

# NAVY **RECRUITER**

*magazine*

*Supporting Navy Recruiters*

*January - February 2013  
Volume Sixty-One Number One*



**Education**

**Exploring Recruiters' Opportunities**

**Dentists and Engineers:  
Twins Join the Navy Reserve**

**NRD Atlanta  
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage**

**Honoring Our Veterans**





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## In this issue...

- 5** Navigating Educational Opportunities While Recruiting
- 7** Dentist Twins Join Navy Reserve for Love of Country
- 9** Twin Engineers Follow the Same Path to Joining Navy Reserve
- 10** Recruiters Engage Youth at College Extravaganza
- 11** Navy Highlighted at Hispanic Week
- 14** Reserve Unit Aids Recruiting Mission
- 15** Recruiters Hosts First DEP Olympics
- 16** Former CNO Speaks at Minnesota Navy Birthday
- 17** Retired Sailor Named VFW Post Commander of the Year
- 18** Six Million People Can't Be Wrong
- 19** Lifetime Achievement Award Presented to 100-year-old Sailor
- 20** Admiral Visits Boise for 50-50 Program
- 22** Celebrating Diversity
- 23** Satellite Office Opens at Prep Academy
- 24** For the Canos, Navy Service is a Family Affair
- 26** Navy Volunteers Benefit Ronald McDonald House
- 27** Navy Band Rocks Raleigh
- 28** Veterans, Past and Present, Honored at High School Program
- 29** Miami Recruiters, Boy Scouts Honor Veterans at Parade
- 30** Mentors Greatly Improve Special Forces Boot Camp Passing Rate

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## Regular features..

- 4** From the National Chief Recruiter
- 31** Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters
- 31** The District's Top Stations



**Front cover:** An MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter assigned to the Dragon Whales of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 28 picks up ammunition from the aircraft carrier USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) during the carrier's last ammunition offload. *Enterprise* recently completed its final deployment to the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts. The world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier was deactivated in a ceremony Dec. 1, 2012, after 51 years of service. The U.S. Navy is reliable, flexible, and ready to respond worldwide on, above, and below the sea. (Photo by IT1 Stephen Wolff)



10



**Back cover:** STG3 Benjamin Obryan, left, and OS1 Lawrence Bedeau monitor the Anti-Submarine Warfare Module aboard aircraft carrier USS *George Washington* (CVN 73). *George Washington* and embarked Carrier Air Wing 5 work together to support and defend the collective maritime interests of the U.S. and its allies and partners in the Asia-Pacific region. (Photo by MCSN Michelle N. Rasmussen)



15



27

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# FROM THE NATIONAL CHIEF RECRUITER



Shipmates:

I trust you all had a safe and happy holiday season.

I would like to congratulate each and every one of you for a job well done in FY12 and for your early recruiting efforts and successes in first quarter FY13. You are off to a great start, so keep forging ahead and doing great things.

As we enter the new calendar year and the second quarter of FY13, I would like to touch on the very important and career-enhancing subject of continuing education.

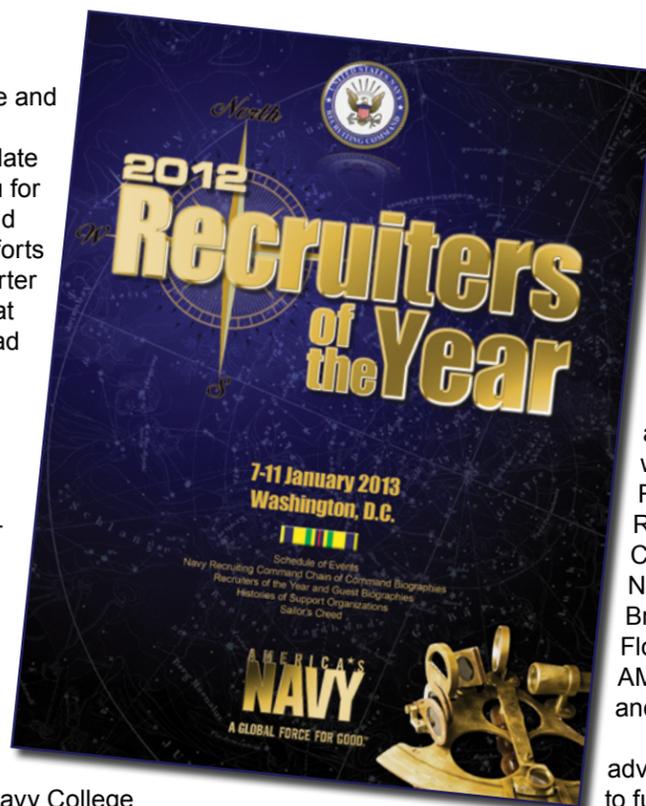
One of the many benefits offered through your military service is the ability for Sailors to further their education through the many

programs offered by the Navy College Office (NCO) near you or by visiting their virtual office at <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/default.aspx>.

On this website you can find out about processing your tuition assistance (WebTA) and also find information that will help you achieve your educational goals. Additionally, for those remotely located, the website tells you where to find a NCO in your area and provides a point of contact so you can speak to someone to aid you through the entire process.

It is never too late and or early to start, restart and complete your education. As B. B. King stated, "The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."

Through our partnership and memorandum of understanding with Post University, there have been over



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

400 enrollments and hundreds more through other colleges. Pick the one that works best for you, offers the best plan to reach your education goals and EXECUTE! I am personally taking advantage of these benefits through Post University and here are a few of our NRC Sailors who are working hard and continuing their education as well: LT Jason Boyce, NCCS Lloyd Roberts, NCC Eric Nelson, NCC Eric Reyes, NC1 Andrew Moses, NC1 Carmen Ortiz, MA1 Joshua Raper, NC1 Beverly Wallace-Brown, NC1 Brandon Whobrey, UT2 Jasmine Flores, AM2 Adam Kaczmarek, and AME2 Jesus Lamberti. The list goes on and on.

I strongly encourage everyone to take advantage of the outstanding service to further your education and ultimately advance to the next pay grade. For

further information on this outstanding benefit, check out the story beginning on page five in this edition of Navy Recruiter Magazine.

Finally, congratulations are in order for all of our newly honored Recruiters of the Year! The FY2012 ROY winners were formally recognized January 7-11 in Washington, D.C., by not only our Admiral, but SECNAV, CNO, CNP and MCPON as well. Each member of this elite ROY class and their families are truly deserving of this recognition and I was honored to have been a part of the celebration. Check out the next issue of Navy Recruiter Magazine for the details and lots of pictures from the event. Hoo-Rah!

One Team, One Fight!



Navy Recruiting Command

# Navigating Educational Opportunities While Recruiting

By MC1(SCW) Michael B. Lavender, NRC Public Affairs

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – You joined the Navy. You saw the world. You received pay and health benefits. Then you came home and began recruiting. However, did you go to college?

One of the many benefits offered through military service is the ability for Sailors to further their education through the many programs offered as part of their service. As there are dozens of programs for Sailors to take advantage of during and after their service, navigating and selecting the right program can be confusing. Fortunately, there are also many resources to help.

One of the most important resources is the nearest Navy College Office. Each one has a staff ready and willing to assist Sailors in their goal to complete their higher education. Sailors can also visit the virtual office at <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/default.aspx>.

"There are many resources available for Sailors to use, but their best resource is the Navy College website," said Richard Martin, director, Navy College Office in Millington, Tenn. "There they'll find out about processing their tuition assistance (TA) and find information about anything that will help them with their educational goals. It will give them information on what the serving Navy College Office for them is and points of contact for them so they can actually speak to someone to aid them through the process."

Martin went on to say that the Navy College website also has links to other resources including the SMART (Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript) and the SMOLAA (Sailor/Marine Online Academic Advisor) which will show Sailors what credits they have and plug them into a degree in various schools. The process allows a Sailor to investigate what school is the most efficient for them to use in the pursuit of their degree.

"With the way education is going with everything being available online now, even

if a Sailor is in a remote area away from any military base, as long as they have a telephone or an Internet connection they certainly have the ability to get started and contact us and learn about all the ways they can get college assistance," explained Martin.

The first and most widely known form of college assistance is the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), a Veterans Affairs (VA)-managed program.

"There is no one GI Bill," said Martin. "There is a big book of GI Bill programs. The best advice for anyone who is going to utilize their GI Bill benefits is, of course, to contact the Navy College Office or visit their website at <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>. There are a lot of variables at play when applying for each specific program. On the website, fill out the application but do not select a specific program you are interested in. Then send it in and the VA



will research it and reply with what program the Sailor is eligible for.”

Martin explained that trying to figure out the process on your own can be misleading. For example, if a Sailor used some of the benefits from their MGIB in the past for any course or certification then decided to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill instead, they will not get the full 36 months of benefits.

The TA program is another resource Sailors have available while on active duty. The program pays 100 percent of tuition fees, up to \$250 each semester hour, up to \$750 per course, or a maximum of \$4,000 a year. Sailors can take up to 16 semester hours each year through this program.

“What most Sailors in remote areas do not realize is that whoever in their chain of command approves leave chits or other documents would also be the one to approve their TA,” explained Martin. “When they go in to create a TA application, it asks for that information. When it is submitted and processed, it would then go to that entered approver. After they sign off on it, it goes to the virtual educational center. If all the prerequisites are filled, they will approve it and the Sailor will get a notification on what to do next.”

Sailors who are more interested in earning a vocational degree, certifications or credentialing also have multiple resources including recent changes in Navy policy authorizing clock hours and the Navy COOL (Credentialing Opportunities Online) website. Additionally, Sailors have educational opportunities through Navy Knowledge Online, including the Navy e-learning website.

“There are so many programs available we could literally write books about it,” said Martin. “The best advice we can give you is to contact your Navy College Office or visit our website.”

Martin also said that degrees make individuals more qualified to employers and also assist in advancement while in the Navy by providing points for education that are applied toward their final multiple score according to NAVADMIN 301/07. Degrees can also directly or indirectly put more money in a Sailor’s pocket whether through advancement or by providing better job opportunities after the Navy.

“Your future can begin here. Don’t waste a great opportunity to gain a free education,” said Martin.



Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen receive high-fives from the Indianapolis Colts’ Junior Colts cheerleaders before walking out on the field to take part in a military-themed halftime presentation on Nov. 4. Service members from every military branch worked together to present a football-field size flag during the national anthem and then participated in a halftime dance number with the Colts cheerleaders at their military appreciation game. (Photo by MC1(SW) Joseph R. Wax, NRD Michigan Public Affairs)



# Dentist Twins Join Navy Reserve for Love of Country

Story and photo by MCC(SW/AW) Robert Keilman, NRD New Orleans Public Affairs

SARALAND, Ala. –

The Navy has long been a career option for many high school and college graduates. Those choosing this path make the commitment to serve their country for many reasons. Some do it to take advantage of the Navy Tuition Assistance program, competitive medical and dental benefits, scholarships such as the Health Professions Scholarship Program, or to earn the popular Post-9/11 GI Bill.

But for 43 year-old, identical twin brothers Drs. Courtland (“Court”) and Shonn Farni, both general dentists in Saraland, Ala., who were commissioned last August as lieutenants in the Navy Reserve as dentists, the choice was for no other reason but patriotism, serving their country, and making a difference.

“People ask me all the time ‘Why did you do that?’ I say, ‘Because I wanted to.’ It has nothing to do with money; the Navy can’t pay me enough. For me, it’s about wearing the uniform and knowing that I’m serving my country. I may never shoot a gun but that doesn’t mean I can’t serve the country that I love,” said Shonn, the elder twin by four minutes. “It may not make sense to some people, but I respect what the Navy is about. It’s about a group of individuals who are together as a team, going forth and accomplishing a mission together. Again, I respect that, and want to be a part of that.”

Besides physical appearances and professions, the values of service, respect, and camaraderie are also common in the brothers.



Navy Reserve general dentists LT Courtland Farni, left, and his twin brother, LT Shonn Farni, were recently commissioned in the Navy Reserve Dental Corps. Additionally, Dr. Leo Ginn, a partner in their dental practice in Saraland, Ala., is in the process of joining the Navy Reserve.

“We’ve always said that we would really like to identify our love for our country in uniform,” said Court. “I think that loyalty and honor are sometimes lost with some people, but not with us. This is like the next chapter in my life. I look forward to the camaraderie of serving with people who think like I think. They want to serve their country and I get to help them maintain their readiness, whether it is for a deployment or for routine care.”

Making the decision to join the Navy Reserve started with a visit from NC1 Matthew Weldy, an officer recruiter with NRD New Orleans, who works out of Navy Officer Recruiting Station Mobile, Ala.

Weldy and the Farnis graduated from Mobile County High School in Grand Bay, Ala.

They were in the same graduating class as Weldy’s twin sisters. Although Weldy graduated two years after the Farnis, while in high school they shared similar interests in extracurricular school activities. Weldy played on the junior varsity baseball team while the Farnis played on the varsity team. These similarities from a young age came full circle years later when they donned Navy uniforms.

“When the command [NRD New Orleans] was looking for dentists, I thought the best place to start looking was with who I knew. So, I stopped by their office and thought, ‘I haven’t seen these guys in a while, I’ll stop by,’” said Weldy. “When we started talking, they both told me that they were thinking of joining the Navy. It was a strange coincidence that I stopped by.”



# Twin Engineers Follow the Same Path to Joining Navy Reserve

Story and photo by MC2 Chelsea Kennedy, NRD Nashville Public Affairs

Weldy gave his best efforts to provide support, answer questions, and arrange meetings with other Reserve dentists. His energy instilled trust and displayed the Navy as a cohesive unit, a Global Force for Good.

"I wanted to show them how much, how great, of an organization the Navy is to be a part of," said Weldy. "I remember during the process I would get questions via text message at various times about the Navy Reserve. What drill was, and questions about deployments. So, what I did was put them in touch with actual Reserve dentists out of NOSC [Navy Operational Support Center] Pensacola, Fla., to answer some of their questions. I could tell them all day about what the Navy is like but I don't know what it's like to be a dentist, so I put them in touch with the people who do."

Weldy adds that it's important for Navy officer recruiters to be available to their candidates to answer questions and provide information, no matter what day of the week or time of day.

"The Navy was not a hard sell for these guys. They are doing it because they love America and that's it. It isn't about what bonus or incentives we could offer them, it was simply about serving because they want to give back," said Weldy.

The twins' love for their country and willingness to serve stems from their family heritage, a lineage of patriots who raised their right hands and swore to protect freedom and democracy.

"My grandfather was a lieutenant in the Navy, and I had another grandfather who was a pilot in the Air Force," said Court. "I have a tremendous amount of respect for all branches of the armed forces, and being able to continue that legacy of serving our country, as my grandparents did, is an honor."

"I always wanted to join the armed forces, but I started a family early and I couldn't make it happen then. And although I love what I do every day, I love the country I live in," said Shonn. "I'm at a point in my life where I'm like, 'You

know what, I'm going to join,' and I'll be able to serve my country while still doing what I love to do daily."

Weldy explained that with the recent commissioning of the Farnis, the call to serve has been contagious around their dental practice. Already in the officer processing phase for commissioning in the Navy Reserve Dental Corps is Dr. Leo Ginn, a general dentist partner in their firm.

"I think the reason we are joining the Navy is because we have similar desires, backgrounds, work ethic, and family experiences. Joining the armed forces is something that we all thought about, even when we were younger, but the opportunity wasn't there at the time," said Ginn. "We would often sit back here at the office and talk about joining up. We looked at National Guard and other services and talked about it back and forth, but then one day Matt [Weldy] showed up and let us know what we needed to do.

"...at 43 years old you want to know if you're good enough to serve in the Navy. I would like to be able to stay in for a long time and contribute the best way I can. I would like for my kids to see me in uniform. My father was in the Army during the Vietnam War but I was too young to remember much," said Ginn.

With their commission complete, the Farnis will attend a two-week officer indoctrination course in Newport, R.I., in the near future. In the meantime, the twins and Ginn are excited about service in uniform and look forward to ensuring all military personnel receive the best patient care.

"My hopes are to fulfill whatever mission I'm called to do. If it's making sure that the dental readiness of military members is taken care of, then I'm here to do it. Whether it's helping Sailors in the Navy or members from other branches of the armed forces, we have the ability to help fulfill that mission – it's a job that I don't take lightly. My brother and I are proud to wear the uniform, and we look forward to serving," said Shonn.



QM1 Kenneth Temple, left, with NRD Houston, salutes a Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) unit from Flour Bluff High School before an unarmed regulation drill during the Kingwood High School JROTC Military Skills Drill Meet in Kingwood, Texas. NRD Houston personnel served as judges at the drill meet where approximately 2,500 cadets from 19 Houston-area schools competed in eight different events. (Photo by MC2 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston)

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** – Twin sisters Mellany George and Melody George-Jones were commissioned as engineering duty officers in the Navy direct commissioning program by Deputy Director, Missile Defense Agency (MDA) RADM Randall M. Hendrickson at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., where they both work.

This step into a career as a naval officer is one of many paths the sisters have traveled together.

Growing up, Mellany and Melody shared many of the same interests. They went to college together and pursued the same degrees. They graduated in 2005 from Auburn University with Bachelors of Science in Fiber and Polymer Engineering. They enrolled at the University of Alabama Birmingham where they received their Master of Science degrees in Material Science and Engineering in 2008.

"To be given, much is expected and this is true with them," said Hendrickson. "I'm excited for them. They are about to embark on a very exciting career. One of the big things that we work on with both the Navy and the MDA is diversification. Diversification makes us stronger across the board and it is very important that we continue to bring young and aspiring talent on board. Both of these young ladies bring that with them."

The sisters have always had an interest in the military, but it took a mentor guiding them to get the ball rolling. LT Teng Ooi, Navy Reserve, campus liaison officer for NRD Nashville, worked with the sisters at MDA.

"Our decision for joining the Navy has been one that we have been thinking about over the years," said Melody. "As



Melody George-Jones and Mellany Jones sign paperwork to become officers in the Navy Reserve. The twins were commissioned into the direct commissioning program as engineering duty officers at the Missile Defense Agency at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., where they work as civilians.

an employee at MDA, Teng Ooi was very instrumental in getting us over the hurdles and now we are here today. For us, joining the Navy was not just to serve our country but to serve our state, community and city. Joining was not just about work for us; it's about being a humanitarian, a leader and a positive example. This is what we hope we can bring into this great organization."

In addition to their civilian and Navy careers, the sisters often do volunteer work in their free time. Most recently they volunteered with Habitat for Humanity to help salvage useable parts from a house slated for demolition.

Pride in service is something that Mellany and Melody embody. Whether working for MDA, as a Sailor in the Navy Reserve, or locally through volunteer work, they truly are a part of the Global Force for Good.





# Recruiters ENGAGE YOUTH AT COLLEGE EXTRAVAGANZA

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

**SAN ANTONIO** – Continuing to spread Navy awareness and recruit the best and brightest for future enlistment and commissioning, recruiters from NRD San Antonio participated in the third annual George Gervin Youth Center College Extravaganza Oct. 20 held on the campus of Our Lady of the Lake University.

The college extravaganza connects local junior and senior high school students with colleges, universities, trade schools, and the military from across the city.

More than 1,200 students attended the event to learn about scholarship opportunities totaling more than \$18 million.

The event began with welcoming remarks from Mayor Julian Castor, who stressed the importance of seeking a higher education.

CDR Jason Webb, commanding officer, NRD San Antonio also spoke and told of various Navy scholarships and programs, and the requirement of a higher education to obtain them.



Recruiters with NRD San Antonio speak with students during the third annual George Gervin Youth Center College Extravaganza held on the campus of Our Lady of the Lake University. The event attracted more than 1,200 students and connected them with colleges, universities, trade schools, and military from across the city.

Maria Ortegon, who attended the event with her son, wishes she could go back in time. "I think this is amazing and I wish I could have had these opportunities when I was younger," said Ortegon, who recently graduated college with a bachelor's degree in marketing. "The information provided by the Navy was awesome and motivating. I can't say enough to my son to convince him to join the military, although that is not his current course."

The college extravaganza also provided music, goody bags and financial education classes to assist students in overcoming many of the hurdles they may face in pursuing a higher education.



# Navy Highlighted at Hispanic Week

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

**EDINBURG, Texas** – NRD San Antonio participated in the Hispanic Engineering, Science, and Technology (HESTEC) Week held on the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) campus to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

### Leadership Days

Middle school and university students were shown the connection between their school courses and long-term careers at the STEM Educator and Student Leadership Days, Sept. 23-24.

LTJG Veronica White, NRD San Antonio medical/dental officer recruiter, spoke with medical students. "We are here to inform students about the Navy's health care scholarships and career opportunities," said White. "We are a diverse institution and we want to inform women and minorities of the opportunities that the Navy provides."

"Many students are unaware of the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate [NUPOC] program or that the Navy has



LTJG Veronica White, center, a medical/dental officer recruiter with NRD San Antonio, speaks to students at the University of Texas-Pan American about Navy health scholarship opportunities during HESTEC Week, an educational conference that emphasizes STEM education and careers.



NRD San Antonio Commanding Officer, CDR Jason Webb, center, presents Bryant Nieto a \$194,000 Navy Health Services Colligate Program scholarship at HESTEC. Nieto, who attends Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, was joined by his parents and NRD San Antonio Sailors at the presentation.

a program which provides qualified candidates with a monthly base salary of \$3,851.24 for 30 months," said LT Israel Villarreal, NRD San Antonio officer recruiter.

#### Panel

ADM Mark Ferguson, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, participated in a congressional panel of 10 speakers focusing on the importance of STEM.

"It is a strategic imperative for the Navy to attract, recruit, retain, and promote a diverse workforce," said Ferguson. "When America looks at its Navy, it should see a reflection of the country as a whole. We are committed to finding that talent through our outreach and engagement efforts.

"We are an organization that wants to look like the nation we serve," Ferguson said. "The Navy is 52 percent diverse and 70 percent of the people entering the workforce today are women and minorities."

At the panel's conclusion, guests assembled at UTPA's Center of Excellence in STEM Education for its ribbon-cutting ceremony. Equipped with an interactive smart board, 3D wall projection, and other software and technologies to enhance the education experience, it is one of three centers funded by the Department of Defense 2011-2015.

#### Latina Day

The importance of Latina women in STEM was stressed at Latina Day on Sept. 26. Speakers told how they deal with social and economic factors in their professions.

NRD San Antonio's NCC Sidney Reagan moderated two breakout sessions for over 100 Latina mothers and their daughters, and talked about her life as a Latina in the Navy.

"I came to America from Mexico City at the age of 18. I

am from a family that if you were not married, you could not leave the home," said Reagan. "I broke that mode in my family and decided I wanted to do something different. My parents were not supportive then, but are very supportive now."

The Navy provided Reagan with countless opportunities including achieving the rank of chief petty officer very rapidly in her career. "It is important to let young Latinas know that they have the same opportunities that I had in the Navy. It touches my heart to be able to speak to these young ladies for I see myself in their places. That was me at one point. What was I going to do with my life? I didn't want to just get married and have children."

"I was not familiar with the program when I first saw it on the local news," said Norma Rodriguez, who attended with her middle-school daughter. "The information provided today was an eye-opener because we were able to hear about the various careers available in science and math, which we didn't really consider."

#### SeaPerch

Sparking high school students' interests in STEM, NRD San Antonio put students' ingenuity to the test with a SeaPerch competition Sept. 28.

SeaPerch equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) in an in-school or out-of-school setting.

NRD Sailors visited schools three weeks earlier and provided material and instructions to build their ROVs. Twelve high schools registered 24 teams in the contest.

The winner was one of two Rio Grande City High School teams. Coach Delfino Garza was proud of his students'

achievement. He said, "SeaPerch gets the kids thinking about going to college and becoming a critical thinker. Our students had three weeks to work on the project and were extremely enthusiastic. It feels great for them to win."

Retired LCDR Alfredo Arredondo, Los Fresnos High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor, explained why his team, who won last year, was competing.

"My students are here to take advantage of STEM opportunities, and hopefully pursue a degree in engineering and/or develop an interest in robotics, whether it is in the Navy or elsewhere," said Arredondo. "In a classroom environment, I have seen students attain book knowledge, but when I put a SeaPerch in their hands and teach the concepts of hydrodynamics, buoyancy, and other technical aspects, then they start to understand how science works. And then I start to see students exposed to STEM utilize that book knowledge and increase their grades."

UTPA President, Dr. Robert Nelsen, believes a person who possesses a degree in a STEM field will earn 26 percent more than any other career after college graduation, and thinks there will be 17 percent more jobs in these areas than any other in the next 10 year.

"The Navy has helped these children dream today, and the kids know it is possible to have a career in a STEM field. I am very grateful to the Navy for what they have invested throughout HESTEC Week and for bringing the SeaPerch competition to us," said Nelsen.

#### Scholarships

NRD San Antonio recognized four students at HESTEC's Community Day on Sept. 29.

Bryant Nieto, who attends Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, was awarded \$194,000 through the Navy Health Services Colligate Program (HSCP).

HSCP provides anywhere from \$157,000 to \$269,000 to those finishing medical or dental school, or qualifying postgraduate school. It includes a monthly salary and housing allowance from \$3,280 to \$5,610, depending on location, for up to 48 months.

A \$180,000 Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship went to Charles Miller, a student at Texas A&M University.

Alberto Segura, a UTPA mechanical engineering major, was recognized for his acceptance into the NUPOC program. He said, "I wanted to do something technical when I graduate and when I found out that the Navy had the NUPOC program, I was attracted to it immediately. I used to have part-time jobs and now that I am in the program, I don't have to worry about money and can concentrate on my studies."

NUPOC offers up to \$168,300 while a student finishes college by providing a monthly income ranging from \$3,280 to \$5,610 for up to 30 months.

Hugo Garcia, a dental school student, was awarded \$190,000 from the Navy Health Professionals Scholarship Program. This program can provide tuition assistance for up to four years, a monthly stipend of \$2,088, and all professional-school required fees, books and equipment.



Sailors from NRD Michigan visit with a Navy veteran at the John Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit, Sept. 5. Sailors from NRD Michigan, Navy Operational Support Center Detroit, Carrier Strike Group Two, USS Dewert (FFG 45), and USS Hurricane (PC 3) attended events throughout the metro Detroit area to celebrate the commemoration of the bicentennial of the War of 1812. (Photo by MC1(SW) Joseph R. Wax, NRD Michigan Public Affairs)



FT2 Michael Ramirez with NRD Houston discusses the capabilities of a Desert Patrol Vehicle to students at Taylor High School Oct. 25 during Navy Week in Houston. NRD Houston Sailors visited various schools in the Houston area as part of Navy Week. Other events to raise awareness of the Navy were the two-day Wings Over Houston Air Show featuring the Blue Angels, and a Rice University football game. (Photo by MC2 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)



# Reserve Unit Aids Recruiting Mission

Story by LT Jim Gorham, NRC RSU Public Affairs  
Photo by MN1(SW/EXW) Vincent J. Mosley, NRC RSU

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – Many active duty recruiters do not realize there is a reserve unit specifically assigned to provide operational support to NRC. Established in 2008, the NRC Reserve Support Unit (RSU) mission is to provide a myriad of specialized skills and knowledge to augment NRC.

The unit, consisting of 54 personnel, drills the first weekend each month in the annex adjacent to NRC headquarters. These 30 officers and 24 enlisted personnel come from all over the United States to support the recruiting force in its pursuit to find the best men and women to serve in America's Navy.

"The RSU is seamlessly integrated into NRC by meeting critical surge, mission, support, augmentation and mobilization requirements," said CAPT Tamara Shelton, RSU commanding officer. Shelton added that the RSU is ideally structured and manned to provide the flexibility the active force requires by directly engaging in chaplain, medical and cyberspace recruiting support. In 2012, these reservists provided over 2,164 days of operational support to NRC. There are also four members who are currently deployed and three others in the process of pre-mobilization.

One of the areas in which RSU assists recruiters is by working in the recruiter warehouse that distributes promotional items to the 26 NRDs and 5,000 field recruiters. In 2012, four RSU Sailors were tasked with addressing packages, cleaning work areas, loading/unloading containers, verifying records, attaching shipping information and pricing items along with a variety of other logistical challenges.

"These are truly some of the best Sailors that I have worked with. They are ready to learn and eager to help accomplish the missions --- and easily adapt to the unique

requirements of the recruiting store warehouse," said Nesto Rivas, director, NRC Warehouse Division. "Without the help of RSU Sailors, the job of getting the necessary RADS/promotional items out to the field would be much more difficult."

One of the reserve Sailors who worked in the warehouse in early 2012 was LS1 Cameron Garrett. According to Garrett, Rivas provided them with excellent on-the-job training and the opportunity for them to succeed.

Garrett ended up working almost six months in the warehouse and in that time his responsibilities and duties increased. He performed his duties so well that in September he began his active-duty orders as a Canvasser Recruiter (CANREC). Under this program, Sailors are allowed to serve as hometown recruiters for up to five years. After five years, successful CANRECs have the option of applying for a career in reserve recruiting.

Garrett is now a medical officer recruiter at Navy Officer Recruiting Station Memphis. His duties in support of NRC were as a result of his work in the warehouse. "This opportunity

was the key to landing my active duty assignment," said Garrett.

Although members of the RSU may not wear their uniform as often as their active-duty counterparts, they are recruiters just the same. RSU members meet cyclical surge requirements in officer accession programs, marketing, advertising, medical waiver review and demographic research, analysis and modeling. These reservists are fully-integrated recruiters working alongside active-duty Sailors at both the NRDs and at headquarters.

This total force of recruiters is essential in identifying the best and the brightest individuals who could become a part of our Global Force for Good. As Shelton constantly reminds her personnel, "One team, one fight!"



ET1 Michael Tam, NRC Reserve Support Unit training leading petty officer, fills orders at the NRC recruiter warehouse. In 2012, four RSU Sailors worked at the warehouse and addressed packages, cleaned work areas, loaded/unloaded containers, verified records, attached shipping information and priced items.



# Recruiters Host First DEP Olympics

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

**Houston** – NRD Houston hosted its first Delayed Entry Program (DEP) Olympics Sept. 7 at Bear Creek Park in Houston.

Approximately 300 future Sailors from the greater Houston area gathered in the hot Texas sun and participated in the day's events of physical and mental challenges.

"Today was an opportunity to get our future Sailors together for some training and some fun," said STS2 Tanner Jones, one of NRD Houston's DEP coordinators. "It was a chance for our recruiters to mentor and encourage future Sailors as they completed a fitness assessment and competed in our first DEP Olympics."

Olympic events included push-up, sit-up, pull-up and planking challenges.

"These events showed our future Sailors the importance of physical fitness and offered them a baseline of where they need to improve before shipping to boot camp," said Jones.

The contests pitted all the future Sailors, male or female, against each other for bragging rights and personal pride.

"Today was really fun," said Roshelle Hernandez, of Katy, Texas, the DEP Olympic sit-up champion. "We did a lot



NCCS Lloyd Roberts, right, presents the trophy for most sit-ups to future Sailor Roshelle Hernandez, of Katy, Texas, during the NRD Houston DEP Olympics. Approximately 300 future Sailors attended the NRD's first DEP Olympics.

of workouts that everybody needs to do. It was awesome competing against fellow future Sailors. I am so proud to have won the sit-up competition. There were a lot of people here, and I beat out every guy and girl."

The day's events concluded with an awards presentation and lunch. NRD Houston personnel commended the group about the major decision they are all making in their lives, and preached personal accountability and responsibilities that come with being a Sailor in America's Navy.



# Former CNO Speaks at Minnesota Navy Birthday



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

**BLOOMINGTON, Minn.** – This year the Navy commemorated the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and honored the legacy of service to country by all Sailors since its founding.

Nearly 300 Sailors, personnel and guests attended the 237th Navy Birthday Ball in Bloomington, Minn., on Oct. 13.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar, one of the featured speakers, expressed her appreciation for the armed services and their impact on Minnesota.

Retired ADM Gary Roughead delivered the keynote speech.

Roughead served as the Chief of Naval Operations from Sept. 29, 2007, until his retirement on Sept. 23, 2011, after 38 years of service in the Navy.

“It’s great to see everyone here tonight,” said Roughead. “As everyone came together, it’s become hard to tell the difference between active and reserve Sailors, proving we have really become one Navy, one force.”

Roughead thanked each command for their efforts with the Navy Ball, and their contribution Navy wide.



Retired ADM Gary Roughead, former Chief of Naval Operations, cuts a cake at the 237th Navy Birthday Ball in Bloomington, Minn. Assisting him are the oldest audience member who served in the Navy and youngest Sailor. Roughead was the keynote speaker at the celebration that drew nearly 300 attendees.

In attendance were Roughead’s wife, Ellen, the commanding officer and executive officer of PCU *Minnesota*, Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps, NRD Minneapolis, the Navy League, Naval Operational Support Center Minneapolis and members of the Navy Band Great Lakes.

Mrs. Roughead, a Minnesota native, is the ship’s sponsor for USS *Minnesota* (SSN 783), which was commissioned Oct. 27, 2012.



# Retired Sailor Named VFW Post Commander of the Year

By MC1 Adrian Melendez, NRD Phoenix Public Affairs

**PHOENIX** – NRD Phoenix’s Supply Purchasing Agent, Bobby Jones, has been awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) All American Post Commander of the Year for 2011-2012 as the commander of Post 6310 in Tolleson, Ariz.

Jones became a member of the VFW in 1991 after Operation Desert Storm. He retired as a chief petty officer in 2005 after 23 years of service and got involved in the Tolleson VFW in 2001 while in Phoenix.

Even though Jones has been a VFW member for more than 20 years, it wasn’t until after he retired from the Navy that he became more involved in the organization and understood exactly what the membership benefits are and how the group can assist military members, past and present.

“When you think of the VFW or American Legion you think of a bunch of old veterans sitting around telling war stories,” said Jones. “But we do a lot for our veterans and community.”

One benefit, Jones explained, is assistance in filing Veteran’s Affairs (VA) benefits claims prior to a service member leaving the military.

“We fight for veterans’ rights and assist with them getting their VA benefits,” he said. “What a lot of people don’t understand, and where a lot of recent veterans are running into problems, is they’re trying to deal with the VA on their own. You need someone to represent you. We have service officers that are trained by the VA to assist you in processing your claim and to represent you. Help speeds along the process.”

Jones said that he is proud of being awarded the All American Post Commander title and attributes the honor to all the hard work they do for veterans and local community.



Bobby Jones, NRD Phoenix supply purchasing agent, bows his head during a ceremony at the Tolleson, Ariz., VFW Post 6310. Jones was chosen the VFW All American Commander of the Year for 2011-2012 recently. (Photo courtesy of George Leon, VFW Post 6310)

According to Jones, on average the Tolleson post’s 590 members log more than 5,000 hours of community service each month.

“Just like our slogan ‘No One Does More,’ we’re always giving back to the community,” he said.

Jones encourages all veterans to join a service group while either on active duty or when they separate from the military not only for the benefits but to carry on the tradition of giving, which is instilled in military members of any service

“If you truly enjoyed your time in the military, you gain that sense of giving because the way our culture is made up and because of our core values,” said Jones. “Our core values teach us to give back. So it’s natural when you get out to join one of the service groups to continue that nature of giving.”

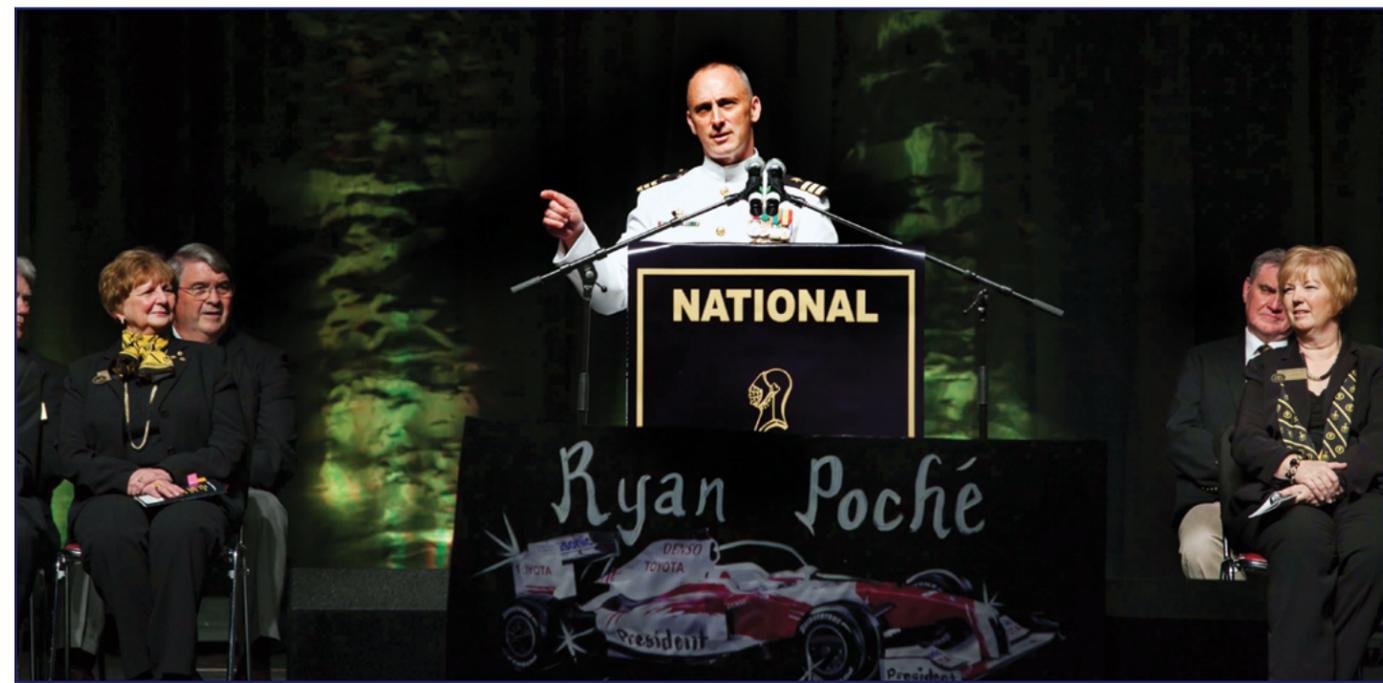


# SIX MILLION People Can't Be Wrong

Story and photo by Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs

**RALEIGH, N.C.** – Six Million: That's the total number of students that the National Beta Club has benefited since 1934.

These students are arguably the number one audience of Navy recruiters. The best audience remains high school students that demonstrate initiative, superior academic records and character-building extracurricular activities.



CDR Richard Brantley, NRD Raleigh's commanding officer, speaks to the National Beta Club at their convention in Greensboro, N.C., earlier this year. The National Beta Club's mission is to promote the ideals of academic achievement, character, service and leadership among elementary and secondary school students – a perfect complement to recruiting the best and brightest for the U.S. Navy.

CDR Richard Brantley, NRD Raleigh's commanding officer, knows from experience exactly where to look for students of this caliber – the National Beta Club. He should, as he served as South Carolina's state president. In fact, he credits the dedicated efforts of the organization among his key inspirations to join the Navy.

This relationship opens doors for both organizations. It advertises opportunities and scholarships to the most highly qualified and arguably our most deserving of students.

For example, the organization joined the Muscular Dystrophy Association and its celebrity ambassador from The Twilight Saga, Booboo Stewart, to spread awareness about Muscular Dystrophy during Beta's national service project this year.

NRD Raleigh is the first military unit invited to participate during the events that the club holds throughout the year. Events include thousands of high school students from 8,000 clubs (approximately 420,000 active members nationwide) who perform skits, talent shows and other unique presentations. Indeed, some of the top contestants from "American Idol" last season are Beta alumni.

Beta alumni even boast a former president among their ranks.

The Beta Club's mission is to promote the ideals of academic achievement, character, service and leadership among elementary and secondary school students. With the increasing physical and cognitive demands of a technically-advanced Navy, we need to recruit from among the nation's most gifted youth. Our missions are perfectly complimentary and our effort is to ensure the Navy promotes National Beta Club events.

An organization with the motto, "Let us lead by serving others," seems a perfect partner with our Global Force for Good.



# Lifetime Achievement Award Presented to 100-year-old Sailor

Story and photo by MC1(SW/AW) Vladimir Ramos, NRD Miami Public Affairs

**FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla.** – Navy veteran William "Buzz" Motley was presented with a lifetime achievement award at his 100th birthday celebration at Moose Lodge 2267 in Ft. Lauderdale on Oct. 28 by MM2 Jeffrey Collado, NRD Miami recruiter.

As part of the presentation, Collado asked all the members of the Moose Lodge who'd served in the armed forces to stand side by side with Motley, shielding him from the NRD Miami recruiters who were about to surprise him with the official certificate of appreciation for his lifetime achievement.

When Collado read aloud the declaration, he spoke about Motley's contribution to the United States and the meaning of a Sailor defending his country during World War II.

"Everything I saw on TV and heard about World War II was a reflection of Buzz's life. He simplified the rich naval history I was brought up on at its best," said Collado.

Motley was born in Spray, N.C., on Oct. 30, 1912, the oldest of eight children. His father passed away when he was 12 and he was forced to support his family at a very early age.

He entered the Navy in 1940, serving aboard USS *Morris* (DD 417), and participated in three campaigns including the Battles of the Coral Sea, Midway and Santa Cruz Islands, where *Morris* destroyed six aircraft and was part of the rescue of the carrier USS *Hornet's* (CV 8) 550 survivors.

In 1943, Motley was promoted to mailman third class and was transferred to USS *Meade* (DD 602) where the ship

supported the destruction of the Japanese garrisons and provided shore bombardment during the bitterly contested assaults on Tarawa during the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign and Philippines campaign.

He also served aboard the USS *Antietam* (CV 36) in support of the occupation of Japan at the conclusion of World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1946.



Navy veteran William "Buzz" Motley is presented a lifetime achievement award at his 100th birthday celebration on Oct. 28 in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., by MM2 Jeffrey Collado, NRD Miami recruiter.

"He [Motley] is the most lovely person you'll ever get to meet. Veterans from all the branches of the armed forces are present here to salute a true hero among us and we are blessed to have Miami Sailors with us celebrating his 100th birthday," said Mike Podlaski, event coordinator.

"This is the happiest birthday I ever had," said Motley. "I feel wonderful and grateful to have served in the Navy. I don't usually have many opportunities to talk about it with those that were not there," he added.





# Admiral Visits Boise for 50-50 Program

Story and photo by Darrell Lafrenz, NRD Portland Public Affairs

**BOISE, Idaho** – RADM Mark Heinrich, commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, completed a three-day visit to Boise on Aug. 23 in support of the Chief of Naval Operation's 50-50 Program.

Managed by the Navy Office of Community Outreach, the 50-50 Program is an initiative modeled on the successful flag officer engagement module that has been a staple of the Navy Week program since 2005. It's designed to send 50 senior Navy uniformed and civilian leaders to 50 cities across the nation to meet with area leaders and discuss the Navy's role in our national security, and to show Americans the tremendous investment they have in their Navy.

Heinrich met with members of the National Interagency Fire Center, a command hub where teams, crews, aircraft, engines, equipment, and other firefighting resources are mobilized quickly from coast to coast in response to wildfire threats. "We share so much with these firefighters and smoke jumpers – how they're protecting our nation around the clock and responding to the needs of our citizens at a moment's notice," Heinrich said. "Their courage and professionalism makes us all safer, and compares to the courage and professionalism of our Sailors who are forward deployed or underway, protecting our nation's interests every day."

Heinrich met with Boise Mayor David Bieter who proclaimed Aug. 21-23 "Navy Days" in Boise. They talked about the close relationship between the city and the USS Boise (SSN 764), a Los Angeles-class, nuclear submarine, and about the history of ships named for Boise.

A Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce meeting with local business leaders brought Heinrich together with Idaho Gov. Butch Otter, where Heinrich emphasized that the corporate sector's engagement with the Navy is important to their bottom line as the Navy addresses economic change



RADM Mark Heinrich received a tour of the Idaho Food Bank in Boise, Idaho, from CEO Karen Vauk during his 50-50 Program visit. Heinrich shared information and ideas with Vauk regarding extending the life of perishable food items.

by being effective, efficient, and innovating to use new technologies and operating concepts.

During his visit to the Idaho Military Museum, Heinrich reenlisted two Sailors, ET1 Norman Rassay and BMCS Juan Cabrera, thanking them for their continued commitment to upholding the Navy's core values.

Heinrich met with Jeff Bacon of the Wyakin Warrior Foundation, a nonprofit organization which provides education and professional development for severely-wounded and injured veterans. Bacon is the creator of the Broadside cartoon which has been published in Navy Times since 1986.

"The college completion rate for students who are Wyakin Warriors is significantly better than the national

averages for veterans, and their support of wounded warriors returning to school is wonderful," Heinrich said.

Heinrich and Bob Kustra, Boise State University president, talked about increasing the number of college graduates specializing in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). "Colleges and organizations that advance the talents of our veterans in STEM are rich pools of talent for future naval scientists and engineers," said Heinrich.

During a tour of the Boise Idaho Food Bank facility, Heinrich and CEO Karen Vauk discussed capabilities and limitations of the facility and program. Heinrich offered ideas and shared information regarding research the Navy is conducting as well as the technology the Navy is currently using to extend the usable life of perishable food

stores. Heinrich commented, "The Navy can show the Idaho Food Bank how to keep their produce fresher for a longer period of time."

Summing up his Boise visit, Heinrich said, "I think this has been as rewarding for me as it has been for all the people that I have encountered. I have talked to civic leaders, non-profit organizers, people involved in academia, and I have talked to people in the private sector, both large business and small business. In every case I worked to get the message out for the Navy about our Sailors, about our deployments, our innovations, alternative energy, and all of the things we should be proud of as a Navy. I think it resonated with everybody. They all thanked us for coming and most importantly, they all want us back. I think that we made a big difference here."



OS1 Jason Rosenbaum observes a young lady in the pull-up bar challenge at the inaugural Patriotism Bowl. Held at Charlotte Catholic High School (CCHS), the football game drew thousands of high school students and fans. The CCHS Cougars played against the Charlotte Country Day School Bucs. Pre-event festivities included military displays, a parachute team jump and a flyover. (Photo Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs)



# Celebrating Diversity

Story and photo by MC1(SW) Michael J. Scott, NRD Atlanta Public Affairs

**SMYRNA, Ga.** – NRD Atlanta observed National Hispanic Heritage Month and National Disability Employment Awareness Month at their headquarters on Nov. 2.

This year's National Hispanic Heritage Month theme, "Diversity United, Building America's Future Today," celebrated the histories, cultures and contributions of Americans who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

The observance also called attention to the continuing efforts toward employing the disabled in this country.

NRD Atlanta Executive Officer, CDR Axel Spens, welcomed guests and spoke of the importance of honoring our nation's Hispanic and disabled citizens along with other diversity groups throughout the year.

"One of the things that makes our Navy strong and unique is the diversity within our ranks. Our workforce resembles the makeup of our country," said Spens.

Hispanics have played a vital role in naval history, serving in virtually every at-sea conflict in American history. Hispanics can trace their tradition of naval service to men such as LT Jorge Farragut Mesquida, who served in the American Revolution; Seamen Philip Bazaar and John Ortega, who distinguished themselves in combat and were awarded Medals of Honor, the highest military decoration of the United States, for service in the Civil War; and ADM David Farragut who also served during the Civil War and was the first person to ever attain the rank of full admiral.

Today nearly 70,000 Sailors and civilians of Hispanic heritage are serving in the Navy, making up approximately 11 percent of the Navy's active, Reserve and civilian forces.

Guest speaker, Angela Mitchell, a Spanish teacher at The Lovett School in Atlanta, said one of the best tools we can give our children is a good education. "We have to be cheerleaders, teachers, listeners, mentors and fighters because if we do not fight for our students, then who will?"



NRD Atlanta Heritage Committee member Robbin West, left, thanks Angela Mitchell for speaking at the National Hispanic Heritage Month and National Disability Employment Awareness Month observance and luncheon. Mitchell teaches Spanish at The Lovett School in Atlanta.

Spens presented Mitchell a letter of appreciation and command coin, and thanked her for sharing her experiences.

Command Career Counselor OS2 Kendra Garrett presented National Disability Awareness theme and facts. She said great progress has been made in honoring the contributions of disabled Americans to the growth and prosperity of this country.

"In the 22 years since the Americans Disabilities Act has been signed, we have made significant strides and have given all Americans the freedom and opportunity to make of their lives what they will," said Garrett.

The celebration concluded with a lunch featuring foods from Mitchell's Colombia homeland.



# Satellite Office Opens at Prep Academy

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

**SAN ANTONIO** – Providing the opportunity for those ages 17-26 to register and attain a high school diploma, the George Gervin Preparation Academy (GGPA) recently held a Reclaiming the Village ceremony at its campus.

The academy was founded by George "The Iceman" Gervin, a former NBA player with the San Antonio Spurs and a member of the NBA Hall of Fame.

The nonprofit organization's mission is to impact the lives of troubled youth and their families. GGPA strives to prepare students for college and career readiness by assisting them in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Children, parents, representatives from the center, including representatives from NRD San Antonio and Army Recruiting Battalion, attended the ceremony.

According to Dr. Delia Bara, vice president of operations, in addition to helping those who wish to earn a high school diploma, the institute will offer GED preparation, and workforce development, manufacturing, hospitality, and tourism training.

The Navy and Army, which have recruiting stations throughout the city, will maintain satellite offices at the institute.

"Many do not know about the various educational programs the Navy and Army possess," said Bara. "That's why we have invited them into the institute."

CDR Corry Juedeman, NRD San Antonio executive officer, was one of the guest speakers. "We are thankful to the George Gervin Career Prep Institute for allowing us to have an office on the campus," said Juedeman. "This is a huge opportunity for students."

Juedeman explained the requirements of joining the Navy and how the institute can assist students interested

in joining the naval service. "This institute offers individuals without a high school diploma the opportunity to attain a GED. It also provides students the opportunity to take ASVAB courses, which is a huge benefit for those interested in joining the Navy."

Another guest speaker was John Riley, Jr., former assistance secretary of Labor for Louisiana (Louisiana Workforce Commission) who expressed his excitement of the youth program.

"It is good for me to be back in San Antonio," said Riley, who received military medical training at Ft. Sam Houston more than 15 years ago. "By returning to San Antonio, I am able to provide some leadership and support for young people and help them make a decision which can change their lives forever."

"In life, every single experience that we have will be used again, whether it's good or bad. For the young people that are here, you may have had many challenges, but each one of those challenges can be used to help you become more successful in the future. Many of us here today are asking for another opportunity. We're asking for an opportunity to do something different. We're asking for an opportunity to make a difference in our community, but the key to this is what you will do with that opportunity. I'm here to tell you that you can be successful no matter what opportunity or situation you may find yourself in."

According to Riley, you are given two envelopes in life, opportunity and selfishness, and it is the decision of each individual as to which envelope to open and which opportunities to capitalize on.

"Every decision you make today has a major impact tomorrow," said Riley. "It's up to you."



NRS Winston-Salem, part of NRD Raleigh's Division 2, held a coat drive in late October and early November. DC2 Marcus Steed displays part of the nearly 100 coats collected. They in turn donated them to a local homeless shelter and the American Red Cross for Hurricane Sandy victims. (Courtesy photo)



# For the Canos, Navy Service is a Family Affair

Story by Burrell D. Parmer, NRD San Antonio Public Affairs

**SAN ANTONIO** – The day that NCCM Rene R. Cano, Sr., joined the Navy – Sept. 7, 1980 – was the beginning of a chain reaction that would eventually steer three family members to serve in the U.S. Navy.

Born in Tamaulipas, Mexico, approximately 250 miles south of Brownsville, Texas, and the oldest of seven children, Cano is not only a proud Navy master chief with more than 32 years of service but also the proud father of four children, two of whom currently serve in the Navy.

Cano came to America with his family in 1974 and relocated in Eagle Lake, Texas. “When I was around four years old, we moved closer to the border due to my father’s job as a truck driver in Reynosa, Tamaulipas. His job entailed hauling brick to the northern states and Canada,” said Cano who explained that his father was able to provide all the family’s basic needs.

Cano’s father acquired a job in Eagle Lake hauling sand and gravel to cement mixers in Houston. “At that time, Houston was booming in growth and demand for aggregate material was high,” said Cano. “After receiving a visa the same year, we all migrated to Eagle Lake.”

A graduate of Rice Consolidated High School in Altair, Texas, and Columbia College of Missouri, Cano recalls why he joined the Navy. “I remember getting closer to graduation in the spring of 1980 and asking myself, ‘What’s next?’ I had been working as an assistant mechanic since I was 13 years old and had developed skills working on diesel engines and transmissions, so I was not that worried about getting a job. I already had one.”

According to him, he did not have a plan to join the military, but after being contacted by various service recruiters, it happened.

“Chief Vera, my Navy recruiter, called me to set up



At his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2003, ENS Rene Cano, Jr., center, stands with his father, NCCM Rene Cano, Sr., and sister, Roxanne Cano-Mickelson, who later joined the Navy and graduated July 2012 from officer development school in Newport, R.I. (Photo courtesy of NCCM Rene R. Cano, Sr.)

an appointment so I agreed. I remember that day just like it was yesterday. Chief Vera arrived at my house in his summer-whites uniform and the first thing that went through my mind was that I wanted to wear that uniform,” said Cano. “I was sold before he even said anything. I knew then I wanted to serve my country, which had already overwhelmed me with opportunity and was offering me more.”

The opportunities provided Cano have also been an advantage to his two eldest children: LT Rene Cano, Jr., a nuclear officer serving aboard USS *Maryland* (SSBN 738)

and LT Roxanne Cano-Mickelson, an ear, nose, and throat doctor serving at Navy Medical Center San Diego.

Asked why he wanted to be a Navy recruiter, Cano said, “When I found out I was able to be a recruiter, it registered right away. I had an opportunity to help provide the same opportunities I was enjoying myself. I enjoy telling my story because I want all those who qualify to be aware that the Navy is not just a job, it’s truly an exciting adventure full of opportunities. You don’t even have to knock on the door; all you have to do is walk through it. I love the Navy!”

The Cano family was reunited during Hispanic Engineering, Science, and Technology (HESTEC) Week 2012 held at the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg, Sept. 24-29. The family spoke during the Latina Day luncheon and gave testimony about the opportunities the Navy provided them and encouraged Latinas to reach for the stars.

Cano-Mickelson said, “From the beginning, I always wanted to be in medicine and become a doctor. The first time I ever told someone they laughed at me saying, ‘You’re not going to be able to do it or you’re not smart enough.’ I wanted to succeed so I worked hard and attended college.”

Although Cano-Mickelson did not get accepted into medical school on her first attempt, she didn’t give up. After having a child her senior year, she improved her grades and was accepted on her second attempt. “It was disappointing that I didn’t get into medical school on my first try, but I had time to spend with my child. Then I reapplied after improving my grades,” she said. “My dad told me about the Navy Health Services Program, which paid for medical school.”

Cano-Mickelson gave the Latinas some stern advice at HESTEC, “It starts right now. It’s time to start planting the

seed, whether it is in engineering, medicine or law. There are so many jobs that women are under represented. Continue with your goals and reach high.”

Cano, Jr., a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, spoke about his reason for joining the Navy and how it is not easy attaining a higher education. “As with my sister, I wanted to serve my country and needed money for school,” he said. “My dad told me about the U.S. Naval Academy, which I attended, and now I serve as a submarine officer. Additionally, I earned a master’s degree which was paid for by the Navy.

“It wasn’t easy accomplishing my goals,” said Cano. “But through my father and mother, I learned the keys to success.”

The elder Cano was grateful to see both of his children together during HESTEC and for them both setting an example to the participants.

“I focused on education and stressed to my kids the avenues and opportunities the Navy has to offer. And of course it was no secret how I felt about being an American and how proud I felt to serve in our Navy. I’m very proud of both my older kids; both are lieutenants in the United States Navy. Go Navy!”

Cano serves as the chief recruiter for NRD San Antonio and his responsibilities are to find and recruit the highest-qualified applicants for enlistment or commissioning in the Navy programs; manage, supervise and coordinate the use of all recruiting district’s resources, training and systems to attain recruiting goals; and serve as primary enlisted advisor to the commanding officer and recruiting operations officer in matters pertaining to production and personnel.



STS2 Tanner Jones of NRD Houston gets an autograph from Houston Texans quarterback Matt Schaub at a practice Nov. 1 in Houston. The Texans hosted a military appreciation day and invited local service members to watch them practice and attend an autograph session. (Photo by MC2 Jacob L. Dillon, NRD Houston Public Affairs)



# Navy Volunteers Benefit Ronald McDonald House



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

**HOUSTON** – NRD Houston personnel and future Sailors recently volunteered their time and services at the Ronald McDonald House.

Two NRD Houston members and nine future Sailors from the Houston area provided general housekeeping services and interacted with families staying at the facility.

For NC1 Linda Evans, this was an opportunity to give back to an organization that has helped her and her family in the past.

"I used the Ronald McDonald House a few years back," said Evans. "I was stationed in Washington, and my son had gotten sick. From where I lived, it was a long drive to the hospital. So my family utilized the Ronald McDonald House. It was great to have us all together while my son was in the hospital. The Ronald McDonald House eased the financial difficulties of having to stay in a hotel, where to eat and travel to and from the hospital, which is why the Ronald McDonald House is near and dear to my heart.

"I needed to give back to the organization that helped me and my family so much during the 23 days my son was in the hospital," said Evans.

Giving back at the Ronald McDonald House also provided Evans with a chance to provide mentorship and guidance to the future Sailors she is putting in the Navy.

"I really think our future Sailors got a lot out of volunteering here," said Evans. "I usually don't open up, but when the opportunity came to have us volunteer here, I jumped at the chance to share my experiences with my future Sailors and provide mentorship to them.

"We wanted to show our future Sailors more than anything that this [volunteering] is what the Navy is known for. This is what the Navy is about," Evans said. "Community service; whatever we can do to help, that is what we do."

For future Sailor Brittney Modlin, a Houston native, volunteering is important to her.

"Volunteering has always been a big part of my life," said Modlin. "Volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House was new to me, so I took advantage of the opportunity to come here. I looked forward to interacting with the families and doing anything I could help them. Having had several family members with cancer, I can relate to some of the struggles these families are going through. By volunteering here, it will build me up as a stronger Sailor and a stronger person."



NRD Houston Sailors STS2 Tanner Jones, left, LS2 Alberta Lawson, MC2 Jacob Dillon, SH2 Darnell Beller and AD2 Anderson Castrillon visit with Houston Astros baseball announcer Milo Hamilton at his retirement ceremony Oct. 16 in Houston. Hamilton, a World War II and Navy veteran, retired from announcing after 28 years with the Astros and 59 years overall. His most memorable announcement was Hank Aaron's record-breaking 715th homerun in 1974. (U.S. Navy photo)



# Navy Band ROCKS Raleigh

Story and photo by Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs

**RALEIGH, N.C.** – Four Star Edition, the U.S. Navy Fleet Forces band, rocked out in Raleigh over Autumn Military Appreciation Weekend. The band performed at Needham Broughton High School and during North Carolina State University's football pre-game festivities.

Turn on a radio and there are plenty of top-40 songs to listen to, including pop, hip hop, country and rock 'n roll. Show up at a Four Star Edition performance and you'll never know the difference.

However, Four Star Edition performances aren't complete replicas of original songs. Lead singer MU3 Emily Charleton performed her own version of Adele's hit, "Someone Like You," to a cheering crowd at North Carolina State University.

The band also performed the Black Eyed Peas' "Pump It" to high school students who jumped out of their seats when MU1 Clint McClanahan, bass guitarist, started rapping will.i.am's lyrics. Other songs they performed included



The U.S. Navy Fleet Forces band, Four Star Edition, rocked out in Raleigh recently at an Autumn Military Appreciation Weekend. The band performed at Needham Broughton High School for hundreds of students. Afterwards, band members and recruiter MMC Jason Scott spoke with students and answered their questions.

Beyonce's "Crazy in Love," Kelly Clarkson's "Stronger," Kiss' "Detroit Rock City" and the Black Keys' "Gold on the Ceiling."

NRD Raleigh looks to the band when recruiters see a need for more outreach at their high schools and colleges. Besides being a music-for-recruiting-tool to the Navy's Recruiting Districts near the east coast, Four Star Edition participates in significant national and international events, some on naval ships, and at national sporting and community relations events.





# VETERANS, PAST AND PRESENT, HONORED AT HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Story and photo by Darrell Lafrenz, NRD Portland Public Affairs

## OREGON CITY, Ore. –

Members of NRD Portland attended the Oregon City High School's (OCHS's) seventh annual Veterans Day Assembly on Nov. 6.

Besides military and veterans, invitations were extended to policemen, firefighters and emergency response personnel. Over 2,000 faculty and guests were in attendance.

For many, this was much more personal than previous assemblies since a special memorial tribute was given for OCHS graduate Tyrone Woods.

Woods, a retired Navy SEAL, was killed in Benghazi, Libya, on Sept. 12 while serving on what was originally reported as a private security detail for the State Department. Later reports by CIA officials revealed Woods was assigned as a CIA contractor.

Although many details regarding the attack on the U.S. Consulate are unclear, what is known is that Woods and Glen Doherty – another former Navy SEAL – gave their lives while protecting others.

After successfully evacuating an estimated 30 State Department staffers from the consulate grounds to safety, Woods and Doherty took up a gun position on a roof in the CIA annex about a mile from the consulate compound. Their attackers followed them and fired mortar rounds which struck and ultimately killed Woods and Doherty.



Attending the Oregon City High School's Veterans Day Assembly are BU1 Sean Krioff, left, LCDR Keith Willison, MUC Joseph Parry, actor-director Ricky Schroder, EN1 Heip Nguyen, Mary Wilson (OCHS staff), NCC Pete Pennock, and FC2 Jennifer Seto. Schroder is a friend of the Tyrone Woods family. Woods, a former Navy SEAL, was recently killed in Benghazi, Libya, and was honored at the program.

A eulogy to Woods was presented by his high school wrestling coach. The tribute also included a flag-folding ceremony performed by the OCHS's Army Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps unit. The flag originally draped the coffin of Woods' grandfather who was a member of the Office of Strategic Service (a World War II intelligence agency that was a predecessor of the CIA) and was presented to Woods' mother, Cheryl Croft Bennett.

The keynote speaker was Joe Torrillo, a retired New York City firefighter who was buried at ground zero during the Sept. 11 terrorists attack when the first tower collapsed. He miraculously survived only to be buried again, to a lesser extent, when the second tower collapsed.

Since retirement, Torrillo speaks to various groups about courage, honor and living your life in the service of others.

The assembly also included performances by the school band, choir and dance team and closing remarks by U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader.



# MIAMI RECRUITERS, BOY SCOUTS HONOR VETERANS AT PARADE

Story and photo by MC1(SW/AW) Vladimir Ramos, NRD Miami Public Affairs

**MIAMI LAKES, Fla. –** Boy Scout Troop 247 and NRD Miami Recruiters marched together at a Veterans Day parade in the town of Miami Lakes Nov. 11 to honor those who served and are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces.

The 33rd annual parade featured more than 1,500 participants, including the Boy and Girl Scouts, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets, high schools bands, civic organizations and local military commands.

"I think it's great that these Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts appreciate those who have served before me to defend this country," said LS1 Carlos Cruz-Valentin. "It's an honor to march in this parade and to have local residents, especially children, understand the importance of freedom."

Cruz-Valentin and Troop 247 Scouts marched along the parade route holding aloft a large U.S. flag, led by a Navy color guard comprised of Naval Operational Support Center, Hialeah Sailors.

The two mile-long parade wound through the heart of the community as spectators thronged the sides of the streets waving to the floats and cheering the veterans in a show of appreciation and patriotism.

"We encourage our troops to believe in God and country; to do our duty to the best of our ability. We teach these young men the values and philosophies of our forefathers



LS1 Carlos Cruz-Valentin, NRD Miami recruiter, and Boy Scout Troop 247 march together at the Miami Lakes Veterans Day Parade. The 33rd annual parade featured more than 1,500 participants, including Boy and Girl Scouts, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets, high schools bands, civic organizations and local military commands.

that built this great nation to carry on our traditions," said Jose Sanchez, scoutmaster, Troop 247.

Troop 247 Scouts are members of Boy Scouts of America's South Florida Council, Fireball District, serving northwest Miami-Dade County. The Scouts and NRD Miami came together for this event because both organizations focus on youth interested in building a better future based on values and pride in country, as well as skills that will eventually shape them into tomorrow's great leaders.

"Troop 247 was established in 1974 and has produced some of the greatest citizens and service members around. A very high percentage of our troop members, both men and women, enter military service, with a higher percentage enlisting in the Navy," said Sanchez.

Troop 247 has logged more hours of community service than any other troop in their district. Each year this unit logs more than 1,000 community hours per member.

"This is my first time participating alongside Boy Scouts. Troop 247 is producing some of the finest young men I have ever known and I feel positive about their futures and the future of the nation they serve," said Cruz-Valentin.





# Mentors Greatly Improve Special Forces Boot Camp Passing Rate

Story and photo by MCC(SW/AW) Keith Bryska, NRD Ohio

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** – The continued successes, bravery and sacrifices of the Navy’s Special Forces are well known.

To accomplish their missions, they undergo years of training which begin at the local recruiting districts with mentoring by Naval Special Operations (NSO)/Naval Special Warfare (NSW)/aviation search and rescue (AIRR) coordinators.

NRD Ohio has two of the best in the field: Retired (SEAL) LCDR Michael Naus and EODCS Kenneth Englehart.

“As mentors we do not recruit but provide the knowledge for each program to potential candidates” said Naus. “We conduct swim clinics and workouts for all candidates in the program to ensure they improve with each PST [physical screening test], and are prepared for the rigors of boot camp and the next level of training.”

The mentorship program was implemented in 1997 and helps prepare future Sailors that are preparing to enter the Navy Diver, Special Warfare Combat Crew, SEAL, EOD or AIRR programs by giving them a head start on what is required of them before they leave for Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes.

Mentors work with local recruiters to verify candidate qualifications, train candidates as needed, administer PSTs, and conduct swim clinics and workouts for all candidates in the program to ensure that they are improving with each PST.

Naus stated, “When a candidate is deemed qualified, he attends a PST. If he passes the PST, he is submitted into the draft and NRC program specialists select those candidates meeting the requirements for their program. Once selected, the candidate is reclassified into the program he was selected into and receives a new ship date. Candidates are required to test monthly and show improvement with each PST. Fourteen days prior to shipping, candidates receive their final PST and ship to Great Lakes. After Great Lakes, each program has a prep course that each candidate must complete before shipping to their ‘A’ school.”

NRD Ohio has seen continued success with this program. When the mentor program began, the passing rate at Great Lakes was 26 percent of all candidates taking the screening test. Due to the poor passing rate, all



Retired (SEAL) LCDR Michael Naus, NRD Ohio NSO/NSW/AIRR mentor, administers a PST to future Sailors. PSTs are part of the mentorship that helps prepare future Sailors entering into the Navy Diver, Special Warfare Combat Crew, SEAL, EOD and AIRR programs by giving them a head start on what is required of them before they leave for Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes.

programs were undermanned by as much as 50 percent. The mentor program’s success rate at Great Lakes is now 96 percent and these candidates attend the prep course prior to shipping to “A” school. “The pass rate is a direct result of the success of this program,” said Naus.

“This program helps the NSW/NSO candidates by giving them a source of information and provides them with a rigorous physical training program. Our goal is to ensure they are ready mentally and physically before they head off to boot camp,” Englehart said. “We measure our success not by how many of them make it through boot camp but by how many complete all the training and attain their respective warfare devices. When I got into the EOD program, there was no mentorship program. You just showed up and either you were in shape or you weren’t. If you weren’t, you were sent home.”

When asked why it was important for him to become a mentor, Englehart replied, “Before I went EOD back in January 1996, I did a recruiting tour at NRD Ohio from ‘91 to ‘95. My wife and I loved Columbus and always said that we would love to come back. Coming back as NSW/NSO AIRR coordinator gives me an opportunity to shape the future of our NSW/NSO/AIRR communities by selecting the best candidates for the programs.”

# ADMIRAL’S FIVE STAR RECRUITERS

October 2012

- NRD Atlanta - ABF2 Kendell Mabry
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - AD2 Joe Collins
- NRD Denver - AZ2 Wade Burns
- NRD Houston - OS2 Jeremy Sotomayor
- NRD Jacksonville - YN2 Willie Sheppard
- NRD Los Angeles - BM2 Muhammad Aadam
- NRD Miami - GM2 Joshua Raetz
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - STG1 Michael Oneill
- NRD Nashville - OS2 Matthew Tucker
- NRD New England - STG2 Steven Stahl
- NRD New Orleans - FC2 Shane Burch
- NRD New York - BM2 Julio Lumbano
- NRD Ohio - ABE2 Brian Luce
- NRD Philadelphia - GSM2 Brian Stormes
- NRD Phoenix - STG2 Michael Leblanc
- NRD Pittsburgh - OS2 Michael Reinstadtler
- NRD Portland - HT1 Dustin Grover
- NRD Raleigh - EM1 Paris Youell
- NRD Richmond - GSM1 Ryan Crosby
- NRD San Antonio - ET2 Ryan Tomlin
- NRD San Diego - PS1 Claudia Moser
- NRD San Francisco - EM2 Kency Christophe
- NRD Seattle - AWS1 Jeremiah Brown
- NRD St. Louis - AE1 Tony Martine

November 2012

- NRD Atlanta - OS2 Twalla Thornton
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - AD2 Joe Collins
- NRD Denver - HT1 Stuart Simpson
- NRD Houston - AE1 Timothy Finnen
- NRD Jacksonville - AD2 Marcantoine Casteling
- NRD Los Angeles - UT1 Glennmar Badua
- NRD Miami - IC2 Samuel Norgaisse
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - FC2 Royivan Arnold
- NRD Nashville - AT2 Jeremy Goodman
- NRD New England - AME2 Darlene Bates
- NRD New Orleans - MA1 Christopher Williams
- NRD New York - PS2 Jery Vasquez
- NRD Ohio - DC1 Andrew Lausten
- NRD Philadelphia - GSM2 Brian Stormes
- NRD Phoenix - EN1 Ronald Hardy
- NRD Pittsburgh - CS2 Talbert Dulaney
- NRD Portland - FC1 Jess Camarena
- NRD Raleigh - CEC Scott Brooks
- NRD Richmond - FC1 Leon Parson
- NRD San Antonio - OS2 Larry Segura
- NRD San Diego - ABF2 Banjo Delacruz
- NRD San Francisco - EM1 Kyle Trenka
- NRD Seattle - AO2 Matthew Mitchell
- NRD St. Louis - None

# THE DISTRICT’S TOP STATIONS

October 2012

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Warner Robins
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - NRS Weatherford
- NRD Denver - NRS Castle Rock
- NRD Houston - NRS The Woodlands
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS Savannah
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Inglewood
- NRD Miami - NRS St. Petersburg
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS Moline
- NRD Nashville - NRS Knoxville
- NRD New England - NRS Middletown
- NRD New Orleans - NRS Ridgeland
- NRD New York - NRS East Brunswick
- NRD Ohio - NRS Parkersburg
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Frederick
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Albuquerque
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Hornell
- NRD Portland - NRS Klamath Falls
- NRD Raleigh - NRS Sylva
- NRD Richmond - NRS Chesterfield
- NRD San Antonio - NRS Victoria
- NRD San Diego - NRS Henderson
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Antioch
- NRD Seattle - NRS Bremerton
- NRD St. Louis - NRS Springfield

November 2012

- NRD Atlanta - NRS Smyrna
- NRD Chicago
- NRD Dallas - NRS South Fort Worth
- NRD Denver - NRS Longmont
- NRD Houston - NRS The Woodlands
- NRD Jacksonville - NRS East Jacksonville
- NRD Los Angeles - NRS Crenshaw
- NRD Miami - NRS North Miami Beach
- NRD Michigan
- NRD Minneapolis - NRS St. Paul
- NRD Nashville - NRS Conway
- NRD New England - NRS Brockton
- NRD New Orleans - None
- NRD New York - NRS Hempstead
- NRD Ohio - NRS North College Hill
- NRD Philadelphia - NRS Woodbury
- NRD Phoenix - NRS Saguario Valley
- NRD Pittsburgh - NRS Beaver Valley
- NRD Portland - NRS Boise
- NRD Raleigh - NRS Spartanburg
- NRD Richmond - NRS Winchester
- NRD San Antonio - NRS Harlingen
- NRD San Diego - NRS National City
- NRD San Francisco - NRS Turlock
- NRD Seattle - NRS Marysville
- NRD St. Louis - NRS Gladstone



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