

# Whiting Tower

NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

"THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT NAVAL AIR COMPLEX"

Vol. 65 No. 6

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

## Navy League Honors Top Sailors

By 2nd Lt. Nicholas Uzelac, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

The Navy League Santa Rosa County Council recognized 18 of Naval Air Station Whiting Field's finest, Feb. 6, at their annual awards banquet held in Sikes Hall.

The event recognizes the achievements of Whiting Field's top performing service personnel. Awards were presented to the Ombudsman of the Year, Sailors of the Year and Flight Instructors of the Year who have distinguished themselves through their year-long success.

The Navy League uses the event as an opportunity to thank Whiting Field for its tremendous community presence and to honor the recipients of the awards. The Navy League also formalizes their election and installation of officers and board members during their official business held following the dinner.

"It [the ceremony] went extremely well. We continue to grow every year and Whiting Field gives so much to the community and we love giving back," said JoAnn Sisson, Vice President Community Services Navy League Santa Rosa County Council.

Col. John S. Walsh, Training Wing Five Commanding Officer served as this year's guest of honor. Walsh spoke on how a strong sea power through sustained presence and maneuverability is essential to keeping America safe.



Navy League representatives stand with the Ombudsman of the Year and the top Sailors from NAS Whiting Field and its tenant commands during their annual awards banquet Feb. 6 at Sikes Hall on the base. Nearly 20 people were recognized by the Navy League for their outstanding service. U. S. Navy photo by 2nd Lt. Nicholas Uzelac

"What makes our sea power great is the people in the service through commitment and sacrifice," he said, acknowledging the awardees as examples of our great military. "As long as our nation is strong and our nation can afford it America will have the world's greatest sea power."

Walsh also thanked the community and the Navy League for their constant support of the war fighters at Whiting Field.

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## Sadsad Emphasizes Community Support to Sea Cadets



NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Enrique Sadsad and Cadet Kyle Gentry cut the cake for the Whiting Division Naval Sea Cadet Corps' 11th birthday. Gentry was four months old when the unit was founded. U. S. Navy photo by 2nd Lt. Nicholas Uzelac.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

The Whiting Division of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps celebrated their 11th anniversary, Saturday evening, Feb. 7 with a birthday party and awards ceremony for the unit at the Naval Air Station Whiting Field auditorium.

Base commanding officer, Capt. Enrique Sadsad presented the awards to the cadets and helped cut the birthday cake to mark the occasion. More than 20 cadets and 40 family members were on hand to enjoy the festivities.

Community service has been a touchstone of Sadsad's tour as the Whiting Field skipper, and he sees that altruistic spirit being just as important for the cadets as for the Sailors.

"These Sea Cadets are also a big part of the community," he said. "It is important to me to participate and be active in the local area. The Sea Cadets can bring what the sense of community they learned here to improve the active duty ranks."

- (Cont. on Page 6)

### ID Card Office

The Naval Air Station Whiting Field ID Card office will be open from 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, to accommodate persons working the overnight shift. Other days will maintain the normal 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. office hours. Please call Paula Rippetoe at (850) 623-7159 or email paula.rippetoe.ctr@navy.mil with any questions.

## From the Archives:



“From the Archives” means exactly what the name implies. This column will be dedicated to presenting facts, anecdotes, and other information pertaining to Naval history and traditions. With this being the first column, it seems eminently appropriate to talk about the namesake of Naval Air Station Whiting Field - Capt. Kenneth Whiting.

Whiting was born in July 22, 1881 in Stockbridge Mass. He became a Naval cadet in 1900 and was commissioned as an Ensign in 1908, after completing his required sea duty. An innovator early on, he proved his theory that a man could escape a submarine through the torpedo tubes - by swimming out of an 18” torpedo tube while the USS Porpoise was submerged in Manilla Bay.

He undoubtedly would have been an exceptional submariner, but when Naval aviation took its first “baby steps,” Whiting wanted to be on the forefront. He applied for the training and became Naval aviator number 16 (and the final one to train under Orville Wright).

Whiting commanded the 1st Naval Air Unit in France following the United States entry into WWI. Later, he commanded Naval Air Stations 14 and 15 in England, duty for which he earned the Navy Cross. That certainly was enough to cement his career and establish his legacy, but Whiting wasn’t through.

Seeing the potential for aviation aboard Naval vessels, he, and other officers, lobbied for three years for permission to re-fit a ship as, what he called, “an airplane carrier.” The collier USS Jupiter was converted to the USS Langley, and Whiting served as the first executive officer.

Whiting understood the value of Forward Presence, Sea Control, and Power Projection long before they became keywords in our Maritime Strategy. His vision certainly encompassed the aircraft carrier surpassing the battleship as the centerpiece

- (Cont. on Page 7)

## MCPON Testifies Before Congressional Subcommittee

By Senior Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW/AW) Bill Houlihan, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SS/SW) Rick West testified before Congress Feb. 4, in his first appearance before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies.

The committee oversees all military construction projects, quality of life and veterans affairs-related matters.

West appeared with the other senior enlisted leaders from the Marines, Army and Air Force in the two-hour hearing, discussing the tone of the force, family readiness and other major quality of life issues.

“On December twelfth, the day I took this job,” said West, “I told our men and women that nothing would be more important to me than providing them avenues to succeed as Sailors and as Americans. I view this time with you as an unparalleled opportunity to speak on their behalf and uphold the promise I made to them.”

West discussed some of the non-traditional taskings the Navy has grown accustomed to over the last several years, but made a point to remind the subcommittee members of the service’s traditional maritime responsibilities.

“More than seventy-five thousand active duty and Reserve Sailors have taken the fight to the enemy as individual augments. Triple that number man our ships at sea operating on and below the oceans, in the air or boots on ground as we prosecute the global war on terror.”

West referenced recent visits to Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and Navy medical centers when he discussed the obligation to Sailors wounded in battle. He said that the sacrifices they’ve made are recognized by the country they sacrificed so much to protect, and that the dedication to them and their families must never fade.

“As some of these Sailors return to their families they present us with a serious national responsibility. As a Navy, and through your leadership, we are continually improving the support and care we provide our wounded warriors. Our commitment to those heroes and their families will never waiver.”

Other issues brought before the congressional subcommittee included the Navy’s Homeport Ashore program, which takes Sailors off of ships and into bachelor quarters ashore. West said that of all the items on his radar right now, Homeport Ashore is one of the most important. He said that despite consistent progress, just under 10,000 Sailors still live on board ships and that number needs to decrease.

The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy usually testifies annually before Congress along with the senior enlisted leaders of the other services. This was his first appearance before the congressional committee.



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick West testifies before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Veteran’s Affairs and Military Construction on Capitol Hill in Washington. West appeared before Congress with the Sgt. Maj. of the Army, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force and Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jennifer A. Villalovos)

## News and Notes

**Advancement Exams** - The Navy advancement exams for E4, E5 and E6 candidates will occur on the following schedule: E6 - Mar. 5; E5 - Mar. 12; and E4 - Mar. 19. The E4 and E6 tests will be held in the Wings Club Ballroom while the E5 exam will happen in Sikes Hall. All participants must have the uniform of the day on with their military ID card. No cell phones or watches are allowed during the examination.

**Disney for the Troops** - Disney parks celebrate the U. S. military with free multi-day admissions to theme parks in 2009. Disney is granting active duty, reserve members on active duty, and military retirees a free five-day hopper pass. This includes members of the U. S. Coast Guard and National Guard. Eligible patrons may also purchase up to five additional five-day (non-hopper) passes for \$99 each. Tickets are valid up through June 12 for the California park and until Dec. 23 for the Florida parks. See [www.disney-world.com/military](http://www.disney-world.com/military) or your ITT office for more information.

**Mardi Gras Ball** - The 13th Annual Arc Santa Rosa Mardi Gras Ball will be held at NAS Whiting Field's Sikes Hall Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. The evening will begin with a social hour followed by dinner, door prizes and a silent auction. Music will be provided by the Main Street Band. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$350 per table of eight. Please RSVP by Feb. 6. Call 623-9320 for details.

**Pace Road Work** - Santa Rosa County began a roadway project Jan. 27 which includes the resurfacing of Floridatown Road, from the bay to Highway 90 and the resurfacing of Chumuckla Highway from Highway 90 to the Five Points intersection. This will also include construction of turn lanes at the intersection of Chumuckla Highway and Giddens Road. Minor delays can be expected, but road closures are not anticipated. Work is expected to be complete by May 1. Call the county Public Works Department at (850) 626-0191 with any questions.

**Music as a Weapon Tour** - The chart-topping hard rock



### Recognizing Outstanding Service

Col. Scott Walsh, Commodore Training Air Wing-FIVE presents the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal to Lt. Justin Hane of Training Squadron-SIX for his work in "TRAWING FIVE becoming the CNATRA model for TIMS Utilization." Photo courtesy of TRAWING FIVE



### Honoring Whiting's Best

The Santa Rosa County Council of the Navy League recognized NAS Whiting Field's Sailors of the Quarter Friday Jan. 29 during the Chamber of Commerce's "A.M. Network" Breakfast. Pictured above are the former NAS commanding officer and Milton City Manager Brian Watkins; Capt. Enrique Sadsad; retired Navy Capt. Walt Reese and the honorees. U. S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

band Disturbed will swing into the Pensacola Civic Center April 7, at 7 p.m., as part of their North American tour. They will be joined at the stop by Killswitch Engage and Five Finger Death Punch. Tickets are on sale now for \$44.50 General admission floor and \$37.50 for reserved seating through the Pensacola Civic Center box office or ticketmaster outlets.

**Riverwalk Arts Festival** - Historic Downtown Milton will host the 21st Annual Riverwalk Arts Festival March 14-15 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.. The event will feature fine art, folk art, multi-cultural music, and other entertainment. There will also be festival foods and childrens games. The event is sponsored by the Santa Rosa Arts and Culture foundation in partnership with the City of Milton. Call 850-623-8493 or 3117 or see [www.sracf.org](http://www.sracf.org) for details.

**Bonnie Raitt in Concert** - Tickets are on sale now for Bonnie Raitt's concert at the Pensacola Civic Center. Originally scheduled for performance at the Saenger Theatre, the March 11 concert was moved in case the Theatre renovations were not completed. Tickets already purchased for the Saenger Theatre may be exchanged at the Civic Center Box Office if purchased from a Ticketmaster outlet or at the Saenger Theatre Box Office. Tickets purchased online may be exchanged by calling Ticketmaster at 800-653-8000.

**March Badness** - Tickets are on sale for the fight card featuring Roy Jones, Jr. March 21 at the Pensacola Civic Center. Jones will square off against Light Heavyweight contender Omar Sheika. IBF number 2 Cruiserweight B. J. Flores will be featured on the card along with three Mixed Martial Arts contests. Tickets range from \$28 to \$128 and are available at all Ticketmaster locations and the Pensacola Civic Center Box Office.

**Military Discount** - Recanati's Italian Restaurant's two locations, on Avalon Highway and Berryhill Road, now offers anyone with a military ID a 10 percent discount on foods purchased. All items delivered to the base will receive the same discount with a \$10 minimum purchase. Call 850-626-2778 for information.

**Massage Therapy Studio** - Jennifer Merhige, L.M.T. (MA53722), a licensed massage therapist provides Swedish, Deep Tissue and Chair Massages in the NAS Whiting Field Fitness Center. Call 352-678-1105 for an appt. and prices.

## Upcoming Events

Feb 12, 0730 - Send-off Breakfast Chapl Riggs - Wings Club  
Feb 13, 1300 - HT-28 Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium  
Feb 19, 1000 - HT-18 Change of Command - Auditorium  
Feb 19, 1800 - Main St Milton Mardi Gras Parade

Feb 20, 1000 - Aviation Boatswain's Mate Golf Tournament  
Feb 21, 1100 - Navarre Beach Mardi Gras Parade  
Feb 21, 1800 - ARC Mardi Gras Ball - Wings Club Ballroom  
Feb 24, 1800 - Lion's Club FIOY Banquet - New World Land

# Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

## **Credit Management - Tuesday, February 10, from 10 am – 12 noon**

The average American family has nine credit cards (1996 American Express Survey); three or four of those are used regularly; the average total balance on those cards is \$3,900 at the interest rate of 18%. Attend this class to find out ways to better manage your credit. Class will be held in the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## **Parenting: 6—18s - Wednesday, February 11, from 6 – 8 pm**

Common Sense Parenting: Unfortunately, children do not come with instruction manuals. As a result, FFSC is holding a class that will provide you with tools that will equip you with the skills for raising responsible and well-adjusted children. This class is for any parent who wants to “brush up” on their parenting skills or new parents that are not sure of where to begin. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## **Challenges of Flight School and Marriage - Thursday, February 12, from 6 – 8 pm**

Being in Flight School is hard! Being married in Flight School is even harder! This class will help you and your spouse avoid the common pitfalls of the unique challenges Flight Schools has to offer. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Consultant at 623-7177

## **Financial Planning for Deployment - Tuesday, February 17, from 10 am – 12 noon**

The purpose of this program is to raise or refresh our financial awareness in order to decrease the financial stress of deployment. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## **Time Management - Wednesday, February 18, from 2 – 3 pm**

At the end of the day, do you ask yourself “where did the day go?” and feel like you have accomplished very little on your list of “things to do?” If you answered “yes” to these questions, this class is for you. The information provided in this class will provide you with tools that will help you make the most of your busy and demanding days. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## **Me, Inc. - Monday, February 23, from 9 am – 12 noon**

Learn the skills and techniques needed to establish your own business. This class will assist you in developing a business plan. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## **BBB® Warns: Scammers Posing as Magazine Solicitors**

**Pensacola, Fla. (January 29, 2009)**  
Your Better Business Bureau serving northwest Florida has received reports from local law enforcement of numerous scammers posing as magazine sales solicitors.

To date, three different businesses have been identified operating in northwest Florida: Great Lakes Circulation, Inc., LLS (Lonestar Subscriptions) and Flord Agency. All three of these businesses have an F rating from BBB.

However, BBB warns, the name of the business isn't as important as the methods employed, which remain relatively consistent from one organization to the next. Most use young solicitors who show up on your doorstep with stories such as how you can help them avoid inner-city troubles by buying their product. They often claim that they were hired so

they can “stay off the street and avoid gangs and drugs,” or “earn a college scholarship.”

BBB advises you to consider the following: The National Consumers League estimates that 50,000 children nationwide are involved in traveling sales crews selling consumer items door-to-door and on city street corners. Youth groups are transported hundreds of miles from their homes, often across state lines. Unfortunately, many of these young people are victims. The League has consistently ranked “traveling crews” among the worst jobs available for youth and indicates that they can also constitute a dangerous environment.

BBB files reflect that the organizers of these crews may falsely present themselves as charitable and civic-



minded groups. In such cases the organizer is the victimizer. Many are for-profit operations that keep your “donation” or “subscription money” and not pass it along to any charity, community group or publisher. The youths are taught to use high-pressure appeals and live out of vans and hotels, often making little or no money.

Certainly, there are legitimate youth fundraisers. And yes, they may come knocking. However, the next time a youth sales crew appears on your doorstep, BBB suggests you ask for the name of the organization and other details. You may also want to inquire about the welfare of the young “worker.” For additional information and advice you can trust, start with [bbb.org](http://bbb.org).

## Navy Emphasizes Fiscal Awareness Through Military Saves Week

Washington, DC—The Navy is taking the lead with the Department of Defense planning efforts for Military Saves Week, February 22 to March 1, 2009. Events are scheduled at Navy facilities throughout the United States and around the world.



“One of the Navy’s major goals,” according to David DuBois, Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Deputy, Navy Fleet and Family Support Programs and Military Saves Campaign Leader, “is to encourage the Navy community as a whole to take action for their personal financial readiness, make a commitment to build wealth and reduce debt, create a culture that promotes individual financial fitness, and learn more about financial tools and resources promoted in the Military Saves Campaign.”

The Navy hopes to increase participation by at least 20% over last year. An impressive 45,000 sailors and their family members participated in the 2008 week-long event, including the Navy Youth Centers. CNIC continues to demonstrate its commitment to the program and is offering Liberty Centers a \$500 grant to create a Military Saves awareness/recreation program in partnership with Fleet and Family Support Centers.

Many Navy bases around the world will offer classes on saving and investing, basic money management, wise use of credit, retirement planning and many other financial topics. Installations will host kick-off events, financial fairs, fun runs, fun days, financial carnivals and scavenger hunts. Much of the Fleet will join the fun with ship-board events, contests, and other financial literacy activities.

Local Commanders will make proclamations supporting the Week, defense credit unions and military banks will offer incentives and special products to help military families boost their savings and diminish their debt, and many military-affiliated organizations including the Better Business Bureau, MWR, Children and Youth, Boys and Girls Clubs, the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Navy Exchange and Defense Commissary Agency will help reinforce the message to save: Build Wealth. Not Debt.

“The Navy is taking the lead in turning the world’s best fighting force into the country’s best savings team,” said Sarah Shirley, director of Military Saves. “Military banks and defense credit unions have partnered with Navy at the global and local level in ways that show how to promote financial stability and asset development, and at the same time improve your business model.

We hope that other organizations follow this lead.”

For those interested in learning more about Military Saves see [www.militarysaves.org](http://www.militarysaves.org).

### WHEN LIFE HAPPENS, DO A TRICARE CHECKUP

As a TRICARE for Life (TFL) beneficiary, it’s important to know what Medicare covers and what TRICARE covers. For more information on TFL benefits, co-payments and claims, visit [www.tricare4u.com](http://www.tricare4u.com) or contact TRICARE for Life at 1-866-773-0404. To learn more about DEERS enrollment, visit [www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/LifeEvents](http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/LifeEvents).

## BBB® Warns About RALs

Pensacola, Fla. (February 2, 2009) – Tax season is here and many Americans are looking forward to receiving a large check from Uncle Sam. Tax payers are turning to their tax preparers who offer Refund Anticipation Loans (RAL) – essentially an advance for the amount of your refund. While RALs might be a good source of instant cash, BBB warns that they come at a high cost.

RALs are short-term, high-interest loans. The loan is repaid when the consumers receive their refunds. The National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) found that the effective rate for a RAL can range from about 50 percent to nearly 500 percent.

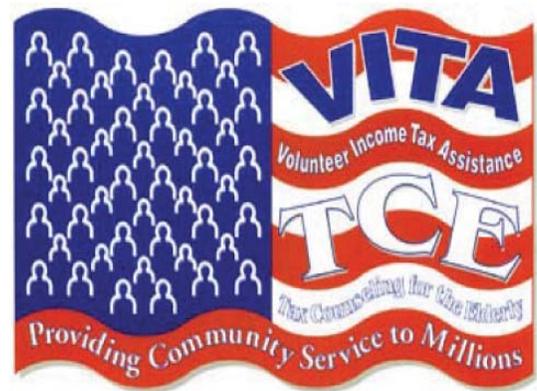
Before agreeing to an instant refund, the BBB offers the following advice:

- Consider e-File and Direct Deposit: It’s the fastest and most secure way for consumers to receive refunds; taxpayers can have their money in as little as 8 to 15 days.

- Don’t fall for the “convenient” debit card: These cards are another way for tax preparers to make money. The debit card often includes hidden fees and some have limits on how much money you can access at one time.

- Finance purchases other ways: If consumers are looking to purchase specific high-priced items with their refunds, BBB encourages financing options other than RALs, such as store credit promotions and offers.

- If you must, then shop around: Consumers can check out tax preparer’s record of integrity and performance free-of-charge with BBB Reliability Reports™, available online at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).



NAS WHITING FIELD

TAX CENTER

VITA is the ONLY FREE Tax Preparation Service on base!

Location: Bldg. 2992 Supply Dept Rm. 21

Call: 623-7232

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## NAS WHITING FIELD TRAFFIC SAFETY TRAINING SCHEDULE

### FEBRUARY 2009

- 13 Feb – 0730-1400 - Motorcycle Safety Foundation Experienced Rider Course
- 28 Feb – 1 Mar 2009 – 0730-1600 - Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course
- 27 Feb – Motorcycle Safety Foundation Military Sport Bike Course

### MARCH 2009

- 25 Mar - 0800 – 1600 - American Automobile Association-Driver Improvement Program
- 26 Mar – 0730-1400 - Motorcycle Safety Foundation Experienced Rider Course
- 27 Mar – 0730-1600 - Motorcycle Safety Foundation Military Sport Bike Course
- 28 & 29 Mar – 0730-1600 - Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course

### CLASS INFORMATION

**Military Sport Bike Rider Course (MSRC)** is mandatory for all active duty personnel who ride on or off base and all DoD civilians who ride sports bikes on base. The MSRC also meets the requirement for the three year re-qualification to receive a decal for base access. To qualify for the MSRC you must have completed an approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation approved Basic Rider Course or Experienced Rider Course.

**The Basic Rider Course (BRC)** is a 15 hour course designed for beginners or personnel who have not rode in a long period of time. It also meets the State of Florida requirement for a motorcycle endorsement on your license. The BRC is mandatory for active duty personnel who ride on and off base and all DoD civilians who ride on base.

**The Experienced Rider Course (ERC)** is a one day course and is designed for refresher training. The course meets the requirement for the three year requirement, except for personnel who ride sports bikes. Sports bike riders must complete the MSRC every three years.

**American Automobile Association – Driver Improvement Program** -This course is required for all Military and DOD civilians who operate government vehicles as part of their duties except emergency vehicle operators. DOD dependents and retired personnel may also attend on a space available basis. It is also mandatory for anyone involved in a at fault vehicle mishap with a government vehicle. The course is taught by a certified AAA-Driver Improvement instructor and is approximately 6 to 8 hours in length. Personnel who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion which can be used to receive discounts on their insurance premiums, depending on their insurance company. It also meets the Navy requirement for Driver Improvement training for persons age 26 and under. Enroll at [www.navymotorcyclerider.com](http://www.navymotorcyclerider.com) or contact Michael McMillan at (850) 452-3674.



## Sea Cadets

- (Cont. from Page 1)

The Whiting Division cadets do tremendous volunteer work including projects such as helping clean up the roadways through the "Adopt-A-Highway" program, working with Habitat for Humanity, aiding Humana food banks annual food drive, cleaning up an old civil war cemetery twice a year, and more.

"The cadets enjoy doing community service," said Tony Chandler, commanding officer of the Whiting Division of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. "It is their way of saying thanks for the support they receive. Many of our cadets, however, just enjoy being able to help out those that need assistance."

Awards presented during the event include: NSCC Cadet Fred L. Guy promoted to LC2; SA Keith Krisman, SN Christian Harp, PO3 Katelin Holt, SN Jacob Bell, and Cadet Eddie Agrait Jr. received academic achievement awards; and PO3 Katelin Holt and PO3 Brad Correll earned recognition for their community service.

# NSPS Training Available

By Mary Anne Broderick Tubman,  
CNRSE Public Affairs

The Department of Defense and Department of the Navy began conversion to the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), in 2006, and most of the installations within Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) began operating under NSPS in 2007. Employees were introduced to the fundamentals of NSPS through NSPS 101, which is still available through Navy Knowledge Online (NKO).

This year, NSPS training is being taken to the next level through two new courses titled Navigating NSPS for Employees and Navigating NSPS for Supervisors. The eight-hour classes, which will be presented via Video Teleconferencing (VTC), have been tailored specifically for DON. Like NSPS 101, the training is required for all civilian employees under NSPS and for all military personnel who supervise these employees.

Each training session is conducted by Human Resource Operations personnel

from installations throughout the region, to review and explain new procedures established through NSPS for civilian workforce procedures. Specific topics to be addressed are Human Capital Transformation, a conversion overview, and NSPS fundamentals, including classification and compensation.

Training will be offered two days per month from February through September, with one session for supervisors and one for employees. Each course begins at 9 a.m. EST. Most Forward Deployed Detachments (FDDs) within CNRSE have VTC capability. Training announcements, will be distributed by CNRSE Workforce Development at NAS Pensacola, Fla. prior to each class.

Course materials can be downloaded from the following web sites: <https://www.donhr.navy.mil/NSPSDocs/NSPS%20Sup%20PG.pdf> (Supervisors) <https://www.donhr.navy.mil/NSPSDocs/NSPS%20Emp%20PG.pdf> (Employees).

Employees should contact HRO Pensacola, (850) 452-3337., ext. 3112 for details.

## From the Archive

- (Cont. from Page 2)

of the fleet.

His service included: helping to establish many of the tenets of carrier operations including the pilot ready room, filming of landings for training, pilot certification as a requirement for commanding a carrier, and landing signal officers. He also made the first catapult assisted launch from the Langley.

Whiting continued to serve through much of WWII, and unfortunately, died three months before the dedication of the base that was to bear his name, and only a year before the USS Kenneth Whiting (AV-14) - a sea plane tender - was named after him as well.

His name carries a long and proud history of Naval aviation, and I think Capt. Whiting would have appreciated the workhorse of aviation training continuing that tradition.

## Navy League

- (Cont. from Page 1)

Debbie Peterson was recognized as the Ombudsman of the Year.

Lt. Christian Jenkins, VT-2; Capt. Chris Reichl, VT-3; Lt. Steven A. Ryan, VT-6; Lt. Tom Moyer, HT-8; Lt. Landon Jones, HT-18; Lt. Shawn E. Conniff, HT-28 and Lt. Cmdr. Brian Peck, TW-5 Reserve Component all received Flight Instructor of the Year awards.

Air Traffic Controller First Class Aritha Gregory, NAS Whiting Field; Hospital Corpsman First Class Pamela Jenkins, Naval Branch Health Clinic; Naval Air Crewman First Class Tabriz Ommanney, HT-8 and Naval Air Crewman Jason C. W. Gehringer, HT-28 received Sailor of the Year awards.

Air Traffic Controller Second Class Evan McGroarty, NAS Whiting Field; Hospital Corpsman Second Class Brandon P. Myers, Naval Branch Health Clinic; Naval Air Crewman Second Class David Mellies, HT-8 and Naval Air Crewman Second Class Tomas Olmo-Carmona, HT-18 received Junior Sailor of the Year awards.

Air Traffic Controller Third Class William Joseph, NAS Whiting Field and Hospital Corpsman Third Class Essozima Andjo, Naval Branch Health Clinic were recognized as the Blue Jackets of the Year.



Flight instructors from the various training squadrons were also recognized for their outstanding service at the event. The annual celebration highlights the achievements of the top instructor from each squadron. U. S. Navy photo by Nicholas Uzelac.

**2009 NMCRS Fund Drive**

**NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY**  
100th Anniversary of Service 2004

**Donations are used to provide interest-free loans and/or grants to service members, both active and retired, and their families that are in financial need and emergency situations.**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT NAVY-MARINE CORP RELIEF SOCIETY (NMCRS) MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU WITH AN INTEREST-FREE LOAN AND/OR GRANT?**

**WHAT THE SOCIETY OFFERS:**

- ASSISTANCE WITH FOOD, RENT, UTILITIES
- DISASTER RELIEF
- ESSENTIAL CAR REPAIRS
- UNFORSEEN FAMILY EMERGENCIES (INCLUDING TRAVEL EXPENSES)
- FUNERAL EXPENSES AND MUCH MORE.....

**WHO DOES THE SOCIETY ASSIST:**

- ACTIVE DUTY OR RETIRED SERVICE MEMBERS
- DEPENDANTS (WITH A POWER OF ATTORNEY)
- WIDOW OF AN ACTIVE DUTY OR RETIRED SERVICE MEMBER

For more information on the services that NMCRS has to offer or for information on how to make a donation, please call our office at 850-452-2300.



# - SPORTS -

## Standings

### 2009 Soccer

Team	Won	Lost	Win %	Streak	RF	RA	GB
HT-28	3	0	1.000	Won 3	11	0	—
COAST GUARD	2	1	.667	Lost 1	5	7	1.0
HT-18	1	2	.333	Won 1	0	9	2.0
VT-2	0	3	.000	Lost 3	0	0	3.0

## Pittsburgh-area Native Designs “Terrible Towel” for Namesake Sub

By Lt. Patrick L. Evans, Commander, Submarine Group 2 Public Affairs

**Groton, Conn. (NNS)** -- The Los Angeles class fast-attack submarine USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720) returned to Naval Submarine Base New London Feb. 4, after a regularly scheduled deployment.

Besides celebrating their homecoming, Sonar Technician (SS) Art Harley took the opportunity to celebrate the submarine’s namesake city and its Super Bowl victory by waving a 59 x 30- inch “Terrible Towel.”

Harley, a life-long Steelers fan, presented the idea for the giant “Terrible Towel” to the submarine’s commanding officer, who approved it. Then the crew went to work.

“There are a lot of Steelers fans on board. They built the “Terrible Towel” on board from yellow nylon,” said Cmdr. Andrew Jarrett, commanding officer of USS Pittsburgh.



USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720) returns from deployment waving its “Terrible Towel.” U. S. Navy file photo.

Harley, a native of Apollo, Pa., about 30 minutes outside of Pittsburgh, has been assigned to the steel city’s namesake submarine for more than a year. He has been a Steelers fan since he can remember.

“I saw them through all seven Super Bowl appearances,” said Harley. He didn’t actually get to “see” the Steelers’ 27-23 victory over the Arizona Cardinals in Super Bowl XLIII just yet, because his submarine was

deployed, and it is not equipped with the system to watch TV. His wife and several other people recorded the game for him, and he’ll be watching it on Friday.

A 22 ½ year veteran of the Navy, Harley was “pretty impressed” when he was assigned to USS Pittsburgh. He called it a “perfect place to end his career” since he plans to retire soon.

Harley’s blood runs black and gold: “Every port I pull into, I get my picture taken with my Terrible Towel.”

## Standings

### Captian's Cup Basketball 2009

Team	Won	Lost	Win %	Streak	RF	RA	GB
VT-3	4	0	1.000	Won 4	215	126	—
HT-28	3	1	.750	Won 2	228	184	1.0
ATC	3	2	.600	Won 1	224	245	1.5
VT-2	3	2	.600	Won 2	254	240	1.5
HT-8	3	2	.600	Won 1	246	221	1.5
HT-18	3	2	.600	Won 3	219	202	1.5
CRASH	1	3	.250	Lost 3	140	190	3.0
COAST GUARD	1	3	.250	Lost 3	145	171	3.0
MEDICAL	0	6	.000	Lost 6	229	321	5.0