

# Whiting Tower

NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

"THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT NAVAL AIR COMPLEX"

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## Whiting Field Officially Opens New Air Traffic Control Tower



Milton Mayor Guy Thompson, Capt. Enrique Sadsad, Air Traffic Controller Second Class Kendra Mock and Santa Rosa County Commissioner Don Salter cut the ribbon for the new Air Traffic Control tower at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. The new \$3.9 million facility will help the base monitor flight activity more effectively. U. S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

With a few short speeches and a ceremonial slice of the red, white, and blue ribbon, the new Naval Air Station Whiting Field air traffic control tower was dedicated. Following nearly three years of planning and construction, the new tower officially opened June 19 at 9 a.m.

Mayor Guy Thompson of Milton was the guest speaker for the event, and issued a few words of support for the gathered military persons in attendance.

"For all these years, Whiting Field has been a very important part of our community," he said. "People like you, who keep leading efforts within the community, whose mission is so important to the defense of our nation. You keep us all free. Thank you for the job you are doing."

The \$3.9 million air traffic control tower overlooks the south field of the base's two airfields with a view that is 20 feet higher than the old tower. With additional working space and

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## Sea Cadets Experience Excitement of Boot Camp

By: USNSCC Seamen Apprentice Emma Holt

"Oorah Charlie Company! Oorah!" Seaman Apprentice in Training Inessa Kann shouts at the top of her voice. "Oorah Charlie Company! Oorah," she shouts again as she strains to get her company recognized as the loudest. It is a daily refrain for the recruits as they strive to keep motivated during the hot summer days at Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

This is recruit training, the first and hardest training U.S. Naval Sea Cadets must endure. For fourteen days, nearly 50 recruits from five states and Puerto Rico, performed close order drills, attended class, woke up early for physical training and endured hours of formation marching with their companies.

During this exhausting training the recruits often thought to themselves is "What did I do?"

When the cadets arrived, they

waited in line for their sea bag inspection and administrative check-in. They realized the hard task ahead and all the cadets had to comfort them is the voice of the staff—which wasn't really very comforting—as the staff instructed the cadets - in traditional boot camp style - how to stand at attention and keep quiet. One recruit's expectations didn't match the reality. She was teased into believing it would actually be much worse.

"Definitely the exact opposite, it's not what I was expecting or what my friends at my battalion said that it would be. They said they would drop them a lot, and drill them all the time, and wake them up in the middle of the night and make them run five miles," Seamen Recruit Inessa Kann says, "I'm very fortunate, it is a really awesome experience."

Most recruits, however, didn't have the advance heads up. Each recruit knew they would survive the two week

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One of the Sea Cadets receive the traditional Boot Camp haircut during day two of the Sea Cadet recruit training. Photo courtesy of U. S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Whiting Division.

# Walker Receives Prestigious Honor in D.C.

*- Retired Command Sergeant Major Inducted to Ordnance Hall of Fame*



Retired Command Sergeant Major Tyler Walker while still active duty U. S. Army. File Photo.

By Jay Cope, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

For more than 34 years, Tyler Walker II answered the call to duty serving in both the Marine Corps and the Army. When the Army called again, it was to recognize those years of faithful service.

Walker was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame May 7. He was one of ten contemporary inductees, and four historical inductees' legacies were honored as well. The honorees joined a select group of individuals that includes five Medal of Honor recipients, inventors, scientists and leaders. Individuals are chosen based on their significant contributions to U.S. Army Ordnance. The Hall was created in 1969, and less than 350 people have been honored with induction.

Walker currently works as a government contractor for the physical security department at Naval Air Station Whiting Field. He certainly had many opportunities following his retirement in 2005, but the allure of continuing service to his country on a military base was foremost in his plans.

"There is no doubt, that when you walk in to the base in the mornings, it makes you feel proud. I still enjoy stopping my car during the playing of the anthem and rendering a hand salute," he said.

Spending 12 years as a Command Sergeant Major

and working for three four-star generals, Walker had opportunities to support the Soldiers. He says that taking care of the service members and their families were always utmost in his mind.

"It makes you feel good," he said. "I never forgot where I came from in the ranks."

Walker was nominated in December 2008 by a former co-worker, Master Sergeant Brian Cole, whom he worked with in Fort Belvoir, Va. It was a surprise to Walker that he was nominated, let alone, that he was selected.

"I was proud, honored...but it made me reflect back on my career and I kind of asked myself when they were saying these things about me, "Was that me?"

*- (Cont. on Page 6)*



Retired Command Sergeant Major Tyler Walker receives his award designating his induction into the Ordnance Hall of Fame in Washington D.C. The honor recognized Walker's 34 years of service and leadership while in the U. S. Army. Photo submitted by Ordnance Hall of Fame Museum.

## PCS Order Writing May Resume In Weeks

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class(AW) LaTunya Howard, Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. (NNS) -- The chief of naval personnel (CNP) said June 15 that he is optimistic that permanent change of station (PCS) order writing would resume within a few weeks.

Via video stream, Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson spoke to more than 600 Navy counselors, career counselors and command master chiefs attending the 21st annual Navy Counselor Association (NCA) symposium here.

The Navy's \$350 million budget shortfall was partially responsible for the current hold on PCS transfers this summer.

Changes with the order-writing accounting system were another factor af-

fecting the PCS transfers hold. The Navy now requires funding for orders when they are written versus when the orders are executed. This paired with record retention and fewer separations due to attrition has slowed the number of Sailors leaving active duty and required the Navy to divert money for payroll rather than previously budgeted programs.

"Manpower costs are one of the fastest growing components of the budget. It's growing at about four to six percent a year and is much higher than inflation," said Ferguson.

CNP explained Navy's force stabilization objectives to the audience indicating where the Navy is with end strength, how it got there and where it is headed.

"The anticipated retention rate

was 52 to 54 percent; we are at 60 percent retention for Zone A. This behavior is tracking with the rate of unemployment," said Ferguson.

Zone A Sailors have less than six years of service, and six percent more of these Sailors than projected are choosing to stay Navy, contributing to the Navy's budget shortfall.

The NCA symposium ran from June 15-19. This year's theme was "Building a Top 50 Organization." Emphasis areas included benefits, force stabilization and Sailor performance. Other topics covered at the symposium included career development boards, sponsorship and command indoctrination, Perform to Serve expansion to Zones B & C and electronic service records.

## News and Notes

**Farmers' Market** - The Riverwalk Farmers' Market will be held behind the Santa Rosa County Courthouse Thursdays, Saturdays and Tuesdays from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.. The event is on N. Willing St. in Milton and artists and crafters may purchase one-day slots for \$10. Call 626-6246 or visit [222.mainstreetmilton.org](http://222.mainstreetmilton.org) for details.

**Zoo Tots** - The Zoo Northwest Florida on Gulf Breeze Parkway offers a train ride, story time and animal encounters for children 5 and under Tuesdays. Punch cards for eight visits are \$40 for adult with toddler, and \$7 for individual sessions. Call 932-2229 for more information.

**Information Tickets and Travel New Home** - Just a reminder that the MWR ITT Office has moved from the Bowling Center and is now located in Building 1417, Room 182 (same building as the Atrium). Hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.. New telephone number is 623-7032. The ITT office now is able to help with rental cars as well. Call for details.

**Sunsets at Plaza de Luna** - Every Thursday through Oct. 29, Plaza de Luna comes to life with music, entertainment, and sunsets. This week features music from Bella Orange and an appearance by Barbie. The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. and is free. Call 435-1603 for information or visit [www.cityofpensacola.com/cra/live/](http://www.cityofpensacola.com/cra/live/).



Col. Walsh awards the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal to Lt. Cmdr. Troy Sallee, CTW-5 Safety Officer, for his exceptional performance that resulted in a reduction of Class A and B mishaps, from 2.76 in 2006 to 0.66 in 2008. Lt. Cmdr. Sallee is transferring to Afghanistan for a one year assignment. Photo submitted by Training Air Wing Five.

**Fishing Rodeo** - The Bill Hargreaves Fishing Rodeo started 39 years ago as a way to promote family fishing. This year, the tournament will issue prizes in 12 different categories of fish in the open division and 32 fish categories in the junior division. Prizes will total more than \$8,000. The rodeo begins June 18 with a captains' meeting at 6 p.m. Call 607-7569 for information.

**Gulf Coast Bluegrass Music** - Join the Bluegrass Pilgrims and The Webb Family bands for a concert at the Pensacola Junior College Milton campus June 27, 6 p.m.. Following the concert will be a jam session for players of all abilities; this will begin around 8 p.m.. Cost: \$2 for GCBMA members and \$4 for non-members. Doors open at 5 p.m.

**Silver and Cabochon Jewelry Workshop** - Artist Linda Wicker will be teaching participants how to wrap a cabochon with sterling silver wire, with a bail for a pendant. This event is scheduled for 10 a.m. June 27 at the Pensacola Junior College Milton campus. The supply kit is \$15 and tuition fees are \$10 for participants who are not members of the Santa Rosa Art Association.

**Health Services Consumer Council** - There will be a quarterly Health Services Consumer Council meeting July 23, at 2:30 in the Naval Air Station Pensacola Welcome Center in Conference Room, on the 6th floor, Bldg 3910 East Ave. This event is an open forum where we provide updates on the Military Health System, TRICARE, and our health care delivery with issues and/or what's going on. Please direct any questions to Ms. Tara Rettig at (505-6048) or [tara.rettig@med.navy.mil](mailto:tara.rettig@med.navy.mil).

**July 4th Riverfest!** - Come to the Riverwalk on July 4 for pirates, treasure hunts, karaoke, concession and retail vendors, music, and live entertainment throughout the day. Also be sure to see the 8th annual firecracker bike show and the after dark fireworks. Call the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce for details: 623-2339.

**Firecracker Run, Walk, and Wheelchair 5K Race** - Register quickly to attend the 7:30 a.m. 5k race on July 4th starting out at Seville Quarter. You can register online at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or download an entry form at [www.rmhpensacola.org](http://www.rmhpensacola.org). Race benefits the Ronald McDonald House. The after race party will include free refreshments, rejuvenation station, silent auction, and race awards. For more information, contact Ronald McDonald House at 477-2273 or [events@rmhpensacola.org](mailto:events@rmhpensacola.org)

**Gone Fishing** - Base ponds located on the East of the base (along the Golf Course Road) are now open for fishing for "Catch and Release Only". You will be required to follow Florida state fishing regulations, meaning a fresh water fishing license is required. Please be aware of wildlife around the area. Several poisonous snakes (Water Moccasins) have been spotted around both of the ponds and can be aggressive.

**ID Card Office Has New Home** - The ID card office has officially moved! They are now located in the Pass and Tag bldg (48A) near the front gate. Please call the office at (850) 623-7159



Lt. j.g. Michael Brown of HT-28 gives the Butler County High School JROTC students a tour of the TH-57. The full tour consisted of a trip to the ATC tower, the night vision lab, the T-34 and TH-57 sims, and static displays of both the TH-57 and T-34. The JROTC students hail from Kentucky and spent a week with Naval Air Station Whiting Field and Naval Air Station Pensacola. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Ammons-Moreno.

## Upcoming Events

July 1, 1200 - Danny Cook (PWD) Retirement - Atrium

July 3, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

July 4, All Day - Independence Day Holiday

July 11, TBD - Navy League Cadet Orientation - Ops Auditor

July 16, TBD - Navy League Military Spouse Apprec - TBD

July 17, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

# Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

## Welcome to Whiting! - Every Thursday 1000 - 1200

If you are new to NAS Whiting Field or just want to learn more about the Milton – Pensacola area, this class is for you! Come find out about MWR and other recreational facilities, hurricane preparedness, the FFSC and other support services available! Children are welcome and this is a great opportunity to meet new friends! Join us at the Whiting Pines Community Center any Thursday or call the FFSC at 623-7177 for more information.

## Interviewing Skills - Monday, June 29, 0800 - 1000

This workshop will discuss ten ways to conduct yourself in a job interview, how to organize your self for an interview, and how to prepare for expected interview questions. Participants will also be given tips on how to end an interview. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## Understanding Military Pay Issues - Thursday, July 2, 1300 - 1500

It is important that you know about the elements of military compensation. Know what you are entitled to! Know what you may be entitled to as your circumstances change! For more information call our Financial Educator at 623-7177.

## Resume Writing - Monday, July 6, 0800 - 1000

This class will assist you in efficiently creating an effective resume. Learn how to handle sticky resume situations like military-to-civilian transition, age, employment gaps, layoffs, and career change. Learn to use your resume as a marketing tool. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

## Navy Suspends Bonus Program for Remainder of Fiscal Year



**From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs**

**WASHINGTON(NNS)**

-- Based on the number of Sailors who have enlisted this year under the selective reenlistment bonus program (SRB), the Navy reached its congressional authority funding limit for this fiscal year.

Based on the number of Sailors who have enlisted this year under the selective reenlistment bonus program (SRB), the Navy reached its congressional authority funding limit for this fiscal year. U. S. Navy file photo.

More than 10,000 Sailors reenlisted with a

reenlistment bonus. Accordingly, the Navy suspended the SRB program for the remainder of the fiscal year.

SRB requests received by Navy Personnel Command-811 prior to the release of NAVADMIN 176/09 through the Officer Personnel Information System will still be processed. Less than 685 Sailors remain in the eligibility window to reenlist with a SRB this fiscal year.

“The Navy will continue its strong commitment to the SRB program, and it remains a critical component of our overall retention efforts,” said Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, chief of naval personnel. “I want to assure Sailors that the SRB program will continue to be available next fiscal year.”

SRB award levels for the next fiscal year for qualifying Sailors in specific ratings and NECs will be announced via NAVADMIN later this summer.

SRB is a dynamic market-based incentive designed to retain those Sailors in the Navy’s most critical ratings and NECs.

“This bonus is just one piece of Navy’s world-class pay and compensation package, and we will continue to work to maintain and improve this package that sustains our Navy,” said Ferguson.

## Annual Water Report Released

NAS Whiting Field is pleased to present to you with the 2008 Annual Water Quality Report. It has been posted to the NAS Whiting Field intranet for your viewing at <https://www2.netc.navy.mil/naswhiting/index.cfm>

This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and water services delivered to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and we want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

A hard copy of the Annual Water Report can be obtained from Mike Pattison at the Public Work Department (Building 1416), phone 623-7268 ext. 3018.

*Editor’s Note: The report states that the Naval Air Station Whiting Field drinking water meets all state and federal requirements.*

# Sea Cadets

- (Cont. from Page 1)

training, but they didn't realize the pressure, stress, heat and strict guidelines placed upon them.

The staff cadets are often just as frazzled as the new recruits.

Sea Cadet Petty Officer Second Class Orion Rollins said, "There is stress present, but using the teamwork that we promote in this training that stress could be relieved, you have to take things day by day because otherwise all the stress will build up and you will have a break down,"

The staff's goal is to teach the recruits to be the best they can in their companies and complete their own goals as well.

"I am trying to train my recruits to be the best Sea Cadets they can be and further develop my leadership skills," said Rollins.

The recruits were divided into companies Alpha, Bravo and Charlie to compete in academics, physical fitness, military drill, and uniform and barracks inspection. The company with the highest score receives the title - Honor Company. These staff members are responsible for the recruits' decisions

and ensured they not only compete but work as one battalion.

The next thing the male recruits will go through is a boot camp style haircut. Their locks will be completely removed. The boys know it will grow back but it is the initial shock of seeing their pride and joy fall to the floor while the staff sits back and observe their shocked looks of humiliation and embarrassment.

One routine most recruits look forward to is physical training. Beginning at 0515, it consists of push ups, side straddle hops, flutter kicks, one mile run and other conditioning exercises. Cadets also took a physical training test later in the week which must be passed to graduate.

Equally strenuous and nearly as enjoyable was company commander time. During this time, companies mustered to the parking lots outside the barracks and performed military drill, learned cadences, discussed conflicts, or practiced the graduation routine.

Sea Cadet recruit training is called the toughest training to go through as a cadet. It is very easy to lose

motivation and determination through the process. From all the work and stress the recruits and staff go through not only do they have to motivate themselves but others as well. Before lunch and dinner chow, the companies line up outside and have a sounding off competition. They call cadences that make their rival companies look small and unrecognized and they look good. Their main goal is to get attention on the officers and instructors.

"It makes me feel more challenged. When the other companies challenge me it makes me want to be the best and do the best I can," said Kann.

They must try to be continually motivated to ensure success and not give up. But most important is to work as a single unit. It is a lesson that is as important outside of the military as it is inside. It is the most important lesson, but not the only one that cadets learn. Seamen Apprentice in Training Eric Alvira listed a few of the lessons he learned during recruit training.

"Teamwork. When you have problems not to run from them. How to behave and respect others. How you can have a better life in the future. How to work together with other people you don't know, and how to obey orders from people in charge."

At the end of the training recruits know they have accomplished a major hurdle in their lives and can be proud of their feats. They learn a leadership skills which could one day lead them into a successful military career.

"The Sea Cadets and this recruit training is teaching me to be a better person and a better citizen because it's teaching me to be more flexible," said Rollins.

Learning to appreciate the determination the staff cadets ingrain into them may come later, but when you ask any cadet what they got out of their recruit training, most agree it not only makes a good cadet but also a better citizen.

## TRICARE NOTE

### AGREEMENT ALLOWS TRICARE BENEFICIARIES TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN NCI CANCER TRIALS

**TRICARE beneficiaries have more options for cancer care and greater access to advances in cancer prevention and treatment through clinical trials. The Department of Defense (DoD) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) have renewed their agreement for a continued partnership in cancer clinical trials.**

**The agreement allows TRICARE-eligible cancer patients to take part in NCI-sponsored Phase II and Phase III cancer clinical trials as well as cancer prevention trials. Phase II trials typically study the effectiveness of new drugs or therapies against a specific type of cancer. Phase III trials compare new treatments to existing therapies.**

**In cancer prevention trials, patients take medications or supplements or participate in certain activities that doctors believe will lower their cancer risk. Patient safety is stressed.**

# New ATC Tower

- (Cont from Page 1)

an unobstructed view utilizing an extra two feet of window all the way around, the tower provides a more comfortable and efficient office to monitor the more than 160,000 flight operations at south field annually.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field is the Navy's busiest airfield, and the new tower will help the controllers work more safely and effectively.

The tower began operations May 25 to the delight of the Air Traffic Control Division, and Capt. Enrique Sadsad, commanding officer NAS Whiting Field, expressed the excitement of the command for the new facility.

"Because of this facility, we will be better able to provide outstanding service to our tenant commands," Sadsad said. "It is another impressive enhancement to exciting Whiting."

The new tower replaces one

that was not ideal for controlling the sheer numbers of operations at the airfield and was no longer meeting current FAA guidelines. The new control stations have better line of sight to airfield operations, the tower contains improved communication equipment, and has an improved design for modernizing equipment in the future and for maintenance. Additionally, the larger space enables training to be conducted at each workstation simultaneously, which was not possible in the old tower.

The audience members, including Thompson, Santa Rosa County Commissioner Don Salter, Congressman Jeff Miller's representative Eric Hannel and others were offered short tours of the tower and adjacent work spaces to compare the two towers. The previous tower will be renovated, removing the air traffic control areas but

leaving other work spaces in tact.



File photo of the new Air Traffic Control Tower while under construction. This tower is 20 feet taller than the old tower.

# BBB Issues Consumer Warning Walker HoF

- (Cont. from Page 2)

**Pensacola, Fla. (June 18, 2009)** – BBB is warning consumers to be wary of salesmen going door-to-door offering no-cost home security systems.

Consumers alerted BBB of salesmen identifying themselves as being from Safeguard America are distributing fliers offering a free security system, claiming they can save up to 25 percent on their homeowners' insurance.

The fliers cite a Mississippi address, but according to the U.S. Postal Service, the address is that of an apartment complex, not a business.

The fliers and the business' Web site include BBB's old logo and claim that Safeguard America is a BBB "Member." However, they are not a BBB Accredited Business. Salesmen are also citing a Florida license from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; however that license expired in 2004.

Another DBPR license, improperly displayed on the flier, is issued to a David Roman for Security Systems Inc, DBA Safeguard America. David Roman is also the president of Safe Home Security, Inc., a Connecticut-based business with an F rating from your BBB because of the number of complaints filed against the business, a failure to respond to a number of complaints against the business, the number of serious complaints filed against the business and the length of time the business has taken to resolve complaints.

The Connecticut Attorney General has filed suit against Safe Home Security, Inc., Safe Home Monitoring, Inc., and their owner, David G. Roman, charging them with installing and failing to fix faulty equipment, as well as violations of the state's home improvement contractor laws.

Your BBB warns consumers to be cautious doing business with anyone who shows up on their doorstep. Verify licensing, bonding, insurance or any other requirements that may be necessary for that industry. And if a business claims BBB Accreditation or "membership," verify their BBB status.

A 34-year career is bound to span a lot of territory. Walker has served in Germany (twice), Korea (twice), Georgia, Colorado, Hawaii, Arizona, Maryland and more. He and his unit deployed during Desert Shield and Storm and he molded soldiers both as a Drill Sergeant when they joined and as the senior enlisted member of five commands.

"All of the tours were rewarding, but probably being a Drill Sergeant was the most memorable. I enjoyed helping mold the Soldiers from civilian to military life. My mother, Thelma B. Walker, taught us the morals and values of life, and I tried to instill a little of those lessons to them," said Walker.

CSM Walker is married to the former Vickie M. Lee of Pensacola and has a daughter, Cinthia, who resides in Alexander, Virginia.

The award recognitions were printed in the Spring 2009 edition of Ordnance Magazine. This is the capstone award for a career that saw Walker earn the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), and many other unit commendations and medals.