to ham it up when he met actress Crystal Bernard of the television series “Wings.” Bernard, along with several distinguished visitors came aboard to observe flight operations and carrier qualifications.
"Thank you, U.S. Navy and a special thanks to you, those wonderful Sailors. Thank you for the overwhelming outpouring of wonderful stories and letters which our family has received during this period of grief. You have made our lives bearable by all of the letters and telephone calls of support. There is that old saying, 'the Navy takes care of its own.' Thank you for being there for me and our family.

"My husband loved his country and 'our' Navy. Today if he were writing you, I thought it might be something like the following:

"You are the heart and soul of our Navy. Take care of each other. Be honorable. Do what is right. Forgive when it makes sense, punish when you must, but always work to make the latter unnecessary by working to help people be all they really can and should be. One-on-one leadership really will work if you let it and honestly apply it. Our great Navy people will live on. I am proud of you, I am proud to have led you if only for a short time.

"God bless each and everyone of you."

- The Boorda Family
NAME: AW2(NAC) Allyn Uttecht

ASSIGNED TO: Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron 4, NAS North Island, Calif.

HOMETOWN: Bullhead City, Ariz.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Naval aircrewman, rescue swimmer, combat search and rescue.

ACHIEVEMENTS: Selected for BOOST and NROTC programs.

HOBBIES: Running, swimming – anything athletic.

BEST PART OF THE JOB: "I love to fly. It's really exciting that I get to do something that many people never experience."

KEY TO SUCCESS: "It's very important to be motivated. Find something you love about your job, then pursue it relentlessly."