

Whiting Tower

Seventy-three Years of Aviation Training News

Learn to conquer the sky

Discamus vincere in caelum

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.
Vol. 73 No. 21

Forging Wings for the Fleet
October 19, 2017

NATIONAL
NAVAL AVIATION
MUSEUM

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NAS Whiting Field Navy Ball on the 242nd Navy Birthday

By Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs



NAS Whiting Field Navy Ball was celebrated at the National Naval Aviation Museum on the 242nd Navy Birthday, Friday October 13, 2017. Photo by Jamie Link.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field celebrated the 242nd Navy Birthday on Friday, October 13 with a traditional Navy Ball at the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola Fla.

The 242nd Navy birthday theme was “Sea Power to Protect and Promote”. The United States Navy continues to honor the brave men and women who conduct a wide range of combat, training, humanitarian, rescue and other missions worldwide, protecting our interests,

Col. Morris presides over the Navy Ball held at the National Naval Aviation Museum on the 242nd Navy Birthday on Friday October 13th, 2017. U.S. Navy Photo by Jamie Link

The Whiting Tower

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promoting our security, and helping to shape our nation’s history and culture.

The Navy Ball celebrated the 242 years of naval history with a ceremony that included a POW/MIA reading, dinner, traditional toasts and a cake cutting.

Guest speaker for the event was retired Rear Adm. Donald P. Quinn. He spoke to the crowd of NAS Whiting Field and Training Air Wing FIVE personnel.

“I would like you to consider the meaning inherent in two words, American Warrior”, began Quinn.

“American, recall the oath that each of you that wear or wore the cloth of the nation swore upon entering your service, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the constitution of the United States of America.

This simple phrase makes you unique throughout the world. You have sworn to defend even at the cost of your life, the idea, a concept that essentially declares that we the people can govern ourselves inherent in the principles of our constitution of personal responsibilities and freedoms...” Quinn said

Quinn was presented with a plaque by Commanding Officer, Capt. Todd Bahlau in appreciation of his time and words during the event.

The guest speaker left the audience with thoughts of why the word warrior is important and the reminder in the idea of the need for service.

“While the circumstances demanding your service may differ, what endures is the need for American citizens who serve, guaranteeing our extraordinary freedoms regardless of the political shaft surrounding those operations...”

“My point is that, there is no more fundamental underpinning to the existence of our nation then your service, in her defense” Quinn said 🇺🇸

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USS Ponce Decommissioned after 46 Years of Service

From SURFLANT Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Following more than 46 years of honorable naval service, the afloat forward staging base (interim) USS Ponce (AFSB(I) 15) was decommissioned during a time-honored ceremony, Oct. 14.

Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic, Rear Adm. Jesse A. Wilson Jr., provided keynote remarks. Other notable speakers included Commander, Military Sealift Command, Rear Adm. Dee L. Mewbourne; Commander, Naval Amphibious Force, Task Force 51/5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, Brig. Gen. Francis L. Donovan; Maritime Administration Associate Administrator for Strategic Sealift, Kevin M. Tokarski; and the ship's commanding officer, Capt. Christopher Wells.

Wilson highlighted the significance of the ceremony and ship's significant contributions to national security.

"It is truly an honor to participate in this momentous and time honored naval tradition, as we remember the accomplishments, warfighting attitude, contributions and legacy of the USS Ponce and its Sailors over the last 46 years," said Wilson.

During the ceremony, Wells spoke about the ship's naval service and recent mission.

"After exceptional service to the Navy and nation for nearly half a century, it is bittersweet that the "Proud Lion" has returned to its homeport here in Norfolk for one last event, its decommissioning," said Wells.

"It is quite an honor for me and also for the whole hybrid crew, made up of dedicated, professional Sailors and civilian mariners, to take Ponce to sea and bring it home for the last time. I can't praise this team enough for the job they have done these last years, aboard this aged warrior, in the hot and hostile seas in Fifth Fleet."

The ship, commissioned in 1971, was the 12th and last ship in the Austin-class of amphibious transport dock ships. In 2012, the ship was refitted as an afloat forward staging base (interim). After being forward deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operation for the past five years, the "Proud Lion" returned to its homeport in September and was decommissioned Oct. 14.

Named for the Puerto Rican city of the same name, Ponce served mostly in the Atlantic Fleet, completing 27 deployments in the North Atlantic, Caribbean, Mediterranean,

Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf.

Originally slated for decommissioning in 2011, the "Proud Lion" was refitted and reclassified, based on the USS Kitty Hawk's (CV 63) role as an afloat special operations staging base during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2001. And, she was outfitted with a joint Navy - Military Sealift Command (MSC) crew.

Forward deployed for the past five years, the crew provided vital support to U.S. and allied forces in the U.S. 5th Fleet and Central Command, primarily during mine countermeasures operations, but also in international maritime command and control roles. In doing so, the crew launched, recovered and sustained multiple aircraft, riverine and other vessels.

Their actions led to the ship and its crew being awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, presented to Wells during the ceremony by Donovan.

"In the Navy and Marine Corps, one award clearly stands out," said Donovan. "It is the award that recognizes service in combat against an enemy."

"I am extremely proud, honored and humbled to award Ponce her first Combat Action Ribbon, in 46 years of service. They were well trained, knew their ship and her combat systems and were well led by a superior Navy captain and MSC master. They were ready. They represented the absolute best of our nation operating at the very tip of the spear."

The "Proud Lion" was relieved in U.S. 5th Fleet



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Joshua Bryce Bruns

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Across the Fleet

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by the expeditionary sea base ship USS Lewis B. Puller (ESB 3), the first ship built specifically for the purpose of serving as an afloat, forward-staging base.

In 2014, Ponce successfully deployed and operated the laser weapon system (LaWS) for the first time. This 30 kilowatt cutting-edge weapon significantly expands the Navy's viability of directed every weapons in an operational environment, something which will offer increased levels of precision and speed for naval warfighter at a decreased cost.

"You heeded the call of duty and had the remarkable opportunity to not just witness history, but to make

history," said Wilson as he highlighted Ponce's commitment to innovation.

"I cannot be more proud of your accomplishments, what you achieved together and of your unyielding warfighting spirit. This ship will always be linked to the American resolve. The legacy of this ship will live on in our Sailors, our Marine brothers and sisters, and our civilian mariners."

During its 46-year journey, Ponce and its crews were lauded for their outstanding service, earning numerous individual and unit awards. Ponce now joins the inactive fleet and will be dismantled. 🇺🇸



Whiting Field's CO Addresses Energy Consumption Improvements

Team Whiting Field,

Energy Action Month is upon us. This year's theme is Energy Action = Mission Success. We've made great strides in our energy reduction and resiliency since this time last year. Some examples:

- UESC project - Over 7,000 interior and exterior LED lights installed; A virtual chiller plant was constructed to flatten the cooling loads and build redundancy in the Simulator and Academic buildings (3005, 2946, 3125, and 2994); and low-flow/low-flush devices have been installed in 39 buildings, amounting to a total annual savings of over \$495K.
- REPO project - In partnership with Gulf Power, we completed the installation of 800,000 Solar panels covering 336 acres at NOLF Holely in August 2017. The site now powers over 6,000 homes. As a result of this, the installation will receive an alternate electrical feeder in 2018 that will greatly increase the resiliency of our electrical distribution system.
- In the coming year, we have projects to replace six HVAC chillers with more efficient units, that will result in an annual savings of \$76K.

In FY 2017, Whiting Field reduced its energy intensity by 18% relative to its 2015 baseline, which is excellent progress towards reaching our goals. However, your continued support and collaborative efforts are necessary to reach our 30 percent reduction target by 2025.

Despite our strides in advancing technology, we must renew our commitment to using energy more effectively at our duty stations and in our homes. We are transforming our energy culture, making the Navy more energy efficient, resilient, reliable and thus, more secure.

Here's what you can do:

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Whiting Field News



NAS Whiting Field Commanding Officer Capt. Todd Bahlau observes the cake for the 242nd Navy Birthday at the Base Commissary. U.S. Navy Photo By Jamie Link.



Monsignor Michael Reed resets the wings for the winging ceremony immediately following the Blessing of the Wings Ceremony at the Base Chapel. U.S. Navy Photo By Jamie Link

Captains Cup Flag Football

~ Sports Complex every Monday & Wednesday ~
5:30pm ~ 6:30pm ~ 7:30pm



This Day in Naval History

October 16

1861 - The Union screw steamer South Carolina captures the schooner Edward Barnard, with a cargo of turpentine on board, at Southwest Pass, Mississippi River.

October 17

1943 - USS Tarpon (SS 175) sinks German auxiliary cruiser Michel (Schiffe No. 28) off Chichi Jima, Bonin Islands.

October 18

1977 - USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) is commissioned at Norfolk, Va. The Ike, named after the nations 34th president, is the third nuclear-powered and second Nimitz-class aircraft carrier.

October 19

1915 - The Naval Submarine Base at New London, Conn. is established.



Wrecked Army Air Corps B-17C (serial # 40-2074) bomber near Hangar # 5 at Hickam Air Field, following the end of the Japanese raid. This plane, piloted by Captain Raymond T. Swenson, was one of those that arrived during the raid after flying in from California. It was hit by a strafing attack after landing and burned in half. Note Note bicycle parked by the plane. Pith helmet by the case in the left foreground indicates that the photographer was Tai Sing Loo.

Whiting Field News





October 2017

<http://twitter.com/#!/NASWFFSC>

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>0930-1030 Primary Prep 1000-1200 Applying for Federal Jobs 1300-1400 Back To School Essentials</p> <p>Bosses Day</p>	<p>1300-1400 Family Financial Planning</p>	<p>1300-1500 Smooth Move Rm 2998 1400-1500 Conflict Management 1500-1600 Sponsor Training Rm 2998</p>	<p>1300-1400 Thrift Savings Plan 1400-1500 Anger Management</p>		
<p>Nat'l Nut Day</p> 	<p>0930-1030 Primary Prep 0800-1600 Career Technical Track Training Bldg. 2998</p> <p>United Nations Day</p>	<p>0800-1600 Career Technical Track Training Bldg. 2998 1430-1530 Study Skills</p> <p>Happy Halloween!!</p> 	<p>1000-1100 Challenges of Flight School & Marriage</p>	<p>1300-1400 Blended Retirement System 1400-1500 Anger Management</p> <p>FFSC Closed Offsite Meeting</p>	<p>Nat'l Chocolate Day</p> 
<p>0930-1030 Primary Prep 1300-1400 Stress Mgmt.</p> <p>Nat'l Cat Day</p> 	<p>1300-1400 Planning for your Retirement</p>	<p>1400-1500 Conflict Management</p>	<p>1300-1400 Thrift Savings Plan 1400-1500 Challenges of Flight School & Marriage</p>	<p>1430-1530 Couples Communication</p>	

Pre-Deployment Briefing/Deployment Services are Available. Please Call 623-7177 or email NASWF_FFSC@navy.mil to Speak to an Individual Deployment Support Specialist

All classes (except information sessions) are also available on a one on one basis upon request, please call 850.623.7177

7511 USS Enterprise Street, Milton, FL Building 3025
850.623.7177 (comm.) 868.7177 (DSN) 850.623.7735 (Fax)
<http://www.cnlc.navy.mil/whitingfield/basesupport/index.htm>

Please email us NASWF_FFSC@navy.mil for information Join us @ www.facebook.com/NASWF.FleetandFamily



Eco-nomics

When possible, use fans to keep cool instead of an air conditioner. Fans consume only a small fraction of the energy of an air conditioner.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Be the Change.

Prevent Domestic Violence.

Show the Power of Purple.

#purplethursday

Wear purple on Thursdays to spread domestic violence awareness.




Congratulations to TRAWING - 5 Scholars

Congratulations to the TRAWING-5's Student Aviators who earned the Academic Achievement Award which was presented at the TRAWING-5 Headquarters building. Photo courtesy of Training Air Wing FIVE.



- Cont. from Page 4

Whiting Field's CO Addresses Energy Consumption Improvements

- If you notice a light or electronic device is left on but not in use, turn it off.
 - If a window or door is open while the AC or heat is on, close it.
 - If a faucet or showerhead is leaking, report it.
- Work with your Building Energy Monitor (BEM), and Installation Energy Manager (IEM, Jason Poe) to help reduce energy waste. Through collaboration, we will continue to increase our efficiency, innovate our systems, and improve readiness.

NAS Whiting Field will kick-off Energy Action Month with an Energy Expo and 5K Run on October 19th at 0800. Throughout the month there will be energy articles and energy saving tips in the Whiting Tower, as well as energy messages on the NEX and main gate marquees. Get involved, get energized, and I'll see you at the starting line on OCT 19th! 🏃

V/r,
Skipper Bahlau

NAS Whiting Field prepared for Hurricane Nate

By Jaime Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

Hurricane Nate hit Florida as a Category 1 storm, having been identified to hit the Florida Panhandle and threaten Navy assets.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field prepared for Hurricane Nate's arrival last week with the implementation of procedures that protect base personnel and their families along with the safeguarding of Navy facilities and aircraft. The majority of the aircraft assigned to NAS Whiting Field were hangered and the T-6 aircraft that could not be hangered were flown off as a precaution.

NAS Whiting Field climbed slowly up the Conditions of Readiness (COR) from COR FIVE to COR ONE prior to predicted local impact.

The NAS Whiting Field emergency management team worked to keep current information accessible for base leadership and the base population. Personnel were also encouraged to have a travel and communication plan. Additionally, personnel were advised to monitor the base social media sites for current base updates.

NAS Whiting Field personnel worked in conjunction with Santa Rosa Emergency Management to ensure a seamless line of communication off base population on and off the installation.

NAS Whiting Field reported no major damage to the installation after Hurricane Nate and the base was able to resume normal operations quickly after the base assessment team completed all required assessment checks.

This hurricane served as a reminder that last month was National Preparedness Month sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The awareness campaign encouraged Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes businesses, schools, and communities. This year's theme was "Disasters Don't Plan Ahead. You Can."

For more information on emergency preparation please visit www.ready.navy.mil. 🏠

Fire Prevention Week

Every year in the second week of October we discuss Fire Prevention and ways to protect yourself and your family – I am happy to say that as far as the Navy goes we have done very well in preventing fires and loss of life. In local communities throughout the United States it is a different story - it is sad to report that we average 6 to 7 deaths a week due to fire – this is an unacceptable number and even though it is down from 2014 when it averaged almost 9 per day – it is far from good enough. Ladies and Gentlemen this is 2017 and with all the technology available with the various types of smoke & heat detectors, installed systems for residential and business to include residential/home sprinkler systems that are available the numbers are still too high. There are fire safety devices to fit every budget and in many cities and counties there are smoke detectors available for free which may be installed by the local fire department – I would like You to take the time during this week and throughout this month to ask other family members and friends if they have a “WORKING” smoke alarm in their home, if not strongly encourage them to get one and not to delay – it could save their life and the lives of their family.

Let's get back to the basics:

Have a “Working” smoke detector and test it at least monthly – if it beeps get a new battery before removing the old one – that is what that annoying beep is for – a reminder – there have been many cases where people have not replaced the battery and it resulted in death – don't be a statistic!

Know and Plan Two Ways Out of your home and place of business

If you smell something burning or have an actual fire call 911 immediately

Sound the alarm – at home yell to wake or alert the rest of the family – at work pull the fire alarm to notify everyone

Every Second does Count – do not hesitate – evacuate immediately and don't go back in for personal items
Over the next few weeks we shall have other articles concerning you and Fire Safety – if you have any questions, would like to schedule a training event or briefing please call Greg Snyder, NASWF Fire Inspector, at 623-7856.

Thank You

Craig Lewis

Fire Prevention Chief

Fire & Emergency Services Gulf Coast

Brewery Tour

Saturday 21 October

~ Ages 21 and over ~

Leave the driving to us
~ only \$25 ~

RESERVE BY THURSDAY, 18 OCT
850-665-6250



THE LANDING STRIP *MORRIS*



#1 - "MUSTACHES"

Kayak Classes at Whiting Park - Trail Life USA of Milton is looking for Volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year. This Christian centric outdoor adventure program is looking to partner with gentlemen that desire to mentor and develop godly young men in various Troop Level Positions. For those interested, the point of contact is Mr. Aaron Brunk at Aaron.brunk@navy.mil.

Paint Ball is Here - The course is located on what used to be the golf driving range and will provide the opportunity for weekend entertainment on the base for families and service members. The course is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come on out and have some fun!

New Uniform Guidance - A new NAVADMIN is out which revises or provides new guidance on uniform regulations pertaining to women's hair requirements, approval to wear two new Joint Command identification badges, an update on Navy Working Uniform Type I (NWU I) Maternity Uniform availability, and the Standard Prisoner Uniform. See NAVADMIN 146/17 for details.

Renter's Insurance No Longer Provided - As detailed in para 3.a of NAVADMIN 198/17, "Current and future residents of PPV housing are advised that, as a result of this amendment to the business agreements, they will no longer automatically receive renters' insurance in PPV housing. Military residents are encouraged, but not required, to obtain renters' insurance once current insurance coverage expires."

Monday Night Football - The Liberty Center will show the games on their HUGE 80" HDTV with Bose Surround Sound! Free popcorn and lots of excitement are in store. The Liberty Center is open to active duty 18+ only.

Call 850-623-7274 for details.
MWR Tickets & Travel - Our office offers a variety of leisure travel services including discount ticket sales to various attractions throughout the country and local attractions. We also offer lodging, cruises, bus tours, airfare packages all over the world, and other special services. Active Duty Military, Retired, Dependents, DoD civilians and all MWR authorized patrons can purchase tickets. All prices are inclusive of our surcharge. VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover are accepted.

Navy Language Testing Opportunities - Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB), Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT), and Oral Proficiency Interviews (OPI) are now being offered onboard NASP in BLDG 634, every Wednesday by appointment only.

Brewery Tour - Saturday, 21 October: Leave the driving to us as we take you on an all-day adventure tasting and toasting at semi-local breweries. We'll travel out to other towns, departing at 10:00am, stopping for lunch on your own, and returning to Whiting around 6:30pm. The tour costs \$25 and includes your transportation, a tour of each brewery and samples before you purchase your favorite. This trip is open to ages 21 and over. Availability is limited to 12, be sure to call or stop by Community Recreation to sign up or find out more information. 850-665-6250

Trunk Donations Needed - "Trunk & Treat" Bring the little ones out on Saturday, 28 October to the Navy Exchange / Commissary parking lot for our "Trunk & Treat" event between 11:30am and 1:30pm. We'll have Hay Rides to the Pumpkin Patch along with a Bounce House, Music, a Costume Contest and Trunks of Treats.



Congratulations to TRAWING-5 Wingers

