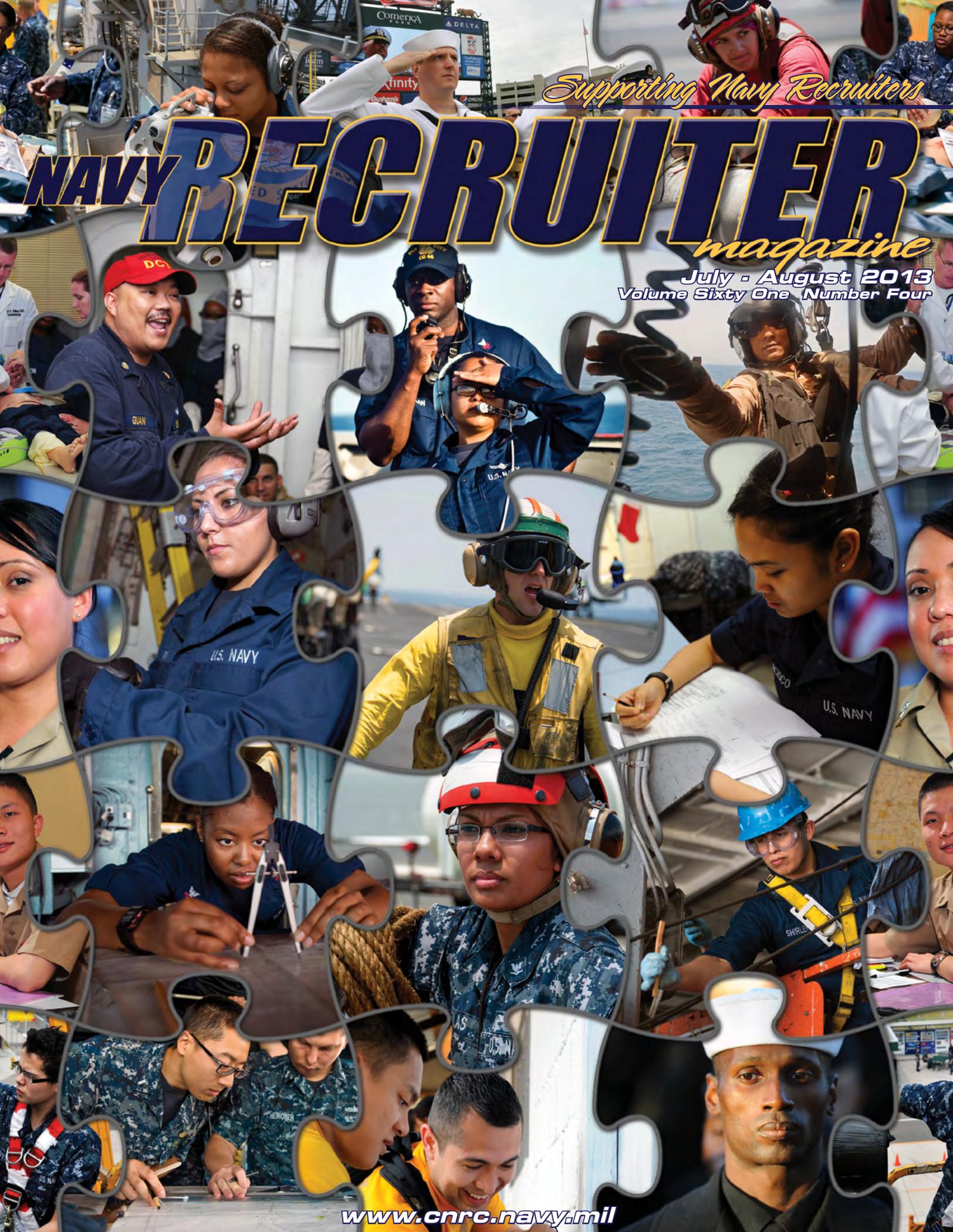


Supporting Navy Recruiters

NAVY RECRUITER

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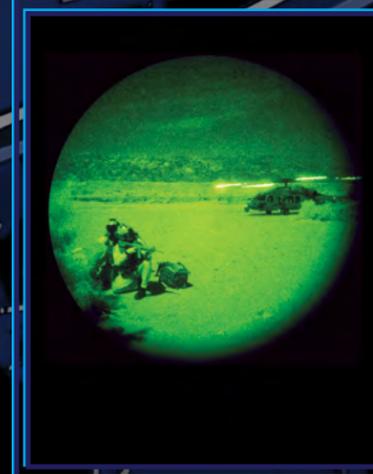
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Front cover: Like different pieces needed to fit together to complete a puzzle, the U.S. Navy is a diverse organization. Collectively, this diversity of races, gender, thoughts, skills and cultures gives us the strength to be the powerful leader that makes us a Global Force for Good. (Official U.S. Navy photos, illustration by Frank Ashe, NRC Public Affairs)



Back cover: Air crewmen assigned to the Black Knights of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 4, perform a personnel recovery drill during an opposing forces exercise. Members of the Helicopter Sea Combat Weapons School, Pacific assume the roll of enemy forces on the ground, who are pursuing the pilots and air crewman. (U.S. Navy photo by MCSA Conor Minto)

AMERICA'S NAVY

A GLOBAL FORCE FOR GOOD.™

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FROM THE NATIONAL CHIEF RECRUITER



Shipmates:

Welcome to the final quarter of fiscal year 2013. As the economy continues to improve, you must continue to stay sharp as we make the final push to success!

I would like to congratulate each and every one of you for a super job up to this point and encourage you all to keep up the fantastic effort. As we close out the fiscal year, I would like to revisit the CNO's continued initiative for a diverse Navy and the important role recruiting plays in making it a reality.

While we continue to focus on the diversification of all officer and enlisted applicants into active and reserve service, we must also maintain our primary focus on 'fit' and quality in all areas as well. Navy Recruiting has changed from finding a high volume of young men and women who meet basic requirements to prospecting highly-qualified individuals with the right skills to fulfill very specific program requirements. Our recruiting market remains solid, but there is a significant level of effort required to achieve the right fit and recruit highly-skilled professions like medical and nuclear in both the officer and enlisted sides.

Big Navy views diversity as a strategic imperative, which is not just about race or ethnicity. For us to successfully compete in the future as we take part in global technological and economic changes, we need to develop more cultural awareness and America's Navy must represent the population it serves.

Through diversification and partnering with organizations like the Federal Asian Pacific American Council, National Society of Black Engineers and many more on a national, regional, and local level, we create an invaluable awareness of the amazing opportunities that are available to those who may be interested in serving in the Navy.

Keep up your tremendous efforts as we continue to recruit the best and brightest future Sailors for service in the world's greatest Navy. Hoo-rah!

One Team, One Fight!



NCCM(SS) Jimmie A. Holt, Jr.
National Chief Recruiter
Navy Recruiting Command



PS2 Henry Johnson, left, OS2 Jeremy Jones and LS2 Class Alberta Lawson with NRD Houston conduct a color guard detail while spectators hold their hands over their hearts during the opening ceremonies of a golf tournament April 26 in Friendswood, Texas. Sailors also trumpeted the national anthem and played in the tournament. Proceeds from the tournament benefitted Combat Marine Outdoors, a non-profit organization that funds outdoor activities for severely wounded veterans. (Photo by MC2 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)



Navy Recruiting Command

Beyond the Call Program Returns, Highlights Global Force for Good

From NRC Public Affairs

Photos by Chris Desmond, NRC Creative Division

America's Navy has made the second installation of videos honoring current and former Navy personnel through its Beyond the Call diversity campaign.

This year's highlighted Sailors came from diverse backgrounds and took viewers on a journey that showed the impact the Navy has had on their lives, professionally and personally.

Our honorees' stories were released weekly April 8 until May 17 on US Navy Life and US Navy Latinos Facebook pages. The campaign invited viewers to comment and share stories of their Navy heroes.

district trainer at Navy Recruiting District New Orleans. The mother of two children, Robinson has focused her energy and enthusiasm on volunteerism, including Race for the Cure and the Wounded Warrior Project.

In addition to her career in the Navy, Robinson also competes in beauty pageants and last year won the Miss New Orleans title.

Robinson said, "The Navy really taught me that I could be anything I wanted to be as long as I believed in myself. I would have never gotten that opportunity if I didn't believe in myself."



Robinson



Castro

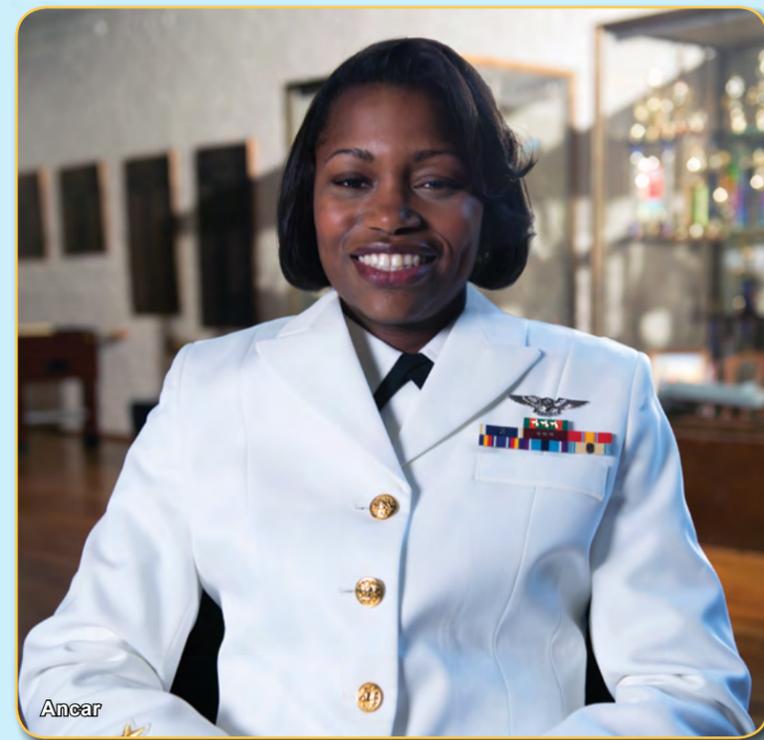
Capt. Horatio Fernandez, diversity director at Navy Recruiting Command, stated, "Last year, visitors to the Facebook page of Beyond the Call nominated other deserving individuals in the Navy whose efforts both on duty and in the community warranted recognition. Because we want to know more about our Sailors from people who know and admire their efforts, we invited [visitors] to share their stories of Navy achievers by uploading a story and photo on the Facebook page."

Navy Counselor 1st Class Latonya Robinson has been in the Navy 20 years and serves as a Navy

Lt. Arthur Castro, a Navy maintenance material control officer at Fleet Readiness Center, Mid-Atlantic Site New Orleans, is responsible for the safety of some of the most sophisticated Navy aircrafts.

A native of the Philippines, Castro joined the Navy in 1998 and has served on humanitarian missions, including the tsunami in Southeast Asia in 2004.

Castro credits the Navy with helping him overcome obstacles to achieve both his professional and personal goals.



Ancar

Married and the father of two children, he devotes his time to his family and volunteers with the Civil Air Patrol.

Castro said, "It's true that in the Navy you go global, report to work in a different time zone – or a different hemisphere. You also get to see firsthand the positive impact you'll make – for yourself, your country and the world at large."

Officer Candidate Nicole Ancar is a student in the Seaman to Admiral-21 Program, Nurse Corps option, at Tulane University in New Orleans, La. She joined the Navy in 1997 with a dream to become a nurse, and she quickly discovered that being in the Navy would allow her to achieve that dream. A single mother and student, Ancar always finds the time to pay it forward with volunteer work at her church and previous efforts with Habitat for Humanity and Second Harvest Food Bank. Ancar stated, "Being in the Navy and learning so many new things has given me the confidence to believe that I can do anything I can imagine."

Lt. Cmdr. Kenneth Vargas has been in the Navy for more than 25 years and serves as a contingency engineer/disaster preparation officer at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. Growing up as a young Native American, Vargas felt his heritage would be a constant barrier that he would have to overcome. Vargas joined the Navy in 1985, discovering that the Navy provided opportunities for him to travel the world, attend school and help him develop to become



Vargas



Ray

one of the highest-ranking active duty Native American officers to date. Married, he is committed to giving back and has worked with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society over the past five years, mentoring Native American youth. Vargas said, "The Navy gives you tools that, if used properly, will let you overcome any fear. I love being a Sailor, and the sea is something I respect but do not fear. The Navy has delivered on all of its promises to me."



Treviño

Cmdr. Sandra H. Ray is the dental department head at the Naval Branch Health Clinic, Belle Chasse, La. The Puerto Rican-born commander has been practicing comprehensive dentistry in the Navy the past 17 years. The proud mother of two boys enjoys mentoring junior officers and showing them how to succeed in the military. Her most memorable Navy experience was serving on the Pacific partnership mission where she worked on board the USNS *Mercy* (T-AH19), which provided dental care services for more than 1,500 patients. Ray continues her education with the help of the U.S. Navy and she hopes to complete a Master of Health Administration degree and retire as a captain. She said, "My time on the USNS *Mercy* was a great experience because we provided services to those who otherwise would not have had access to dental care, making a great impact in these communities. All the folks we treated were very thankful and helping them was extremely rewarding. You definitely feel better by giving rather than receiving."

Capt. Robert C. Treviño joined the Navy after obtaining a Bachelor of Science in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas, Austin. After six years of active duty as a Navy pilot, Treviño decided to join the Navy Reserve and pursue a career at NASA, where he currently works as an aerospace technologist focusing on extravehicular mobility units. Treviño remains active with the Navy by supporting the Office of Naval Research's Naval Science Awards



Miranda-Vargas

Program, where he serves as a judge in regional, state and international science fairs that encourage students to pursue careers in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. In tribute to his Mexican heritage and love for science, he is also a member of the Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists. Treviño stated, "It is critical that we pay attention to our young people and mentor them about all the career opportunities available in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math."

For the past six years, Lt. Ina Miranda-Vargas has had a fulfilling career in the Navy. She is currently the facilities engineer acquisition division director for Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Public Works Department in Southeast New Orleans. The Puerto Rican-born lieutenant put her skills into action soon after joining the Navy by becoming a member of the Naval Construction Force, also known as the Seabees. In addition to their projects within the Navy, Seabees also render humanitarian and disaster recovery assistance around the world. Miranda-Vargas enjoys being a mentor to others and capitalizes on her experiences as a Latina in a historically male-dominated field and demonstrating to others that they can achieve anything they set out to accomplish. "Having to be a leader and having to improve myself to be a better leader for others, by far, has been the most rewarding experience I've ever had in my life," said Miranda-Vargas.





Trauma Surgeon Commissioned in Navy Reserve

Story by HMC Bob Wheeler, NRD Philadelphia Medical Officer Recruiter
Photo by MC1 Larry S. Carlson, NRD Philadelphia Public Affairs

BALTIMORE –

When trauma surgeon Dr. Albert Chi was commissioned as a lieutenant commander in the Navy Reserve in a ceremony at Johns Hopkins Medical Center April 19, it was the culmination of a long journey

Chi always had a desire to serve his country but it wasn't until 2008 when he began his critical care/trauma surgery fellowship at the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore that he really began to think about the Navy.

During this time, Chi worked alongside a Navy Reservist, anesthesiologist Captain Rom Stevens, who eventually

introduced him to a local reserve officer in the Navy Dental Corps, Admiral Lew Libby.

The two officers helped Chi slowly learn about life in the Navy Reserve and how to balance it with a civilian career. "Their influence and the way they lead by example were the final factors in my decision to join," Chi said. He just needed to wait until the right time in his professional life to do so.

After completing his fellowship, Chi went across town to work as an assistant professor of surgery



Dr. Albert Chi, right, was recently sworn in as a lieutenant commander, Medical Corps, Navy Reserve by Rear Adm. Lew Libby, a dentist in the Navy Reserve. Chi is a trauma surgeon at Johns Hopkins.

at Johns Hopkins Medical Institute. There he got involved in groundbreaking work with prosthetic limbs that are controlled by patients' brains. These revolutionary devices can move, grip, and even feel sensations.

By the spring of 2012, Chi was ready to join the Reserves. He had to brief the idea to his employer as well as his wife, but it wasn't long before he started putting together his application. "The support I've received from my department chair and my department head at Hopkins has been overwhelming," said Chi.

It is a sacrifice, but it's one they all believe in and are willing to support.

Chi understands that being a trauma surgeon in the Navy Reserve is more than just wearing the uniform and that it is a commitment to an already busy life. "Drill weekends and potential deployments represent time away from my wife [and employer] but it's a sacrifice they are all willing to make," Chi said.

Chi's recruitment began nearly five years before he was commissioned.

The newest member of the Navy medicine team credits his decision to join to the influence of many individuals he has worked with throughout his years as physician. One such person is Stevens. The two became good friends at the trauma center and he delivered the welcoming remarks at the commissioning ceremony.

Also featured at the ceremony were others that have been instrumental in Chi's personal and professional life. His wife Danielle, along with retired Army Colonel Geoffrey Ling, placed the shoulder boards on his uniform. The first salute was offered by Army Capt. Mike Powell. Ling and Powell work with Chi on various initiatives advancing techniques with robotic prosthetics.

Libby, a Reserve dentist from Towson, Md., delivered the commissioning oath.

In addition to his duties as a trauma surgeon at Johns Hopkins, Chi has done extensive work in the field of re-innervation as it relates to prosthetics. His work with arm amputee Johnny Methany produced a prosthetic arm which is controlled by the patient's brain. The device not only has the ability to move like a human arm and hand, but also has the ability to send information back to the brain of the user, allowing the patient to feel sensations through the fingertips. Methany and his wife were among a group of Chi's patients at the ceremony.

As a physician in the Navy Reserve, Chi hopes to, "Serve my country in a capacity to help those servicemen and women wounded during times of conflict."

The work of Chi and the rest of the team was featured on a recent episode of the CBS news program "60 Minutes" in December.

Chi will work one weekend per month and serve two weeks a year on active duty performing surgery for the Navy while still working at Johns Hopkins.



NRD Atlanta Officer Recruiter, Chief Navy Counselor Leonard Whitehead, assists University of Georgia pharmacy students Will Spence, left, and Sean Szad as they sign their enlistment papers. The two are recent awardees of the Navy Health Science Collegiate Program. Designed to provide financial incentives for students in designated healthcare professions, this program allows them to complete degree/certification requirements and obtain a commission in the Navy Medical Service Corps. (Photo by MC1 Michael J. Scott I, NRD Atlanta Public Affairs)



NRC Conducts SAPR Training

Story and photo by MCSN Tyler Fraser, NRC Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – Following the May 23 all-hands call Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) held addressing Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR), NRC began conducting its own SAPR training June 10 through June 26 in conjunction with the Navy's SAPR stand down.

"This training gives Navy Recruiting Command the opportunity to be on the leading edge of establishing a culture change for the Navy," said Commander Carol Kushmier, director, training and quality assurance for NRC. "The training helps foster a command climate of dignity, trust and respect where sexist behaviors, fraternization, sexual harassment and sexual assault will not be tolerated, condoned or ignored."

Each day approximately 50 Navy and civilian personnel from NRC headquarters attended the training – totaling nearly 500.

The training focused on fraternization, sexual harassment, sexual assault and alcohol's role in sexual assault.

Representatives from NRC said the training had a big impact on Sailors and civilians involved with Navy Recruiting.

Chief Navy Counselor James Flaherty, a SAPR representative for NRC, said when an issue like sexual assault is brought to the attention of top-level personnel, it makes it clear how important this problem is.

"When we see Sailors make mistakes in their work, we immediately correct them and show them the right way that job is to be done," said Flaherty. "This is the same type of action that needs to take place while on liberty."

This training will not only help NRC Sailors and civilians but future Sailors in the Delayed Entry Program as well.

"Part of this training addresses the implementation of SAPR-D, a SAPR training program for future Sailors in



NCCM Glenn Blair, NRC staff senior enlisted leader, conducts SAPR training. Each day during the June training, approximately 50 Navy and civilian personnel with NRC headquarters attended, totaling nearly 500.

the Delayed Entry Program," said Lieutenant Candice Heck, the program manager for nurse corps reserves recruiting and SAPR representative for NRC. Heck said this training allows NRC staff to be aware of what future Sailors will see during their training.

A number of Sailors and civilians who participated in the NRC training said that this new and focused training was much different from previous SAPR trainings they have attended.

"Even though you have been through SAPR training, you haven't been through training like this," said Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Trista Hammer, an NRC waiver processor. "The training highlighted real-world scenarios. It really had a huge impact on me – it made me sick to my stomach to know things like this actually happened."

And that's because the training focused on real stories including scenarios such as a senior enlisted member who sexually assaulted an eight-year-old child, a husband who raped his wife, and an incident during a foreign port visit where two Sailors sexually assaulted a local woman, to name a few.

Lt. Cmdr. Claude McRoberts, director of NRC enlisted programs said, "NRC did a great job of providing engaging training with great scenarios that caused some debate and critical thinking."

Chief Personnel Specialist Michael Serrano, NRC enlisted human resources leading chief petty officer, said, "The tone of this training was very different. It's not just someone with a collateral duty who is giving this training; this is coming straight from the top of the command."

The training was conducted by NRC Chief of Staff, Captain Norberto Nobrega and the staff Senior Enlisted Leader, Master Chief Navy Counselor Glenn Blair.

Training was also conducted across the NRC enterprise with Navy Recruiting District leadership leading the way.

As Rear Adm. Earl L. Gay, commander, NRC, stated during the all-hands call, "Speak up when you see or hear of any issue. You are empowered and supported by leadership up and down the chain of command. Be sure to address the issue with the member in question regardless of rank. It's the right thing to do!"



Underway Education

Story and photo by MCC Grant Probst, NRD San Francisco Public Affairs

USS NIMITZ, At Sea – Educators from across the country were flown to the USS *Nimitz* (CVN 68) for participation in the U.S. Navy's Educators to Sea program while it was underway approximately 100 miles off the coast of California.

Teachers, coaches, and guidance counselors from coast to coast were flown to San Diego for an once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The group of 15 civilians arrived at Naval Air Station North Island (NASNI) for a tour of the base and a briefing at the Naval Air Forces Command headquarters on what to expect while on board the ship. The entourage was then escorted to the NASNI passenger terminal, equipped with safety equipment, and flown to the ship.

Once on board USS *Nimitz*, they were led off the flight deck to the interior of the ship for a reception. Commander, U.S. Third Fleet, Vice Adm. Gerald Beaman, gave remarks on the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics within the

scope of education. Captain Jeff Ruth, USS *Nimitz* commanding officer, welcomed the group to the ship.

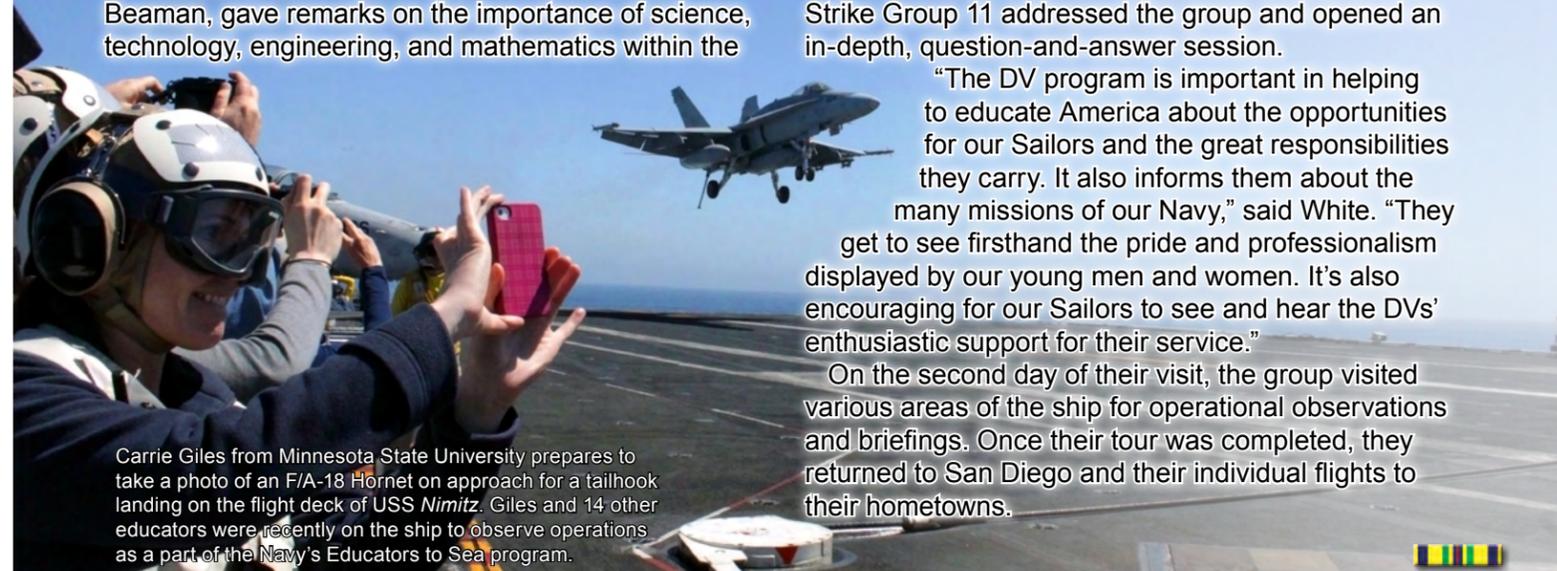
"We are a national asset and funded by the U.S. taxpayers. While we can't bring everyone on board during underway periods, hosting DVs [distinguished visitors] who are influential business leaders, community leaders and educators is a win-win situation," said Ruth. "They go back to their communities, classrooms, organizations and share their first-hand knowledge and experience with many others."

The educators spent time on the flight deck, observing operations including aircraft returning to the flight deck for tailhook landings. After witnessing a full rotation of aircraft launches and traps, they returned to the inside of the ship for a history on fighter aircraft and their diverse missions.

Rear Adm. Michael S. White, commander, Carrier Strike Group 11 addressed the group and opened an in-depth, question-and-answer session.

"The DV program is important in helping to educate America about the opportunities for our Sailors and the great responsibilities they carry. It also informs them about the many missions of our Navy," said White. "They get to see firsthand the pride and professionalism displayed by our young men and women. It's also encouraging for our Sailors to see and hear the DVs' enthusiastic support for their service."

On the second day of their visit, the group visited various areas of the ship for operational observations and briefings. Once their tour was completed, they returned to San Diego and their individual flights to their hometowns.



Carrie Giles from Minnesota State University prepares to take a photo of an F/A-18 Hornet on approach for a tailhook landing on the flight deck of USS *Nimitz*. Giles and 14 other educators were recently on the ship to observe operations as a part of the Navy's Educators to Sea program.



YMCA RECOGNIZES NRC SAILOR

the *Story and photo by MCSN Naomi VanDuser, NRC Creative Division*

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – The YMCA of Memphis and the Mid-South recognized a Sailor from Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) at the Memphis Botanic Garden April 25.

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Ty Connors received the Service to Youth Award for volunteering more than 300 hours as a swim coach for the Flying Fish swim team at the Millington Family YMCA.

His enthusiasm for swimming began at a young age. “I’ve been swimming my entire life,” said Connors. “My mom put me in the water when I was six weeks old.”

As a Sailor in the United States Navy, Connors was drawn to coaching the team of children from his own experiences.

“When I was a kid, I was in a military town and a lot of Sailors, reservists and active duty, helped out my swim team,” he said. “I thought it would be a perfect fit for me.”

Connors coaches 44 children varying from ages 5 to 21, all with different degrees of skill.

Senior Chief Culinary Specialist Felipe Tubera, a detailer at Navy Personnel Command, has two children that participate on the swim team.

“At first they did not know how to swim,” said Tubera. “I had to enroll them in swim lessons.”

It was through those lessons that Tubera’s children became a part of the Flying Fish. “Through Ty’s mentoring and teaching them the strokes, they improved a lot.”

Tubera said his girls enjoy swimming on the team. “One good thing with having a coach who is in the military is he can apply a military mindset. When it’s business, it’s business and when it’s fun, it’s fun,” he said.

“The kids love Coach Ty,” said Michelle Collins, head swim coach of the Flying Fish swim team at the Millington Family YMCA. “Ty is very energetic, compassionate and knowledgeable.”

Lieutenant Benjamin Addison, division officer for the N9 Creative Division at NRC, said that Connors is an inspiration to those around him.

“Petty Officer Connors has an infectious spirit of service that motivates and inspires everyone around



MC2 Ty Connors instructs one of his students proper swim techniques during practice at the Millington Family YMCA in Millington, Tenn. By teaching proper swim strokes and techniques, Connors helps the children become better swimmers.

him to do more,” he said. “He is always very positive about his service and that is very inspiring.”

Addison also said volunteer work gives Sailors the opportunity to give back to their communities. “We all have a duty to help out in the community and Petty Officer Connors does a really great job at giving back.”

Connors said the award was a pleasant surprise. “It is a privilege to be recognized by the children and this excellent group of professionals at the YMCA. I would encourage everyone to get out and get involved. The rewards go far beyond the plaque.”



Sailors Race to Eliminate Sexual Violence

Story and photo by MC1(SW/AW) Phillip D. James, Jr., NRD Ohio Public Affairs

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Personnel from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Ohio participated in the second annual Race to Eliminate Sexual Violence as part of their Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) activities. The 5K run/walk at Scioto Audobon Park was hosted by members of the Central Ohio Sexual Assault Task Force, which is comprised of the Ohio National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO), Deaf World Against Violence Everywhere, Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization, and Climate of Change.

SARNCO Program Coordinator Maytal Russ said, “The Race to Eliminate Sexual Violence helps to raise awareness about the issue of sexual violence in our community. We are asking people in the community to get involved. One of the ways they can do that is to participate in our event.”

Last year there were over 250 people signed up for the race, raising about \$5,500. This year 220 people signed up and raised \$8,000.

Machinery Repairman 1st Class Sasha Graff, NRD Ohio’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response coordinator, stated that the Navy was the first branch to develop a system to aid victims in reporting and getting the assistance they need. The Navy has annual themes with this year’s being “Courage.” The Navy has also increased access to the options available for reporting sexual assault: Victims can now report in person, by phone or online and receive assistance.

Graff stated, “Many believe that only women are sexually assaulted when, in fact, one in four women and one in six men have experienced sexual assault. Another misconception is that most believe they are good at judging the character of another person and can easily identify a sexual offender. The truth is, in most cases of sexual assault, the victim knows the attacker. What you need to know about sexual assault is that it can happen to anyone. You should always have situational awareness and a backup plan to rely on. If you get into the habit of making good decisions,

you can reduce your chances of being sexually assaulted.

“The Navy puts in emphasis on Sexual Assault Awareness Month because sexual assault affects more than the victim. Everyone has a role in stopping sexual assault, and localizing SAAM activities is a great way to extend this message.”



AD1 Glenn A. Liwanag, left, **CMDCM Aaron A. Shipley, Jr.**, and **Commanding Officer, Cmdr. John L. Nguyen**, from NRD Ohio participate in the second annual Race to Eliminate Sexual Violence, a 5K run/walk held at Scioto Audubon Park in Columbus, Ohio.

This is the first year that NRD Ohio has participated in the 5K. Three Sailors and one civilian ran while other Sailors assisted by setting up the registration booth and handing out water to the participants.

NRD Ohio Command Master Chief Aaron Shipley said, “The Navy emphasizes sexual assault awareness because sexual assault is illegal first and foremost, but it’s also degrading to good order and discipline and it goes against what we as Sailors stand for.”

“This year Petty Officer Graff took the bull by the horns, so to speak, and stepped up support,” said Shipley. “I think it’s appropriate that our Sailors participate and show their dedication to stand up in support of this most cowardly of crimes.”

Aviation Machinist’s Mate 1st Class Glenn Liwanag said, “I participated in the Race to Eliminate Sexual Violence for two reasons: First, the cause is very important to me and I like to do what I can to support it, and second, running has always been my favorite activity.”





Bright Future in the Cards for Future Sailors

Story by Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs

RALEIGH, N.C. – Imagine a young person joining America's Navy. There are physical and mental demands to meet before going off to boot camp. There are recruiting mentors along the way – Sailors who advise them about what to expect and teach them what they need to know.

Future Sailors can also be a part of the learning process.

Meet Janie Rhodes, a 19-year-old future Sailor who graduated high school a year early, teaches pre-school and even attended college. She now has her sights set on the Navy.

Her grandfather, a World War II Navy veteran, recently passed away. His death, along with other events surrounding it, led to her decision to join the Navy.

In January 2013, she headed to Navy Recruiting Station Greenville, S.C., where she met Mineman 2nd Class John Lambert. She took the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery), a timed multi-aptitude test and scored high. Lambert asked her what she thought about the nuclear (NUC) field.

Females in the NUC field are rare, so future Sailor Rhodes waited for a spot. She leaves for boot camp in October 2013 and will attend various schools for training in the NUC field. However, her training has already begun.



MN2 John Lambert with NRS Greenville, SC, stands with future Sailor Janie Rhodes. Rhodes created over 100 flashcards for future Sailors to use to study their START guide prior to shipping out to Recruit Training Command. Rhodes provided the flashcards through a website program, streamlining the studying process. (Courtesy photo)

What is your first General Order?

Future Sailors waiting to go to boot camp must study to prepare for Recruit Training Command (RTC). "It is absolutely imperative that our future Sailors spend time studying their START [Standards, Transitions, Acknowledgements, Requirements and Training] guide prior to shipping out to Recruit Training Command. The goal is for them to know this basic information upon arrival so that it can be used as a foundation for other training objectives to be built upon," said Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Raleigh Commanding Officer, Commander Ron Ross.

Rhodes wanted to be prepared for RTC. She enjoys using flashcards and created 150 of them for fellow future Sailors. However, she sought an easier way to study, searched for an online version of flashcards and found www.studyblue.com. She uploaded her personally-created cards to the website and shared them. There are over 100 flashcards for everyone to use and test

themselves. There's even an app for it.

Ross decided to make it official for all of NRD Raleigh and sent Rhodes this message, "We will certainly send out the link information you provided to all of our stations and encourage all 1,242 of our future Sailors to use it to better prepare themselves for RTC."



SAILORS UNFURL FLAG AT WHITE SOX HOME OPENER

Story and photo by Jim Lumsden, NRD Chicago Public Affairs

CHICAGO – Neither frigid temperatures nor a late start could deter 125 Sailors representing various Great Lakes commands from unfurling a giant American flag during the singing of the national anthem for the Chicago White Sox home opener.

The 300-foot-by-100-foot flag has become an opening day tradition, and the Navy has been honored to unfurl it year after year. Sailors came prepared for the 39-degree weather and the 3:10 p.m. start time.

"This is the fourth year that I have done this and the last before my retirement," said Machinist's Mate 1st Class Christine Pawley from Training Support Center Great Lakes. "The White Sox do a lot for the Navy. This feels like a good way to give back."

"I was born and raised on Chicago's south side, and will be able to end my Navy career here," said Senior Chief Navy Counselor Tim Slawnikowski, Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Chicago assistant chief recruiter and one of 30 recruiters participating. "This is my team. I'm probably the first in line for this duty every year."

Not all participants had a long service history. "I was commissioned a couple of weeks ago because I want to serve my country," said Lieutenant Zach Zaibak, the latest dentist to sign on through NRD Chicago. "I was



NRD Chicago's NCCS Tim Slawnikowski, left, is joined by Reserve Officer Recruiter of the Year LT Steven Graff and recently-commissioned LT Zach Zaibak as MM1 Christine Pawley from Training Support Center Great Lakes anchors the corner of a massive American flag at the home opener for the Chicago White Sox baseball team.

thrilled when my recruiter invited me to participate. How can you beat duty like this?"

Opening day is a great way of focusing on a unique partnership between the Chicago White Sox and the Navy. While the Sox get some help in making opening day especially eventful, it becomes a special Navy awareness event that is good for recruiting. "Navy gets exposure in front of about 29,000 fans in a place that is hundreds of miles from any ocean," said Commander Lee Donaldson, commander, NRD Chicago.

In addition to the opening day event, the Chicago White Sox also host a Navy Special Recruit Division, highlight Sailors as their heroes of the game on several occasions, provide seats for Sailors on military appreciation day and invite Navy Band Great Lakes to perform at least once every season.





Sailors Participate in CSTEM Challenge

Story and photo by MC2 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs



HOUSTON – Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston personnel participated in the Communication, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (CSTEM) Challenge recently at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

Navy personnel volunteered as judges and mentored students as they competed in six different events. The CSTEM Challenge impacts more than 10,000 elementary through high school students from across the United States and the Dominican Republic.

The focus of the challenge was to display the skills of the students in events such as robotics, sculptures, green energy, creative writing and quiz bowls.

“This event helps show the community how much the Navy cares about the education of the participants here,” said Senior Chief Navy Counselor Aaron Johnson, a Navy City Outreach Officer for Navy Recruiting Command. “The CSTEM Challenge caters to the interests of those involved. Future careers in both the Navy and the civilian market will be in the specialized fields of CSTEM. These kids are our future leaders.”

The event was also an opportunity for Sailors to mentor and interact with participants.

“It is great to come out and support the community by attending an event like this,” said Electricians Mate 1st Class Thomas Bosarge, nuclear programs coordinator for NRD Houston. “This is an excellent opportunity to support these kids who are competing academically. This is also a chance for us [Sailors] to come out and share our stories with the participants and make them aware of similar opportunities in the Navy.”

Through the interactions, it inspired some Sailors and was also a chance to offer encouragement and advice to the kids.



MM1 Timothy Walker with NRD Houston speaks with a participant in the CSTEM Challenge in Houston. Navy personnel volunteered as judges and mentored students as they competed in six different events. The challenge impacts more than 10,000 elementary through high school students from across the United States and the Dominican Republic.

“I am really impressed to see the excitement and interest of these kids,” said Johnson. “This is not a sporting event or a concert, but they all have an extremely high level of excitement. I want to tell them all to not limit themselves on what they can do and accomplish. There are so many opportunities out there. They can do anything. They can be anything. Don’t ever stop dreaming.”



Chief of Navy Reserve Commissions Reserve Officers

Story and photo by MC1 Joseph R. Wax, NRD Michigan Public Affairs

DETROIT – Chief of Navy Reserve, Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun, handed out awards and commissioned two new Navy Reserve officers during a ceremony at Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Michigan’s downtown Detroit headquarters.

Braun commissioned Lieutenant Junior Grade Robert Kononowech, Medical Service Corps, and Ensign Mark Dominick, Supply Corps, in front of family, friends and nearly all of NRD Michigan’s Reserve recruiting force.

For naval officers, the commissioning is a very important milestone, but for Braun, this particular commissioning was also a milestone for her.

“This is actually my first time ever commissioning someone into the Navy Reserve,” said Braun.

Being commissioned into the Navy was the culmination of years of hard work for Kononowech. What was already going to be a very momentous occasion became even more significant when Braun agreed to preside over the ceremony.

“It was such an incredible privilege to be commissioned by Vice Adm. Braun,” Kononowech said. “It was such a rare and amazing opportunity and I can’t think of a better way to start my Navy career than being sworn in by the Chief of the Navy Reserve. I’ve only been in the Navy for one week and I already have an amazing story to tell others.”

As special as the moment was for the newly-commissioned officers, their families got a unique opportunity as well.

“I think my family got a big kick out of the ceremony and especially out of meeting the admiral,” said Kononowech. “Vice Adm. Braun was so friendly and

approachable, and that really helped to put everybody at ease. The admiral took the time to chat with them and take pictures and I know that meant a lot to them. It’s something they are going to remember forever.”

During Braun’s visit, she also held an all-hands call with all of the full-time support (FTS) and select reserve (SELRES)

Sailors, as well as all of the canvasser recruiters (CANREC) at NRD Michigan.

“It’s a rare occurrence to have someone of her caliber share her time with Sailors on the deckplate,” said Chief Navy Counselor Gerard Gusmano, NRD Michigan’s marketing officer. “It was an opportunity to get the pulse of the Reserve community straight from the Chief of the Navy Reserve herself. I think that she was genuinely interested in our

questions as FTS, CANREC, and SELRES Sailors.”

Gusmano believes that meeting and speaking with the admiral was especially beneficial for the junior Sailors in attendance.

“I hope the junior Sailors see the value of their decision to serve in the Navy Reserve and develop a real sense of their contribution to the overall Navy mission,” stated Gusmano. “It’s important that they understand how their efforts meet critical needs that keep the U.S. Navy the best in the world.”

Braun’s visit to metro Detroit and NRD Michigan provided Sailors in an area without a strong military presence the chance to meet and interact with a key member of Navy leadership. And for the newly-commissioned officers, Braun’s presence will leave a lasting imprint in their memories of the birth of their naval careers.



Vice Adm. Robin R. Braun, Chief of Navy Reserve, speaks to family and friends of Mark Dominick, left, and Robert Kononowech at their commissioning ceremony at NRD Michigan headquarters. This was Braun’s first time to commission someone into the Navy Reserve.





Navy Recruits at FIRST Robotics Championship



Story and photo by MC1 Joseph Seavey, NRD St. Louis Public Affairs

ST. LOUIS – Sailors attached to Navy Recruiting District (NRD) St. Louis attended the two-day annual FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition Championship to recruit highly-motivated individuals in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

FIRST was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. The Navy operates at a high level of technology across the full spectrum of its missions. To maintain this technological base, recruits need to reflect a STEM workforce able to contribute to a culture of innovation.

"This is a terrific program. The kids you meet at any FIRST event are all high-end students – exactly the kind of talent we are looking for," said Commander Clay Mason, commanding officer, NRD St. Louis.

In conjunction with the championship is the FIRST Robotics Conference which includes presentations from FIRST team members, and college representatives and professionals covering a wide range of topics in the STEM and robotics fields, including green initiatives and strategies.

"STEM-related conferences such as FIRST Robotics are excellent opportunities to meet with not only students who represent the best and brightest but also with educators, business professionals, and parents and instill in them the idea that the Navy is STEM," said Jon Dickson, NRD St. Louis education specialist. "It is through these events that we have the opportunity to reach out and highlight the Navy as a viable technology-based career option."

Sailors manned a Navy booth, answering questions from competitors and their families about STEM-related technology used by the Navy – such as

unmanned aerial vehicles and explosive ordinance disposal robots. The recruiters engaged with participants during the competition, rooting for their favorite robots to win. In this year's competition, students were required to design and build robots capable of collecting Frisbees, visually detecting a target, and throwing Frisbees from a distance into the targets.

"A lot of top-quality kids are here; very qualified prospects. Engaging in STEM activities can allow us to talk about our more advanced technical programs to get them interested in doing something more than the average person will," said Engineman 2nd Class Nathaniel Royalty. "We also get to promote Navy awareness in our brightest individuals."

Students were also able to obtain information on the area's top colleges, including scholarships offered through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC).

"We develop their curiosity about a technical program, such as nuclear power, advanced electronics, or even a NROTC

Scholarship program," said Royalty. "Talking about these and other shipboard-related programs helps to generate interest and get people thinking Navy, as well as doing something other than an office job or struggling through college."

Each year the teams have to raise funds, devise a "brand" and work on teamwork skills to build robots that can accomplish specific tasks better than their opponents, all with limited resources, time and under strict rules.

"These are the same skills that the Navy utilizes for building teamwork – planning, repairing, troubleshooting – and the students are used to the stress in this environment. By allowing us to get in front of the best and brightest, this will spark interest to help improve recruitment of enlisted and officers," said Electronics Technician 1st Class Marmaduke Simms, NRD St. Louis' nuclear power coordinator. "This will improve the competence of our future Sailors by finding someone already used to that environment and high expectations. In the Navy, these Sailors are more likely to succeed in the initial schooling and when they go to the fleet."

Jon Dickson, NRD St. Louis education specialist, right, and Cmdr. Alan Schiaffino, NRD St. Louis executive officer, talk to members of the Black Frogs Robotics Team at the FIRST Robotics Competition Championship in St. Louis. The two-day competition is designed to inspire young people's interest and participation in STEM fields.



EM1 Thomas Bosarge, left, and FC1 Rhys Tyler, both with NRD Houston, inspect an underwater robot during a Remote Operated Vehicle Underwater Robotics Competition at the NASA Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory's 6.1 million gallon pool in Houston. NRD Houston Sailors judged the competition which had more than 30 participating teams from the Houston and Louisiana areas. (Photo by MC2 Class Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)



Blood Donations Total 80 Units in 12 Months

Story and photo by MC1 Michael Tackitt, NRD Dallas Public Affairs

IRVING, Texas – Sailors, future Sailors and civilians assigned to Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Dallas recently rolled up their sleeves once again for the first quarterly American Red Cross blood drive of the year, collecting 16 units of whole blood, bringing the total number of donated units since the spring of 2012 to 80.

“I donated blood last time and it made me feel really good about myself because I got to help people,” said Alyssa E. Glass, a future Sailor out of Navy Recruiting Station Lewisville, Texas.

She was motivated to give blood again at the latest drive after witnessing her high school’s efforts to help the residents of West, Texas, after a fertilizer plant explosion rocked the small town located 70 miles south of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.

“You have this life and you’re healthy, why can’t you give it to someone else?” said Glass. “They deserve life too and it’s just a nice thing to do.”

Every year, the American Red Cross responds to disasters nationwide. The organization is dependent upon the generosity of the public to help keep up its whole blood inventory, which is always in critical demand. This fact hit close to home to Texans dealing with the aftermath of the tragedy in West.

“The American Red Cross provides relief and support nationwide. The American Red Cross continues to provide hope and comfort to people affected by the tragic explosions in West, Texas, the bombings in Boston, Mass., floodwaters in the Midwest and more,” said Justin J. Powell, American Red Cross donor recruitment representative. “The Red Cross has not only provided additional blood products for patients but also food, water and emotional support to the victims of these tragedies.”



Future Sailors Cory Pritchard, left, Alyssa Glass, Katy Herber, and KC Butler out of NRS Lewisville, Texas, donate blood at NRD Dallas’ first quarterly blood drive of the year. A total of 16 units of blood were collected, bringing the command’s total to 80 units since the spring of 2012.

With each unit of whole blood donated capable of treating up to three individuals, NRD Dallas has donated enough blood to effectively treat and save up to 240 lives throughout the course of the year.

“The generosity of the crew of NRD Dallas never ceases to amaze me. With absolutely no gain for themselves, our fellow Sailors have donated enough blood in the last year to save 240 people,” said NRD Dallas Commanding Officer, Commander Brad A. Alaniz. “It’s humbling and amazing, and I couldn’t be more proud of every Sailor who donated. It’s what the Navy is all about.”



Link Anchored with FIRST[®] Robotics

Story and photo by Jim Lumsden, NRD Chicago Public Affairs

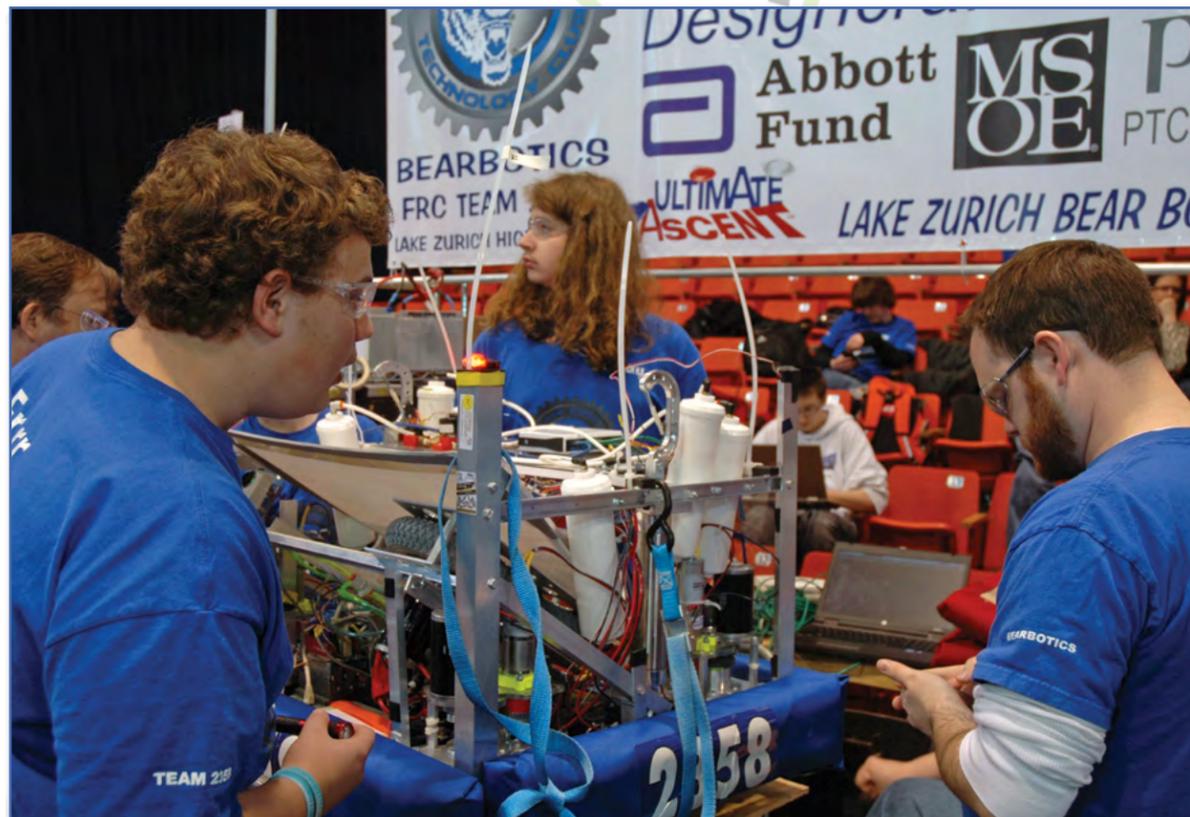
CHICAGO – With the help of the Navy Office of Community Outreach’s Lieutenant Commander Mike Kerley, who served as a judge for the regional robotics competition at the University of Illinois, Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Chicago made a critical link with an organization that captures the attention of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)-oriented youth across the nation.

“Many would look at this linkage as an accomplishment in itself, but we view it as only a toehold on the even bigger mission of highlighting Navy career opportunities for high school students in the Midwest who have an aptitude for science, technology, engineering or mathematics,” said NRD Chicago Commanding Officer, Commander Nancy Fink.

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics is an organization that

inspires and engages young people by challenging them to build robots that can perform key functions. According to Daniel Green, director of FIRST Robotics in Illinois, once a team is formed at a high school, the FIRST organization provides guidelines on required and essential components to assure a level playing field and defines performance objectives. From that point forward, design, construction and implementation are left to each team. The result of each team’s engineering savvy, creativity, ingenuity and teamwork shows up in the regional competitions.

See “Link” continued on page 30



NRD Chicago was involved with the FIRST Robotics regional competition at the University of Illinois. Here Lake Zurich High School team members check out robotics functions before their competition.



First Regional SeaPerch Competition Held in New York

Story and photo by Bruce Howard, NRD New York Public Affairs

NEW YORK – Students from New York and New Jersey competed in the first Greater New York SeaPerch Challenge in City College of New York’s Mahoney Pool recently.

The event is part of a Navy program to encourage youth to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

Students used aquatic robots they built themselves to navigate an underwater obstacle course and salvage operation, and gave oral presentations to demonstrate their knowledge of science and engineering principals.

Winners in the competition earned spots in the nationals in Indianapolis later this year. Nationwide, 70,000 students are participating.

Navy Recruiting District (NRD) New York recruiters EM1(SS) Nicholas Ferrara and EM2(SW/AW) Michael McFadden helped students build their kits in preparation for this challenge.

“The SeaPerch Robotics Program is an elective. Only a select few get in because of limited materials,” said Frederick Feraco, a teacher at New York City’s Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science and Engineering. “We began this course in February and this is the first underwater robotics program at this school. The students really liked working together as a team.”



Navy divers assist in the deep water ring pickup challenge as SeaPerch students maneuver their remotely-operated vehicles through an obstacle course in City College of New York’s Mahoney Pool. The obstacle course was one of the events at the first Greater New York SeaPerch Challenge.

“The SeaPerch Robotic Program is very interesting. My brother goes to Brooklyn Tech and I want to be in the similar field,” said Summer Shabana, one of the students enrolled in the program. “Most of the time males are in this field and I want to show that women can do the same. I want to become an engineer that earns the same respect that males do.”

The competition began with Lieutenant Commander Michael Fourte, Navy City Outreach officer for the Northeast Region and founder of SeaPerch New York, making introductions.

There were two pool competitions: The shallow water obstacle course where remotely-operated vehicles had to transit through large rings in the pool

and a deep water ring pickup. Each school competed against the clock for points. After the pool challenges, each school had to present their exhibit to the judges, comprised of Navy engineers as well as engineering majors from City College of New York and the State University of New York Maritime College’s Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps.

At halftime, spectators were entertained by the precision and coordination of the Silver Dolphins Silent Drill team from Naval Submarine School, Groton, Conn.

Awards were given to the first place finishers. New Jersey’s Nutley High School took top honors for the high school level. Brooklyn’s Intermediate School 303 and New Jersey’s Pennington School both will moving on to the nationals in the middle school category.

“This Navy competition attracted local media and reached over 520 students in the classroom and 250 students, parents and teachers at the competition,” said Fourte. “In this period of austere finances,

we wanted to create a sustainable program that showcased multiple elements of the Navy to a diverse group of students for a small cost.”

“It is an amazing program that opens the eyes of the kids to engineering” said Lt. Steven Ayling, an officer recruiter in Manhattan. “[The program] teaches today’s youth to be the creators of tomorrow’s technology.”

NRD New York Commanding Officer, Cmdr. John Skarin, wholeheartedly agrees. “For just a modest investment by the Navy, SeaPerch provides exposure to maritime science and technology that will hopefully spark a lifelong interest. This country needs more young people interested in engineering and advanced technology to stay on the leading edge in the world, and the effort and enthusiasm for the program were obvious by the quality of the student’s presentations and the performance of their underwater vehicles.”



The NRD Houston color guard performs at The Woodlands Annual Kiwanis Club Special Olympics at Oak Ridge High School in Conroe, Texas. The track and field event drew 270 athletes and over 200 volunteers. (Photo by MC2 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)



Induction Ceremony Held for 83 Navy Recruits

Story and photo by MC1(SW/AW) Vernishia Vaughn, NRD Chicago

CHICAGO – Before tipoff of the highly anticipated Chicago Bulls versus Miami Heat basketball game, 83 recruits took part in a once-in-a-lifetime experience as they took the oath of enlistment into the U.S. Navy from Rear Admiral Rick Williamson, commander, Navy Region Midwest, while standing on the playing surface at the United Center.

Orchestrated by the Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Chicago, the special Chicago Bulls Recruit Division was



Navy recruit Demonte Lewis accepts the special recruit division's Chicago Bulls guidon from recruit division commander, CSCS Christopher Burke, Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes following induction at the United Center.

comprised of Chicago-area individuals, including some from northwest Indiana, northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Upper Peninsula Michigan.

Commander Nancy Fink, former executive officer and current commanding officer, NRD Chicago told the audience of 23,000 about the special qualifications of recruits as she introduced Williamson, who pointed out that they are among the, "One percent of our citizens that will stand in harm's way in defense of our freedom."

"Today starts the integration of these young civilian men into Navy life," said Williamson. "Here is where we shape expectations for future duty assignments and give them the tools needed for career and personal success."

The recruits will be part of the NRD Chicago-sponsored 2013 Chicago Bulls Division and carry a guidon displaying a Bulls flag wherever they go.

Before the induction ceremony, recruits listened to remarks from speakers including John Paxson, former star Bulls player and general manager, and current executive vice president of basketball operations for

the team. Paxson shared that his son is also serving his country, as a Marine, and told how proud he was of the recruits who are doing what so few Americans do – serve their country.

"I can imagine what all of you are going through at this moment as you get ready to embark on a new journey. I know because I went through this too with my son. I wear this Marine pin and carry this coin that he's given me, every day. I thank each and every one of you for making a decision to serve your country," Paxson said.

Williamson also shared words of wisdom with the recruits, reminding them that the Navy doesn't owe them anything yet offers them so much, and pointing out that it is up to them to take advantage of it.

Sitting courtside for the team's warm-up practice and Lovabulls cheerleader rehearsal was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for these young men, especially Demonte Lewis from Milwaukee. "I'm just happy to be here at a live Bulls game. It was an exciting and nervous day but it's also a day I realize and understand

how important execution is, and that is something I'll take with me throughout boot camp and my Navy experience."

Lewis also shared how the partnership between the Bulls, the Navy, and his division definitely serve as motivators to do well in boot camp – not only as an individual but as a team.

After the ceremony, the recruits watched part of the game before departing for boot camp around half time.

The Chicago Bulls is the first and only National Basketball Association team to partner with the Navy and NRD Chicago to form a special recruit training division. The only other professional sports teams to host special recruit divisions are the Chicago White Sox and St. Louis Cardinals Major League Baseball teams.



Recruiters Assist at Special Olympics Texas

Story and photo by Burrell Parmer, NRD San Antonio Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO – More than 20 recruiters and support personnel from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Antonio volunteered to assist with Special Olympics Texas during its spring games on May 4.

Opening ceremonies commenced with a procession of the Knights of Columbus honor guard and the entrance of each area team.

Sailors assisted selected athletes positioned around the track, awaiting the arrival of the torch to light the Flame of Hope to start the games. The torch was brought into the stadium by local, state and federal law enforcement personnel.

According to San Antonio native Armando Talamantz of the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration, the Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 to promote awareness for Special Olympics.

"It's incredibly fulfilling to be here and give back to the community as a law enforcement officer," said Talamantz. "Usually we deal with the criminal aspect, but being here allows us to give back in a different light."

The lawmen conducted a lap around the track in formation and transferred the torch to four athletes who ran 100 meters each, with the final athlete lighting the Flame of Hope.

According to Yeoman 1st Class Kimberly Knowles, NRD San Antonio's administrative leading petty officer, being at the event matters.



Area teams enter Frank Mata Stadium in San Antonio to participate in the Special Olympics Texas spring games on May 4. More than 20 recruiters and support personnel from NRD San Antonio volunteered to assist in the competition.

"Assisting with the Special Olympics was a great opportunity, not only for me, but for my children who attended as well," said Knowles. "Giving back to the community is something all Sailors should be involved with."

Navy Counselor 1st Class Israel A. Cisneros of Navy Recruiting Station Dezavala, who is a San Antonio Special Olympics committee member, was thankful for all the Sailors who took the time to volunteer.

"If you've never participated with Special Olympics before, you'll be amazed at the athletes," said Cisneros. "I always tell first time volunteers that you'll get hooked."



Recruiters Enhance Navy Awareness at Fiesta

Story and photo by Burrell Parmer, NRD San Antonio Public Affairs and Larry Coffey, NMETC Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO – Recruiters from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Antonio joined 10 area Navy commands and detachments in support of the city's annual Fiesta, April 18-28.

Fiesta San Antonio consists of more than 100 events, including the annual Battle of the Flowers Parade, which remains one of several Fiesta favorites, according to Commander Jason Webb, NRD San Antonio commanding officer.

"Our recruiters participate in more than 30 Fiesta events annually, providing exposure that exponentially enhances Navy awareness in Military City USA," said Webb. "All events this year were great but the significant events where the Navy had the largest impact were Navy Day at the Alamo, the Battle of the Flowers Parade, and the [Fiesta] Flambeau night parade."

Other significant events recruiters participated in were Outside These Walls – Alamo funeral pyre site commemorative ceremony where the public witnessed the dramatic re-enactment of the red flag (no quarter) presentation – Travis' cannon shot, and Santa Anna's order that the bodies of the Alamo heroes be burned. The ceremony ended with a solemn salute with the Sons of the Republic of Texas and an honor guard rendering a 21-gun salute. Afterward, recruiters joined other Navy commands and services for the annual pilgrimage to the Alamo, a solemn wreath-bearing procession walked silently from downtown to the Alamo.

Navy Day was a free public event April 23 in front of the historic Alamo and featured demonstrations from Navy master-at-arms (MA) Sailors and military working dogs from Navy Technical Training Center Lackland. San Antonio Mayor Pro Tem Carlton Soules read a proclamation declaring it Navy Day. Navy career information was provided by Navy recruiters and hospital corps school instructors from Navy Medicine Training Support Center at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), Ft. Sam Houston.

Eric Faulkner, a 24 year-old resident of nearby Schertz, who visited a local Navy Recruiting Station the

day before, said the Navy Day events had a positive impact on his desire to join the Navy. "The Navy Day demonstrations were exciting," said Faulkner, who has decided he wants to try to become an MA. "I was able to talk to instructors and students from the MA school. I left there with a lot more knowledge about the Navy and the master-at-arms career field. That extra knowledge made me more excited about starting a career in the Navy."

San Antonio native Rear Admiral Anatolio "A. B." Cruz III, reserve deputy director, Maritime Operations, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, led 20 newly-recruited Sailors in an enlistment oath. Rear Adm. Bill Roberts, commandant, Navy Medicine Education Training, JBSA Ft. Sam Houston, reenlisted several Sailors stationed at San Antonio area commands.

Roberts said it's events like Navy Day that are significant for creating Navy awareness. "As a Global Force for Good, America's Navy is making a difference in communities here in San Antonio and throughout Texas," he told the crowd. "The importance of the Navy in safeguarding commercial waterways is critical to the state and national economy. It's a chain reaction. The Navy makes it possible for U.S. and Texan goods to be delivered overseas, and for imports to reach our shores."

One event which brought out the city's appreciation for the Navy was the premiere Battle of Flowers Parade. Recruiters and Sailors from the various commands trekked the 2.6-mile route amidst waves of shouts and cheers of viewers.

Military participation in Fiesta concluded April 28 with an all-veterans memorial service held at Auditorium Circle (Veterans Memorial Plaza), downtown. This solemn program was a salute to the dedication and sacrifices of the brave men and women who have served and those currently serving in the U.S. military to protect American freedom.

Fiesta San Antonio provided the Navy with numerous opportunities to enhance Navy awareness and showcased the Navy as a local force for good.



Alcohol Detection Device Program Rolled Out

Story and photo by MC2 Amanda Sullivan, NRC Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, TENN. – Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) has implemented the Alcohol Detection Device (ADD) program to all active-duty members assigned to NRC and subordinate commands.

"NRC is fully on board with the Navy's 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative, which is a consolidated set of objectives and policies intended to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness," said Lieutenant Gerardo Delgado, ADD program coordinator. "The ADD program is one of the facets of this initiative and serves to enhance an individual Sailor's knowledge and understanding of alcohol use."

- Objectives of the program include:
- Enhance command awareness of the crew's culture of alcohol use;
 - Educate Sailors on the effects of their alcohol use decisions and self impairment;
 - Promote safety and maximum readiness by ensuring Sailors are fit for duty.

Every command will randomly test 15 percent of the command's active-duty component each month.

An ADD reading of less than 0.02 percent blood alcohol content (BAC) shall be considered a negative result.

A Sailor with a reading of 0.04 percent BAC or more will be presumed to be not ready to perform duties and will be kept on board the command in a safe environment for the rest of the workday. The member will meet with the command Drug and Alcohol Program advisors (DAPA) the next workday for evaluation and possible referral.

No punitive actions may be taken for a member with a BAC of 0.04 or greater. Results cannot be used as:

- Evidence in any disciplinary proceedings;
- A basis of any adverse administrative actions;
- A basis for counseling a Sailor as a consequence of irresponsible use of alcohol in official personnel records, fitness reports or enlisted performance evaluations.

"We're not trying to get anyone in trouble," said Chief Personnel Specialist Edward Ovante, NRC



PSC Eduardo Ovante, right, administers the ADD to Lt. Cmdr. Colby Morgan as part of the monthly, random alcohol testing at NRC.

DAPA. "By giving Sailors an opportunity to see how what they do off duty can affect their performance on duty. We hope that Sailors will be better prepared to make better choices about alcohol consumption."

Additionally, any referrals from testing will NOT be considered an alcohol-related incident.

ADD program coordinators (ADDPC) shall not administer the ADD test if a Sailor displays signs of intoxication, including bloodshot eyes, slurred speech, general appearance or behavior, smell of alcohol, and/or admission of alcohol use by the Sailor, etc. In this case, the ADDPC will refer the Sailor to medical for an examination for fitness for duty.

"We know Recruiting personnel are exceptional, honorable and dependable Sailors – they are the face of the Navy in the communities," said Delgado. "The ADD program is a mechanism to provide education and knowledge about responsible alcohol use to all of our Sailors. With knowledge comes success, so we feel they will benefit from this program."

Additional details of the program can be found in COMNAVCUITCOMINST 5350.1 (<http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/publications/Directives/5350.1.pdf>)



SEAL Recruiter Participates in NFL Draft



Story and photo by MC1 Michael Tackitt, NRD Dallas Public Affairs

NEW YORK – The National Football League (NFL) draft at Radio City Music Hall in New York isn't just an ordinary off-season event. Since it was first televised in 1981, the draft has become the second-most important and celebrated event on the league's calendar, just behind the Super Bowl, and drawing nearly the same amount of media coverage and fanfare. This year, four U.S. Navy Sailors involved with SEAL recruiting got to be a part of it.

“The staff of the NFL was very professional, and also very supportive of the Navy.”

During the second day of the three-day event, Smith, Penney and Mclendon were brought on stage during the third round and announced the selection of Georgia defensive back Shawn Williams by the Cincinnati Bengals, who coincidentally happens to be Penney's favorite team.

This is the second year that Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) has partnered with the NFL for the regional combine scouting program. The program gives aspiring athletes who may have gotten invited to participate in the league's main scouting combine in Indianapolis a second look.

The best performers at the regional combines were invited to compete in the NFL Super Regional Combine which took place at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, April 7-8. Penney was the SEAL recruiter from NRD Dallas who worked with the Navy Special Warfare Recruiting Directorate alongside Smith and Mclendon.

While the NFL is giving these athletes an opportunity to impress scouts, the league also understands the odds of these young men actually being selected in the draft are long, and that is why it makes a point to expose the athletes to other opportunities that are out there for them.

“I think planting the seed about the Navy's Challenge Program in young players reminds them that there are many great opportunities out there besides football,” Penney said. “The NFL and the SEAL teams have a lot of similarities, such as working in a team, training hard, and striving to be the best.”

NRC entered into a sponsorship with the NFL to assist in recruiting Naval Special Warfare officers and enlisted Sailors. Through this partnership, athletes get an opportunity to meet with Navy SEALs and other members of the Navy to hear about career opportunities.



SO1(SEAL) Floyd Mclendon announces the 84th overall selection in the third round of the 2013 NFL draft at Radio City Music Hall in New York, April 26. Navy Recruiting Command entered into a sponsorship with the NFL to assist in recruiting Naval Special Warfare officers and enlisted Sailors. Through this partnership, athletes get an opportunity to meet Navy SEALs and other members of the Navy to hear about career opportunities.

As part of the NFL's recruiting partnership, the Sailors were invited to the 78th annual draft for their contribution to the Navy Special Warfare and Special Operations recruiting initiatives during the regional and super regional scouting combines held throughout the country leading up to the draft.

Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Eddie Penney of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Dallas – along with Captain (SEAL) Duncan Smith, Master Chief Navy Counselor Tyrone N. Parker and SO1(SEAL) Floyd Mclendon of the Naval Special Warfare Recruiting Directorate – were selected to represent the Navy's initiative with the NFL at the draft.

“It was awesome to be up on stage and being a part of the Navy-NFL relationship that we are developing. Being onstage for my favorite team was a dream come



NRC Reads to Local School Children

Story and photo by MC2 Amanda Sullivan, NRC Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – Personnel from Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) wrapped up a successful first season of the Adopt-A-School Program with Millington Elementary School on May 15.

Ten volunteers read to children ranging from pre-school to fifth grade as part of the newly-forged partnership with the school.

“Chief [Calvin] Leake and I saw it as an opportunity to setup a long-standing COMREL [community relation] project that had the potential of great local results,” said Lieutenant Justin Bernard, Chaplain Corps. “We wanted to start a program that gave our Sailors a chance to give back to the children and teachers just outside of our gates.”

The program was initiated in January of this year and was intended to be only four monthly sessions, but the program has grown into more.

“The school has relayed to us that the teachers love having us and the students ask for us to return more often,” Bernard said. “It branched out from a simple, once-a-month reading program to helping with test proctoring and planning to help with other future school events.”

“Millington [Elementary School] has truly become NRC's adopted school and our Sailors are taking ownership of that,” said Bernard, adding that because of the success of the program, he is looking forward to continuing it throughout the next school year.

More than 40 Sailors volunteered over the four sessions during the spring semester at the school.



PS2 Class Cashmina Arthur-Frederick asks students questions about a book they are reading. Arthur-Frederick read to students as part of the NRC Adopt-A-School Program on May 15, 2013.

NRC and Millington Elementary School have four more sessions already planned for the fall.

“I believe this kind of project has a ripple effect on the community,” added Bernard. “A student who is able to interact with a Sailor in a simple reading session then goes home to tell their parents about their experience, and somehow the presence of naval personnel becomes much more comforting to those that live near our base. They are able to see us an integral part of the local community rather than just a military asset inside the wire.”

Bernard said that the Sailors also gained a great deal by volunteering.

“My greatest measure of success is when we regroup in the front office after each reading session,” said Bernard. “Sailors always have a story about the book they got to read or the questions the students asked, and the joy they get from doing it tells me it is worth the effort.”

"Link" continued from page 21

Fink sees this as a door opener not for Navy sponsorship but rather for Navy recruiter involvement. "We want to bring actual demonstrations and/or videos to each robotics team and others at the schools so that these talented and interested young people can see how the Navy uses robots and unmanned vehicles, aircraft and submersibles," she said. "We also know that many of our recruiters would enjoy working with these teams during the design and construction phases."

Ultimately, according to Fink, Navy recruiters want to get beyond the handfuls of students who are engaged in robotics teams, citing that there are dozens of other STEM-oriented students in each school who can benefit from knowing about Navy applications of STEM skills.

"It is terrific to see what these high school students have been able to accomplish in such a short time.

We need more young people with these kinds of capabilities in our Navy," said Captain Carrie Nielson, chief of staff for Navy Region Midwest, who attended the event.

The winner of the regional FIRST Robotics competition for 2012 came from Rolling Meadows High School in the heart of NRD Chicago's territory. Approximately 45 robotics teams will compete in the Chicago area regional competition. A similar regional competition takes place in Milwaukee, which is also NRD Chicago territory.

Following his role as a judge in this competition, Kerley addressed a broader view for Navy outreach. "Hopefully the relationship building and program support we develop in the Chicago area also can be similarly implemented in the other recruiting districts that I serve," he said. His other NRDs include Minneapolis, Michigan, Ohio, and St. Louis.



Recruiters and future Sailors from the Charleston, S.C., area recently participated in a muddy, three-mile obstacle course. Participants faced at least 20 different obstacles, including muddy tunnels, 100-foot waterslides and 20 foot walls. GM2 Stephen Robinson of NRS North Charleston, center in number 22 shirt, was the first of his group to finish. (Photo by Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh)

ADMIRAL'S FIVE-STAR RECRUITERS

April 2013

- NRD Atlanta - EN2 Brandon Turner
- NRD Chicago - GMS2 Antonio Montoya
- NRD Dallas - AE1 Carl Wright
- NRD Denver - MM1 Corey Curtis, EM1 James Marshall
- NRD Houston - OS2 Angel Montoya
- NRD Jacksonville - MR1 Larry Shipman
- NRD Los Angeles - ABH2 John Perez-Pujols
- NRD Miami - CTN1 Georgia Rhem
- NRD Michigan - YN1 Scott Bennett
- NRD Minneapolis - AM1 Jason Austin
- NRD Nashville - OS1 Aaron Smith
- NRD New England - STS2 Steven Stahl
- NRD New Orleans - FC2 Shane Burch
- NRD New York - CE2 Robert Lopez
- NRD Ohio - BM2 Kerron Andrews
- NRD Philadelphia - BM1 Derek Hoffman
- NRD Phoenix - EN2 Charlie Lopez
- NRD Pittsburgh - MM2 Matthew Huff
- NRD Portland - HT1 Dustin Grover
- NRD Raleigh - FC2 Jamie Gatewood
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - EN2 Daniel Gonzalez
- NRD San Diego - CTT2 Darkel Johnson
- NRD San Francisco - ABH2 Marclwin Camposanto
- NRD Seattle - MM1 Jeffrey Martin
- NRD St. Louis - FC2 Ryan Williams

May 2013

- NRD Atlanta - OS2 Twalla Thornton
- NRD Chicago - BM2 Patrick Burke
- NRD Dallas - BU1 Victor Lee
- NRD Denver - GSM2 Anthony Garcia
- NRD Houston - SH1 Rodney Goins
- NRD Jacksonville - HT2 Michael McCarthy
- NRD Los Angeles - GSM2 Armel Rodriguez
- NRD Miami - STG1 Jeremy Tiggs
- NRD Michigan - DC2 Jonathan E. Kocsis
- NRD Minneapolis - IC1 Anthony Stokes
- NRD Nashville - DC2 Isaiah Prescott
- NRD New England - EM1 Ryan Buttlar
- NRD New Orleans - FC1 Shane Burch
- NRD New York - ET3 Michael Dubois
- NRD Ohio - AG2 Linley Harris
- NRD Philadelphia - OS2 Gregg Tansey
- NRD Phoenix - ABH2 Nafiy Owens
- NRD Pittsburgh - ABH1 Rashad Williams
- NRD Portland - EN2 Derrick Wolf
- NRD Raleigh - OS2 Carl Williams
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - QM1 Rudi Delgado
- NRD San Diego - MM1 Ronaldo Concepcion
- NRD San Francisco - GM2 Dane McVann
- NRD Seattle - LS1 Margaret Gravning
- NRD St. Louis - BM2 Joseph Kluempers

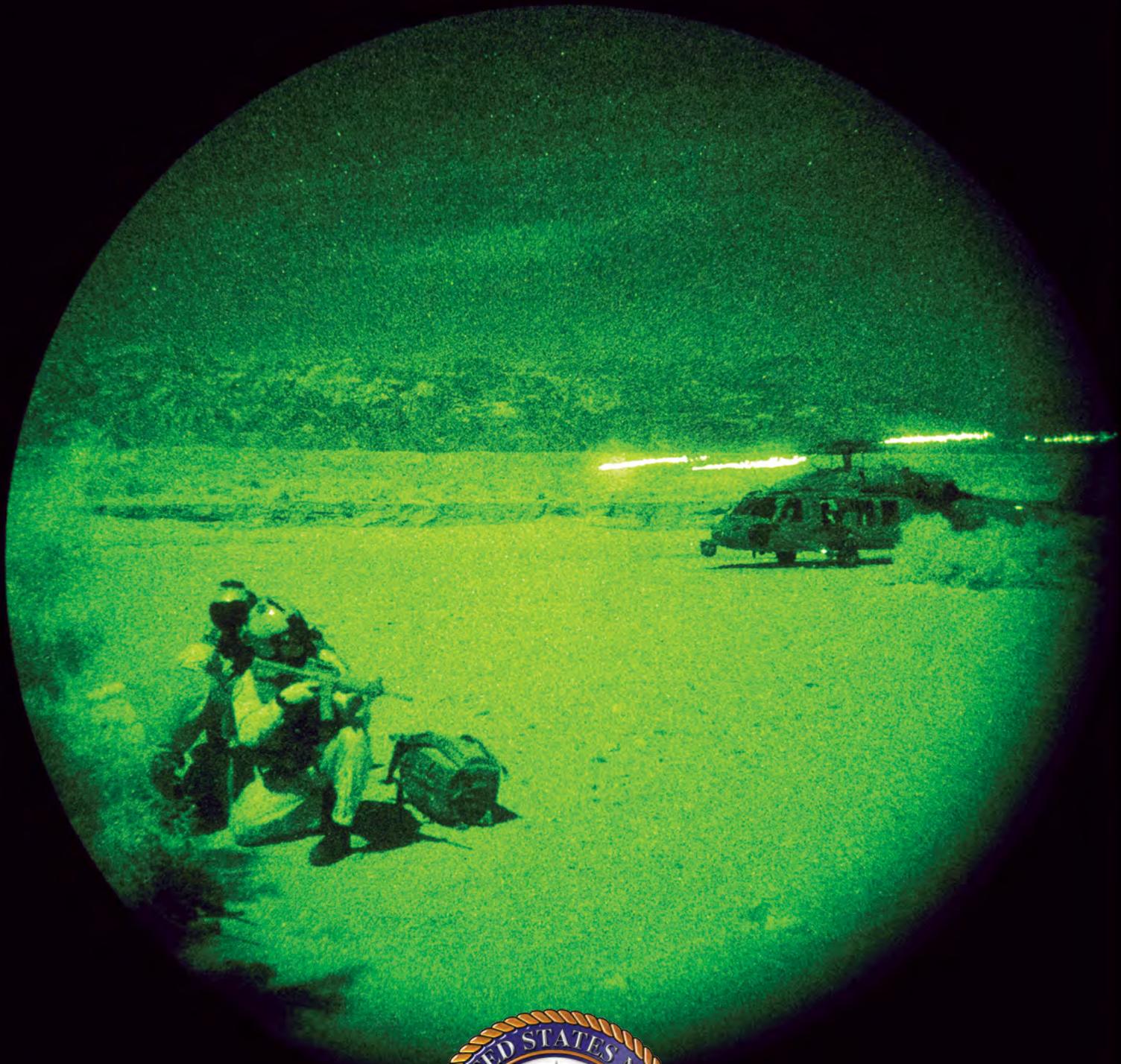
THE DISTRICT'S TOP STATIONS

April 2013

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Jonesboro
- NRD Chicago - NRS Wausua
- NRD Dallas - NRS Cedar Hill
- NRD Denver - NRS Cheyenne
- NRD Houston - NRS Humble
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS Melbourne
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Lancaster
- NRD Miami - NRS North Miami Beach
- NRD Michigan - NRS Taylor Southgate
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Council Bluffs
- NRD Nashville - NRS Franklin
- NRD New England - NRS Providence
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Starkville
- NRD New York - NRS White Plains Road
- NRD Ohio - NRS Columbus East
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Norristown
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Paradise Valley
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Tonawanda
- NRD Portland - NRS Bend
- NRD Raleigh - NRS New Bern
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - NRS Southeast
- NRD San Diego - NRS Riverside
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Santa Cruz
- NRD Seattle - NRS Wasilla
- NRD St. Louis - NRS West County

May 2013

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Southwest Atlanta
- NRD Chicago - NRS Windy City
- NRD Dallas - NRS Keller
- NRD Denver - NRS Glenwood Springs
- NRD Houston - NRS Longview
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS West Orlando
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Santa Clarita
- NRD Miami - NRS Ft. Lauderdale
- NRD Michigan - NRS Westland
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Southridge
- NRD Nashville - NRS Franklin
- NRD New England - NRS West Lebanon
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Warrington
- NRD New York - NRS Hicksville
- NRD Ohio - NRS Dixie Highway
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Huntingdon Valley
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Metrocenter
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Stroudsburg
- NRD Portland - NRS Bend
- NRD Raleigh - NRS Aiken
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - NRS Temple
- NRD San Diego - NRS Mission Viejo
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Placerville
- NRD Seattle - NRS Tri-Cities
- NRD St. Louis - NRS Collinsville



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