

NAVY RECRUITER

magazine

Supporting Navy Recruiters

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2012
W Recruiters
of the Year

OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN OF DESPAIR,
A STONE OF HOPE





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Front cover: One of the stops for the 2012 Recruiters of the Year during ROY Week in Washington, D.C., was the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial on the National Mall.



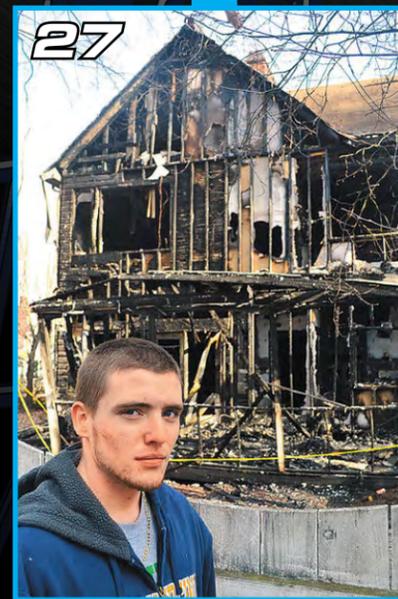
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Back cover: GSM1(SW) Duane Curato, Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Reserve, left, and OS2(SW) Matthew Tucker, Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Active, deliver a wreath from Navy Recruiting Command to one of the honor guards for placement at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.



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AMERICA'S NAVY A GLOBAL FORCE FOR GOOD.

FROM THE ADMIRAL

Shipmates:

What a rewarding week in D.C. honoring our top Recruiters of the Year! Ardella and I want to thank all of the family members who were able to attend the weeklong celebration. Their continued support and dedication help us recruit the best and brightest into the greatest organization in the world, America's Navy – A Global Force for Good.



RADM Earl L. Gay
Commander, Navy Recruiting Command

I'm also grateful to the Fleet Reserve Association, Navy Club of the USA, Navy League, Navy Sea Cadets, Navy Wives Club of America, Post University, Veterans of Foreign Wars, GEICO, and many others who support our Navy Recruiting team! Their support of our mission is an integral part of ROY Week.

Highlights of the week included meeting the Secretary of the Navy, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Naval Personnel, Chief of Navy Reserve, and our Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy. These meetings represent proud moments for our recruiters and their families, and reiterate the importance of their achievements.

Those we honored in D.C. have reached the apex of recruiting, achieving the highest qualities that make our challenging job worthwhile. I think you'll enjoy reading about their success stories in the following pages of this magazine.

Sometimes our behind-the-scenes folks don't always receive the recognition they deserve, but we know who you are, and I sincerely appreciate your efforts for a job well done (NCC Rein, MC1 Chambers, LS2 Craft, MC2 Connors, Frank Ashe, and others).

Recruiting the right Sailor for the right job is not an easy task. It's great that we have times like this to honor those who set the highest standards required to meet our mission every day.

One Team, One Fight!



2012 Recruiters of the Year



Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Active
OS2(SW) Matthew Tucker of NRD Nashville

Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Reserve
GSM1(SW) Duane Curato of NRD San Diego

Officer Recruiter of the Year, Active
LT Lincoln Schneider of NRD Jacksonville

Officer Recruiter of the Year, Reserve
LT Stephen Graff of NRD Chicago

Nuclear Field Coordinator of the Year
EM1(SS) Daniel Macomber of NRD New England

Station Leading Petty Officer of the Year
NC1(AW/SW) Brian DuBose of NRD New Orleans

Classifier of the Year
PS1(SW) Benjamin Erdelyi, Jr. of NRD Philadelphia

Division Leading Chief Petty Officer of the Year
NCC(SW) Dewayne Scott of NRD Atlanta

Diversity Enlisted Recruiter of the Year
FC1(SW) Aurelio Herrera of NRD Los Angeles

Medical Officer Recruiter of the Year
LT Carolyn Starks-Holman of NRD Michigan

Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Recruiter of the Year
NC1(SS) Brian Fields of NRD Denver

Navy Special Warfare/Navy Special Operations Recruiter of the Year
GM2(EXW) Conner Mastry of NRD Houston

Support Person of the Year
PS1(AW) Kerri Scranton of NRD Portland

Navy Recruiting Command Gold "R"
NRD Jacksonville



Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Active

OS1(SW) Matthew Tucker of NRD Nashville



Hometown: Jacksonville, Fla.

How long have you been in recruiting? 16 months

Previous commands and job titles:

USS *DeWert* (FFG 45) - DCPO

USS *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) - Deck seaman

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor?

My favorite part about the recruiting realm is the fact that you are honored and recognized for your accomplishments. To have been selected as the Recruiter of the Year after all of the hard work that I put in is very near and dear to my heart.

What advice would you give to others in your position? The best advice I can give is to not treat applicants like a number. Treat them like a human being that needs the Navy to help the circumstances in their life. You're in a position to help people so always remember that you can change lives and there is nothing more rewarding than that.

Your future goals? Complete my college degree and hopefully join the Navy Recruiting community.

How has the Navy changed your life? I honestly can't imagine my life if I had not joined the Navy. I am humbled with every part of the Navy and I wouldn't trade it for the world.

Hobbies and interests: I like to dance and spend time with my family.

Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Reserve

GSM1(SW) Duane Curato of NRD San Diego



Hometown: Cabadbaran City, Philippines

How long have you been in recruiting? 1-1/2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS *Howard* (DDG 83) - Work Center Supervisor

USS *Halsey* (DDG 97) - Engineering Officer of the Watch and Oil Laboratory LPO

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I feel honored and humbled. I owe it to the support of my NRD chain of command for giving me room to grow and keeping me motivated every day. To my Division 3 Team LCPO and LPO: Thank you for the support. I have to thank God for this wonderful blessing and also to my wonderful wife for all the support. Thank you.

What advice would you give to others in your position? To be a successful recruiter you must avoid getting complacent and always use your resources. Be flexible for all the changes and adapt to easily improve the process. As a team you need to work together to achieve all your goals.

Your future goals? Complete my LPCO qualifications, obtain my degree and have a family soon.

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy changed my life to become a better person. It has given me the training, skills, and opportunities to advance, experience travel around the world, see different cultures, and have wonderful people to work with.

Hobbies and interests: Spending quality time with my wife. I enjoy watching sports and television.

Officer Recruiter of the Year, Active

LT Lincoln Schneider of NRD Jacksonville



Hometown: Bakersfield, Calif.

How long have you been in recruiting? 2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

NAS Whiting Field, Fla.; TSC 374, NAS Jacksonville; NCHB-11, Blount Island, Fla.

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I am incredibly honored and thankful for how extremely supportive all the members of my team and command have been. They have always given me room to run and the opportunity to show them what I can do, as long as the return on investment was there. I am glad to have been able to make a real difference in the lives of my officer candidates and division.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Look within your background for natural affinities and experience that will enable you to align the Navy's goals with your work ethic and the community you serve and in which you prospect. In other words, if you are ready to make an impact in a school or community, request your chain of command to let you show what return you can bring from there.

Your future goals? My professional goal is to complete my active duty career as a naval officer, and continue to find ways that I can help the Navy and civilian/university/corporate world form mutually-beneficial ties. I look forward to where this career will take me and being able to support a family with the things I have learned and experienced along the way.

How has the Navy changed your life? It has changed my life in almost every way imaginable. From helping me complete undergraduate work at Tulane University, sending me to OCS and my early active career in Florida, providing the GI Bill for me to attend the University of Florida, and bringing me back on active duty as a Navy officer recruiter. I have learned an incredible amount about myself over the last two years in recruiting, things that I intend on taking with me as I continue my career as well as things I will ultimately take to my personal and professional life beyond the Navy.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy travel, exploring the state parks of the Southeastern U.S., as well as trail, beach, and cross-country running. I also am very active in the University of Florida Law Alumni community. My Master in Public Health classes take up much of my free time.

Officer Recruiter of the Year, Reserve

LT Stephen Graff of NRD Chicago



Hometown: Bolingbrook/Naperville, Ill.

How long have you been in recruiting? 9 years

Previous commands and job titles:

NOSC Chicago, PERSMOBTEAM, HR Officer; NRD Chicago, Recruiter in charge; NOSC Chicago, Master-at-Arms; Illinois Air National Guard, Security Forces Airman

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I feel honored and privileged to receive this accolade. I couldn't have accomplished this without the support of my family, command, and shipmates. It is an honor to be named Officer Recruiter of the Year. There are a lot of dedicated recruiters out there who work equally as hard.

What advice would you give to others in your position? My advice would be to have a strong work ethic and remember patience is a virtue. The applicants I deal with are making a life-changing decision. It is important that I provide them with all the information so they can make an informed decision. You must care about the applicant and communicate effectively with not only them but their family.

What are your future goals? I am currently studying at the Naval War College and I look forward to earning a second masters degree. I value education and feel extremely fortunate to have received this opportunity. The Navy has invested so much into my education and I

would want nothing more than to use these skills to support the Navy's efforts. My absolute desire is to continue my naval career as a full time support (FTS) officer. I have submitted a package to go FTS and I hope to make a lifelong career in the U.S. Navy.

How has the Navy changed your life? To say the Navy changed my life is an understatement. The Navy has in many ways made me who I am today. My grandfather served as a naval officer in World War II and my father served as an electronics technician during the Iranian hostage crisis. I was eager to follow in their footsteps and while serving in the Navy, I was able to receive a Master in Organizational Leadership. With the experience and the education provided by the Navy, I was commissioned as a Human Resources officer. This was a lifelong dream to achieve this milestone. I enjoy mentoring others and I feel blessed to have gained the leadership experience thus far.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy spending my off-duty time with my wife and daughter. Together we like to travel and explore other cultures and parts of the world. My other spare time is spent running, kayaking, fishing, scuba diving, and enjoying the great outdoors.

Nuclear Field Coordinator of the Year

EM1(SS) Daniel Macomber of NRD New England



Hometown: Guilford, Maine

How long have you been in recruiting? 2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS Nevada (SSBN 733) - Electrical Division LPO

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? It is an honor to have been selected. I have been fortunate to be stationed at NRD New England. The caliber of Sailors I work with on a daily basis is second to none. I truly feel if it weren't for the leadership in my chain of command or the hard work and loyalty of the recruiters and support staff that is displayed daily, I would not be in the position that I am in.

What advice would you give to others in your position? The best advice a nuclear-trained Sailor could be given before taking orders as a nuclear field coordinator would be to qualify for engineering watch supervisor (EWS) before detaching from your command. However, if you are not qualified EWS there are other things you can accomplish to enhance your career. Earn your degree, get involved in the community, and accept command collateral duties. If you keep doing the right thing long enough,

good things will come. Lastly, take ownership of the program. Make it your own, don't fall into the "That is how we've always done it" trap. When I first took over, I tried to simplify everything I did and it worked for me. Find what works for you and make it happen.

Your future goals? My immediate goals are to advance to chief and to earn my bachelor's degree. When I retire from the Navy I would like to open a gym and perhaps run for public office.

How has the Navy changed your life? I feel the Navy has given me an opportunity to grow on every level. I continue to learn things every day. I think the most important thing the Navy has taught me is that I don't have to sit in a classroom to learn something.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy working out, camping and hiking. I like to be outside as much as possible.

Station Leading Petty Officer of the Year

NC1(AW/SW) Brian DuBose of NRD New Orleans



Hometown: Santee, S.C.

How long have you been in recruiting? 8 years

Previous commands and job titles:

NRD Miami - LPO

VS-24 - Power Plant Assistant LPO & QA Representative

NRD Jacksonville - Recruiter

VFA-105 - Aviation Machinist's Mate (F/A-18C)

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I thank God for this opportunity. It is truly an honor. It means your hard work has not gone unnoticed. It's like getting advanced to the next rank; that feeling is so good to know you were selected to move up. A really great feeling right now; words cannot describe it.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Don't forget about your family, take care of your Sailors, share your knowledge with others, always be willing to take advice and don't stop learning. Don't complain a lot and then have no solution to a problem. Come ready with a solution to help solve the problem.

Your future goals? I want to continue to move up in rank. I want to retire knowing that I have helped many Sailors in the Navy, and then I would like to continue to work after retirement with the military as a counselor. I want to work the NJROTC program in a high school.

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has done a lot for me. The Navy helped me to be independent and to be a leader. I have learned to be more accountable, responsible, mature and ready to tackle a difficult task because I have gained the confidence from my senior leadership.

Hobbies and interests: Coaching basketball, playing and watching sports, traveling to different places, and appreciation for history (historical sites, artifacts).

Classifier of the Year

PS1(SW) Benjamin Erdelyi, Jr. of NRD Philadelphia



Hometown: Baltimore, Md.

How long have you been in recruiting? 3 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS Fahrion (FFG 22) - Personnel Clerk

NMCRB Albany, N.Y. - Personnel Clerk

PSD London, UK - Transfer Petty Officer, ESO, Personnel Officer

HQ U. S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany - Joint Service IA Billet Manager

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I am greatly humbled and deeply honored. I truly believe that this award would never have been awarded without the hard work and dedication of many people not just me. The outstanding recruiters, classifiers, and leadership at NRD Philadelphia are the real reason I won this award. Without their support it would not have been possible.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Think of recruiting as a business, because that is exactly what it is. Goal is money! You have to be prepared for long hours, deadlines, short-notice taskers, a daily testing of your

patience, and never, ever, take anything personally. If you use your brain and think outside of the box you will go far. Always keep your chain of command informed; they are there to help and train you. Never be afraid to ask questions. Nine times out of 10, by asking one question you will learn the answers to 10 others you've had before.

Your future goals? To be an outstanding master chief!

How has the Navy changed your life? The Navy has not changed my life, it has defined it. I am a disciplined, hard working, and a goal-oriented leader.

Hobbies and interests: I enjoy traveling, working out, and being in my 137 year-old Baltimore city home with my dogs, Bryanston and Spanky.

Division Leading Chief Petty Officer of the Year

NCC(SW) Dewayne Scott of NRD Atlanta



Hometown: Baton Rouge, La.

How long have you been in recruiting? 9 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS Nimitz (CVN 68) - Yeoman

NRD Jacksonville - Recruiter

NRD New Orleans - Recruiter in Charge

NRD Atlanta - Interim Officer Program Assistant Chief Recruiter

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? Being selected as the DLCPO of the nation is a great honor that I contribute to the hard work and dedication of the NRD Atlanta team. At the beginning of FY12, my Division 1 team discussed our plan to be the best in the nation and what it would take to accomplish this lofty goal. I informed Chief Recruiter Dwayne Rosser of our intentions and he told me we had his full support. I cannot put into words how proud I am of my team of recruiting professionals who month in and month out displayed excellence in every facet of the job.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Be dedicated to our Navy core values of honor, courage, and commitment as they go about their daily learning and as they continue to train and develop Sailors. Be the leader that your Sailors need and deserve. Lead from the front without looking over your shoulder. If you remain true to your Sailors, they will remain true to you.

Your future goals? Continue to effectively lead Sailors and help them reach their full leadership and career potential. I plan to continue to follow the Career Recruiter Force (CRF) career path and become an OACR and chief recruiter. Long range: Lead the CRF community in the capacity of National Chief Recruiter.

How has the Navy changed your life? There are many different opportunities that I can say have come to us as a result of the Navy but what stands out most to me personally is the fact that as a young child growing up in Baton Rouge I heard statistics that said because of who I was and where I was from that being a success was not likely. The Navy helped me prove I can create my own statistical category and not have to fall into someone else's.

Hobbies and interests: I love spending time with my wife and kids, having cookouts and doing the simple things like fishing, playing sports, playing video games, watching movies, politics, and business.

Diversity Enlisted Recruiter of the Year

FC1(SW) Aurelio Herrera of NRD Los Angeles



Hometown: Yigo, Guam

How long have you been in recruiting? 2-1/2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS Anzio (CG 68) - Work Center Supervisor

ECRC San Diego C-Ram Technician/Supply Petty Officer

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? It is a tremendous honor to be chosen for this award. I want to express gratitude to my family that supported me in all my undertakings. Also, thanks to NCC(SW) Kahana and HM1 Aguon for being my mentors and developing me into the recruiter I am today.

What advice would you give to others in your position? You have to believe in what you are selling. Your passion and enthusiasm will drive you to become a very successful recruiter.

Your future goals? Become a chief warrant officer and open my own business when I retire.

How has the Navy changed your life? It has helped me become very independent.

Hobbies and interests: Spending time with family and golf.

Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Recruiter of the Year

NC1(SS) Brian Fields of NRD Denver



Hometown: Charleston, W.Va.

How long have you been in recruiting? 6 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) (Blue) - Sonar Division

Deep Submergence Unit Detachment Unmanned Vehicles - Lead Electrician

USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) (Gold) - Sonar Division LPO

NRD Denver, NRS Castle Rock - Station LPO

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? This is a true honor and one of the biggest accomplishments in my career. I am very thankful that my command gave me the opportunity and the support needed to do this job. Without the support of NRD Denver, this honor would have never been possible for me.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Build a good working relationship with the nuclear-trained officers, treat your collegian as a DEP pool member and ask for referrals. Most of all, have fun with what you are doing.

Your future goals? Make chief petty officer and finish my Bachelor's in Homeland Security.

How has the Navy changed your life? It has given me direction, self-discipline and the ability to grow as a person.

Hobbies and interests: Spending time with my family.

Medical Officer Recruiter of the Year

LT Carolyn Starks-Holman of NRD Michigan



Hometown: St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

How long have you been in recruiting? 3-1/2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

Naval Dental Center, Philadelphia - Dental Assistant Technician

Branch Dental Clinic, Washington Navy Yard

Naval Dental Center, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico

Naval Dental Center Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk

Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes - Recruit Division Commander

Naval Dental Center, Naval Hospital Great Lakes - CCC and LCPO

Naval Hospital, Keflavik, Iceland - SEL

NRD Michigan - Medical Officer Recruiter

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I feel extremely humbled and blessed by being chosen for this honor as I attribute my success as a synergy of team effort between command leadership, support personnel, and accessible resources.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Focus on the applicant and the best interests of the Navy regardless of assigned goals and they will assist you in

making mission and getting the best qualified to meet the Navy's needs.

Your future goals? Acquire my Healthcare Administration Doctoral degree and succeed in my upcoming assignments for future promotion.

How has the Navy changed your life? It has changed my life tremendously as it not only has provided me with my immediate family an attainment of educational goals but it also has given me a sense of worth, value and patriotism to serve the nation.

Hobbies and interests: Reading, watching movies, and spending time with my family.

Navy Special Warfare/Navy Special Operations Recruiter of the Year

GM2(EXW) Conner Mastry of NRD Houston



Hometown: Houston, Texas

How long have you been in recruiting? 2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

USS Vandegriff (FFG 48) - Deck Seaman/SAR Swimmer

USS Mustin (DDG 89) - Armor/SAR Swimmer

MSS 3 DET Bahrain - Chief of the Guard

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I feel very privileged about receiving this honor. I truly enjoy the job and to be recognized at this level is exceptionally satisfying.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Take pride in your job and the rest will follow.

Future Goals: Making first class petty officer and completing my business degree.

How has the Navy changed your life? In many ways, such as teaching me how to be a man of character and virtue. I have learned how to strive for perfection and the necessary effort needed to be successful in any field.

Hobbies and interests: Driving cars and free diving.

Support Person of the Year

PS1(AW) Kerri Scranton of NRD Portland



Hometown: Richlands, Va.

How long have you been in recruiting? 2-1/2 years

Previous commands and job titles:

PSD Sigonella - Personnel Clerk

PSD Yokosuka - Team Leader

VAQ-130 - LPO

NRD Portland - Admin LPO/Admin Officer

How do you feel about being chosen for this honor? I take my job personally and I accept this honor with pride and humility. I don't feel I could have done it without the entire Admin team.

What advice would you give to others in your position? Always put your best foot forward and lead with integrity.

Your future goals? Make the rank of chief petty officer and finish my bachelor's degree in elementary education.

How has the Navy changed your life? I literally came from nothing, a very small town with nowhere to go and very few chances in life due to circumstance. The Navy has taken me in a direction I never even dreamed of. I have seen more of the world than most people I know and had the privilege to work with some of the finest people from all walks of life.

Hobbies and interests: Spending time with my family, reading, art, travel.

Navy Recruiting Command Gold "R"

NRD Jacksonville

Commanding Officer - CDR Spencer Jones
Executive Officer - CDR Grant Dunn
Operations Officer - LCDR Todd Sullivan

Assistant Operations Officer - LT Joseph Brisco
Command Master Chief - CMDM(SW) Jay Powell
Chief Recruiter - NCCM(AW) Penny White

NRD Jacksonville's territory covers 52,000 square miles

and encompasses northeast Florida and southeast Georgia including the major cities of Orlando, Tallahassee, Gainesville, and Savannah. NRD Jacksonville is not only the top production district but an NRD that truly focuses on Sailors, recruits, officer candidates, and the entire team.

Team Jacksonville has been on a focused mission in FY12 to continually increase quality and quantity. Jacksonville ensures Sailorization through continued care of future Sailors and officer candidates whether the destination is Recruit Training Command or Officer Candidate School. This fiscal year built upon the past year and efforts where NRD Jacksonville was recognized as Region East Recruiting District of the Year. This year was a remarkable year of exceptional production in both the enlisted and officer missions.

On the enlisted side, NRD Jacksonville was heavily relied upon by Region East to overproduce on Prior Service, Warrior Challenge, and Nuclear Field missions, ensuring the region made goal every month. NRD Jacksonville's production operations have proven to be the model for sustained success. Team Jax has proven that it can operate at the highest level at all times.

NRD Jacksonville's Enlisted Production Team accessed 1,531 new contract objectives Sailors against a goal of 1,493; 120 new accession training Sailors against a goal of 116; and 171.5 prior service affiliations against a goal of 165.5. The team also led Region East and was ranked number two nationally in NROTC scholarship submissions submitting 303 high-quality applications against a goal of 156. All of this production was achieved with a low in-month loss rate of 2.6 percent.

The Officer Production Team produced truly exceptional numbers during FY12. The team was ranked first in Regions East in active general officer accessions (133 percent), active nuclear programs (127 percent), and ranked first nationally in overall Reserve component production (117 percent).

NRD Jacksonville led both Region East and the nation in nearly every category of production and had personnel gain individual accolades as the Region East ACR, National Active Officer Recruiter of the Year, National Diversity Officer Recruiter of the Year and the Region East Large Station of the Year. Team Jacksonville earned a clean sweep in every departmental award to include: Officer "O," Enlisted "E," Administration "A," Quality "Q," "NROTC "C," Nuclear "N," Logistics "S," LEADS "L," and NSW/NSO/AIRR "W." Team Jax's departmental achievements culminated in the attainment of the Region East "Silver R" and ultimate selection as Navy Recruiting Command Golden "R" National District of the Year award.



Navy Recruiting Command Honors Top Recruiters

Story by MC1(SW) Sonja M. Chambers, NRC Creative Division
Photos by MC2 Ty C. Connors, NRC Creative Division

WASHINGTON – Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) recognized its FY 2012 Recruiters of the Year (ROY) during a ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., Jan. 9.

Commander, NRC, Rear Admiral Earl L. Gay, honored 13 of NRC's top active and reserve recruiters from around the world.

Guest speaker Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Admiral Scott R. Van Buskirk, said the Navy relies on recruiters to find new talent for the Navy's future.

"There is no Navy without Sailors and there are no Sailors without recruiters," he said. "The successful completion of our Navy's global mission begins by recruiting the best and the brightest of our nation's young men and women to serve. Because of the hard work and dedication of our recruiters, today's force is more intelligent, more fit and more diverse than we've ever seen. Our awardees have separated themselves from among their peers by performing exemplary service in recruiting the next generation Sailor."

Operations Specialist 1st Class (SW) Matthew Tucker, Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Active, said receiving the honor was a very humbling experience.



"I know there are many people out there just like me grinding and trying to get the job done, so I'm very happy and honored to receive this award," he said.

Gas Turbine System Technician (Mechanical) 1st Class (SW) Duane Curato, Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, Reserve, said mentoring and leadership were key to his success.

"Being a recruiter is not difficult," he said. "You just have to be on top of your game and ask your leaders for guidance because they are always there to support you."

The ceremony was part of a weeklong event honoring the ROY. Recruiters and their guests visited many top Navy officials including Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus; Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Mark Ferguson, and Chief of Navy Reserve, Commander, Navy Reserve Force, Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun. They also toured various D.C. sites, including the White House, Pentagon, Library of Congress and Arlington National Cemetery where Curato and Tucker placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Other top recruiters for FY 2012 were: Lieutenant Lincoln Schneider, Officer Recruiter of the Year, Active; Lieutenant Stephen Graff, Officer Recruiter of the Year, Reserve; Electrician's Mate 1st Class (SS) Daniel Macomber, Nuclear Field Coordinator of the Year; Navy Counselor 1st Class (AW/SW) Brian Dubose, Station Leading Petty Officer of the Year; Personnel Specialist 1st Class (SW) Benjamin Erdelyi, Jr., Classifier of the Year; Chief Navy Counselor (SW) Dewayne Scott, Division Leading Chief Petty Officer of the Year; Fire Controlman 1st Class (SW) Aurelio Herrera, Diversity Enlisted Recruiter of the Year; Lieutenant Carolyn Starks-Holman, Medical



Officer Recruiter of the Year; Navy Counselor 1st Class (SS) Brian Fields, Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Recruiter of the Year; Gunner's Mate 2nd Class (EXW) Conner Mastry, Navy Special Warfare/Navy Special Operations Recruiter of the Year; and Personnel Specialist 1st Class (AW) Kerri Scranton, Support Person of the Year.







Ensign Uses Own Story to Help Navy Find New Engineering Talent

Story by MC1(SW) Michael Tackitt, NRD Dallas Public Affairs
Photo by NCC Juan Lamogliachinchilla, NRC Diversity Office

FT. WORTH, Texas – For many Americans, the childhood dream of having a successful career as an adult is cut short by the inability to afford the higher education they need to set them on the path toward success. Through the initiative of America's Navy to find talented young men and women from all walks of life to fill critical roles, that dream is becoming a reality for many individuals.

One of the Navy's most critical partnerships is with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). It is SHPE's goal to create opportunities for young Hispanic Americans to find successful, meaningful careers in the world of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Navy Recruiting Command's (NRC's) partnership with SHPE has helped the Navy find some of the most talented individuals who would have otherwise not been given the opportunity to show the world what they are capable of.

One such individual who has benefitted from the Navy's engineer recruiting program is Ensign Luis Cruz, a Navy Civil Engineering Corps Officer, who received a college scholarship through the Navy and is now working with the Navy's SHPE efforts.

Born to Guatemalan parents living in Chicago, Cruz



ENS Luis Cruz, second from right back, and CDR Tony Chavez, far left back, were coaches of the Navy team at the 2012 SHPE Conference Extreme Engineering Challenge. The team, comprised of 10 engineering college students, designed, developed and promoted an Explosive Ordnance Disposal robot. Once built, they competed with other teams that were graded on capability, accuracy, distance and presentation. The Navy team placed second and two of the team members were selected as Extreme Engineer of 2012 and Lead Engineer of 2012 out of the 70 students in the challenge.

grew up learning both Spanish and English. Although he grew up in a low-income neighborhood, through hard work in school, Cruz became the first member of his family to go to college and become a naval officer, facts he says are great sources of pride for him and his family.

"They're extremely proud," Cruz said. "I represent the family. That's what my dad tells me. He's extremely proud of me. It's nice to have them know that I'm doing well and I have a good career and have a good job, and that I'll be able to provide for them in the future as well."

Cruz understands the importance of organizations like SHPE that reach out to minority students and aspiring professionals searching for opportunities in the STEM-career field, which is why he volunteered to work in the 2012 SHPE Conference in Ft. Worth. He shared his personal story and experience at the event with young Hispanic students considering the Navy as a career path.

"There are so many different people who come from so many different backgrounds, and being able to have a good group of people you can easily connect to that have the same similarities as you, like where you came from, is extremely important," said Cruz. "Especially when you're going to a big school because it helps you transition into the college life."

Cruz also explained how SHPE provides a source of mentorship young students need as many are away from home for the first time while going to school.

"I didn't have an older brother or older family members who had gone to college before, so I had no idea. Everything that I was doing was just me

figuring it out on my own," he said. "But the people in this organization are here to back you up and they are very understanding."

Cruz plans on continuing his education through the Navy and earning his Master of Business Administration degree. For him, the most important thing in life is not only to pursue an education but to pursue a degree in a marketable career field.

"Focus on school because that's your ticket into getting into a better place economically, but not only just getting a good education. I feel like a lot of young people say that once they get a college degree, in anything, they'll be fine, and that's rarely the case. It's very competitive out there" he said. "To get the high-paying jobs that are available, you have to know what those high paying jobs are. So focus on your education but at the same time look at what you're good at and what you're interested in, and look at what communities are expanding. Engineering, or anything technology related, you'll be fine."

While his personal story seems extraordinary, Cruz is just one of the many examples of intelligent, young Hispanic individuals who are taking full advantage of the many educational opportunities available to them through SHPE and America's Navy to achieve their personal and professional goals.

AMERICA'S NAVY ANDROID APP IS LIVE!



This **FREE** app allows future Sailors to learn more about the Navy:

- Vessels and weapons
- Global activities
- Latest news and information feeds about the Navy
- Ability to share their favorite stories with friends via social networks.
- Navy ranks & ribbons and an interactive uniform function
- Locate the closest recruiting station
- Includes "Carrier Commander" where you command a flight deck!





Ohio Navy Veterans Inducted Into Hall of Fame

Story and photos by MC1 Phillip D. James, Jr., NRD Ohio Public Affairs

DAYTON, Ohio – Navy veterans Harold J. Fillmore, Richard P. Hartmann and Sister Marguerite (Mary) C. McHugh were recently inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame by Ohio Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor and Ohio Department of Veterans Affairs Director Thomas N. Moe.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was created by former Gov. George V. Voinovich in 1992 to recognize the post-military achievements and lifetime contributions of outstanding veterans after completion of honorable military service.

At the ceremony held at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, inductees were paired up with current military members from the branch in which they served to escort through the ceremony procedures. Navy Recruiting District Ohio Sailors were some of those escorts.

Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Eric Wagner, assigned to Naval Recruiting Station (NRS) Huber Heights, said, "It was a joy to come. Being able to mingle with members from a different era is a great experience."

Hartmann, a retired captain, said, "It is an honor to receive the award and I am grateful to Ohio for the support that veterans receive. The outstanding job of hospitality for all the inductees has been conducted with professionalism."

Quartermaster 2nd Class Jeff Welbaum, assigned to NRS Middletown, explained that being an escort helps show support and respect to those that served before us. "This is a beautiful thing that is being done to show our appreciation for them."

After her service, McHugh joined the Sisters of Notre Dame and took the name Marguerite. She said, "This is not just an honor for me, it is an honor for all women veterans."

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is not a military hall of fame. Those selected for induction are veterans who have honorably served their country through military service and have continued to serve and inspire their fellow man with their deeds and accomplishments throughout their lifetime.



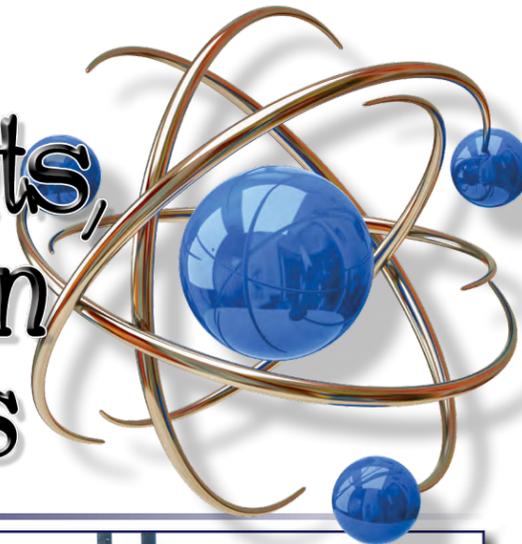
GM2 Eric Wagner, NRS Huber Heights, escorts retired Navy CAPT Richard P. Hartmann at the recent Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Dayton. Started in 1992, the hall of fame was created as a way to recognize veterans for their community contributions after their military careers.



QM2 Jeff Welbaum, assigned to NRS Middletown, escorts Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame inductee Sister Marguerite (Mary) C. McHugh at the recent ceremony. McHugh was chosen for this honor based on her post-Navy achievements and lifetime contributions to the community.



Nuclear Applicants, Educators Given On-Site Visits



By LT Dana Scott Canby, NRC Nuclear Programs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – Movies are not made about the men and women operating their nation's nuclear reactors. There has never been a documentary about a nuclear power school instructor. Few civilians have ever heard of naval reactors.

To show Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate (NUPOC) applicants what they can look forward to in the Navy, Nuclear Programs officers based at Navy Recruiting Command take 430 students per year to see what their futures hold in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

Applicants tour fast-attack submarines and surface combatants in San Diego, the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, or Naval Reactors headquarters. Even professors and administrators at universities have opportunities to see the Navy firsthand through the Educator Orientation Visit (EOV) program.

Applicants to the nuclear fleet (Surface Warfare officer-nuclear and submarines) are flown to San Diego. In the morning they are given a tour of the Submarine Learning Center. During their visit, applicants stand watch on the ship control team



Executives from Naval Reactors, Nuclear Programs officers at Navy Recruiting Command and faculty from universities across the nation took an Educator Orientation Visit (EOV) to USS Albuquerque (SSN 706), homeported in San Diego, Calif. The EOV program exists to allow applicants and those in the education field the opportunities to see firsthand how certain Navy programs operate. (U.S. Navy photo)

trainer as helmsman, planesman, chief of the watch, and diving officer.

The newly-assembled watch team maneuvers the submarine underwater and on the surface, and performs an emergency blow. Later, applicants observe a "wet" damage control trainer from the instructor station, and, finally, tour a mock-up of maneuvering where submarine officers will stand their first watches once they enter the fleet.

In the afternoon, applicants tour either a fast-attack submarine or one of the many surface combatants

on the San Diego waterfront. On board, NUPOC applicants interact with junior officers, sometimes just months ahead of them in the nuclear pipeline.

Future instructors fly to Charleston, S.C., for a day-long tour and presentation at the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command. They are greeted by one of the division directors at Nuclear Power School and given a presentation on what to expect on a day-to-day basis, how the curriculum is structured, and the military requirements of instructors.

Then applicants sit in on an enlisted mathematics class, followed by an extensive question-and-answer period. At the end of the day, every applicant is given a chance to show off his or her own teaching skills in a mock-classroom setting.

Pre-screened naval reactors engineering candidates tour Naval Reactors headquarters in Washington, D.C. The applicants start the day off by meeting with two junior-level engineers working their way through the complex qualification process at Naval Reactors. Later, they interface with two section heads, usually matched to the students' majors.

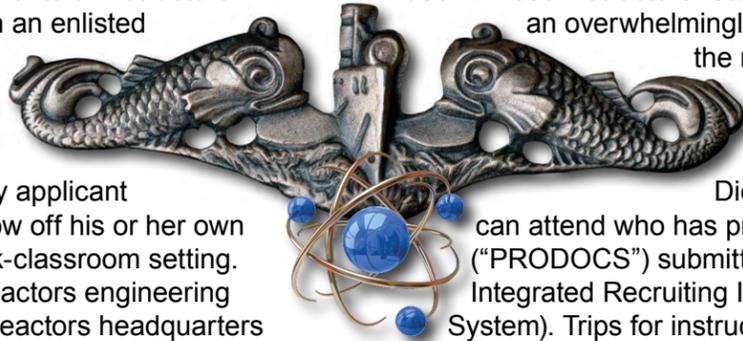
These individuals, who are 20-30 years ahead of the applicants, talk about their role in legislating, designing, maintaining, and disposing of reactors.

Realizing the importance of professors, administrators, and mentors in the recruiting process,

Nuclear Programs officers also conduct an EOV to San Diego especially for university faculty. These educators tour the Submarine Learning Center and a surface combatant, and also get underway and underwater on a Los Angeles-class submarine for a day. The participants enjoy an in-depth tour of the submarine which includes looking through the periscope, listening to sonar, angles-and-dangles, and riding on the submarine's sail with the officer of the deck. These instructors return to their universities with an overwhelmingly positive impression of the nuclear Navy.

Visits for up to 26 applicants run on a monthly basis to San Diego. Any applicant can attend who has program documents ("PRODOCS") submitted in CIRIMS (Career Integrated Recruiting Information Management System). Trips for instructors run quarterly or on an as-needed basis. Naval Reactors engineer prospects are taken on an as-needed basis only. Both instructors and Naval Reactors engineer applicants must be pre-screened prior to attending their tours.

The opportunity for applicants to interface with officers doing their jobs and have their questions answered by individuals "in the medium" are invaluable. After all, joining the nuclear Navy is not something to be done blindly.



Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus administers the oath of enlistment to 20 future Sailors from Navy Recruiting District Philadelphia during the 113th Army-Navy football game Dec. 8 in Philadelphia. The Navy Midshipmen beat the Army Black Knights 17-13 in front of a crowd of 69,607 people. (Photo by MC1 Larry S. Carlson, NRD Philadelphia Public Affairs)



RECRUITER IS MEMBER OF WNBA PRACTICE SQUAD

Story and photo by MC2(SW) Porter Anderson, NRD Minneapolis Public Affairs

MINNEAPOLIS – Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW) Damon Sims of Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Minneapolis is not only a Sailor and recruiter, he also volunteers as a member of the Minnesota Lynx male practice squad. The Lynx is a professional team in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA).

Sims and other members of the squad are called upon to be extra bodies at team practices from week to week, allowing the Lynx to try different offensive and defensive schemes against skilled players who are coached to mimic their upcoming opponents.

"What they come and do for us is invaluable, giving up their free time and sharing their experience and energy," said assistant coach Jim Petersen, who works extensively with the practice squad. "Damon has been one of my go-to guys

for years, a guy that I can count on."

Sims has been an active-duty member of the U.S. Navy for 13 years. When he first signed on, he was looking for a way to structure his life, get financial assistance for school and gain work experience. He quickly grew to love the Navy and became invested in the lifestyle.

"Just the way the Navy is structured, the support you get from within, the people you work with every day," Sims said. "Knowing that everyone you work with is there because they really believe."

Petersen said that the military has instilled discipline, a strong work ethic and a self-sacrificing attitude in Sims, all of which make him such a valuable asset to the Lynx. "The way he approaches the game, the way he understands how to play hard,



NRD Minneapolis Commanding Officer CDR Shannon Tolliver (left) presents an end-of-tour award to NC1(SW) Damon Sims before his recent transfer to NRD Phoenix. Sims actively participated with the WNBA Minnesota Lynx team as a member of their practice squad while stationed at NRD Minneapolis.

but not so hard that someone gets hurt — he just gets it. He gets what he's here for," Petersen said.

The Lynx honors service members and their families by giving free tickets to those with a valid military ID on military nights.

"When I found out how many of the WNBA players' husbands, brothers or sisters were in the military, I thought it was great," Sims said. "The outreach they do with military families is wonderful. I love it."



L.A. Recruiters Hosted at Dodgers Batting Practice

Story and photo by MCC(AW/SW) Anthony Briggs, Jr., NRD Los Angeles Public Affairs

LOS ANGELES – Several members from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Los Angeles were invited to take part in the Los Angeles Dodgers Veterans Day batting practice at Dodger Stadium.

The annual daylong event brought out more than 100 members of the armed services and family members, along with organizations that support combat-wounded individuals, for a series of baseball clinics hosted by Dodgers special advisor Don Newcome and Dodgers alumni Tim Leary, Paul Lo Duca and Roy Gleason.

For some, the chance to be on the field of the 50-year-old stadium was the opportunity of a lifetime.

"I've been a Dodger fan my whole life," said a grinning Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 2nd Class Luis "Beast" Mijangos from Navy Recruiting Stations (NRS) Palmdale. "I couldn't believe that I was selected to be here. This is absolutely amazing."

Throughout the day, NRD Los Angeles members had world-famous Dodger Dogs and other stadium fare in the Dugout Club as well as a guided tour throughout the 50-year-old ballpark.

During batting practice, participants learned just how difficult hitting a baseball can be. "When I came in, I thought I'd show [the Dodgers] a contract-worthy effort," said Electronics Technician 2nd Class Edwin



NRD Los Angeles recruiters and family members attended the 2012 Los Angeles Dodgers baseball batting practice held Veterans Day at Dodger Stadium. The opportunity to participate in the event made unforgettable memories for those in attendance.

Malicsi, assigned to NRS Inglewood. "It's really harder than I thought. I have so much respect for major leaguers after being here today."

Just prior to the batting contest, attendees were treated to a photo session with Dodgers part-owner Earvin "Magic" Johnson. Meeting the six foot-nine, three-time National Basketball Association Most Valuable Player left an impression.

"I couldn't believe how tall he is," said Jenny Ferraris, whose husband, NC1 Allan Ferraris, serves as the NRD Los Angeles command career counselor. "I knew he was tall, but you don't realize how tall he is until you're standing next to him."

During the batting contest, no one actually hit a ball out of famed Dodger Stadium,

but Lieutenant John Donovan, NRD Los Angeles Metro Division officer, represented the Navy and the district well by placing second with a monster shot just shy of the warning track.

Donovan, a two-time state high school all-star, was reserved on his award. "I had some butterflies on being out there. I'm glad we had a chance for batting practice because you only got two swings [for the contest] and I really wanted to do well. The first pitch I hit fairly hard but I didn't much loft, so I knew I had to really get behind the last pitch and it all worked out," said Donovan.



Sailors Participate in STEM Family Night

Story and photo by MC2(SW) Porter Anderson, NRD Minneapolis Public Affairs

APPLE VALLEY, Minn. – Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Minneapolis participated in a local science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) program at Valley Middle School in Apple Valley.

The school used the STEM family night to showcase education programs and activities, such as LEGO® robotics, engineering toilet paper roll building, and wind-powered cars.

NRD Minneapolis played an active role in the night's activities by answering questions, providing information and explaining Navy science and technology advances.

"These types of events allow us the ability to give brief summaries and explanations of some of the technical and advanced capabilities that the Navy has," said Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class (AW) David Griemann, a recruiter with Navy Recruiting Station Burnsville. "Many of these children are unaware of those aspects, which is why we are promoting them and spreading our knowledge."

In addition to educating young minds, NRD Minneapolis also engaged with the teachers and school administrators at the event.

"This had a double impact for us," said Thomas Ninneman, NRD Minneapolis education specialist. "Firstly, we get to interact with the children and expand their knowledge and awareness of the Navy. Secondly, we get an opportunity to network and engage with the staff, which is creating more opportunities for us to return to future STEM events."

The Navy actively engages in STEM programs throughout the United States in order to concentrate on programs that inspire and engage young students, mentor and assist college-level STEM majors, and help attract and retain professionals in the fields of science, mathematics and engineering.



CDR Thavee Douangaphaivong, NRD Minneapolis executive officer, speaks with children and parents about the technological advances of the U.S. Navy at the Valley Middle School STEM family night. The Navy and Navy Recruiting Command actively engage in STEM programs throughout the United States in order to concentrate on programs that inspire and engage young students.



Sailors Raise Money, Promote Motorcycle Safety



By MC2(EXW/IDW) Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs

HOUSTON – Three Navy Recruiting District Houston Sailors raised money for an injured service member and promoted motorcycle safety during a recent fundraiser.

Navy Counselor 1st Class Alfred Lake, Electrician's Mate 1st Class Brandon Combs and Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Henry Johnson helped raise approximately \$5,800 for a fellow service member who was injured during a motorcycle accident.

Lake said Jason Colvin, a Navy veteran that currently serves in the Army Reserves, was riding his motorcycle home from a friend's house when he hit a pothole and wrecked. Colvin was badly injured and spent more than a month in the hospital.

"It hit home for all of us who ride, knowing that this could have been any one of us," said Lake. "Colvin is also one of our own. He is military and we take care of our own. We are fighting for the same country. He wasn't out riding crazy, just on his way home from work when he rode into a pothole in the road and lost control of his bike. This could have been any one of us."

Lake said the show of support by fellow riders, many of whom are veterans or currently in the military, was humbling.

"If I was in Colvin's place, I would like to know that there are people out there that would give up their time to help me and my family in a time like this," said Lake.

"Times are hard right now and the idea of not working and the bills just keeps piling up can take a



NC1 Alfred Lake, left, EM1 Brandon Combs and PS2 Henry Johnson, all from NRD Houston, participated in a recent fundraiser in Houston. They helped raise approximately \$5,800 for a Navy veteran who was injured in a motorcycle accident, and also promoted motorcycle safety. (U.S. Navy photo)

toll on anyone, but also knowing that you have friends and fellow bikers who care, pitching in to raise money to help out, brings much relief and speaks volumes about the camaraderie we share."

But Lake, who has been riding motorcycles for 13 years, says motorcycle safety is paramount. There are motorcycle safety classes available for service members to ensure they enjoy their off-duty time riding motorcycles.

"As a military member, it is a must that we take these courses so that the number of motorcycle accidents reported by service members can continue to decrease," he said. "When riding a motorcycle, having the necessary riding skills and knowledge will help to save your life and the lives of those that are in your riding path. By not taking these necessary steps that are put in place for us, you are forfeiting your medical coverage and taking a chance of serious injury or death for yourself and others."



PARKERSBURG, W.Va. – A Parkersburg man who tried to save a woman from a burning house Jan. 20 said he never thought such a thing would happen to him.

Thomas Nedeff, 20, was awakened by what he thought was rain hitting the house, but opened his eyes and saw light.

He looked out the window and saw a nearby house in flames. At the window of the burning house was a woman who was unable to get out because of the flames.

"I ran downstairs and told my mother to call the fire department," Nedeff said.

He ran back to his room to put on pants and shoes before he ran outside to the house. The fire department had yet to arrive.

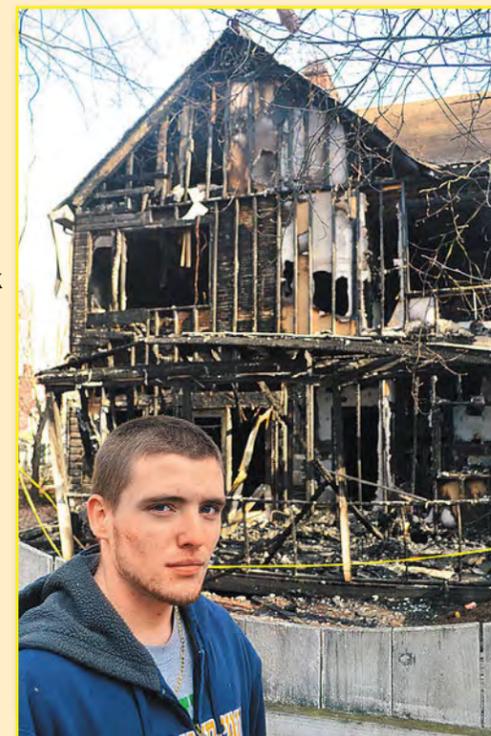
Nedeff ran back to his house to get a ladder. In the meantime, the fire department arrived and got the woman, Lindsey Yearly, out of the house through the window with a ladder.

"I didn't think I would do anything like that in my life," he said.

Nedeff is a 2011 graduate of Parkersburg High School and is joining the U.S. Navy in the Delayed Entry Program. He reports in April.

Yearly was treated for smoke inhalation by paramedics. She was alerted to the fire by her barking dog, which was killed in the fire.

The house sustained substantial damage and the cause has not yet been determined.



Future Sailor Thomas Nedeff of Parkersburg, W.Va., stands by a neighbor's house that burned Jan. 20. Nedeff acted quickly to rescue a resident trapped by the flames. She was removed from the second floor by the fire department.

Printed with permission of the Parkersburg News and Sentinel
Photo by Brett Dunlap, the Parkersburg News and Sentinel



Commander Richard Brantley, former commanding officer of Navy Recruiting District Raleigh, presents Jasmin Alsaia a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Immediate Selection Reservation scholarship. NRD Raleigh recruiters and Brantley surprised her with the good news at E.E. Smith High School in Fayetteville, N.C. The NROTC Immediate Selection program provides top students another option to attend a four-year university. There is no obligation on the part of the student to apply. The scholarship can be worth up to \$180,000 and covers full tuition, books, fees, uniforms and a monthly stipend. After college, the selected student enters the Navy as a commissioned officer in occupations such as engineering, pilot, naval flight officer or Surface Warfare officer. (Courtesy photo)



Operations Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Jones with Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston, left, conducts an inspection of Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps cadets at Taylor High School in Houston. NRD Houston Sailors volunteered to conduct the inspection to prepare the cadets for upcoming drill meets. (Photo by NCC Rolando Ambriz, NRS Alief)



Two Georgia Students Picked for Medical Program

Story and photos by MC1 Michael J. Scott I, NRD Atlanta Public Affairs

ATLANTA – The Navy Health Science Collegiate Program (HSCP) commissioning board chose two University of Georgia pharmacy students to receive doctor of pharmacy degree program benefits toward the completion of their last two years of college.

Sean Szad of Richmond Hill, Ga., and Will Spence of Perry, Ga., received two of the five national program openings.

The HSCP is designed to provide financial incentives for students in designated healthcare professions to complete degree/certification requirements and obtain a commission in the Medical Service Corps. Participants are also allowed to enroll in the Thrift Savings Plan, and the two years of college count toward military retirement.

Navy Recruiting District Atlanta's Medical Programs Officer, Lieutenant Paul Jordan, Navy Nurse Corps, said it's much easier to become a Navy pharmacist via the HSCP than to wait and apply once licensed.

"It's a very competitive market and not too many pharmacists are getting out of the Navy," said Jordan. "One of the benefits of coming in as a student is after you finish the program you have the opportunity to excel as a Navy officer as well."

Both students said their families played important roles in their decisions to join the Navy.

"When I was younger, my grandfather would take me to the recruiter's office to see what they could do for me. So it was something I have always considered," said Szad. "After I was accepted into the program, I called my family, especially my granddad, and told them the news. He said I made his day."

See "Georgia" continued on page 30



NRD Atlanta's Medical Programs Officer, LT Paul Jordan, Navy Nurse Corps, congratulates two awardees of the Navy Health Science Collegiate Program. University of Georgia pharmacy students Sean Szad and Will Spence were two of the five national finalists selected for the 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 Medical Service Corps.



Sailors Judge JROTC Drill Meet

Story and photos by MC2(EXW/IDW) Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs

HOUSTON – Navy Recruiting District Houston (NRD) Sailors judged a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) drill competition Jan. 26 at Dekaney High School in Houston.

The Sailors judged cadets from 26 Houston-area schools competing in events such as personnel inspection, armed regulation, armed exhibition, unarmed regulation, unarmed exhibition and male, female and joint color guard.

The event also provided a chance for NRD Houston Sailors to mentor, offer advice and encourage the young cadets.

"This drill meet was an excellent opportunity for us [Sailors] to give back to the schools in our area," said Navy Counselor 1st Class Daniel Butler, one of the judges. "For many of these cadets, their future is in the military. While we judge, we can share our personal experiences with the cadets and answer any questions about military service they may have."

According to Butler, the lessons learned by the cadets will help them in the future. "These cadets sacrifice their time to the JROTC program," he said. "The training they go through and the lessons they learn will greatly benefit them in whatever they choose to do after high school."

The skills the cadets demonstrated impressed some of the Sailors.



A cadet from Kempner High School spins his rifle while BM1 Robert Walton from NRD Houston observes during a skill challenge at a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps drill meet Jan. 26 at Dekaney High School in Houston. NRD Houston Sailors judged cadets from 26 Houston-area schools and mentored, offered advice and encouraged the young cadets.

“What I saw out here is really impressive,” said Boatswain’s Mate 1st Class Robert Walton, who was also a judge at the competition. “These cadets were on point. Their execution of these drills was nearly flawless. You can see the dedication they all have in perfecting their craft. This has been a really rewarding experience to see the commitment all of these cadets have shown out here today.”



NC1 Cedrick Johnson, center, with NRD Houston debriefs cadets from W.P. Clements High School after they completed a skill challenge at a JROTC drill meet Jan. 26 at Dekaney High School in Houston. Cadets from 26 Houston-area schools participated in the competition.

“Georgia” continued from page 28

Spence shared a similar sentiment. “Like Sean, my grandparents were very influential in my decision to apply for this program,” said Spence. “I really like the options for the places I can go, the fact it’s constantly changing and the physical aspect of being in the military.”

The students will serve on active duty as first class petty officers through the program. They will have to maintain a 2.8 grade point average, report to a recruiter twice a month, and pass the physical fitness assessment every six months.

The pair had an opportunity to tour Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Fla., before making their decision to apply for the program. Spence said the chance to see Navy pharmacists work was paramount and helped in his assessment.

“I was able to see the pace of things, and it seemed everyone loved what they were doing. I visited clinical, outpatient, satellite, travel and hospital pharmacies. They all were doing something different. That was a big plus for me,” said Spence.



LT Paul Jordan, NRD Atlanta medical programs officer, talks to University of Georgia’s first-year pharmacy students about the Navy Health Science Collegiate Program and the benefits of obtaining healthcare careers in the Navy.

In May, the students will be sworn in. After graduating from the University of Georgia and passing their board and licensing exams, Szad and Spence will attend the five-week Officer Development School in Newport, R. I., and enter their three-year mandatory service starting at the rank of lieutenant.

“Without reservation I welcome Will and Sean into the Health Science Collegiate Program,” said Jordan. “It’s a very competitive program. To have two of the five come from the same school is a huge accomplishment! I am proud to serve with them.”



ADMIRAL’S FIVE-STAR RECRUITERS

December 2012

- NRD Atlanta - FC1 Lataberian Washington
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - AM1 David Williams
- NRD Denver - EM1 Aaron De La Rosa
- NRD Houston - AE1 Timothy Finnen
- NRD Jacksonville - EO2 Jeremy Myers
- NRD Los Angeles - BM2 Muhammad Aadam
- NRD Miami - LS2 Kenneth Ortiz
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - FC2 Joshua Winkler
- NRD Nashville
- NRD New England - STS2 Steven Stahl
- NRD New Orleans - ABF1 Joshua Chambers
- NRD New York - AD1 Yovanny Rodriguez
- NRD Ohio - GM2 Ryan Bagrowski
- NRD Philadelphia - ET1 James Kearley
- NRD Phoenix - AD1 Ryan Woods
- NRD Pittsburgh - QM2 Aaron Dement
- NRD Portland - HT1 Dustin Grover
- NRD Raleigh - EN2 Dalik Bacchus
- NRD Richmond - CE1 Everett Bowens
- NRD San Antonio - STS2 Roberto Melgoza
- NRD San Diego - GSE1 Daniel Yabut
- NRD San Francisco - OS2 Parris Phelps
- NRD Seattle - PR1 Mary Perelka
- NRD St. Louis - GSM2 Daniel Hodges

January 2013

- NRD Atlanta - BM2 Alonzo Brisbane
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - BM2 Ivan Mitchell
- NRD Denver - ABE1 Jessica Scott
- NRD Houston - OS2 Angel Montoya
- NRD Jacksonville - AT2 Jayson Facey
- NRD Los Angeles - ABF2 Sebastian Gallego
- NRD Miami - FC2 Daniel Figueora
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - MR2 Fue Lor
- NRD Nashville
- NRD New England - AME2 Darlene Bates
- NRD New Orleans - MA1 Justin Rhodes
- NRD New York
- NRD Ohio - FC2 Robert Tucker
- NRD Philadelphia
- NRD Phoenix
- NRD Pittsburgh - ABE2 Anthony Copeland
- NRD Portland - FC1 Jess Camarena
- NRD Raleigh - CEC Scott Brooks
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - STS2 Roberto Melgoza
- NRD San Diego - FC1 Robert Callow
- NRD San Francisco - ABH2 Marclwin Camposanto
- NRD Seattle - GSM1 Francis Reboja
- NRD St. Louis - ABF2 Michael Hankins

THE DISTRICT’S TOP STATIONS

December 2012

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Smyrna
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - NRS Muskogee
- NRD Denver - NRS Casper
- NRD Houston - NRS The Woodlands
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS East Jacksonville
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS El Monte
- NRD Miami - NRS Bradenton
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Eau Claire
- NRD Nashville
- NRD New England - NRS Middletown
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Slidell
- NRD New York - NRS White Plains Road
- NRD Ohio - NRS Toledo
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Hagerstown
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Chandler
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Henrietta
- NRD Portland - NRS East Vancouver
- NRD Raleigh - NRS Rock Hill
- NRD Richmond - NRS Chesapeake
- NRD San Antonio - NRS San Marcos
- NRD San Diego - NRS Santa Ana
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Daly City
- NRD Seattle - NRS Bremerton
- NRD St. Louis - NRS Farmington

January 2013

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Marietta
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - NRS Denton
- NRD Denver - NRS West Valley City
- NRD Houston - NRS Baybrook
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS East Jacksonville
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Santa Maria
- NRD Miami - NRS Brandon
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Bemidji
- NRD Nashville
- NRD New England - NRS Brockton
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Spanish Fort
- NRD New York
- NRD Ohio - NRS Dixie Highway
- NRD Philadelphia
- NRD Phoenix
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Morgantown
- NRD Portland - NRS Bend
- NRD Raleigh - NRS Wilmington
- NRD Richmond
- NRD San Antonio - NRS Copperas Cove
- NRD San Diego - NRS Temecula
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Antioch
- NRD Seattle - NRS Spokane
- NRD St. Louis - NRS St. Joseph

