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Recruiter Magazine Archive
Recruiting Nation competitive, in order to recruit and retain a talented, diverse workforce, we must remain Ready to engage. Attracting and retaining talent from cultures across America and around the world is critical to developing 21st century leaders.

As we steadily build our culture of inclusion, such as recruiting women into non-traditional roles, we continue to recognize and capitalize on the strengths that diversity brings. By doing so, we are better able to reach Future Sailors around the world.

According to our Chief of Naval Operations, Jonathan Greenert, “One of our major thrusts in FY 2016 is to increase female accessions of both officer and enlisted in order to provide greater female representation in all operational units by 2025.”

And to help you, as recruiters, to do your job even more efficiently to reach mission, we are continually implementing and utilizing our Navy Recruiting Assets and your ideas across the Recruiting Nation. Here’s a quick look at three such tools being used as this edition of Navy Recruiter Magazine hits the streets:

- **STEM II** which features a new Suburban Display, 10 x 10 Tent Display and SUV/Trailer to strengthen awareness of STEM-related Navy careers to recruits and influencers in events at high schools, universities, career fairs, science fairs and robotics competitions across America.
- **Virtual Recruiting** (through Optimization) provides recruiters the opportunity to recruit, contract and access applicants from remote locations that do not have the physical presence of a recruiter or Navy Recruiting Station through a less-burdensome, more cost-effective process for both recruiters and applicants. By using state-of-the-art technology to move physical recruiting to virtual recruiting, including making use of smart phone video conference technology, email, phone conferences, and other appropriate communication channels, the virtual recruiting program will mean reduced demands on recruiters with regard to driving long distances to meet requirements that can be managed virtually.
- **Recruiting’s greatest asset is you.**

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Speaking with the Sailors and staff at NRD Pittsburgh’s headquarters, Andrews thanked them for their hard work in getting to a great start in recruiting for the year. “I like coming out and seeing where you are and seeing your faces and thanking you so much for what you do in support of our nation every day,” she said. “It all starts here in recruiting. You’re bringing in to the Navy the highest quality [recruits] that we’ve ever seen.”

NRD Pittsburgh’s staff of over 150 Sailors covers a territory that stretches from central West Virginia, across Pennsylvania and up to state New York. “We are grateful Admiral Andrews could spend a day with us,” said Cmdr. Jay Calvert, commanding officer of NRD Pittsburgh. “Coming here before the holidays sends a strong message of support to both our Sailors and Future Sailors.”

During her visit Andrews took the opportunity to speak with the recruiters and Future Sailors of Navy Recruiting Stations (NRS) Robinson Town Center and North Hills. “It was a great opportunity for her to meet with the best and brightest that Pittsburgh has to offer,” said Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class Joseph Blazick, leading petty officer of NRS North Hills. “There are a few in this group who may be in her shoes some day.”

Andrews associated with 55 Future Sailors for more than 45 minutes, answering questions and offering advice. “You’ll succeed in the Navy as long as you’re willing to work hard and stick with it over the long term,” said Francis Dubois, who is joining the Navy as a musician and found words of encouragement in Andrews’ speech. “It was good for our female Future Sailors to see that with hard work and dedication women can reach such a high rank in the Navy,” said Aviation Boatswain’s Mate Handling 1st Class Nicole Banks, NRD Pittsburgh’s Recruiter of the Year.

Blazick, was recently named NRD Pittsburgh’s Leading Petty Officer for the year. Andrews engaged with 55 Future Sailors for more than 45 minutes, answering questions and offering advice. “You’ll succeed in the Navy as long as you’re willing to work hard and stick with it over the long term,” said Francis Dubois, who is joining the Navy as a musician and found words of encouragement in Andrews’ speech. “It was good for our female Future Sailors to see that with hard work and dedication women can reach such a high rank in the Navy,” said Aviation Boatswain’s Mate Handling 1st Class Nicole Banks, NRD Pittsburgh’s Recruiter of the Year.

“I’m so proud of each of you, for what you’re about to do for your nation,” Andrews told the group. “You have a goal in mind, you want to serve your country, you want to do something even bigger than you ever expected of yourself. The future of the Navy is in good hands.”

The mission of NRC is to recruit the best men and women for America’s Navy to accomplish today’s missions and meet tomorrow’s challenges. For more news from Commander, Navy Recruiting Command, visit www.nasa.mil/local/cnrc/

Rear Adm. Annie B. Andrews, commander, Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC), was the honored guest at Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Pittsburgh December 10-11.

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1. Approximately 100 Future Sailors from across Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston took the Oath of Enlistment Wed., March 4, during a joint swear in ceremony at the Houston Rodeo. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Chris Fahey).

2. Recruiters assigned to Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Dallas volunteer in a community relations project with Mission Arlington. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jonathan Vargas)

3. Recruiters assigned to Navy Recruiting Command speak with attendees during the National Society of Black Engineers career fair at the Anaheim Convention Center. (U.S. Navy photo by MCC Anastasia Puscian)

4. AO2 Joseph Januchowski and AT2 William Bickley, both SpecWar Scouts from Navy Recruiting District New Orleans, enjoy a Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) contest at Areofest. (U.S. Navy photo by NC1 Jerald Campbell)

5. Caldwell High School Senior Emmalie Griswold stands with her parents, Jim and Evie Griswold, holding an NROTC check that was presented to her during a pre-game ceremony at the Idaho Stampedes’ NBA development team Military Appreciation Night. (U.S. Navy photo by NCC Nicolas Carbajal)

6. Navy recruiters observe an attendee completing a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics robot challenge during the National Society of Black Engineers career fair at the Anaheim Convention Center. (U.S. Navy photo by MCC Anastasia Puscian)

7. OS2 Angel Montoya from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston takes the field during a flag presentation at the opening game for the Houston Astros at Minute Maid Park Mon., April 6. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Chris Fahey)

8. Hospital Corpsman Nicole Cline, left, and OS2 Angel Montoya from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston fist bump during a flag presentation at the opening game for the Houston Astros at Minute Maid Park April 6. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Chris Fahey)

9. Medal of Honor recipient Donald E. Ballard takes a photo with Sailors from NRD New Orleans at Areofest. (U.S. Navy photo by NC1 Jerald Campbell)

10. OS2 Brandon Bayer, a recruiter assigned to Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Dallas, interacts with students operating the simulated laparoscopic surgery during Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) day at Skyline High School. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jonathan Vargas)
Pride Mod Gets A Reboot

Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) is rolling out the next version of Personalized Recruiting for Immediate and Delayed Enlistment Modernization (Pride Mod), Pride Mod II, in the near future.

Pride Mod II will transition NRC from a current paper dependent officer and enlisted processing, selection, and accession business process into one web-based system. The system will cover both active and reserve components.

The system was updated in order to help NRC more effectively and efficiently carry out its mission to "Recruit Quality Today, Build for Tomorrow!"

"PRIDE Mod-II is central to Recruiting Force 2030 Strategy," said Kevin Sullivan, director of information systems at NRC. "It integrates Officer, Enlisted, Active and Reserve Components into a single IT system. Through the system's paperless processing, biometric signature, and workflow capabilities we will realize a reduction of the application processing time, an increase in data accuracy, and a decrease in rework."

NRC hopes the new system will make an impact Navy-wide by providing quality recruits faster at a lower cost through improved processing time.

The biggest effect of Pride Mod II will be felt by those involved in applicant/recruit processing, classification and approvals.

"Pride Mod II will add the ability to process officer kits faster," said Rear Adm. Annie B. Andrews, commander, Navy Recruiting Command. "With the completion of Pride Mod II, everything becomes electronic which will cut down on cost with efficiencies and manpower needs. It'll make your life so much easier."

Recruits will also reap the benefits of Pride Mod II by experiencing a reduction in application and processing time.

Recruiters will be able to receive familiarization training courses from NRC's Training and Quality Assurance Department.

NRC's Information Systems Department will set up a temporary Pride Mod II helpdesk to assist with the transition from Pride Mod I.

For more information about Navy recruiting, visit www.cnrc.navy.mil.

Story by MCSN Brandon Martin, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs
San Antonio Sailors Represent Navy at Local Salute to Veteran Patients Event

Story by MC1 Jacquelyn D. Childs, Navy Medicine Education and Training Public Affairs

A Navy recruiter and a Navy Medicine Training Support Center instructor stationed in San Antonio represented the Navy as ‘ambassadors’ at a local veteran’s hospital during an event Feb. 13, 2015 to kick off the 28th annual nation-wide Salute to Veteran Patients Week.

Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Daniel Morales, a recruiter at Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, and Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Shantal Zavala, an instructor from the Navy Medicine Training Support Center, went with representatives from the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard to the Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital to speak with veterans and show their support.

“Each of us who are privileged to live in this nation has a special place in our hearts for those defenders of freedom,” said Marie Weldon, director of South Texas Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital. “It was really rewarding to see what we do overseas in theater actually matters for patients here at the hospital.”

“This was the first of many events the two Sailors and their counterparts from the other services will be attending as ambassadors. Both sailors were nominated by their command and selected by a committee of local command master chiefs to represent the Navy at Fiesta San Antonio 2015. A celebration of San Antonio’s history and diverse culture, Fiesta is one of the largest festivals in the nation, lasting approximately two weeks and bringing in millions of visitors.”

“I’m honored and privileged to be selected as an ambassador,” said Morales. “It could’ve been someone else, and I’m happy to be a part of it just to show my support and represent the U.S. Navy and the military.”

“I’m glad to participate,” agreed Zavala. “I’m really excited about it. As I read more about Fiesta, I’m really excited to be a part of that culture they have here.”

Fiesta San Antonio is scheduled to take place April 16 - 26. More information about Fiesta San Antonio can be found at http://www.fiesta-sa.org/

(left) HM2 Shantal Zavala, from Playas de Rosarito, Mexico, is a urology service lead/instructor at the Navy Medicine Training Support Center at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

(right) AM2 Daniel Morales, from Mielica, Philippines, is assigned as a recruiter with the Navy Recruiting District San Antonio at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. As a Navy recruiter, he is responsible for providing leadership, motivation and training to 25 Future Sailors and the procurement of qualified officers and enlisted personnel for active service in the regular and reserve components of the U.S. Navy.

Military ambassadors from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard will represent their respective services at San Antonio-area community events leading nearly 150 activities associated with Fiesta San Antonio. They also participate in parades and visit local schools, nursing homes and retirement facilities throughout the year. (U.S. Navy photo by Ed Dixon.)

Sailor Chases Dream Through MECP

Story and photo by MCSN Brandon Martin, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

Hamiltone said that, after years of hard work, being accepted to the program and allowing her to make a difference in someone’s life serves as a dream come true. “I always wanted to be in the medical community and in the Navy,” said Hamilton. “I grew up learning and hearing about my grandfather who served in the Korean War as a corpsman and his brother who was a cardiologist in the Navy. They inspired me early on to follow in their selfless acts of service and I always wanted to follow in their footsteps.”

While Hamilton has climbed the chain-of-command as an enlisted corpsman, she feels nursing offers her a chance to get back to caring for patients.

“Nursing has always been a passion and the higher the rank you get as a hospital corpsman, the less hands-on patient care you get to do,” said Hamilton. “Being bedside and taking care of patients is what I really enjoy.”

After some time on the administrative side, Hamilton looks to regain that face-to-face contact through nursing. Though nursing is a new frontier, Hamilton says her background as a corpsman as an asset for her future endeavors.

“Having the background as a Chief Hospital Corpsman can bring experience, pride and professionalism to the plate,” said Hamilton. “As an HMC, I have a lot of experience with the molding of Sailors. Some of the nurses that come directly from the outside aren’t going to have that same experience leading.”

Following 16 and a half years of leading Sailors, Hamilton says she is finally ready to open the next chapter of her life. Even as she moves one step closer to reaching her own dream, Hamilton has advice for those who look to follow in her footsteps.

“It’s not about accomplishing just anything. It’s about being able to accomplish something that inspires somebody else and makes a difference in someone’s life,” said Hamilton. “If they have that passion, it’s about helping them get there too. Be strong and be true to who you are. If you have something you are passionate about them work hard at it and don’t give up. It takes a lot of time and effort but in the end the work is worth the reward.”

For more information about the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program in the Navy visit http://www.navyofficers.com/medical-enlisted-commissioning-program-mecp/

For more information about Navy recruiting, visit www.cnc.navy.mil.

The path to joining the Navy’s Medical Service Corps is a long but rewarding journey. Having a four-year medical degree, maintaining physical fitness standards and exhibiting high moral character are all requirements to become a medical professional in the United States Navy.

While merging onto the health professional highway is hard, the Navy has many routes an individual can take to realize their career goals.

One road the Navy offers is the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP). MECP allows qualified enlisted Sailors with the opportunity to earn an entry level degree in nursing and to be appointed as an officer in the Nurse Corps of the Navy. All enlisted ranks and rates are eligible to apply for the program as long as they are commissioned before their 42nd birthday.

In addition, applicants must have completed at least 30 semester hours of undergraduate courses with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. MECP recently gained a qualified applicant from Navy Recruiting Command after Chief Hospital Corpsman Melissa Hamilton, program manager for officer NAVET (U.S. Naval Veterans), was accepted into the program.

MECP

Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program

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Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) has announced plans to distribute new Recruiting Aid Devices (RAD) scheduled to roll out by the end of June. RADs are used to help recruiters start conversations with applicants to inform them about career options in the Navy.

The new RADs are more current products that reflect the interests of today’s recruiting market of 17-24 year olds. The new items include knit caps, headphones, license plate covers, a wireless mouse, a power bank to charge cell phones, and mechanical pencils. “The new items will provide confidence and pride to recruiters as they present and discuss Navy career choices with potential applicants,” said James Blum, director for the Logistics/Supply (N4) department at NRC.

Yearly review boards are held to decide which new items to introduce and which old items should be phased out. “Each year at our March Promotional Review Board, the N4 team presents 10-12 new product ideas that are selected from an annual vendor’s tradeshow,” said Blum. “From these 10-12 new products, field recruiters vote in six new items, which represents 15% of the overall products carried. As an offset, we also ask recruiters to help us identify older items to remove from our inventory.” Items voted out in the yearly survey from the field will be phased out as any remaining stock is depleted.

1. License plate frame
2. Headphones
3. Power cell for charging electronic devices
4. Mechanical pencil
5. Wireless mouse
6. Knit caps

Nevada NJROTC Cadet Presented Scholarship

Navy Recruiting District Portland proudly recognized one of the top Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) scholarship recipients in the nation during a ceremony Nov. 7, 2014 at Churchill County High School in Fallon, Nev. Lt. K.C. Dalton, officer in charge of Naval Recruiting in Reno, presented Jonathan Grimes with a check during an assembly at the high school. The NROTC scholarship is valued at $180,000.

Jonathan Grimes participated in the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps all four years of high school and currently serves as the operations officer. He has maintained a 3.92 GPA throughout high school and is ranked 4th overall in his class. Grimes is among approximately 4,000 students who receive NROTC scholarships each year out of more than 16,000 who apply. Being selected early in the scholarship cycle distinguishes him as one of the top candidates in the country.

Grimes’ recruiter, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Nathan Palanivelu, says Grimes is a dedicated student who is not only motivated to make himself better, but to help better those around him. Palanivelu says most of the students who attended the assembly had no idea that the Navy scholarships were available and were surprised by the amount Grimes received.

Lt. K.C. Dalton (right) presented Jonathan Grimes (center) with an NROTC check valued at $180,000 during an assembly Nov. 7, 2014 at Churchill County High School in Fallon, Nev. Grimes’ recruiter, HM2 Nathan Palanivelu, also attended the ceremony. Grimes served in the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps all four years of high school and is currently the operations officer. (Photo courtesy of Churchill County High School Naval Junior ROTC)
1. SAN DIEGO (Feb. 3, 2015) SW1 Honer Villanueva, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3, cuts rebar beams with an oxygen acetylene torch during a seaplane ramp construction project. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Mark El-Rayes)

2. SEAL BEACH (March 2, 2015) MA1 Virgil Ignacio, assigned to Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, reads to students at J. H. McGaugh Elementary School during the 18th annual Read Across America Day. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Michael D’Oyly)

3. ARABIAN GULF (Feb. 18, 2015) BM2 Timmothy Annoni signals fuel probe seats on a sponson aboard the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) during a replenishment-at-sea with the Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Walter S. Diehl (T-AO 183). (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Scott Fenaroli)


5. MEDITERRANEAN SEA (Feb. 27, 2015) BM3 Class Francisco, Jimenez-Gonzalez, from San Antonio, serves as the petty officer in charge of a connected replenishment aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Donald Cook (DDG 75) during a replenishment-at-sea with the Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS John Landfall (T-AO-186). (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Karolina A. Oseguera)

6. DIEGO GARCIA (Jan. 19, 2015) BU1 Donald Wedekind, Seabee diver from Underwater Construction Team Two, Port Hueneme, Ca., checks the density of piles during a survey on a deep draft wharf at U.S. Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Gary Keen)

7. PACIFIC OCEAN (March 4, 2015) AO2 Jason Placide and AO3 Timothy Stockman oversee the firing of a 25-mm Mk 38 Mod 2 machine gun system during a live-fire exercise aboard the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD 2). (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Class Sean P. Gallagher)

8. ARABIAN GULF (March 2, 2015) AM3 Jacob Adams polishes the canopy of an F/A-18C Hornet from the Mighty Shrikes of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 94 on the flight deck of aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Eric Coffer)

9. ATLANTIC OCEAN (Feb. 10, 2015) IT2 Joshua Lesperance, from Spring Valley, N.Y., launches an RQ-20A Puma small unmanned aircraft system off the flight deck of the Military Sealift Command joint high-speed vessel USNS Spearhead (JHSV 1). (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Joshua Davies)


11. NAVAL STATION ROTDA (March 5, 2015) A Spanish marine casts out of a U.S. Navy SH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter assigned to the Oregon Whales of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 28 during a helicopter rope suspension training in Rota, Spain. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Erin Dietrich)
Electrician’s Mate 1st Class James Iler looks forward to teaching kids about nuclear power. In fact, he'd eventually like to teach high school physics. But before he became the nuclear coordinator for Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Portland in October of 2013, teaching, let alone speaking to large groups of people, was not something he ever considered as a possible career path.

As the advanced programs coordinator for the district, Iler is expected to give presentations to high school students about nuclear power and how the Navy uses it. After spending five years maintaining and operating the nuclear reactors aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), he’s definitely an expert on the subject. But as a self-admitted introvert, he was not looking forward to giving class presentations. He quickly overcame that fear and after just over a year on the job, classroom presentations have become the part he enjoys most about the position.

Iler taught three science classes January 27, 2015 at Taft High School in Lincoln City, Ore. His interest in the topic and eagerness to engage students in the subject matter comes through in his presentations. He begins by asking students if they’d be OK with a nuclear power plant in their town. Then he shows them a picture of one alongside a photo of a coal-fueled power plant and explains the differences. “There’s a lot of fear out there surrounding nuclear power but there’s also a lot of misinformation,” Iler told the class. “I just want to get you interested in the topic because our nation’s energy policy is going to be a very big deal in the near future and you’ll be the ones making the decisions for us as a country. I want you to be able to make your own informed decision.” Iler goes on to talk about the making and controlling of nuclear reactors, our nation’s growing consumption of electrical power and different types of radiation exposure. He also has fun with the presentation, sharing a story of a chemistry experiment gone wrong in his bedroom when he was a teenager. He discusses the downsides of nuclear power and ends with how the Navy has safely relied on it to power its submarines and aircraft carriers for more than a half century.

Recruiters for the district set up the presentations with teachers in the schools at which they are assigned. Mechanical Gas Turbine System Technician 1st Class Christopher Vertner, a recruiter at Navy Recruiting Station Newport and Coos Bay who arranged the presentation at Taft High School, says they are a great way to make positive connections with a school and its staff. He also says the nuclear power presentation helps target the higher quality students the Navy is looking to attract for their advanced programs. “Every time we do it at school, teachers want us coming back the next year,” said Vertner. “They like how it shows students the different aspects of nuclear programs in the Navy and how we use nuclear power.” Vertner utilizes the nuclear outreach program often and, in fact, was NRD Portland’s 2014 Nuclear Field Recruiter of the Year. Teachers are definitely impressed with Iler’s presentation. “I have a better understanding of nuclear power now than I did an hour ago,” said substitute teacher Walt Ricks when introducing Iler to the second class at Taft. “He did a wonderful job. He really knows his subject.”

You could say Iler is following somewhat in the footsteps of his father, a chemistry professor at a college in Illinois. He loves the science field and says after doing these school presentations for just over a year now thinks he would really enjoy teaching high school physics following his Navy career. Although he says the transition from his job on the carrier to recruiting wasn’t easy, he is getting more comfortable interacting with people and believes the skills he has gained in the nuclear coordinator position will benefit him throughout life.
Daniel Green
NRC Junior Civilian of the Year

Story and photo by MCSN Brandon Martin, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

I am honored! It’s kind of funny now having someone else take care of you after you have taken care of so many Sailors and an organization for so many years. I’m truly grateful that I have a boss and command that recognize and consider my talents important. To me, I’m just doing my job. However, I am extremely humbled for the recognition.

What steps did you take to reach your success at NRC? Nothing special. I believe in doing my job to the best of my ability and treating everyone like I would want to be treated: and that’s with respect and giving them the right answer, whether it be good…bad….or indifferent.

What’s your favorite part about working for NRC? Putting in an honest day’s work and helping everyone I come in contact with.

What plans do you have for the future at NRC? Learning different systems within my department and others departments. To become a well versed NRC employee who knows the business inside and out.

Is there anyone you look to at NRC for help and guidance? Mrs. Arzie Green and Mr. Kevin Sullivan helped me to not settle for less.

Do you have any hobbies for when you aren’t at work? Spending quality time with my family, my church and anything sports related.

What advice would you give to new arrivals at NRC to succeed? Always put your best effort in everything you do, be nice and courteous to all, (regardless of rank or title) and remember saying please and thank you goes a long way.

When did you start working for NRC? February 13, 2012.

Do you have any prior experience in the military? Yes, I served in the U.S. Navy for over 20 years as a Chief Yeoman.

What’s different between working as a civilian compared to working in the military? Despite not wearing the uniform, there’s no difference to me. I still play an integral part in recruiting the best and brightest in today’s Navy.

What does your job at NRC consist of? I currently serve as an Executive Assistant, Administrative and Human Resource Specialist for Navy Recruiting Command in the Information Technology & Communications Department.

How do you feel about receiving the Junior Civilian of the Year? Ecstatic!!! I am honored! It’s kind of funny

America’s Navy Introduces STEM Tour 2 at Local Robotics Competition

Story and photos by Burrell Palmer, NRD San Antonio Public Affairs

To strengthen the interest of high school students in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), recruiters with Navy Recruiting District San Antonio attended the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Tech Challenge Regional Championships held at Rackspace, Feb. 20 - 21.

In addition to recruiters serving as judges and referees of the competition, the Navy’s STEM Tour 2 was on hand for students to engage and learn more about STEM opportunities within America’s Navy.

According to FIRST, the competitions are a unique varsity “Sport for the Mind” designed to help high-school-aged young people discover how interesting and rewarding the lives of engineers and scientists can be.

As referees, the recruiters oversaw the competition, judged, and evaluated teams, then presented awards for design, technology, sportsmanship, and commitment to FIRST.

According to Gregory Hine of Lowe-Campbell Ewald and STEM 2 Tour manager, the tour helps Navy Recruiting across the nation entice students who are interested in technology to seek a STEM career in the Navy.

“STEM 2 Tour is a smaller, more nimble version of the popular Navy STEM 1 Tour and is a great way to engage students at robotics competitions and other events that offer less space,” said Hine.

High School Senior Abel Solomon of Vista Ridge High School in Cedar Park, Texas attended the robotics competition to help promote STEM across the high school community.

“Having the Navy here at the championships opens the perspective of many of the students, especially in reference to technical opportunities within the Navy.”

Solomon was recently announced as a recipient of a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Scholarship in the amount of $180,000. He will be attending Virginia Tech University in the fall majoring in Bio-Chemistry. STEM Tour 2 has been featured in numerous events to include the Army-Navy Game, 2015 Poinsettia Bowl Game, EPSN Winter X-Games and other STEM related events. It features a Brain/STEM Challenge Application (touch screen), a virtual-reality Deep Sea Challenge, a Robotics Challenge Course, a laparoscopic surgery demo and more.

1. NC1 Steven Camacho, a recruiter with Navy Officer Recruiting Station Bandera, NRD San Antonio, explains the workings of one of the robots used in the Navy STEM 2 Tour’s Robotics Challenge Course during the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Tech Challenge Regional Championships.
2. ET1 Allyson Robertson, a recruiter with Navy Recruiting Station Mercado, Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, served as one of the referees during the Championships.
3. GM2 Cecil Ford, a recruiter with Navy Recruiting Station Hollywood Park, Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, judges one of numerous presentations.
Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) Sailors participated in a community relations project at Millington Elementary School and Rivercrest Elementary School March 25 as part of the command’s Adopt-A-School Program.

The Sailors read books and answered questions about the Navy from students who ranged from pre-kindergarten to fourth grade.

The Adopt-A-School Program has given Sailors the opportunity to volunteer with local elementary schools on a monthly basis for the past two years. Millington and Rivercrest students and faculty greatly appreciated the presence of the NRC Sailors.

“I love to see the Navy readers coming into our schools,” said Wilma Shaw, fourth grade teacher at Rivercrest Elementary School. “I think that letting them [children] know the different occupations of the Navy is an excellent way to reach out to students and give them other options.”

The primary objective of the visit was to promote reading in children at a young age.

“I think that the pre-k students get to see a real life application for the effects of reading and to see why it’s important to become a good reader,” said Rhonda Childress, pre-kindergarten teacher at Millington Elementary School. “When they see someone coming, especially people in uniform, that gives them something to look up to and aspire to be.”

The Adopt-A-School program allows ten NRC volunteers the privilege of serving the local community.

Some Sailors feel that spending time with the local children provides its own type of reward.

“My favorite part of this is being able to connect with the kids on their level and understand their life and views on life,” said Yeoman 3rd Class Breauna Smith, admin awards clerk for NRC.

NRC Sailors will continue to make similar school visits throughout the school year.

For more stories on recruiting please visit www.cnrc.navy.mil

1. PS3 Joanna Banda, assigned to Navy Recruiting Command, reads to a class of kindergarten students at Millington Elementary School as part of the Adopt-A-School Program. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Preston Paglinawan)
2. Sailors from Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) join students and faculty at Rivercrest Elementary School for a group photo as part of NRC’s Adopt-A-School program March 25. (U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Brandon Martin)
3. PSSN Isaiah Tapia, personnel clerk for Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), reads a book to children at Rivercrest Elementary School as part of NRC’s Adopt-A-School program March 25. (U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Brandon Martin)
4. YN3 Breauna Smith, assigned to Navy Recruiting Command, reads to a class of kindergarten students at Millington Elementary School as part of the Adopt-A-School Program. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Preston Paglinawan)
Story by MC2 Abe McNatt, Naval Special Warfare Group 2 Public Affairs

There is perhaps no other specialized fighting force in the world that is talked about more, but truly known about less, than the U.S. Navy SEALs.

The preparation, training, and capabilities of the SEALs are near legendary, but like most legends people do not really know where they came from. Then there is the much less talked about and even less known about, but just as effective, special warfare combatant-craft crewmen (SWCC, pronounced “swick”). Where do these guys come from? How does someone leave an ordinary life behind to make it legendary? And most importantly for the true warrior at heart, where do I sign up?

For the past eight years, the Navy has been operating The Navy SEAL & SWCC Scout Teams to help find these young men and women who are looking to do something important with their lives behind to make it legendary? And most importantly for the true warrior at heart, where do I sign up?

For the past eight years, the Navy has been operating The Navy SEAL & SWCC Scout Teams to help find these young men and women who are looking to do something important with their lives. After 30 years of active duty service and another eight into communities to educate, motivate and inspire youth to follow their dreams.

Trainees will be expected to maintain a positive work ethic and confidence in the water is a very large percentage or two is physical and the rest is heart and soul,” said Courrier. Nobody really comes to us who are not physically fit enough for the job, but that is not enough on its own.

Helping trainees to be comfortable and confident in the water is a very large aspect to FTP and the swim program.

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Navy Recruiters Build Playhouses for Low Income Families

Story and photos by MC2 Travis Nickell, NRD San Diego Public Affairs

Fifteen Sailors from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) San Diego participated in a community relations project with San Diego Habitat for Humanity (SDHFH). Recruiters assigned from seven different San Diego area recruiting stations work together to construct 10 wooden playhouses for low income families in the area. The investment company TD Ameritrade sponsored the building materials, and will later host a playhouse painting competition to fund raise additional money for SDHFH. SDHFH hopes to raise $20,000 from the playhouses.

James Cyr, construction crew leader for SDHFH, noted that the drive military volunteers bring to projects like these provide safe play areas for children. "They [military volunteers] come with a lot of drive to do the work and get the job done quickly," said Cyr. "This project will better serve the less fortunate and get these houses to kids who may never have anything like this."

After each house is built and painted, SDHFH will load and deliver each playhouse to a low income family. "I get a sense of satisfaction from projects like these," said Petty Officer 1st Class Khoi Do, recruiter assigned to Navy Recruiting Station College Grove. "I've done something with a purpose. We volunteer for projects like this not just for families of San Diego but more importantly for children."

Established 27 years ago, SDHFH has built and renovated hundreds of homes and changed the lives of even more families through the work of over 200,000 volunteers and supporters.
The switch to smartphones is expected to build stronger relationships between recruiters and applicants, and Future Sailors. The switch to smartphones is expected to build stronger relationships between recruiters and applicants, and Future Sailors. The switch to smartphones is expected to build stronger relationships between recruiters and applicants, and Future Sailors.

Future Sailors anytime and anywhere can reduce a lot of pressure off the recruiter and greatly impact their ability to meet deadlines by working smarter and not harder, said Godfrey. With future updates to the smartphones, recruiters will be able to access their Navy Marine Corps Intranet emails while on the move. Godfrey recommends that users set up their smartphone account using their work email. The introduction to new technology greatly assists recruiters; however, it is also accompanied by new risks. “In the ever changing IT environment, the Navy is constantly monitoring for security threats and vulnerabilities and will adjust accordingly,” said Godfrey.

While rollout for the new smartphones began May 1, distribution will continue throughout the fiscal year. For more information about Navy recruiting, visit www.cnrc.navy.mil.

New smartphone upgrades will support in the recruiting effort to improve connectivity between the recruiters and Future Sailors. (U.S. Navy illustration by MCSN Brandon Martin)
Members of the Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) Diversity Division and City Outreach Officers in Atlanta, Ga., hosted the SeaPerch Regions Robotics Competitions National Qualifier on March 28.

The competition took place at Chamblee Charter High School in Chamblee, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta. “The SeaPerch Program provides students with the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, and mathematics (STEM) while building an underwater [remotely operated vehicle] as part of a science and engineering technology curriculum,” said Lt. Joel Pena, NRC diversity program manager. “Throughout the project, students learn engineering concepts, problem solving, teamwork, and technical applications.

The SeaPerch program travels around the nation to STEM events to provide an opportunity for Navy recruiters to interact with individuals who have an interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. “The program is aligned with the Navy’s vision to harness the teamwork and imagination of a technically proficient workforce that is diverse in experience, background, and ideas,” said Pena.

Lt.Cmdr. Nikki Peoples, NRC Navy city outreach officer for the Southeast Region said the SeaPerch events get youths excited about highly technical ideas and concepts. “This was a great event,” Peoples said. “It inspires and encourages young children to achieve a goal. It was great seeing the fourth and fifth graders keep with the opportunity to go above and beyond the classroom: the experience gain was priceless. The one thing the students were looking forward to was meeting the Navy Sailors.”

For more information on SeaPerch events and their schedule visit www.seaperch.org.

The school administrators were also very excited to have an opportunity for their students to get hands on with advanced equipment while talking with Sailors about real-world application. Burian Kitchen, Midvale Elementary STEM teacher and team coach said the event “gave the students the opportunity to go up above and beyond the classroom: the experience gain was priceless. The one thing the students were looking forward to was meeting the Navy Sailors.”

For more information on SeaPerch events and their schedule visit www.seaperch.org.