

September 2014

Issue 3

NASHVILLE
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Newsletter



NRD

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NRD Nashville Newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Officer of Navy Recruiting District Nashville and the content is edited and approved by the command. The newsletter is an authorized publication for the members of NRD Nashville and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy and do not imply endorsement thereof.

Commander's Corner



Team Nashville,

Outstanding job in closing out a very successful Fiscal Year 2014! On both enlisted and officer sides, we made our mission and improved our Navy program compliance across the board. Looking ahead, Fiscal Year 2015 will hold a similar set of challenges, but what's heartening is that Nashville has shown it can succeed despite the challenge. We have the momentum now to lead not only the Region, but the Nation as well. In fact, FY-15 will be the Year of the Leader for NRD Nashville. We'll lead our Future Sailors, our Shipmates, our Region and Nation.

As we say farewell to the many team members that have been so integral to our district's success, I challenge you to take their strain and build upon their contributions in your station or office. Remember my "SELL" philosophy and how you contribute with service to excellence as a leader for your legacy.

Very respectfully yours,
Skipper

TEAMWORK

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC1(SW/AW) TIMOTHY WALTER

They call it the Opposing Knife Edge. For the U.S. Navy's flight demonstration team, the Blue Angels, it is one of more than 30 tricks they regularly perform during their shows at air fields across the country. At their appearance in Smyrna, Tenn., this June as part of the Great Tennessee Air Show, the audience gasped and then cheered at what appeared at first to onlookers as a near collision. Two solo pilots speed from opposite sides of a show toward a center point. Just milliseconds before impact seems imminent, they roll their F/A-18 Hornets 90 degrees and accelerate past one another -- just inches apart -- and continue on the exhaust trail of their opposite.

Two Sailors from Kentucky pulled off a similar trick without ever taking flight. It all started with a question. "How do I join the Blue Angels?" And it was quickly followed by another, "Would you ever be interested in recruiting?"

At the time, Aviation Structural Mechanic Equipment 1st Class T.J. Coots was touring with the Blue Angels, which are based out of Pensacola, Fla., when an opportunity came for him to visit his hometown of Bowling Green, Ky. The Blue Angels were set to unveil a jet at the town's Aviation Heritage Park and Coots was able to attend due to his hometown status.

Bowling Green became the center point of their trick.

"I was out there working on the jets and Petty Officer Hamilton came out and introduced himself. We kind of just hit it off," Coots said. "He was asking questions about how to be in the Blues and he asked me if I would ever think about being in recruiting."



The crew of a C-130 Hercules, affectionately known as "Fat Albert", assigned to the U.S. Navy flight demonstration squadron, the Blue Angels, pose for a photo with Sailors of Navy Recruiting District Nashville after they participated in a ride-along as part of the Great Tennessee Air Show.

At the time, Aviation Structural Mechanic Equipment 1st Class Bryan Hamilton was a recruiter assigned to a station in Bowling Green that is part of Navy Recruiting District Nashville.

It didn't take long for each of the Kentucky natives to start their 90 degree roll. Coots assisted Hamilton with the Blue Angels application process and he was present when Hamilton performed a week-long interview with the squadron.

"He was a strong candidate," said Coots. "I was the [leading petty officer] of the shop at the time. He came in and hit the ground running. He was a hard worker and had good personal skills, which he probably got from recruiting. So that helped and he got hired."

Hamilton contributed much of his success in the application process and beyond to his days as a recruiter.

"It intertwines quite a bit. Being a recruiter before I came here, helped a lot as far as all the school that we go to and the public speaking. That played a big part in it," Hamilton said.

He added that having the specific knowledge of the needs of recruiters allows



U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant Adam Miller, second from left, explains his military experiences with Sailors from Navy Recruiting District Nashville inside the cockpit of a C-130 Hercules, affectionately known as "Fat Albert", assigned to the U.S. Navy flight demonstration squadron, the Blue Angels, prior to taking flight as part of the Great Tennessee Air Show.



him to be a better asset in the Blue Angels since they work closely with local stations at the performances.

“Whenever we go to these shows, it helps to know all the lingo that they are talking about as far as what they need from us. It helps us help them.”

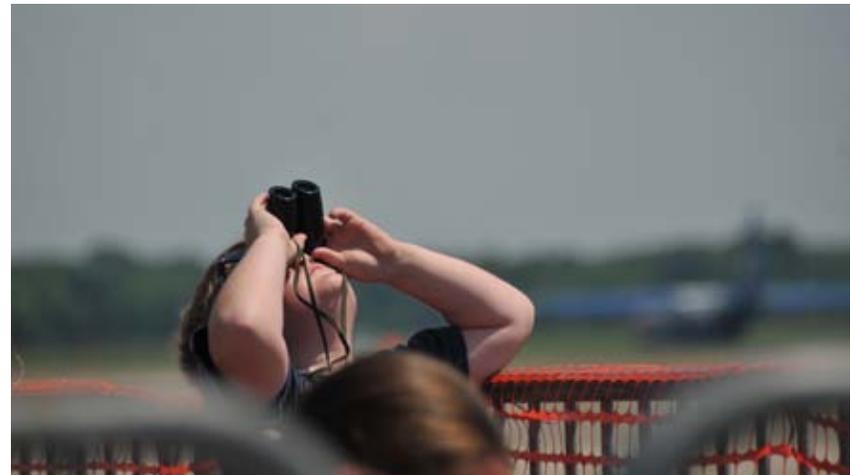
And Hamilton helped his counterpart make a strong start in recruiting by setting up a meeting with his chain of command during one of Coots’ visits home to Bowling Green so that he has their endorsement before he ever reported.

“If you ask me we were just fortunate that it all lined up,” Coots said.

Now that Coots and Hamilton have moved past the center point, they have accelerated in the former tracks of their peer.

Hamilton said he has loved his time in the Blue Angels and fulfilled a bucket list item this past winter when he broke the sound barrier in the number seven jet. Now he is excited about his next chapter in the Navy. He just received orders to transfer from the Blue Angels to work at Naval Air Station Fallon, Nev., with the United States Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program, commonly known at Top Gun.

Meanwhile, as part of Navy Recruiting





District Nashville for a little more than two years, Coots has helped recruit more than 50 new Future Sailors. And though he misses aspects of the squadron, such as the special Friday shows they performed for children of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, he has found a different kind of reward in recruiting.

“They are both great and they both represent the Navy well. But on recruiting duty you get to know people a lot more. You start to become their friend at first, talking to them, getting them engaged about the Navy and keeping them engaged,” Coots said. “Once they do end up joining the Navy -- and this is

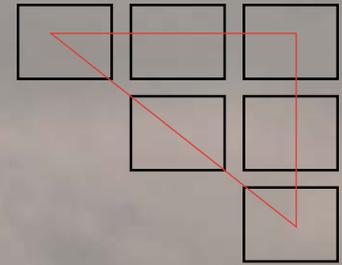
the part the Blue Angels don’t get to see -- I have future Sailors who are now in the Navy that keep in contact with me. They tell me how much they like it and thank me for everything I’ve done for them. It always makes you feel good because you have been a great mentor to that person.”



STAYING THE COURSE

Cmdr. Jaime Hernandez, left, commanding officer of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Nashville, and Lt. Thomas Reichhart, the operations officer assigned to Navy Recruiting District Nashville, lead children during a one mile fun run that followed the Andrews Cadillac Firecracker 5K race at the Maryland Farms YMCA in Brentwood, Tenn.

XO Notes



Team Nashville,

We had a great year, not only in production but with taking care of our Sailors and civilian team as well. As we look back on Fiscal Year 14, your hard work and team-focused drive have made Nashville the premier District. With that success, we look forward to Fiscal Year 15 with a motto of “2015 - Year of the Leader”. Every person on Team Nashville is a leader...together we will continue to improve our command and our Navy.

There has been a tremendous amount of turnover, both at HQ and in the field. Thorough turnovers, quality training, and sound mentoring will not only get us through a period of high turnover, it will make

us better; better leaders, better qualified, and better performers. “How” you recruit is more important than how many you recruit. Integrity and upholding the Navy Core Values will win the day always.

Thank you for what you do to make our Navy and our command great. Also, take time to thank your family for their support - this is key to each of us performing so well every day!

- XO



When the Admiral Comes to Town: A story of two Sailors named Smith

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC1(SW/AW) TIMOTHY WALTER

When Rear Adm. Annie Andrews, commander, Navy Recruiting Command, finished thanking the young Sailor in the corner of the conference room for his brief, she ended her sentence with two unexpected words: Chief Select.

The silence and the immediate consequence of her words held the room breathless for several seconds until the applause and cheers took over.

Just 20 minutes later, Andrews would say it again in a phone call to a Sailor she had met just the day prior during a recruiting station visit.

He shared the same shock through the silent cell phone.

It turned out that the fifth of August was a good day to be named Smith at Navy Recruiting District Nashville.

Electrician's Mate 1st Class Jeremy Smith had just completed his impromptu explanation on the challenges and strategies of recruiting the next generation of Sailors for the Navy's nuclear propulsion program, when he heard those two words from Andrews. At first he looked confused, then stunned, and quickly it all turned to elation.

Smith, who serves as the nuclear field coordinator for NRD Nashville, recently reported to the command in March after serving a tour aboard the aircraft carrier



Rear Adm. Annie Andrews, center, commander of Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), poses for a photo with Chief (Select) Electrician's Mate Jeremy Smith, left, the Nuclear Field Coordinator for Navy Recruiting District Nashville, and Chief (Select) Operations Specialist Aaron Smith, a Navy Recruiter assigned to Navy Recruiting Station Franklin, Tenn., both of whom she surprised an hour earlier with the news of their selection to the Chief's Mess at Navy Recruiting District Nashville Headquarters during a three-day tour of the stations assigned to NRD Nashville.

USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77).

“It caught me off guard. I just couldn’t believe it,” Smith said.

A few minutes later, Andrews dismissed him from the meeting and directed him to share the news. He immediately called his father, who served in the Navy as a nuclear field electronics technician.

“Becoming a chief was my goal when I entered the Navy,” Smith said.

Many Sailors share the same objective as Smith, but few achieve it as fast. Chief (Select) Operations Specialist Aaron Smith happened to be one of those few. Both Sailors were selected for the prestigious rank of chief petty officer after serving only seven years in the Navy.

Andrews made a phone call to Smith, a Navy recruiter assigned to a recruiting station in Franklin, Tenn., under the pretense of clarifying statements he had made a day earlier when they met during a visit to Navy Recruiting Station Dickson, Tenn.

During that encounter, she had asked him what he would change about the Navy if we was wearing a different collar device and had the authority. He had several suggestions the day prior. But during the phone call, he had nothing but silence and confusion until she said those two words.

“My stomach started hurting when she said it. That is when it got real,” Smith said. “It’s not every day you get an Admiral to tell you that you moved up to the next rank, especially to the level of Chief.”

For the Smiths, it was a day to remember. For Andrews, it was day to be proud of the recruiters in the field.

“It was great,” she said. “It was my honor and privilege to do that. To see two seven-year chiefs, it’s unbelievable.”



NRD CHIEFS



Rear Adm. Annie Andrews, right, commander of Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), and Master Chief Navy Counselor Jimmie Holt, left, national chief recruiter for NRC, call Chief (Select) Operations Specialist Aaron Smith to surprise him with the news of his selection to the Chief’s Mess.



Rear Adm. Annie Andrews, left, commander of Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), surprises Chief (Select) Electrician’s Mate Jeremy Smith, the Nuclear Field Coordinator for Navy Recruiting District Nashville, with the news of his selection to the Chief’s Mess.



Rear Adm. Annie Andrews, right, commander of Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), presents a command coin to Chief (Select) Operations Specialist Aaron Smith.

NRD OUTREACH

Andrews Cadillac Firecracker 5K race at the Maryland Farms YMCA in Brentwood, Tenn.



NRD ACHIEVEMENTS

LS2 Maston Buchanan

passes Leading Petty Officer Board



STS1 Joshua Moore

passes Advanced Recruiter Board



GMC Matthew Clark

passes Advanced Recruiter Board



HT2 Darryl O'Neil

receives Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal



PS1 Verlina Webb

receives a gold wreath certificate



Marianna Glass

receives a gold wreath certificate



NRD ACHIEVEMENTS

HT2 Darryl O'Niel
passes Advanced Recruiter Board



DC2 Jerry Goforth
passes Advanced Recruiter Board



OS2 James Miller
passes Advanced Recruiter Board



James Zollicoffer
receives a gold wreath certificate





CMC SPEAKS

Greetings Shipmates,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families doing well!

Thank you for all that you do every day. What a busy few months this has been.

First off, congratulations to OSC(SW/AW) Aaron Smith from NRS Franklin and EMC(SW/AW) Jeremy Smith from HQ on their selection to Chief Petty Officer.

Well done, Shipmates!

Secondly, congratulations to “ALL HANDS” on a great closeout to FY14. You all are amazing!

We recently completed the CMEO survey. Thank you all very much for your input. The XO, CMEO and I are assembling the Command Assessment Team (CAT) to review the results, conduct focus groups and recommend some changes to the Commanding Officer.

As we prepare for the new FY, I encourage you all to look after one another, help one another and continue to make our Navy great.

As always, I sincerely appreciate your hard work and dedication to our Navy and NRD Nashville. You are all “Great Americans”!

I will see you about the deckplates!

- CMC

NRD CHANGE OF COMMAND

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC1(SW/AW) TIMOTHY WALTER

Sailors and guests met just beyond the banks of the Cumberland River at LP Field to witness the change of command for Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Nashville July 11.

With the downtown skyline forming the backdrop, Cmdr. Jaime Hernandez relieved Cmdr. Douglas Barnard to become the 16th commanding officer to lead NRD Nashville, since it was reestablished in 1996.

Under Barnard's leadership, more than 1,200 young men and women from around the seven states that comprise the district joined the U.S. Navy. These Sailors will serve in components of the active duty and reserve forces as both enlisted Sailors and officers. His team of recruiters met every primary mission goal during his tenure and set the standard throughout the region during multiple months.

"We live in a dangerous and unpredictable world and it is awesome to be a part of the team who helps young American men and women do their part to protect our way of life," said Barnard, a native of Torrance, California.

He added that the key to successful leadership is the ability to "surround yourself with good people and then get out of their way so they can get the job done."

He will assume duties as deputy commodore, Region East in August.

Hernandez, who has served as the executive officer of NRD Nashville since May 2013, said it is an honor to be assigned a naval command and it is a duty that he holds in the highest regard.

"I am so excited to lead this highly talented team from the backdrop of beautiful middle Tennessee. I consider the opportunity to be a commanding officer in today's Navy my greatest professional endeavor," said Hernandez.

A native of El Paso, Texas, Hernandez enlisted in the Navy in 1991 to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School in



Sideboys render honors to Cmdr. Jaime Hernandez during a change of command ceremony for Navy Recruiting District Nashville at LP Field. Cmdr. Douglas Barnard was relieved by Cmdr. Jaime Hernandez during the ceremony.

Newport, Rhode Island. He earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Political Science from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1996, and subsequently reported to Pensacola, Florida, for flight training. In February 1999, he earned his "Wings of Gold" with VT-31 in Corpus Christi, Texas, and was designated as a Navy pilot. He is a 2005 graduate of the Naval War College and has a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

"This district is the face of the Navy and will improve the lives of thousands of volunteering young men and women entering the service. Our fleet needs our nation's finest and we intend to recruit as many as possible from here."



Cmdr. Douglas Barnard departs through ceremonial sideboys after being relieved of command during a change of command ceremony for Navy Recruiting District Nashville at LP Field.



Cmdr. Jaime Hernandez addresses the audience as the new commanding officer during a change of command ceremony.

NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

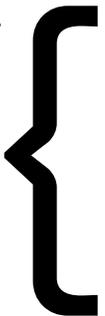
Division 6 Inpection



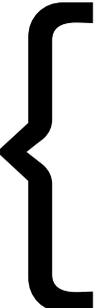
NRD FROCKING

Phase 2

EMC(SEL) Jeremy Smith



OJC(SEL) Aaron Smith



The Ceremony



NRD FROCKING



CHIEF Jeremy Smith



NRD FROCKING



CHIEF Aaron Smith



NRD DEPARTING

LSI James McCullough



LT Jesse Louis



MMI Devin O'Brien



SHI Bruce Harmon



LT Jeremy Garner



ENC Jerry Hubbard



NRD DEPARTING

AZ1 Leah Ruffin



FC1 Christopher Wampler



ENS Ruben Tavakalov



QMC Joseph Murray



OSC Aaron Smith



NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

CNRC, Arriving

RDML Annie Andrews



NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

NRS Jackson



NRS Clarksville/Hopkinsville



NRS Rivergate/Bowling Green/Gallatin



NRS Dickson/Franklin



NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

XO At MEPS Nashville



NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 2 + 3 + 4

Physical Screening Test for NSW/NSO



Future Sailors with contracts for one of the specialities within the Naval Special Warfare/Naval Special Operations program and prospective applicants pose for a photo with members of Navy Recruiting District Nashville's NSW/NSO scout team at the Brentwood YMCA.



Contracted and prospective NSW/NSO Future Sailors perform the run portion of the physical screening test (PST).



A prospective NSW/NSO Future Sailor performs the pull-up portion of the PST.

NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

Southern Heritage Classic



Officer Training



NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

Heroes Breakfast



Sailors assigned to Navy Recruiting District Nashville pose for a photo with the keynote speaker Bob Ravener during Operation Stand Down Tennessee's 4th Annual Heroes Breakfast, which honors men and women who have served in the armed forces.



Operations Specialist 2nd Class James Miller, assigned to Navy Recruiting District Nashville, escorts attendees of the 4th Annual Heroes Breakfast.



Sonar Technician (Submarine) 1st Class Joshua Moore, left, assigned to Navy Recruiting District Nashville, speaks to an attendee of the breakfast.



Sonar Technician (Submarine) 1st Class Joshua Moore, left, escorts an attendee of the breakfast to her table.



Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Heather Cross greets attendees of the breakfast.

NRD AROUND THE DISTRICT

NRC Force Master Chief Visits HQ



NRD REENLISTMENT

A02 Joshua Collins, NRS Clarksville





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CHIEFS