

NAVY RECRUITER

magazine

The Magazine for Navy Recruiters

January-February 2010

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Who's Who...
Recruiters of the Year

ROY Week
Recognition in Washington, D.C.

Three Years Running
NRC Receives Retention Award



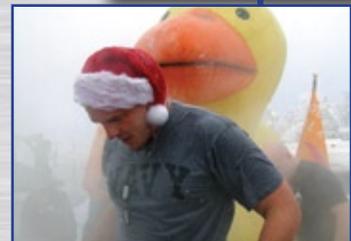
2009
**RECRUITERS
OF
THE
YEAR**

NAVY **RECRUITER** *magazine*

IN THIS ISSUE...

features...

- 5** ***NRC Recognizes 15 Recruiters of the Year in Weeklong Event***
- 8** ***2009 Recruiters of the Year Biographies***
- 16** ***CNO Routhead Speaks at Morehouse College***
- 18** ***Deputy Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Motivates Female Future Sailors***
- 19** ***NRS Fordham Road Helps Local Community***
- 20** ***For Third Consecutive Year, NRC Receives Total Force Retention Excellence Award***
- 21** ***Recruit Goes From Ice Sculptor to Sailor***
- 22** ***Navy SEALs Have Special Bond With Denver High School***
- 23** ***NRD Raleigh Participates in Christmas Parade***
- 24** ***Sarasota Recruiters Set Sail at Christmas Boat Parade***
- 25** ***Washington Students Send Holiday Cheer to Deployed Military***
- 26** ***NRD Seattle Sailors Get Wrapped Up in Christmas Spirit***
- 27** ***Sailors Take the Plunge for Special Olympics***
- 28** ***NRS Jonesboro Makes Christmas Brighter for Foster Kids***
- 29** ***HS-10 Warhawks Take Navy Experience to Utah***
- 30** ***NORS Atlanta Opens in Historic Biltmore Hotel***





regulars...

- 4** **A Word From the Admiral**
- 17** **History - USS Sterett (CG 31)**
- 31** **The Districts' Best Stations**
- 31** **Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters**



Back cover: Commander, Navy Recruiting Command, Rear Adm. Craig S. Faller (far left); FORCM(SW/AW) Christopher L. Penton, NRC Force Master Chief (second from right); and NCCM Gregory L. King (far right), NRC National Chief Recruiter, stand with the 15 Recruiters of the Year at the Tomb of the Unknowns during ROY Week. The group was able to witness a laying of a wreath at the tomb performed by two of the ROYs. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Christopher D. Blachly, NRC)

Front cover: The 2009 Recruiters of the Year stand in front of the Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington. They were honored in festivities throughout the national capitol region in January. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Christopher D. Blachly, NRC)



Rear Admiral
Craig S. Faller
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Navy Recruiting Command

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A Word From the Admiral



Shipmates:

This edition of Navy Recruiter Magazine salutes Navy Recruiting Command's 2009 top recruiters. Our 15 national Recruiters of the Year were honored during a week-long visit to Washington, D.C. They exemplify the qualities that make a successful recruiter, such as perseverance, professionalism, mission focus and a fiery passion for what we do.

Each Recruiter of the Year has an inspiring story to tell, and I encourage you to learn who they are by reading about their experiences in this magazine.

During the week, our Recruiters of the Year were meritoriously advanced, and NRD Richmond was recognized as the Recruiting District of the Year. Visits with Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Naval Personnel, Chief of Navy Reserve, and Senator Richard Lugar, a former Navy officer, provide examples of the importance our senior leaders place on our recruiting mission.

There were heartfelt moments, such as a tour of the Pentagon 9/11 Memorial – a humble and poignant reminder that we are a nation at war. Reserve Recruiter of the Year, LS1 Eva Marte, from NRD Richmond and Active Recruiter of the Year, PS1 Tyrone Davis, from NRD Nashville performed a somber wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Martha and I were honored to meet parents, spouses and friends who attended ROY Week events. We commend all of our families and friends for their enthusiastic support and dedication to our recruiters each and every day – thank you.

I'd also like to thank our friends of the Navy such as the

Fleet Reserve Association, the United States Navy League, the Navy Club and the Navy Memorial Foundation, as well as our own Navy Recruiting Command team who helped ensure this year's ROY Week was successful.

Our awardees come from a variety of fields – some career recruiters, others recently completing assignments in the fleet. They are from all parts of the country and are a reflection of our dedicated, motivated and talented Total Force Navy recruiting team. Our Recruiters of the Year represent the amazing opportunity we provide to young men and women each and every day.

Our message is this – recruiting is a great career choice with fantastic opportunities for each of you. The security, stability, and “good” our Navy provides for people at home and around the world is an

unmatched source of job fulfillment that no other organization offers. That's what we sell – and it's an unbeatable product.

Shipmates, the Recruiters of the Year we honored in Washington, D.C., represent the best recruiting team in the world's best Navy, America's Navy – A global force for good.



Rear Admiral Craig S. Faller
Commander, Navy Recruiting Command



NRC ROY Week attendees pause outdoors before beginning their tour of the U. S. Capitol. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Christopher D. Blachly, NRC)





NRC Recognizes 15 Recruiters of the Year in Weeklong Event

From NRC Public Affairs

Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Christopher D. Blachy, NRC

WASHINGTON – Rear Adm. Craig Faller, commander, Navy Recruiting Command; Rear Adm. Robin Graf, deputy commander; Force Master Chief Christopher Penton; and Master Chief Gregory King, national chief recruiter, hosted the Navy's top 15 Recruiters of the Year (ROYs), their families and guests during a weeklong program in Washington Jan. 11-15.

Throughout the week the recruiters were honored at various functions and events by senior congressional and military dignitaries, as well as by organizations such as the Fleet Reserve Association, the Navy League and the Navy Club of the USA. Also on the schedule were visits to national historical sites.



One of the highlights of ROY Week was a visit to the Library of Congress. Not only is it the nation's oldest federal cultural institution, it is the largest library in the world with millions of books, recordings, photos, maps and manuscripts in its collection.

Indiana's Senator, the Honorable Richard Lugar, ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was the keynote speaker at a luncheon Jan. 14 in honor of the ROYs. Lugar said the 2009 Navy ROYs are making all of the difference in the continuity of America's security.

"I am grateful for this opportunity to have this chance to congratulate [these] recruiters," Lugar said. "[They] are making all the difference in terms of the continuity of not only training personnel but extremely patriotic Americans who not only are going to volunteer to serve but who are going to have an experience unparalleled in their lives that will be formative, that will

be constructive and truly awesome in their character building.”

Lugar, himself a former naval officer who served from 1957 to 1960 and was one of four intelligence briefers to then-Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Arleigh Burke, shared with the awardees and others in attendance that had he not volunteered to join the Navy, none of what transpired in his life since then would have occurred.

“I came away from [my Navy] experience with the comprehension of the problems of 150 nations...and the impact our country has on those countries,” Lugar said.

The pinnacle event for the week was the awards ceremony held at the Navy Memorial. The evening program, attended by many senior flag officers and senior enlisted personnel and other dignitaries, was an opportunity for those in attendance to meet with the 15 ROYs and learn of their accomplishments that helped lead to Navy Recruiting’s successful year of consecutive, back-to-back months of meeting recruiting goals.

“The selection board had to make some very

Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, congratulates MM1(SW/AW) Brian E. Moore on his selection as one of NRC’s 15 ROYs. Attached to NRD Nashville, Moore was chosen as the Nuclear Field Coordinator of the Year. Onlookers include ITCS(SW/AS) Tyrone D. Scafe (far right), and GSM2(SW) Rudy Lopez (third from right).



Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. Mark E. Ferguson III, visits with Ethel Cox and NCC(AW/SW/NAC) Jessie L. Jones, Jr., at the ROY awards ceremony held at the Navy Memorial. Jones is from NRD Atlanta and was chosen as the Zone Supervisor of the Year.



ROY winners and guests visited with the Chief of Navy Reserve, Vice Adm. Dirk J. Debbink (far right). Chatting with Debbink were (from left) Bree Winn; Lt. Todd C. Winn, NRD New Orleans; Lt. Derrick L. Mitchell, NRD Raleigh; NCC(AW/SW/NAC) Jessie L. Jones, Jr., NRD Atlanta; MA1 Claudia J. Duncan, NRD Denver; and Duane Duncan.



tough decisions; each [ROY] should be extremely proud of the significant contributions [they] have made in support of Navy Recruiting Command,” said Faller.

Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, Chief of Naval Personnel, was the keynote speaker at the event and said the 2009 Navy ROYs are winning the battle for talent.

“You have been the ones to show [potential recruits] those unique opportunities, show them how they can contribute to their communities and the nation, and show them what is possible in their lives,” Ferguson said.

Because of the recruiters’ achievements, Ferguson said the Navy is excelling as an employer of choice.

“After more than 30 years in the Navy, I am convinced we excel as an organization because we do a great job of leveraging the diversity of our people. But finding and recruiting talented young men and women to join the Navy is, as you well know, hard work,” Ferguson added.

Ferguson said many young people do not give much thought of military service unless they come from a family background with military experience. But what the recruiting force has done throughout 2009 has had a significant impact on today’s Navy.

“You have been the ones to show them those unique opportunities,” Ferguson said to the ROYs. “And through your persistence, dedication, and example, you have been the ones to change their ‘no’ to ‘I am a United States Sailor.’”



Those attending ROY Week festivities were treated to a tour of the United States Capitol. Here they're standing before John Trumbull's painting of the Declaration of Independence, one of the most recognized of his four paintings that hang in the rotunda. The size of the rotunda (96 feet in diameter by 180 feet high) makes an impressive backdrop for the paintings. This historical site was one of many that ROY attendees visited during their week in Washington, D.C.

Navy Recruiting Command hosts the ROY awards program annually in Washington.



2009 RECRUITERS OF THE YEAR

Enlisted Recruiter of the Year (Active)



PS1(SW) Tyrone C. Davis
Navy Recruiting District Nashville

Hometown: Detroit, Mich.

How long have you been in recruiting? Seventeen months

Previous commands and job titles:

VFA-87 Virginia Beach, Va. - Command Career Counselor

PSD Bahrain Manama, Bahrain - Reenlistment/Extensions/ESO

NPC Millington, Tenn. - SRB Clerk

USS *LaSalle* (AGF 3) - Fireman/Personnelman Clerk

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? It is a great feeling to be recognized as the number one recruiter in the nation. It proves that hard work and dedication pays off. It's a great feeling to know that over the past 17 months I've helped over 50 civilians live the dream of serving in the world's greatest Navy. Recruiting is the job I joined the Navy to do. I thank everyone who had their hand in selecting me for this distinct honor.

What advice would you give to others in your position? I would tell anyone that is striving to be the best to work hard and know your product. Have family support, be a team player, and always listen and learn. If you do these things you will be successful in whatever you do.

Your future goals? My future goals include becoming a NC in the Career Recruiting Force and making chief. Long term, I want to be a chief recruiter.

How has the Navy changed your life? The main change was maturity. I joined the Navy when I was 20 years old. My first duty station was USS *LaSalle* (AGF 3) in Gaeta, Italy. I had no one but myself and my shipmates so I had to mature quickly. The Navy has also given me, a young man from the inner city of Detroit, an opportunity to do something great and make a name for myself. I appreciate everything the Navy has given me in my 11-year career.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy playing pick-up basketball and football, numerous card games, and spending time with my family.



Enlisted Recruiter of the Year (Reserve)



LS1 Eva Marte

Navy Recruiting District Richmond

Hometown: Huntington Beach, Calif.

How long have you been in recruiting? Four years

Previous commands and job titles:

NAVELSF Williamsburg, Va. - Supply Clerk

VP-30 Jacksonville, Fla. - Supply Clerk

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? Wow! I couldn't stop smiling for the longest time. I kept looking at the list to make sure that was me. I had a break in service of five years and when I came back in the Navy I knew I had to make up for lost time and it feels so good to know that my hard work paid off.

What advice would you give to others in your position? It is not enough to want it, you have to go for it. You are the only person that can stop you from achieving your goals. If someone doubts you, feed off of it and prove them wrong.

Your future goals? Getting picked up for the Career Recruiting Force community and getting the pants to match my uniform shirt: Making chief petty officer.

How has the Navy changed your life? The change has been immense not just for me but for my family. I came to this country at the age of 17 from a small town in Mexico where women are expected to get married at a young age and stay home. I know it

sounds silly but people still have these beliefs in this century. When I joined the Navy it was the beginning of a new life for me and my family. I have learned so much in the Navy: To work hard, to be independent, to care and want to help others that are not related to me by blood but are family – my Shipmates.

Hobbies and interests: I try something new every year and this year I started surfing. I'm horrible at it but it's not in my nature to give up, so I will keep trying. I also like to teach Latin-American immigrants how to assimilate the American way of life without losing their own traditions and culture.



Officer Recruiter of the Year (Active)



Lt. Derrick L. Mitchell

Navy Recruiting District Raleigh

Hometown: Fitzgerald, Ga.

How long have you been in recruiting? Twenty-seven months

Previous commands and job titles:

USS *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) - Bomb Assembly Officer (G-3)

Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) - Weapons Officer

AMMOLANT - Fleet Requisition Manager

USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) - Flight Deck Ordnance Leading Petty Officer

USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) - Aviation Weapons Support Equipment LPO

USS *Guadual Canal* (LPH 7) - Weapons Department

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I am extremely happy about this significant accomplishment in my career. This is an excellent reminder of what can be attained through hard work and dedication.

What advice would you give to others in your position? I would give three suggestions: 1) Don't be afraid to set the bar high; 2) Work hard and focus on what you're trying to achieve; 3) Always do your very best. If you do these things, you'll be successful in anything you do.

Your future goals? Short-term goal is to be promoted to lieutenant commander. Long-term goal is to position myself to be successful.

How has the Navy changed your life? Growing up in a rural Georgia community with very limited opportunities and chances for achieving something great, I noticed a lack of individuals

who ventured far away from home and experienced success. Those who chose distant horizons and found success have been considered trailblazers. This exemplified a different means of achieving my goals and aspirations. During my 17 years of service in the Navy it has given me the opportunity to not only be that trailblazer but a positive influence for others whom are subjected to the same circumstances I was years ago. Success by my definition is not only measured by monetary gains, status, or past accomplishments, but in the various ways that other individual's lives can be positively affected. I feel that the values and beliefs that are part of the Navy's tradition that has been instilled in me have given me the relevant skills and positive outlook on life that has translated well into my career in the United States Navy.

Hobbies and interests: Watching various sports.



Officer Recruiter of the Year (Reserve)



Lt. Todd C. Winn

Navy Recruiting District New Orleans

Hometown: Aurora, Colo.

How long have you been in recruiting? Two-and-a-half years

Previous commands and job titles:

NAVCENT - CAT Cell Officer, NEO planner

TRAWING 6 - Student

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? Honored for the chance to not only represent my district, but the residents along the Gulf Coast whose patriotism is the best in the nation.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Set your goals higher than those given or assigned to you. Put your applicant's needs ahead of your own. Strive every day to win over others through humility and integrity- the rest will take care of itself.

How has the Navy changed your life? Coming into the Navy one week after high school, I went to being lost with no direction to being a successful leader. The Navy has helped to mold a young man who was shy and

immature to a career officer who is confident and wiser. The Navy and the experiences I've had serving this country have all shaped my attitude to become someone who realized the importance of belonging to something greater than yourself.

Hobbies and interests: Boating, fishing, diving, traveling, reading, and teaching.



Medical Programs Recruiter of the Year



Lt. Juli Schmidt

Navy Recruiting District New York

Hometown: West Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y.

How long have you been in recruiting? Six years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS *Tarawa* (LHA 1) - Navigator/Aux. Officer/Electrical Officer/Legal Officer

Surface Warfare Officer School - Student

United States Naval Academy - Assistant Company Officer

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I am extremely happy, overwhelmed and humbled. I truly did not expect this recognition, as I have never really compared my success or production against anything or anyone else beyond the local recruiting level. I know I work hard every single day, and I give it 100 percent effort every day. Being recognized for my accomplishments is truly rewarding.

What advice would you give to others in your position? When I began recruiting six years ago I made a personal commitment to finding the very best men and women to lead, mentor and develop our Sailors without compromising my integrity or lowering our standards. It took a complete commitment to my job with many long days and nights, countless hours away from home and a few tough lessons learned. There are no working hours if you are a productive recruiter. You are dedicated to meeting the needs of your applicants, and you have a responsibility to provide them with accurate and honest information, with all the resources necessary for them to make a well-informed decision for themselves and their families. Not knowing your programs is as good as lying, therefore you must make a concerted effort to becoming a subject matter expert in the programs you are recruiting to – and that's coming from a SWO who is recognized for her success in Medical Recruiting. You need to understand the policies, procedures and be accountable. And you should have trust and confidence in your chain of command and department. Despite my best efforts to process every single application, I could never do it alone.

Your future goals? To continue to grow as a professional and leader, and to get back to the fleet to lead Sailors once again. I have loved this position, and I have enjoyed the autonomy, however I am completely passionate about being a naval officer and working alongside the selfless men and women that serve this country. I want to continue my career as a newly converted Human Resources Officer, and I look forward to my next challenge.

How has the Navy changed your life? In too many ways to mention right now! I think most importantly I have become a true patriot and I love our country more than ever. As a recruiter I have answered this question countless times. The Navy has given me a great position with the opportunity to directly effect and help shape the lives of so many people. I get to be that high school coach or teacher, that mentor, or that great role model. And I get to do it all while serving with the very best this country has to offer, in one of the most trying times in our nation's history. Every day is a new adventure, and I am constantly challenged and I am constantly growing personally and professionally.

Hobbies and interests: I am an avid exerciser and runner. I am a certified (AFAA) group exercise instructor and Pilates Instructor. I enjoy boating (not sailing!), skiing, reading, and traveling. And it all should be done with family and friends.



NUPOC Recruiter of the Year



ITCS(SW/AW) Tyrone D. Scafe

Navy Recruiting District Seattle

Hometown: Bridgeton, N.J.

How long have you been in recruiting? Two years

Previous commands and job titles:

Commander Carrier Air Wing 9 - ADP/Communications Department LCPO

Patrol Squadron 45 - Administration Department LCPO

Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes - Recruit Division Commander

USS *Porter* (DDG 78) - ADP LPO

U.S. Naval Antarctic Support Unit, Christchurch, NZ - Communications LPO

USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) - Communications Work Center Supervisor

USS *Pledge* (MSO 492) - Radio Operator

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? Thrilled and blessed! Just knowing that there are a lot of true professionals within Navy recruiting who do an outstanding job everyday is awesome within itself.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Continue being professional and remember that we are the face of the nation. The long hours do pay off whether or not we are recognized. Just know that we hold the keys in the continued efforts of remaining the most powerful Navy in the world.

Your future goals? Continue to work my reliefs out of a job and become a command senior chief and ultimately a command master chief and possibly become the first African-American Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.

How has the Navy changed your life? Never could I have imagined that I could accomplish so much in such a short lifetime. The Navy has provided me with an education, trade, friends for life, and sea stories that others may just dream about. As I tell many prospects and potential applicants, I have not heard of any corporation in America that offers more than the United States Navy does. Dreams really do come true.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy going to church and fellowship with others, playing the piano, and taking long walks to reflect on what's next that I need to accomplish for my family.



Nuclear Field Coordinator of the Year



MM1(SW/AW) Brian E. Moore

Navy Recruiting District Nashville

Hometown: Lynnville, Tenn.

How long have you been in recruiting? Three years

Previous command and job title:

USS *George Washington* (CVN 73) – Work Center Supervisor, and Training Petty Officer

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? This great honor is an enormous blessing from God who has given me this opportunity. I am thankful for the recognition for all the hard work and long hours that were put in by me and my team at NRD Nashville. I hope that by receiving this award my career will be taken to the next level. This honor will be a memory I will never forget.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Always be proactive. When you stay ahead of the game and complete all tasks as soon as possible, you will never feel overwhelmed and be able to work at your fullest ability.

Your future goals? I hope to make chief and beyond as well as complete my bachelor's degree.

How has the Navy changed your life? I grew up in the country on a cattle farm, isolated from a lot of the mainstream and I was very shy. Now I operate nuclear power plants, have the ability to talk to anyone, and have developed leadership skills that will last a lifetime.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy doing community service projects with my Sunday school class, playing basketball, football, and golf, spending time at home and sightseeing with my wife and two boys.



Recruiter in Charge of the Year



GSM2(SW) Rudy Lopez

Navy Recruiting District Los Angeles

Hometown: Los Angeles, Calif.

How long have you been in recruiting? Twenty-two months

Previous commands and job titles:

ACU 5/Camp Pendleton - Lead Deck Mechanic

USS *Benfold* (DDG 65) - Work Center Supervisor/Repair Parts Petty Officer

USS *Higgins* (DDG 76) - Engine Room Operator

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I feel incredibly overwhelmed. I am still in disbelief that I was actually selected for such a prestigious award and I am very excited to travel to our nation's capitol. I am very thankful for all the effort and hard work that my station and I did as a team to get me here.

What advice would you give others in your position? Stay positive and take care of your recruiters because they will take care of you when you need them. Conduct training constantly until you can train yourself out of job. And most importantly, do things the right way and always maintain your integrity.

Your future goals? My future goals are to make petty officer first class, put in my career recruiter force package and reenlist. My ultimate goal is to make master chief petty officer one day and retire from the Navy.

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has given me so much to be thankful for and has made me extremely independent, resourceful, and more successful than I ever thought I could be. The Navy has made me very confident which has allowed me to give back to others and I am constantly trying to pass on the same knowledge, information, and opportunities that I have been blessed with.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy golfing, bowling, watching movies and I try my best to exercise three to five times a week. I am also interested in pursuing a degree in Business Management for hotel/restaurants so that I can one day work in the hospitality industry after I retire from the Navy.



Classifier of the Year



PS1(SW) Estela J. Makahi

Navy Recruiting District San Francisco

Hometown: Tamuning, Guam

How long have you been in recruiting? Almost four years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS *Frank Cable* (AS 40) - ESO Supervisor

PSD Guam - Identification Clerk

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I am still in awe and shocked. I am still speechless and in disbelief that I was selected out of the whole nation. Just the Region West Classifier of the Year alone was a huge honor, but being selected as the National Classifier of the Year is something I least expected. I won't realize how big of an honor this is until I am in Washington, D.C., for the award. It will be proof that I am the chosen one. I am just truly blessed that my command has selected me to represent NRD San Francisco.

What advice would you give to others in your position? The best advice I would give is what my commanding officer has given our command, "Do your job, take care of your people, and do the right thing." You can't go wrong with that statement. Also, adapt to change. Being in recruiting for more than three years, I have adapted to change. Some changes may not be for the better but we still have the job of putting people in our Navy.

Your future goals? My short-term goal is to complete my bachelor's degree in a year or two. It is my goal to either make chief petty officer or be selected for Limited Duty Officer. My long-

term goal is to retire as the highest possible rank (enlisted or officer).

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has changed my life for the better. My only regret is not enlisting earlier. I was able to be stationed with my family and still see the world on deployments. I have visited foreign places that I would never imagined I would see. The Navy has taken care of my family and also given them the opportunity to travel. The Navy gave me the chance to make my parents proud of me. I could not see myself doing anything else but serving in the United States Navy.

Hobbies and interests: I share my hobbies with my daughter. We enjoy hula dancing and learning the Hawaiian language and culture. During the summer months, we also enjoy outrigger canoe paddling and competing. We love going to the movies.



Zone Supervisor of the Year



NCC(AW/SW/NAC) Jessie L. Jones, Jr.
Navy Recruiting District Atlanta

Hometown: Gainesville, Fla.

How long have you been in recruiting? Almost five years

Previous commands and job titles:

VQ-4 - In-flight Technician E-B Mercury

Helicopter Anti-submarine Light 44 - Lead Avionics Technician on H-60B

USS *Mount Baker* (AE 34) - Deck Seaman

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? This is a feeling that words cannot explain. I am honored to represent all zone supervisors across the nation. I could never have dreamed this up, but the credit does not belong to me. The credit belongs to all the great Sailors in NRD Atlanta Zone 2 that I have the pleasure to work with and lead. This is a very humbling experience because I know that there are many zone supervisors across the nation that are working just as hard to meet today's mission and they are doing a great job.

What advice would you give others in your position? Put your sailors first and last. First, you need to train, develop, and lead your Sailors. By training your Sailors, you as the leader are ensuring that your Sailors have all the tools to be successful at any endeavor they undertake. A Sailor's development is vital, because you are ensuring they become effective leaders to keep our Navy strong so in the future they will be able to lead, train, and develop future Sailors to come. The last thing is taking care your Sailors, because I believe if your Sailors know that you have their best interest at hand and they know you truly care about all aspects of there life (both personal and professional), they will give you their all.

There is a saying that I always use at the end of my zone training, "A good leader takes people where

they want to go, but a great leader takes people where they ought to be." I believe in this statement and this is what I instill into my Sailors everyday as I lead them to bigger and better things.

Your future goals? To position myself in this great Navy, so I can make a bigger impact on Sailor's lives and careers. I would like to be Navy Recruiting Command's future National Chief Recruiter.

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has given me the opportunity to live a great life. This is the world's most powerful Navy and I'm honored to serve this great nation. Many have come before me and laid the path and I am proud to assume the role and keep the great tradition going.

Hobbies and interest: I am a member of The Number One Stunnas Motor Sports Club. We are a non-profit organization that has a common interest: A love for riding motorcycles. We have volunteered numerous hours of community service in order to make an impact on the community. We participate in Adopt-a-Highway, Big Brother and Big Sister, and Hosea Feed the Hungry.



Diversity Enlisted Recruiter of the Year



GSE1(SW) Jose Angelo B. David
Navy Recruiting District Los Angeles

Hometown: Malabon City, Philippines

How long have you been in recruiting? Thirty-one months

Previous commands and job titles:

USS *Chung-Hoon* (DDG 93) - Gas Turbine System Technician/Maintenance Man

USS *Shiloh* (CG 67) - Gas Turbine System Technician/Maintenance Man

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? It feels great! I am honored to be selected for this national award. I have been recruiting for about thirty-one months now, and I can say that recruiting has been one of the most challenging tours I've had in the Navy but also the most rewarding.

What advice would you give to others in your position? A lot of people say that recruiting could either make you or break you. Here are some pointers that I have learned in my Navy career and while in recruiting: Always strive for the best; do not give up on life challenges; and be proactive at all times. Do not forget to give credits and thanks to the people you work with. Look back and do not forget where you came from. Always plan, have dreams, and have goals. There is no way I could have made it to Diversity Enlisted Recruiter of the Year and have a successful tour in recruiting without the support and guidance of my colleagues, His blessings, and the undying support from my wife.

Your future goals? Make chief petty officer, apply for Limited Duty Officer program, start some college classes and get my associate's and bachelor's degrees in the near future.

How has the Navy changed your life? Being born and raised in the Philippines there have been countless ways that the Navy has changed my life. It taught me to believe in myself that I could do better things and excel. The Navy gave me the chance to make a difference in the world and touch peoples' lives. It taught me to be more sensitive, patient and understanding not only with my family but others.

Hobbies and interests: Recruiting has occupied most of my time for the past two-and-a-half years. During my off hours, I normally watch movies at home with my family but I am really interested in learning more about photography.



Diversity Officer Recruiter of the Year



Lt. Anthony T. Cosby
Navy Recruiting District San Antonio

Hometown: Tanner, Ala.

How long have you been in recruiting? Twenty-seven months

Previous commands and job titles:

U.S. Naval Academy - NAVSTA XO/Enlisted PERSOFF

USS *Curtis Wilbur* (DDG 54) - Training Officer/Assistant OPS

USS *Roosevelt* (DDG 80) - AUXO/MPA

SWOS Newport, R.I. - Division Officer's Course

NROTC Auburn University - Officer Candidate

PSD Atlanta - Personnelman

USS *Halyburton* (FFG 40) - Ship's Personnelman

PSD Charleston, S.C. - Personnelman

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I am very humbled to be recognized as this year's Diversity Officer Recruiter of the Year.

What advice would you give to others in your position? I would encourage other officer recruiters to treat all applicants with dignity and professionalism throughout the entire officer application process.

Your future goals? My future goals are to live everyday to the fullest and continue

lifelong education.

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has provided an outlet for me to help others. Throughout my naval career I have had the unique opportunity to help others reach their goals. Specifically, as a minority officer I have been able to provide insight to other minorities that are striving for a dream but may need a some direction to achieve it. The privilege of serving my country and helping others has changed my life with purpose and meaning.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy golf, reading, and my wife and I like to experience different local restaurants.



NSW/NSO Recruiter of the Year



SW2(SCW) Sanjay Prakash
Navy Recruiting District Seattle

Hometown: Ba, Fiji Islands

How long have you been recruiting? Two years

Previous command and job titles:

NMCCB 3 - Project Crew Leader, Squad Leader, and Safety Supervisor

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? Unbelievably happy. I never thought that I will be awarded for something at the national level. All my hard work and long hours have paid off.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Start your day with positive mental attitude, and positive things will happen. If you do not gain anything, you do not lose anything.

Your future goals? Making command master chief and retire.

How has the Navy changed your life? In many ways. It has taken me from being a sugar cane farmer to becoming a Sailor. I came to America with \$100 in my pocket and now I have everything including a house.

Hobbies and interests: Movies, watching TV and volunteering at the local community center, the Auburn YMCA.



NSW/NSO/AIRR Coordinator of the Year



QMC(SW/SWCC/PJ) Erik P. Kraft
Navy Recruiting District San Francisco

Hometown: Sacramento, Calif.

How long have you been recruiting? Almost four years

Previous commands and job titles:

Special Boat Team 12 - CPOIC and Patrol Officer

Naval Special Warfare Center - SWCC Instructor

Special Boat Unit 12 - Patrol Boat Navigator and Boat Captain

USS *Harry W. Hill* (DD 986) - Quartermaster

USS *Copeland* (FFG 25) - Quartermaster

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I feel very fortunate and blessed.

I know that every NSW/NSO Coordinator and mentor nationwide take pride in their jobs and what they do. I'm sure it was difficult pinpointing just one. NRD San Francisco strives to be the best in every category and by me being chosen for this award and accomplishment is a testament to the hard work and dedication that my entire command has endured. It's because of the hard work and sacrifices of the recruiters and RINCs that I am able to accept this award and I want to thank them for everything they've done.

What advice would you give to others in your position? In recruiting, this is a very simple question. Do your job, take care of your people, and do the right thing.

Your future goals? Retire in April 2010 and be a police officer.

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has impacted me in ways that I can't begin to imagine. It's been my world for 22 years. It's given me opportunities that only the Navy can offer. I've traveled around the world to over 40 different countries. I've swam in the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans in the same day. I've hunted and fished in Alaska and sky dived over San Diego Bay at night. I've chased very bad men up rivers at night in Iraq with nothing but a rifle and rubber boat. I've helped rebuild a village that was destroyed in the Philippines by Mt. Pinatubo. It's taught me to be a leader and a mentor and that serving your country is the most satisfying thing in the world. It's given me the opportunity to raise my family and buy a house without having to worry about whether or not I will have a job from day to day. I thank the Lord everyday for what he has given me and I owe most of it to the Navy.

Hobbies and Interests: Camping, hunting, fishing, golfing, dirt bike riding, spending time with my family.



Support Person of the Year



MA1 Claudia J. Duncan
Navy Recruiting District Denver

Hometown: Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

How long have you been in recruiting? Four years

Previous Command and job title:

Naval Security Force Okinawa - Leading Petty Officer

How Do I feel about being chosen for this honor? A little overwhelmed. I have always strived to do my best in every aspect of my Navy career, and to be recognized to this degree is an incredible honor.

What advice would you give to others in your position? I have been in recruiting for four years now, with most of that time as a field recruiter. I am very aware of the ups and downs, the time away from your family, and all the other challenges that recruiters endure. I would advise others to keep your head up, even in difficult times, include your family in your triumphs and frustrations, and always strive to do more, be better. It's also sometimes difficult to pursue personal goals in recruiting, such as education, physical training and community service, but it's important not to lose sight of those aspects of your career. Your family can be your biggest advocate and your foundation for success.

Your future goals? I am addicted to education, so working on my master's degree is a high priority for me.

How has the Navy changed your life? I joined the Navy after 9/11. I always have had a lot of interests, and done well with whatever I put my mind to, however I never felt the pride like I do with belonging to the Navy. The Navy has allowed me to pursue things that I never thought possible, that has allowed me to grow, and has provided for my family.

Hobbies and interests: I love long-distance running, playing with my girls and reading anything I can get my hands on.





CNO Roughhead Speaks at Morehouse College



Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Roderick Jesse, NRD Atlanta Public Affairs

ATLANTA – Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughhead visited Morehouse College to talk during its Presidential Chat and Executive Lecture series.

Midshipman 1st Class Willie Parker, Midshipman 3rd Class Douglass Lightfoot, Matthew Rice and Pierce Gordon sat on the panel which facilitated the question-and-answer session with Roughhead.

During the discussion, the CNO addressed a variety of topics which currently affect the Navy today and will impact its future.

When the CNO was asked about the steps the Navy is taking to improve diversity in officer ranks, Roughhead pointed out the fact that the Navy has



Students at Morehouse College join the CNO, Adm. Gary Roughhead, for a Presidential Chat at the Leadership Center Auditorium located on the Morehouse campus in Atlanta. Left to right are panel members Midshipman 1st Class Willie Parker, Midshipman 3rd Class Douglass Lightfoot, CNO, Matthew Rice and Pierce Gordon.

already taken the initiative to attract a more diverse group of Sailors by reaching out more aggressively to more communities and participating affinity groups.

“We currently, this year, have the most diverse class that has ever entered the Naval Academy. We have the most diverse class that has ever entered Naval ROTC in the history of the country,” said Roughead.

Lt. Cmdr. Barbara R. Eubanks, Officer Programs officer for Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Atlanta asked the CNO if he could speak on the Navy’s new branding campaign, America’s Navy – A global force for good, and what message he hoped it will send to the nation about the current focus and mission of the Navy.

“It captures what we do. It tells the story of what this nation’s Navy does. We are global, we are forward and we are indeed a force for good,” said Roughead.

During his address, Roughead also spoke about the Navy’s continued commitment to global humanitarian efforts, and the aid the Navy has delivered in places like Indonesia and Africa. “I argue that there’s no other military force on the planet that did what we did,”

said Roughead regarding the Navy’s efforts during a tsunami. “We brought tremendous assistance, relief from the sea, in ways that others couldn’t.”

Roughead then explained another point as to how the new slogan accurately portrays the mission of the Navy. “There’s also a force for good that comes from deterrence, when someone doing something that threatens a friend or a partner, or simply the security and stability in a particular area. It’s the strength that we portray and that we can put forward. That’s a force for good,” said Roughead.

CNO went on to explain how the slogan also encompasses the dedication, work ethic, and contributions of the Sailors both nationally and internationally. “And from the beginning of our history, young men and women have put this uniform on and have gone and done things for others and their record of service is global. What you see out there is also a tribute to them, and therefore what we have done is to have made a statement that is there to inspire young men and women today, to thank those who serve today and to honor those who have gone before us,” said Roughead.



USS *Sterett* (CG 31)

USS *Sterett*, DLG 31 (later CG 31), the sixth *Belknap*-class guided missile frigate, was laid down Sept. 25, 1962, and commissioned April 8, 1967.

On Jan. 7, 1972, *Sterett* departed for the Tonkin Gulf and was on a radar station on Feb. 21, 1972, when she became the first Navy ship to direct the downing of a MiG-21 by Air Force combat air patrol. On March 30, *Sterett* participated in the downing of two more MiGs.

Sterett's armament included one MK 42 five-inch/54-caliber gun, two three-inch (76 mm) guns, one Terrier missile/SM-2ER launcher, six 15.5-inch (394 mm) torpedo tubes, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, and two Phalanx close-in weapons systems.

Length: 547 feet overall; 524 feet waterline

Beam: 54 feet, 9 inches

Displacement: 5,409 long tons light; 7,890 long tons full load

Propulsion: geared turbines, 85,000 shaft horsepower; two shafts

Speed: 32 knots

Range: 7,100 nautical miles at 20 knots

Crew: 23 officers with 365 enlisted



On April 19, 1972, during the Dong Hoi engagement off the coast of Vietnam, *Sterett* was attacked by multiple enemy MiG aircraft and missile patrol boats. *Sterett* engaged the aircraft with Terrier missiles and shot down one MiG becoming the first U.S. Navy ship to shoot down an enemy aircraft with a guided missile. Later that day, *Sterett* launched a second salvo of Terrier missiles at an unidentified target, presumed to be a Styx surface-to-surface missile, destroying it in flight.

Sterett was reclassified as a guided missile cruiser in 1975. She was decommissioned on March 24, 1994.



Deputy Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Motivates Female Future Sailors



From NRD Nashville Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – On Dec. 16 Rear Adm. Robin Graf, deputy commander, Navy Recruiting Command, spoke to 50 young women waiting to ship off to Recruit Training Command and begin their Navy careers.

Graf addressed the all-female future Sailors that represented a significant portion of the 220 young women currently in Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Nashville's Delayed Entry Program (DEP) pool from nine recruiting stations.

NRD Nashville Executive Officer Cmdr. Jason Strength welcomed the future Sailors, introduced Graf, and then politely stepped out of the room, allowing the women to speak freely.

Graf spoke about the important roles women have in today's Navy.

"The main focus was three things: goals, making good decisions, and Navy policies and regulations," said Senior Chief Operations Specialist Minda McCranie, a reserve officer recruiter with NRD Nashville who stepped up to host the event. "I stressed the importance of keeping focused on individual goals and not letting other people or other things influence those goals."

Graf spoke on a number of topics including personnel qualification standards and training, officer programs, the Navy women e-mentor initiative, Navy Facebook pages including "Women Redefined," and the ability for women to now serve on submarines. She also

offered advice on physical fitness and the "do's and don'ts" of Recruit Training. Most of the time was spent fielding lively questions.

"Kudos to NRD Nashville for taking positive, preventative steps to address the challenges of female retention. I was honored to be able to address these young women in an open, free-flowing discussion about issues unique to professional, Navy women," said Graf.

"I really admire Adm. Graf for taking the time to speak with us," said future Sailor Traci Howell who joined the Navy as a Hospital Corpsman on July 16, 2009, and attends Middleton High School in Middleton, Tenn. The DEP commanding officer at Navy Recruiting Station (NRS), Jackson, Tenn., Howell said, "I think the Admiral really inspired us to be motivated and make good life decisions."

Future Sailor Kayla Riggall hails from Jackson, Tenn., and joined the Navy Oct. 22, 2009, as a Cryptologic Technician (Collection). Riggall, DEP executive officer at NRS Jackson, said, "We really enjoyed being together (and) to be able to freely speak about problems we face or may experience as women in the Navy. I have a much better idea about what to expect and what I need to do to be successful. Having the opportunity to speak with Senior Chief McCranie and Rear Adm. Graf was priceless."





NRS FORDHAM ROAD HELPS LOCAL COMMUNITY

By Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW/AW) Eric Durie, NRD New York Public Affairs

BRONX, N.Y. – For the recruiters of Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) Fordham Road, it’s all about how many people in the local community they can help.

“This is what I believe recruiting duty is all about,” said NRS Fordham Road Recruiter in Charge Quartermaster 1st Class (SW/AW) Adam Congello. “It’s not just about finding people to join the Navy, it’s about giving back to the community and showing people what a great organization we are.”

During the later part of 2009, Congello and three of the recruiters assigned to his station spent time visiting the residents of the Providence Rest Nursing home in the Bronx. “The people at the nursing home love seeing people in uniform. It brings them back to their heyday,” said Congello.

For Congello, these visits are about more than just making the residents of the nursing home and the local community happy. They’re also about promoting positive Navy awareness in an area not generally exposed to the fleet.

“With the exception of Fleet Week,” Congello said, “New York City doesn’t get a chance to see what the Navy is all about. Projects like this show them that we are here, we are part of their community, and that we’re here to help.”

The recruiters of NRS Fordham Road have also worked closely with the students of the Grand Concourse Academy, a Bronx elementary school, over the past few months. Congello, his recruiters, Grand Concourse Academy, and Providence Rest Nursing home recently joined forces to conduct a Bronx-wide food drive.



QM1(SW/AW) Adam Congello and SK2(SW) Edwin Caceres stand with residents of the Providence Rest Nursing Home Adult Day Care Program who helped contribute to a recent food drive for New York City homeless. (Courtesy photo)

“For this food drive, I wanted to use the entire borough of the Bronx, as well as different generations. I chose the nursing home to represent what made America great, my recruiters to represent what continues to make our country great, and the elementary school students to represent our nation’s future,” said Congello.

Food collected in the drive was donated to the Food Bank of New York City to help feed the city’s homeless.

Congello believes that for the students of the Grand Concourse Academy, getting involved in community service such as the food drive is important. “Being an inner-city school, this project is a step in the right direction for these children to stay out of trouble and do something for their community,” he said.

This positive influence is something the recruiters of NRS Fordham Road plan to continue. “We will be conducting classroom visits and a read-aloud

program at the Grand Concourse Academy and Public School 49's second grade classes throughout the school year. A positive force can make a big difference in the lives of these kids. You have to catch them early in life, especially in the Bronx, to let them know that there is always a way to succeed in life," said Congello.

As the Navy reinvents itself as a global force for good, the recruiters of NRC Fordham Road are demonstrating how easy it is to also be a "local force for good."



FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR, NRC RECEIVES TOTAL FORCE RETENTION EXCELLENCE AWARD



By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jared Hill, NRC Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – For the third year in a row, the headquarters staff of Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) received the Navy Total Force Retention Excellence Award.

In a message Jan. 20 to the Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education domain, Vice Adm. Mark E. Ferguson III, the Chief of Naval Personnel, said the key to NRC's success is commitment.

"Your successes represent your command's commitment to the growth and development of your Sailors and will serve as the foundation of Navy Total Force effectiveness," Ferguson said.

In order to achieve the award, a command has to meet retention requirements for at least two out of the four quarters in a fiscal year. NRC met three out of the four quarters, exceeding the requirements for the award.

Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW) Cristy Justice, NRC's command career counselor, assists Sailors at NRC by keeping them informed of programs and benefits that the Navy has to offer. She was happy to learn NRC received the award for the third consecutive time.

"It's a prestigious award," she said, "one that shows that this command is doing what it should to keep its Sailors happy while meeting the standards of the Navy."

According to Justice, the recent downturn in the economy has been a factor in Sailors at NRC staying Navy. Chief Personnel Specialist Romel Agliam, enlisted programs specialist at NRC, agrees. "Right now, with the way that the economy is, Sailors are looking for job security," said Agliam.

"One of the biggest incentives Sailors have for staying in the Navy is to achieve their educational goals," he said. "Programs like the Montgomery GI Bill and tuition assistance provide them with the money they need to pay for school."

In addition to NRC, 25 of the 26 Navy Recruiting Districts across the country were also recognized for their retention efforts.



RECRUIT GOES FROM ICE SCULPTOR TO SAILOR



Story and photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist (AW) Paul DeLaughter, NRD New England Public Affairs

BOSTON – Future Sailor Anthony Pacitto, a chef and part-time ice sculptor from Wakefield, Mass., lent his artistic talents to several ice sculptures over the last week of 2009 in support of Boston's annual First Night celebration held Dec. 31 – just days before he shipped off to boot camp.

Pacitto, who holds a culinary arts degree and has worked as a chef since 2004, said he decided to join the Navy to see the world and work while doing it. "I wanted a change – a chance to do good in the world," said Pacitto. "At 26 years old I just wasn't happy with where I was in my life, and the Navy is something I've always been interested in – I wanted to challenge myself."

His reasons for joining are becoming a popular sentiment among America's youth. Research gathered by Navy Recruiting Command and its advertising agency, Campbell-Ewald, found that people considering joining the Navy are primarily doing so because they want to do their part in making the world a better place.

Navy Counselor (SCW) Greg Perpignan, recruiter in charge at the Waltham, Mass., Navy Recruiting Station, said Pacitto is exactly what the Navy is looking for. "He showed up knocking on the door," Perpignan said. "He wanted the Navy bad and was going to do whatever it took to get it."

Perpignan said Pacitto initially wasn't qualified to join because his test scores were too low and his weight was too high. But, that didn't stop him. "He showed up to new recruit meetings even before he was able to enlist," said Perpignan. "He would come in and help around the office and he kept working on his test scores and fitness until he got them both within standards. He definitely has the work ethic to be successful in the Navy."



Soon-to-be Navy recruit Anthony Pacitto of Wakefield, Mass., works on an ice sculpture of Michelangelo's "David" outside the Massachusetts State Building in preparation for Boston's annual First Night celebration. Pacitto shipped off for basic training Jan. 20.

Eventually Pacitto was able to enroll in the Navy's Delayed Entry Program and scheduled to leave for basic training Jan. 20.

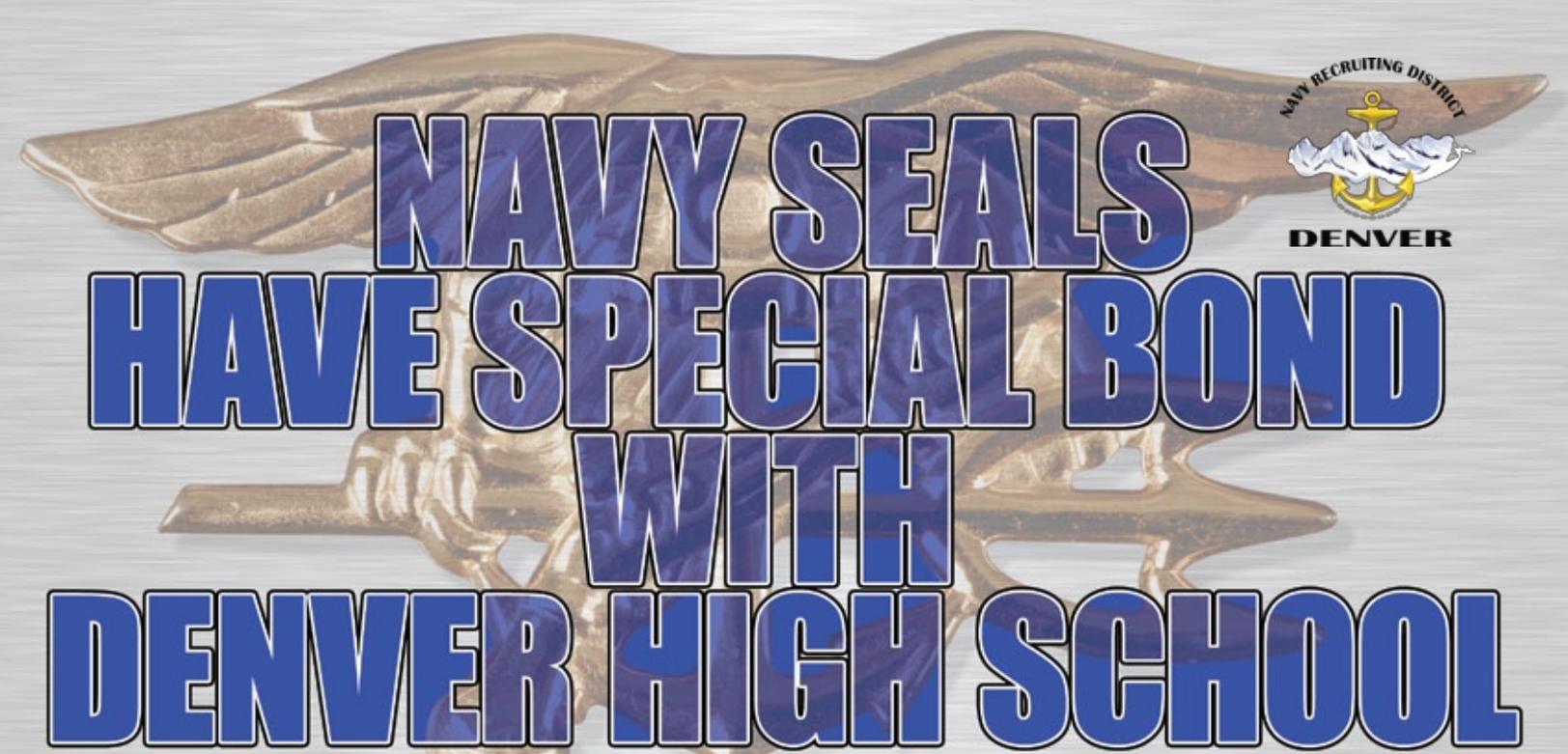
Pacitto's boss for the past six years, Donald Chapelle, owner of an ice sculpture business in Lawrence, Mass., said he is happy for his former protégé but admits that his shoes will be hard to fill. Chapelle said, "The Navy is gaining a valuable asset because not only is Pacitto talented but he is hardworking as well."

"You know...you can have all the talent in the world and still be lazy," said Chapelle. "People who are ambitious, hardworking and willing to learn are the people who become successful. I think he's a rock star."

After basic training, Pacitto will receive follow-on training to become a boatswain's mate – a far departure from working in the kitchen – leaving the question, why didn't the cook enlist as a cook?

"My plan right now is just to make it to day two of boot camp," Pacitto said. "It's just like the movie 'Men of Honor.' If I don't get to the top, then I don't consider it a success. I want to be a chief – I want to be a master chief. The next time I work in a kitchen it will be at my own restaurant."





NAVY SEALS HAVE SPECIAL BOND WITH DENVER HIGH SCHOOL

Story and photo by Dan Puleio, NRD Denver Public Affairs

DENVER – What drives a team to succeed beyond all expectations? That is the question Heritage High School varsity football coach Mike Griebel and team mentor, Dan Dietz, father of Navy Sea-Air-Land (SEAL) Danny Dietz, pursued throughout this season.

On Dec. 5, the Heritage High Fighting Eagles football team defeated the Longmont High Trojans 42 to 28 in their first AAAA State Championship in the school's 37-year history. The answer to their unprecedented success lies in the inspirational bond formed between the students and faculty with the memory of Navy SEAL, Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Danny P. Dietz.

A 1999 graduate of Heritage High, Dietz was killed in action June 28, 2005, while engaged in a fierce firefight with the Taliban while searching for one of their key leaders in mountainous terrain near Asadabad, Afghanistan. The worst loss of military special operators in U. S. history, Operation Red Wing is well documented in Marcus Luttrell's best selling novel "Lone Survivor."

"The entire school, but especially the football team, gains strength and a sense of higher purpose for what we Americans live, work and fight for to honor our forefathers' ideals, from the memory of Danny's ultimate sacrifice. Seeing the team members touch a bronze plaque dedicated to Danny and SEAL Team 10 as they enter the playing field draws upon emotions that can't be described," said the senior Dietz.

Additionally, the city of Littleton, Colo., has erected a larger-than-life bronze statue in Berry Park and dedicated an 11-mile section of Santa Fe Boulevard as "Navy SEAL Danny Dietz Memorial Highway." Dietz's parents have also established a college scholarship fund which annually assists students at the high school. The Navy SEALs have always received special invitations to participate in these dedications.

However, for the championship game, an invitation was extended to SEAL Team 10 for senior members to fly out from Little Creek, Va., and address the school's varsity football team in the locker room at Mile High Stadium, conduct the opening coin toss at center field, and remain with the team on the sidelines for the entire game. "It was an unprecedented honor," stated SEAL Team 10 Command Master Chief, Master Chief Special Warfare Operator (SO) Kevin Pope.

Naval Special Warfare (NSW) and Naval Special Operations (NSO) members attached to the Denver Naval Operations Support Center laid the groundwork for the SEALs participation at the event.

In the locker room prior to the game Griebel had little new to say to the team. It had, no doubt, already been said earlier in the season. Instead he read aloud the entire SEAL creed and then turned the floor over to Pope and his teammate, SOCS Pete Musselman, who further inspired the team with heartfelt words

...tied to the Navy ideals of honor, courage and commitment.

SOCS Dave Preedy mentors young people selected for the NSW and NSO Programs. He works closely with NRD Denver's NSW/NSO coordinators to ensure selectees excel through initial Recruit Training and later Basic Underwater Demolition Team/SEAL training. Preedy said, "The physical conditioning has already been established. In fact both teams are equal in that respect. It's that intangible mental toughness to never, never quit that will make these team members better students, athletes and world leaders in the years to come. Have no doubt, it is this mindset that keeps America strong."



Members of SEAL Team 10, NSW/NSO personnel from Denver Naval Operations Support Center and NRD Denver join Heritage High School principal, Ken Moritz (center), Cindy and Dan Dietz (far left, middle row), and their daughter, Tiffany Bitz (left, front row), at Denver's Mile High Stadium for the AAAA State Championship football game. Heritage High, the alma mater of Navy SEAL Danny Dietz who was killed in action in Afghanistan, has embraced a close and ongoing relationship with the SEAL community.



NRD Raleigh **PARTICIPATES** **IN CHRISTMAS PARADE**

By Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs

RALEIGH, N.C. – Sailors from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Raleigh recently participated in the biggest Christmas parade between Washington, D.C., and Atlanta, Ga.–the 2009 Raleigh Christmas parade.

Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Fabian Peru and Operations Specialist 2nd Class Damien Brooks of Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) Durham, and Sonar Technician Surface 2nd Class Lawrence Robinson of NRS Raleigh rode on a float sponsored by a local business. The float's theme was "Let Freedom Ring," and it was dedicated to military service members. Sponsors said the float was an inspiring and

emotional experience. The most exciting and heartwarming part of the event was the wonderful reception given to our servicemen as the float passed by. People stood up, cheered, waved and saluted.

NRD Raleigh Commanding Officer, Cmdr. David Kemp, said, "It is always special to see the amazing support for our military in the Raleigh area. This is truly a great place."

NRD Raleigh Sailors expect to participate annually in the televised parade.



SARASOTA RECRUITERS SET SAIL AT CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE



By Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW/AW) Christy Miller, NRS Bradenton

BRADENTON, Fla.
– Navy recruiters from the Bradenton area participated in the 23rd Annual Sarasota Christmas Boat Parade of Lights on Sarasota Bay.

“All proceeds from this perennial event went to the foundation,” said Stagner.

But the best part of the event was that NRS Bradenton had a special guest along for the ride who is a retired World War II veteran submariner, Capt. Bob O’Neil. “O’Neil is a frequent visitor to the recruiting station. He comes in the station and provides Delayed Entry personnel with stories of the way the Navy used to be and experiences he has been through. He also brings laughter and (there’s) never dull moment,” said Stagner.

“It was such a ball being out there in the water and being part of a wonderful tradition here at Sarasota. This parade

Boats ranging from 21-foot to 100-plus-foot participated in this event where families and businesses alike lit up the bay with their festively decorated boats. This was the first time Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) Bradenton participated in this hugely popular community event where live media coverage was broadcast on local stations.

To show their involvement with the community and increase Navy awareness, recruiters decorated and manned a 21-foot vessel owned by Construction Mechanic 1st Class Erik Stagner that they called “Navy Blue and Gold Holidays.”

Around 3 p.m. on a breezy, sunny afternoon the boats made their way towards the channel which splits Saint Armands Key and Longboat Key from Sarasota. As spectators lined up along the shore, people could be seen stretching out to the end of the City Island Pier.

Stagner, along with the help of fellow shipmates Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW/AW) Christy Miller, recruiter in charge, NRS Bradenton; Machinist’s Mate 2nd Class Joseph Rising; and Sonar Technician Submarine 2nd Class Alex Nunez had fun displaying their Navy pride while also collecting money for a worthwhile charity, the Suncoast Foundation for the Handicapped, Inc.



NRS Bradenton recruiters are shown on board the “Navy Blue and Gold Holidays” boat, owned by recruiter CM1 Erik Stagner. Special guest on the bow of the vessel is retired World War II veteran submariner, Capt. Bob O’Neil. (Courtesy photo)

has been going on for many years and people used to stop us in our uniforms and ask why we never entered a boat. Now we can say the Navy (was) represented,” said Miller.

After the parade, recruiters went into the crowd and met with local families, and passed out

Navy Frisbees and beads to kids and teens. “The boat show was truly a success and brought in a lot of proceeds,” said Miller.

Approximately 100 special-needs individuals watched the parade from the VIP viewing area at Island Park. Other agencies also benefitting from the boat parade were United Cerebral Palsy of Sarasota-Manatee, Inc.; Special Olympics of Sarasota County; Community Haven for Adults and Children; and Mental Health Community Center.



STUDENTS SEND HOLIDAY CHEER TO DEPLOYED MILITARY



“It became a competition between classes. Each time someone donated a dollar, they got a green dot to put up on the hallway wall. If they gave \$5, they got a big green dot,” said Murz.

Murz had the students search the Internet to learn what service members might want. They purchased items such as toe warmers, sunflower seeds, puzzles, hand wipes, paper, pencils, envelopes, Christmas cards, and toothbrushes that don't need water, producing 50 packages.

*Story and photo by Elizabeth Allen,
NRD Portland Public Affairs*

CATHLAMET, Wash. – Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Brandon Grove, a recruiter with Navy Recruiting District Portland, helped students at John C. Thomas Middle School in Cathlamet send gifts to U. S. Armed Forces personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sixth-grade journalism teacher Tina Murz contacted Grove to help with mailing the packages overseas. Grove was more than happy to help. Currently serving as a recruiter in Longview, Wash., Grove has been an Individual Augmentee in Iraq.

“I've been on the receiving end of these packages,” Grove said as students prepared to load boxes into his car. “You lose touch with what's going on back home. When you get one of these boxes, it lifts you; it motivates you; it really helps with morale. It astounds me that a sixth-grade class came up with the idea. To see it in action from the beginning has been an amazing process.”

The idea came from student Rory Heywood who said, “I read a book called ‘Operation Yes’ about a girl living on an Army base, and she and her friends wanted their parents to come home. People donated money, and they got little green soldiers which they put up hoping for their parents to come home.”

She mentioned her idea in Murz's class, and it developed into Operation Green Dot to raise money for the care packages. The students raised over \$1,500.



AM2 Brandon Grove makes room for care packages being sent to service members serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Rory Heywood (far right) came up with the idea. Her sixth-grade journalism class at John C. Thomas Middle School in Cathlamet, Wash., raised money for, purchased and packaged the gifts.

Some of the packages were addressed to military personnel from the local area; the rest were sent to randomly selected troops.

The students addressed the boxes and loaded them into Grove's car, who told them, “To me, you all are the heroes.”

Grove delivered the packages to the Give to the Troops Foundation office in Salem, Ore. Established in 2002, Give to the Troops has sent more than 96,000 care packages and 20 million letters to approximately one million deployed U. S. troops.



NRD Seattle Sailors Get Wrapped Up in Christmas Spirit



Story and photo by Yeoman 1st Class Tara Miller, NRD Seattle Public Affairs

SEATTLE – In the spirit of the holiday season and continued service to the community, Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Seattle marked the end of another successful year by assisting in wrapping and organizing local donations to the Seattle Center Foundation's annual Sharing Gift Box for low income children, teens and elderly needing assistance.

"Think of giving back not as a duty but as a privilege," said Cmdr. Scott W. Murdock, NRD Seattle's commanding officer.

The purpose of the event was to give back to the community that has been so gracious in making NRD Seattle (Team Seattle) an integral part of the communities throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Sharing Gift Box was an obvious choice for their endeavors as this foundation ensures that no request is turned

away. It is a long-standing foundation that is well respected in the Seattle area.

Over 1,500 presents were wrapped, sorted and bundled for delivery the following day to all the local families that had requested assistance.



FCC(SW) Rich Martinez and Lt. Julie Burson were on hand to wrap packages for Seattle Center Foundation's Sharing Gift Box, which provides gifts for those in need during the Christmas season.

Organizers were especially thankful for the assistance provided by Team Seattle. Last year's event required organizers to work well into the night. This year the recruiters and civilians of NRD Seattle knocked out the packaging and organizing by early afternoon, saving the foundation hours of valuable time and energy.

It was an extraordinary event that will continue to be a part of NRD Seattle for years to come.



SAILORS TAKE THE PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Matt Gursky, NRS North Anchorage
Courtesy photos

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – On Dec. 19, 2009, a team of recruiters from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Seattle braved the cold and took the "Freezin' for a Reason" Special Olympics Polar Plunge Challenge at Goose Lake.

In the shadow of Mount McKinley, the air temperature was a brisk two degrees Fahrenheit. The water was slightly warmer at 32.8 degrees. According to event organizers, the challenge drew about 300 jumpers, 1,500 pledgers and up to 700 observers.

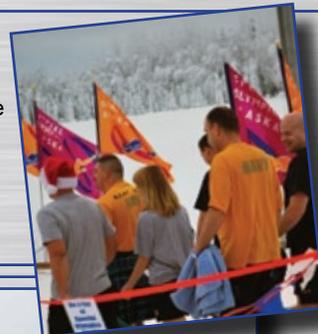
According to Alaska Special Olympics president and chief executive officer Jim Balamaci, the Navy team raised \$762 for the first Alaska Polar Plunge. "The money is used to give handicapped Alaskans the opportunity to participate in athletic events. It's a great opportunity that wouldn't be possible without the support of volunteers like the Navy team. It makes us a better community, and also gives a chance to meet the military and puts a face with those who are defending our country," said Balamaci.

Cryptologic Technician Collection 1st Class (SW/AW) Scott Moore, a recruiter from Soldotna, Alaska, had personal reasons for getting involved: "My family has a lot of friends who participate in the Special Olympics. When I found out the Navy was getting involved, there was no stopping me." Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 1st Class (NAC/

AW) Jason Hatfield from Navy Recruiting Station North Anchorage welcomed the opportunity to build camaraderie and help his community, but felt it was a great excuse to jump into a frozen lake in his hometown. He said, "It was for a good cause and I never had the opportunity to do something like this when it wasn't part of my job."

When asked what it was like to jump into a frozen lake in Anchorage in the dead of winter, Hatfield answered: "I was cold and surprised.

Participants from NRS North Anchorage brave the two-degree temperature to walk to the "Freezin' for a Reason" Polar Plunge for Special Olympics recently at frozen Goose Lake near Anchorage, Alaska.



CTR1 (SW/AW) Scott Moore, AWR1 (NAC/AW) Jason Hatfield, Ali Gursky, and BM1 (SW/AW) Matt Gursky yell "Go Navy!" before they jump into the frigid water for the "Freezin' For a Reason" Polar Plunge to raise funds for Special Olympics.

I turned to high five Petty Officer (Boatswain Mate 1st Class Matt) Gursky and then the next thing I knew, Petty Officer Moore was dragging me out of the water.”

Moore replied, “I thought the idea was to jump into the water and then get out. I just kept my eye on the steaming hot Jacuzzi.”

BM1 Gursky’s 15 year-old daughter, Ali, was reluctant in the beginning to participate in the polar plunge. She was concerned that she wouldn’t be able to raise money for the organization. The night before the plunge, Ali went knocking door-to-door just to see if it was possible to raise donations. To everyone’s surprise, she returned 25 minutes later with \$100 dollars cash in hand. She feels it was a great opportunity to give back to the community.

Balamaci summed up the event by saying, “It was a great success. We have events like the Winter Games, and the Special Olympics torch run coming



BM1(SW/AW) Matt Gursky tries to steady his breathing after plunging into the 32-degree water during the Special Olympics Polar Plunge near Anchorage, Alaska.

up. It’s clear that we have a great relationship with the Navy, and for us, that’s huge.”

The NRD Seattle recruiters hope to participate in 2010’s “Freezin for a Reason” polar plunge and double the money that they raised in 2009.



NRS JONESBORO MAKES CHRISTMAS BRIGHTER FOR FOSTER KIDS



By Chief Warrant Officer 4 Timothy D. Kilpatrick, NRS Memphis

JONESBORO, Ark. – Navy Recruiting Station (NRS) Jonesboro collected more than 120 toys for the Greene County Department of Children’s Services, Foster Care Division (FCD), during the Christmas season.

Recruiters Logistics Specialist 1st Class James Gillentine, Fire Controlman 2nd Class Scott Curnell, Electrician’s Mate 2nd Class Loren Schuchhardt, and Hull Maintenance Technician 2nd Class Nathan Thorpe, plus over 12 future Sailors from NRS

Jonesboro volunteered to collect toys, making a difference in foster-care children’s Christmas during dire economic times.

FCD employees were grateful to the recruiters and the future Sailors for making their project a priority. Although individuals made donations to them, NRS Jonesboro was the only group organization in Greene County to step up and assist them in this endeavor.



HS-10 WARHAWKS TAKE NAVY EXPERIENCE TO UTAH



Story and photo by Dan Puleio, NRD Denver Public Affairs

SALT LAKE CITY – The Warhawks of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 10, based in North Island, Calif., flew two SH-60 Seahawk helicopters and crew to Salt Lake City recently to share the Navy fleet experience with students and faculty of West High School and the University of Utah Health Science Center.

Adding to the excitement was the first winter storm of the season which turned the surrounding mountains into a winter wonderland, making the event even more memorable. High tech merged with the human side as the diverse male and female crew touched the lives of many Utah residents.

West High School offered a helicopter landing zone on their campus and allowed teachers and students the scheduling flexibility to go out and take a look. Noting 56 percent diversity among its 2,500 student population, West is the most intercultural high school in the state. Many first-generation Americans are included among the 1,100 students enrolled in English as a second language program.

“I was deeply moved by the life stories of several of the students who had escaped from Afghanistan and Pakistan to avoid being killed by extremist political factions. Hearing their words, ‘America is truly the land of opportunity’ holds new meaning for me,” stated HS-10 crewmember, Lt. Kelly Natter.

Retired Navy Capt. Timothy Lawrence, director of the West High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit stated, “The fleet helicopter visit and warm interaction of the crew with students and faculty have brought the dream to life for these students. It’s vital they see first-hand that the future can hold more than the limited circle of experiences in which many live.”

Navy mom Susan Anderson is credited with arranging the visit. A veteran of a Tiger Cruise aboard USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65), she developed a close and lasting bond with the HS community.

Additionally, Anderson is the facilities architect of the University of Utah Health Science Center’s rooftop heliport, a world-class disaster response facility located in the Wasatch Mountain foothills. Here the crew was warmly received by the on-site Air Medical Rescue staff, students and faculty of this premier teaching hospital.



Lt. Adam Whalen, HS-10 pilot, shows the inside workings of a helicopter to the child of a University of Utah Health Science Center staff member. The Warhawks flew two helicopters to Salt Lake City to assist the recruiting efforts of NRD Denver in this land-locked region.

Navy Recruiting Station Salt Lake City Recruiter in Charge, Quartermaster 1st Class (SW) Nicholas Smith, captured the spirit of the event when he said, “This is exactly what we needed to boost Navy awareness in this land-locked state. The adventure the Navy can offer a young person from Utah opened the eyes of many. The squadron’s visit was, in all respects, impressive”.



NORS ATLANTA OPENS IN HISTORIC BILTMORE HOTEL

Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Roderick Jessie, NRD Atlanta

ATLANTA – Nov. 24, 2009, marked the official re-opening of Navy Officer Recruiting Station (NORS) Atlanta in newly-constructed offices inside midtown's historic Biltmore Hotel. The occasion was marked with a ceremony and ribbon cutting, followed by a reception for guests and recruiters.

Officer Programs Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Barbara R. Eubanks, was the master of ceremonies and in her welcoming remarks she explained why it was an important moment in the history of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Atlanta. "It's a special privilege to be located in a place that combines the city of Atlanta's past with the Navy's future. We're proud to be tenants of such a distinguished, historic location and we wanted to mark the occasion in a way befitting the traditions of our Navy and the elegance of the building," said Eubanks.

"The Calling" video, part of the Navy's new brand and advertising campaign, America's Navy – A global force for good, was shown to kick-off the ceremony and set the tone for the event. The powerful video depicts United States Sailors proudly serving our country and shows prospective applicants why they would want to be a part of our great service.

"The Calling sends a great message because it speaks to the hearts of Sailors past, present and future," said Cmdr. Breckenridge S. Morgan, executive officer of NRD Atlanta. The Calling video can be accessed at <http://extensis.cnrc.navy.mil/creative/videos/CallingSD.wmv>.

NRD Atlanta Commanding Officer, Cmdr. William Garren, commented on the perfect timing of the new location and the new leadership taking the department in a successful direction.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Deborah Katz gave the audience an overview of the history of the Biltmore, followed by Rich Hagan, president of the Biltmore's property management company. Hagan spoke of his pride at having NRD as part of the Atlanta

midtown business community.

Daniel Lane of Atlanta was sworn in during the ceremony, becoming the first applicant to be commissioned into the Navy at the new location. Lane's family was in attendance to witness him being sworn in by his recruiter, Chief Warrant Officer 4 William Tabb.



(From left) NRD Atlanta Commanding Officer, Cmdr. William Garren; Officer Programs Chief Recruiter, NCCM (SW) Marshall V. Monroe; Rich Hagan, president of the Biltmore Hotel's property management company; and Officer Programs Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Barbara Eubanks, cut the ribbon at the new NORS office located in the historic hotel in Atlanta.



The Districts' Best Stations

October 2009

NRD Denver
NRS Cheyenne

NRD Houston
Small - NRS Woodlands
Medium - NRS Deridder
Large - NRS Alief

NRD Los Angeles
NRS Alhambra

NRD Minneapolis
NRS Sioux Falls

NRD Phoenix
NRS Rio Grande

NRD Portland
NRS Eureka

NRD Seattle
NRS Opportunity

NRD San Antonio
NRS Bandera

NRD San Diego
NRS Henderson

NRD San Francisco
NRS South Sacramento

Region East
Small - NRS Danbury
(NRD New England)
Medium - NRS Yorktown
(NRD Richmond)
Large - NRS Shrewbury
(NRD New York)

November 2009

NRD Chicago
NRS Sheboygan

NRD Dallas
NRS Athens

NRD Denver
NRS Aurora

NRD Houston
Small - NRS Marshall
Medium - NRS Rosenberg
Large - NRS Baytown

NRD Los Angeles
NRS Diamond Bar

NRD Minneapolis
NRS Bismarck

NRD Phoenix
NOSC Phoenix

NRD Portland
NRS Albany

NRD San Antonio
NRS Georgetown

NRD San Diego
NRS Santa Ana

NRD Seattle
NRS Whidbey

NRD St. Louis
Small - NRS Mt. Vernon
Medium - NRS
Independence
Large - NRS Wichita East

Region East
Small - NRS Newark
(NRD New York)
Medium - NRS Elmhurst
(NRD New York)
Large - NRS Fort Smith
(NRD Nashville)

December 2009
NRD Chicago
Medium - NRS Green Bay
Large - NRS Madison

NRD Dallas
NRS Athens

NRD Denver
NRS Pueblo

NRD Los Angeles
NRS Carson

NRD Minneapolis
NRS Eau Claire

NRD Phoenix
NRS Tucson

NRD Portland
NRS Eastport

NRD San Antonio
NRS Odessa

NRD San Diego
NRS Riverside

NRD San Francisco
NRS North Sacramento

NRD Seattle
NRS Lewiston

Region East
Small - NRS Marion
(NRD Michigan)
Medium - NRS Gretna
(NRD New Orleans)
Large - NRS Toledo
(NRD Ohio)

January 2010
NRD Chicago
NRS Madison

NRD Dallas
NRS Richardson

NRD Denver
NRS Scottsbluff

NRD Los Angeles
NRS Kapolei

NRD Minneapolis
NRS Dubuque

NRD Phoenix
NRS Las Cruces

NRD Portland
NRS Eastport

NRD San Antonio
NRS Copperas Cove

NRD San Diego
NRS Las Vegas West

NRD San Francisco
NRS Napa

NRD Seattle
NRS Spokane

NRD St. Louis
Small - NRS Topeka
Medium - NRS Blue
Springs
Large - NRS Rolla

Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters



October 2009

NRD Houston
OS2 Michael Blackshear

NRD Los Angeles
HM2 Deneetra Weaver
GSM2 Jorge Fajardo

NRD Minneapolis
HT1 Cody Terrill

NRD Phoenix
AM2 Alan Sloane

NRD Seattle
BM1 Joshua Heine

NRD St. Louis
GM1 Nicholas Heimsoth

November 2009

NRD Chicago
ABH2 Lloyd Morrow

NRD Dallas
NC1 Michael Blake

NRD Houston
STG2 Salvador Murillo

NRD Minneapolis
MM2 Timothy Crain

NRD Phoenix
NC1 Andres Palma

NRD Portland
BM2 Juan Torres

NRD San Antonio
OS2 Carly King

NRD San Diego
EN2 Abelina Valdez

NRD San Francisco
DC1 Monica Valenzuela

NRD Seattle
NC1 Erika Lamar

December 2009
NRD Chicago
OS1 Scott Turriff

NRD Denver
NC1 Robert Ringler

NRD Minneapolis
AME2 Todd Jeremias

NRD Phoenix
NC1 Andres Palma

NRD Portland
EO2 Phillip Chartier

NRD San Diego
AO2 Ronald Pierre
BM2 Jaime
Camposcisneros

NRD San Francisco
OS2 Cindy Townsend

NRD Seattle
NC1 Erika Lamar

Region East
STG2 William Long
GSM2 Tyrone Gibson
LS1 William Bunton
AO2 Jason Crum

January 2010
NRD Dallas
PS1 Igmedio Gasmen
QM2 Michael Williams

NRD Denver
EOC Matthew Dooley

NRD Los Angeles
MRC Soliman Somante

NRD Minneapolis
AM1 Erik Imme

NRD Phoenix
CE1 Hiram Flores

NRD Portland
EO2 Jason Miotke

NRD San Diego
UT2 Nickulo Maristela

NRD San Francisco
AS1 Nino Agustin

NRD Seattle
FC2 Jennifer Harrison





WE HERE HIGHLY RESOLVE

THAT WE SHALL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN

THE SOLDIER WE DID NOT LAY ASIDE