

The

# Beacon

Produced by NSA Souda Bay Public Affairs

April 2016



Warfighting First, Operate Forward, Be Ready

**CNIC**

★ FLEET ★ FIGHTER ★ FAMILY



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Articles for publication in The Beacon should be submitted to Heather Judkins at Heather.Judkins@eu.navy.mil. Submissions are subject to editing for content and/or format considerations.

Story submissions must be routed through tenant command or departmental senior leadership. Security and policy review must be completed before submissions can be considered for publication.

*Warfighting First, Operate Forward, Be Ready*

# The Beacon

April 2016



Photo by Heather Judkins

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**Front Cover:** SOUDA BAY, Greece (March 24, 2016) – Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 1st Class Jose Rodriguez, assigned to U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay Air Operations Department Transient Line Division, directs an A-29 Super Tucano following its arrival. NSA Souda Bay enables the forward operations and responsiveness of U.S. and allied forces in support of Navy Region, Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia's mission to provide services to the Fleet, Fighter, and Family. (U.S. Navy photo by Heather Judkins/Released)



U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete



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@nsa\_soudabay



Souda PAO (The Beacon)



# Triad Corner

**A**re you ready to exercise your right to vote? One undisputable factor of the 2016 Presidential race is that on 20 January 2017, President Obama will step down and the presidency will be passed on to his successor. Casting your vote is a viable way to make your voice heard in the discussion that will determine the next leader of the United States.

Regardless of which news media outlet you favor, one point is universally understood – the 2016 Presidential primary cycle is the most reported on in recent memory. With a multitude of hot-button topics, have you put any thought as to which candidate best reflects your values and priorities?

Each candidate has their own website. TV news stations and talk radio both report on the day-to-day election cycle activities. But don't just listen to the news. Do your own research, form your own opinions, make your decision ... and then make it count. Vote.

NSA Souda Bay has a Voting Assistance Officer (VAO), Jacky Fisher, and Assistant VAO, UT2 Timothy McDaniel, available to assist in filing the required SF-76 to request an absentee ballot.

The Skipper filed his SF-76 electronically and received a return-receipt email within 24 hours. It couldn't have been easier. But if you prefer to mail it in, that option is available too. Either way, Jacky or UT2 McDaniel can assist or answer your questions.

The presidential election is still several months off and each state has specific deadline requirements. Go to [www.FVAP.gov](http://www.FVAP.gov) to find out your states requirements. To contact the VAO or AVAO, see page 10 of The Beacon for their contact information.

Voting is a right and a privilege. And it is your opportunity to shape the future course of our country.

~ XO sends



# EURAFSWA Commander: Shore Support Vital to Fleet, Fighter, and Family

From Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs

**N**APLES, Italy – Rear Adm. John C. “Jack” Scorby completed his tour as Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, and Southwest Asia (EURAFSWA) March 10, when he relinquished command to Rear Adm. Rick Williamson.

Scorby has been in command of Region EURAFSWA since October 2013. One of eight regions that constitute the Navy’s global shore installation enterprise, EURAFSWA stretches from Portugal to Romania and from the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf. It encompasses eight shore installations on three continents including Naval Support Activities (NSA) Bahrain, the Navy’s busiest port; Camp Lemonnier Djibouti, the only enduring U.S. military base in Africa; and Naval Support Facility (NSF) Deveselu, Romania, the first of two Aegis Ashore Ballistic Missile

Defense Sites in eastern Europe; and supports U.S. joint forces conducting operations for U.S. European Command, U.S. Africa Command and U.S. Central Command.

One of the biggest achievements Scorby realized was the implementation of the presidentially-mandated European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA) to ballistic missile defense. A multi-faceted initiative built upon the U.S. Navy’s expertise developed at sea, EPAA involved the forward-deployment of four Arleigh Burke-class ballistic missile defense capable guided missile destroyers to Rota, Spain as well as the construction of two Aegis Ashore Missile Defense Facilities (AAMDF) - one in Deveselu, Romania and one in Redzikowo, Poland.

The Navy broke ground for NSF Deveselu in 2014. It is the first naval installation to be constructed in nearly 30 years.

“NSF Deveselu’s construction was a tremendous combined effort in Romania. The Missile Defense Agency, Department of State, Army Corps of Engineers and the Romanian military all had important roles to play in the planning and execution of the project,” said Scorby. “It was truly a joint, bi-lateral effort, and it was exciting to witness its progression; not just the construction, but also the development of our relationship with the Romanians.”

Under Scorby, the infrastructure to support the AAMDF was completed on time, having achieved every milestone laid out in the master plan. In 2016, shortly after Scorby relinquished command, the Navy will break ground on the next AAMDF in Redzikowo, Poland with the benefit of lessons learned from the success in Romania.

In Rota, the addition of the forward-deployed naval forces Europe, all of which arrived on Scorby’s watch, required upgrades and improvements to the installation in order to accommodate the ships, the crews and their families.

“As the shore enterprise for the Navy, we not only support and enable the fleet, we also provide quality care and services for families. In Rota, we took a lot of steps to ensure those services were in place for the arriving crews and families.” Scorby credits the successful implementation of the first critical phases of

the EPAA to the entire Region team. “It was a region-wide effort to bring these destroyers into theater and build a completely new overseas facility,” Scorby said. “We received support from as far away as Bahrain, and a lot of people can claim they had a part in meeting our deadlines for this effort and setting the conditions for the follow-on effort in Poland.”

But it wasn’t just Romania and Spain that saw significant change during Scorby’s command. From Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti to the Navy’s large base of operations in Bahrain, to the installations in Spain, Italy, and Crete, the Navy grew its shore infrastructure and capabilities for supporting the fleet.

“This vast region has always been an operationally significant one for the Navy, but over the past couple of years as the other services have reduced their overseas footprints, especially in Europe, the Navy has been building,” said Scorby. “I am very proud to have been a part of that growth and to see the Navy on the leading edge of how the United States is addressing emergent security concerns both at sea and on shore.”

Sexual assault prevention was another focal point for Scorby’s efforts. Scorby served as the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program manager for the Naval Forces Europe/Africa area of responsibility and made a commitment to educate Sailors on the magnitude of the problem of sexual violence in the Navy and to empower them to take action.

“The SAPR program provides another opportunity to emphasize our ongoing

commitment to instill a climate that does not tolerate, condone or ignore sexist behavior, sexual harassment or sexual assault," added Scorby." We have accomplished a great deal in the past years, but we must remember that SAPR is an ongoing effort that requires vigilance from everyone in the chain of command."

Scorby also made responsible stewardship of resources one of his highest priorities.

"We continually compare how we've done business and how we will do things in the future. For instance, energy-use reduction and conservation is one area we've made improvements," he said. "Energy costs are a large portion of our budget, and with the Secretary of the Navy's guidance, we've been able to institute measures to reduce those costs."

Under his command this included solar car ports, electric vehicles, LED lighting, and other methods of conservation. Scorby also spearheaded the annual "Energy Biggest Loser" (EBL) Competition, which promoted a competitive spirit among the shore installations to reduce energy use. The EBL competition challenged each installation in Region EURAFSWA to reduce the installation's energy consumption for a month and change the culture of energy use through education, awareness and accountability at the individual, command and functional levels.

Scorby adds that the Region will continue to provide quality shore support to the Fleet, Fighter and Family which is a crucial enabler

for U.S. and Allied operational success.

"The cornerstone of mission accomplishment is people, and the people who work here are why the Region is successful," said Scorby. "We have an extremely diverse workforce of military, Department of Defense civilians, and host nation employees. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served with all of them."

Scorby now commands Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, headquartered in Norfolk, Va., where Williamson recently served as commander.

For more information about Navy Region EURAFSWA, visit:  
[www.cnmc.navy.mil/europe](http://www.cnmc.navy.mil/europe).

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# Williamson Relieves Scorby as Commander of Navy Region EURAFSWA

From Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs

**N**APLES, Italy -- Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia (CNREURAFSWA) hosted an exchange of command ceremony at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples March 10.

Rear Adm. John C. “Jack” Scorby, Jr. and Rear Adm. Rick Williamson exchanged command responsibilities in a unique ceremony, with Scorby relinquishing command of CNREURAFSWA to Williamson; and Williamson relinquishing command of Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (NRMA) to Scorby. CNREURAFSWA and NRMA are the only two-star billets in the Navy Installations Command global enterprise.

“I am truly honored and humbled to be taking command of Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia,” said Williamson. “Admiral Scorby is handing me a high-performing team and I am excited to build upon his superb record of accomplishments.

Williamson, a Jacksonville, Fla. native, is a 1985 graduate of the United States Naval Academy where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science.

Williamson earned a Master of Business Administration from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1990 and is a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va.

Scorby commanded CNREURAFSWA since October 2013. Under his leadership, he oversaw the expansion of the region’s facilities to support the European Phased Adaptive Approach to missile defense in Europe including the forward-deployment of four Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers to Naval Station Rota, Spain and the establishment of Naval Support Facility (NSF) Deveselu, Romania, the first new U.S. Navy facility constructed from the ground up in more than 30 years. He managed an annual budget of approximately \$600 million during fiscally challenging times, leading environmental

stewardship and energy reduction projects to improve resource management. Scorby also actively engaged with government officials, community leaders and foreign allies and partners to strengthen key relationships within the Navy's Europe, Africa, and Southwest Asia operating environment.

"I am grateful to have been blessed with the opportunity to serve here in Naples and Navy Region EURAFSWA," said Scorby. "One of the many rewarding parts of this job was the opportunity to work with so many great people - U.S. service members, U.S. and Host Nation civilians, our Allies and support organizations – all of whom contributed immensely to the support of our Fleet, Fighters and Families."

Scorby assumed command of Navy Region Mid-Atlantic. "I echo Admiral Williamson's comments," added Scorby. "He has done a magnificent job as the commander of Mid-LANT and is turning over an exceptional team of shore installation management professionals. They have a stellar reputation and I am looking forward to working with them."

As CNREURAFSWA, Williamson will oversee a workforce of more than 4,000 host nation, U.S. employees and military members responsible for providing efficient and effective shore service support to U.S. and allied forces in the Europe, Africa, and Southwest Asia area of responsibility.



For more information about Navy Region EURAFSWA, visit [www.cnrc.navy.mil/europe](http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/europe).

Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith, commander, Navy Installations Command, Rear Adm. Rick Williamson, commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, and Rear Adm. John C. 'Jack' Scorby, Jr. Navy Region Mid-Atlantic enjoy post-exchange of command celebrations.





**FVAP.GOV**  
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

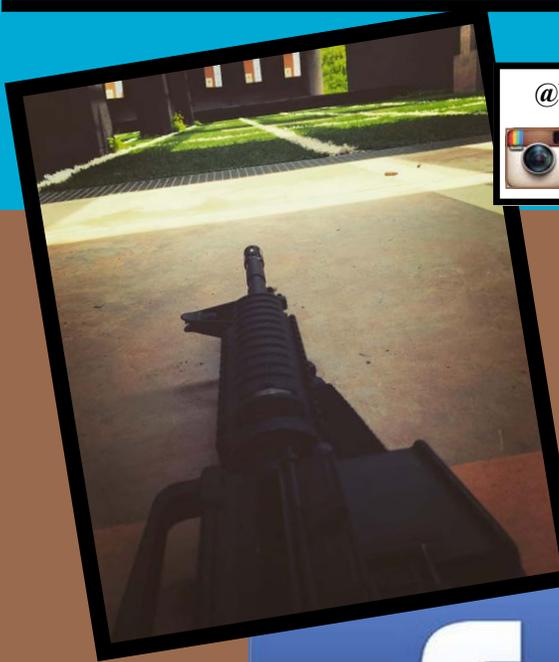
FVAP WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.FVAP.GOV/](http://www.fvap.gov/)

**VOTING QUESTIONS?  
ASK THE VOTING ASSISTANCE OFFICERS,  
JACKY FISHER OR  
UT2 TIMOTHY McDANIEL**

**CALL:** 266-1244

**EMAIL:** [JACKY.FISHER@EU.NAVY.MIL](mailto:JACKY.FISHER@EU.NAVY.MIL)  
[TIMOTHY.MCDANIEL@EU.NAVY.MIL](mailto:TIMOTHY.MCDANIEL@EU.NAVY.MIL)

**VISIT:** BLDG. 2, 2<sup>ND</sup> DECK, PUBLIC AFFAIRS SHOP



@browngetsthe\_crown - Preparing for this all day range.



# us, give us a shout out (@NSA\_Soudabay) on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook! We want to feature your photos in our next Beacon.

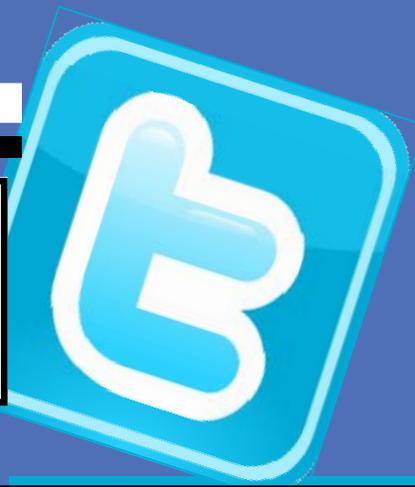
**Miss America Organization** March 16 at 8:14pm · Like Page

Earlier today, Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell and the 2016 USO Spring Tour group visited U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete to personally thank our troops for their service!

You, Anaid Banuelos Rodriguez, Tammy Perry Dudley and 143 others · 4 Comments 16 Shares

Like Comment Share

# Social Media Shout Outs!



U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete



@NSA\_SoudaBay



@nsa\_soudabay



Souda PAO (The Beacon)



Charles Tillman Retweeted



**NSA Souda Bay** @NSA\_SoudaBay · Mar 16

One of our #favorite pix today @peanutillman Thanks for coming to @NSA\_SoudaBay This might be the best #selfie ever



Retweet 14 Like 44





< Naval Support Activity Souda Bay Port Operations security member, Master at Arms 3rd Class Nicholas Lewitzke, maneuvers to the bow of his patrol boat.

(U.S. Navy photo by Heather Judkins/Released)

> The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine, USS Newport News (SSN-750), arrives in Souda Bay.



(U.S. Navy photo by Heather Judkins/Released)



< The Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Kanawha (T-AO 196) arrives in Souda Bay, Greece, for a scheduled port visit.

(U.S. Navy photo by Heather Judkins/Released)

> USS Ross (DDG 71) arrives in Souda Bay, Greece, for a scheduled port visit.



(U.S. Navy photo by Heather Judkins/Released)





Photo courtesy of Fotis Angelidis



Photo courtesy of Fotis Angelidis



Photo courtesy of Jacky Fisher

Are you getting out there to see what all is on the island of Crete? Tweet us, Facebook us or tag us in your Instagram shots and we may feature them in an upcoming issue!



Photo courtesy of BM&N Krysta Monroe

# SPARTAN LINES



## 5K Color Run

The MWR Fitness Center teamed up with NSA Souda Bay's 2nd Class Association and put on a successful 5K Color Run on 8 March with 77 runners participating in the event. One thing was guaranteed, that everyone in this run would come out colorful, and they did. Volunteers from the 2nd Class Association were strategically located through out the 5K route bombarding the runners with over 400 color run "color packets." All participants and runners received a 5K Color Run T-Shirt, Color Run bracelet, Color Run sticker and Color Run Sunglasses courtesy of the MWR Fitness Center. The MWR Fitness Center would like to thank the MWR NSA Souda Bay Fire Department for assisting in cleaning up the color powder after the event and the 115th Hellenic Air Force for allowing us to use the color powder on their perimeter road. The MWR Fitness Center would also like to thank all the participants and especially the participation of our transient visitors, USS ROSS. We look forward to having you all participate in the future in the many events that we host.



Photos and story by Byron P. Gale - NSA Souda Bay MWR Athletic Director.





## St. Patrick's Day 5K Fun Run



The MWR Fitness Center held its St. Patrick's Day 5K Fun Run on 22 March. We had 64 runners in the event! The skies were clear and spring was in the air as most runners wore Irish themed gear to make the run more enjoyable. In the men's category, 1st place honors went to Chris Lyke from Air OPS with the time of 17:19 and 2nd place honors went to Benjamin Dyer from PWD with the time of 19:03. In the women's category, 1st place honors went to Lauren Becker from PWD with the time of 25:39 and 2nd place honors went to Christina Pintor from FLC (Post Office) with the time of 25:51. The MWR Fitness Center would like to congratulate all the participants and medal winners and we hope to see you in our next Fun Run :



Photos and story by Byron P. Gale - NSA Souda Bay MWR Athletic Director.

the April Fool's ?K Fun Run.

# NSA SOUDA BAY CAPTAIN'S CUP WINNERS: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 2015

The 2015 NSA Souda Bay Captain's Cup Winners was the Public Works Department (PWD) with a total of 1,004 points. LCDR Gregory Wood and UTCN Andrew Palmer accepted the trophy from the NSA Souda Bay Commanding Officer, CAPT Mike Moore. PWD had max participation in all the events, earning points in each Captain's Cup category and dominating most of the Fun Runs.

This year's challenge was a "blow out" and this year's Captain's Cup Winners was 158 points ahead of the runner up. The objective of the Captain's Cup Program is to provide maximum opportunity for participation in a well-balanced program of planned sports and activities designed to enhance the physical, mental, and social well being of all eligible personnel and to assist in developing leadership and confidence. This program is also intended to encourage unit participation by giving

departments and detachments recognition for athletic participation and achievements. It also affords Department Heads and OIC's an opportunity to promote "esprit-de-corps," self-control, discipline and teamwork through the program. The Captain's Cup consists of four intramural sports, seven incentive programs, seven special events and 24 fun runs.

**1st Place—Public Works**

**2nd Place - Admin Group (Chaplain's Office, Medical, Supply, CSD, NCTAMS, AFN & NMC)**

**3rd Place - Security**

**4th Place - OPS**

**5th Place - Civilians**

**6th Place - Air Force**

**7th Place - Fire Department**



Photos and story by Byron P. Gale - NSA Souda Bay MWR Athletic Director.



**M**WR Fitness Center hosted two unique games against one of our ship visitors on Friday, 19 February and Saturday, 20 February. The NSA Souda Bay Men's Varsity Basketball Team got the opportunity to challenge the Canadian Ship Fredericton in game that united both countries.

On Friday's game, NSA Souda Bay came up as the winning team by thrashing the Canadian Ship Fredericton with the score of 112 - 49. The highest scorers of the game were Fox from NSA Souda Bay with 18 points, and West from the Fredericton with 20 points.

Saturday's game was battle as the score was close throughout the game and once again NSA Souda Bay came up victorious by beating the Fredericton with the score of 97 - 87. Brown from NSA Souda Bay lead his team in scoring with 27 points and Williams from Fredericton lead his team with 41 points, which was also the highest score from both games.

Opportunities like this are great to enrich camaraderie and strengthen our relations. The MWR Fitness looks forward to hosting the Fredericton in the future with more games and other Fitness opportunities.

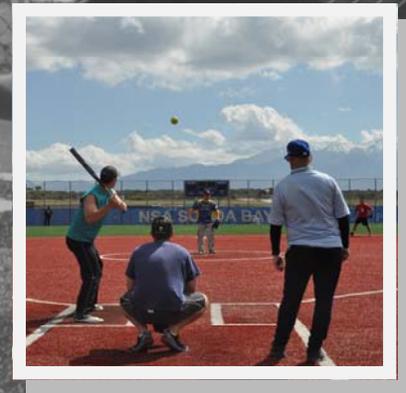
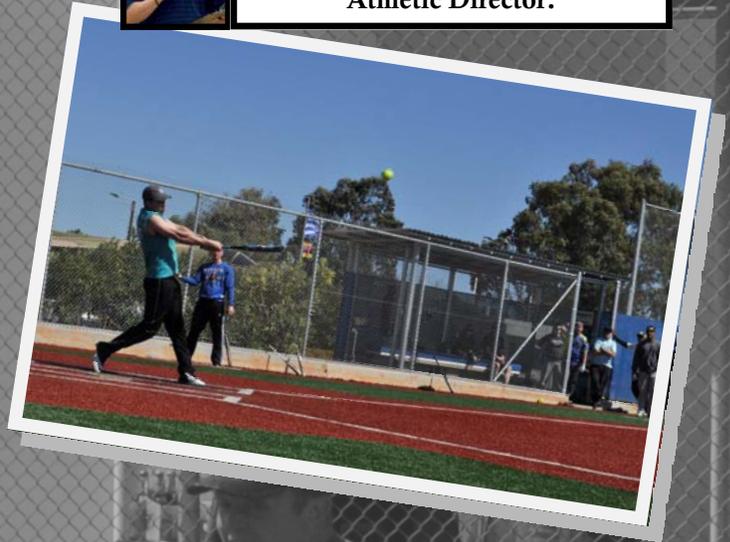


Photos and story by Byron P. Gale - NSA Souda Bay MWR Athletic Director.

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY SOFTBALL



Story by Byron P. Gale - NSA  
Souda Bay MWR  
Athletic Director.



The MWR Fitness Center, in accordance with tradition at NSA Souda Bay, held its annual St. Patrick's Day Softball Tournament 19 March. In the event, five teams competed for the title: Navy Munitions Command (NMC), Security, Public Works Department (PWD), Air Force and 21 ERS Air Force. More than 250 people either played or watched the tournament and enjoyed the festivities.

In the end, NMC beat PWD in the final with the score of 17 - 5 and were named as this year's St. Patrick's Day Champions. The MWR Fitness Center would like to thank all of the teams, spectators, the champions and most importantly the 21 ERS for being part of this fun event. We hope to see everyone in one of our future events.

Photos courtesy of MC3 Anaid Banuelos Rodriguez



# The Safety Log



Written by Jerry Hollenback -  
NSA Souda Bay Safety Director

A Mercedes Benz AMG GT can go from 0-60 in 3.3 seconds, and cost more than \$130,000. For the same acceleration, you could go out and buy a good used Honda X-11 motorcycle for under \$5,000. Unfortunately too many Sailors have learned the hard-way that cheap acceleration comes at a high price. Motorcycle crashes are now the leading cause of fatalities in the Navy.

The fact that you can buy a cheap fast bike is not the only reason that Sailors are dying in motorcycle crashes. Statistically, most motorcycle crashes occur at relatively slow speeds. The real problem is that cars are getting safer while bikes provide very little protection for a rider.

The best defense that the Navy has found is training and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). If you are a Sailor that wants to ride a motorcycle you must take the two-day Basic Rider Course, and within 60 days you must take the advanced course. You are then required to take another motorcycle

rider course every three years after that. A good helmet along with proper riding gear will cut down on road rash, but stupid is harder to fix.

The Safety office and the four NSA Souda Bay Rider Coaches provide required classes, and will provide a special class on advanced turning at the end of March to help current riders prepare for spring riding.

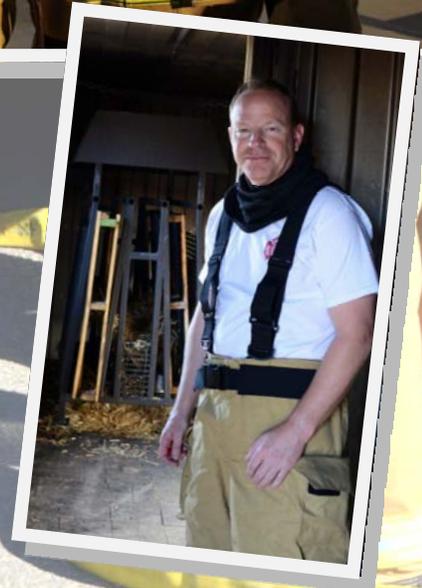
Riding a motorcycle can be extremely satisfying or extremely painful; experience extreme satisfaction by getting trained and staying safe. Contact the Safety office for info on classes and other motorcycle requirements.



Safety Office Contact Information:  
Stella Harisi or Jerry Hollenback  
266-1325 or 266-1527  
Jerry.hollenback@eu.navy.mil

# Souda Snapshots

*Spotlight on  
NSA Fire and Rescue*





## Have a great photo you want to share?

Send us your best "*Wish You Were Here*" themed photo and you could win a prize courtesy of MWR!

We will feature the winning photo in our upcoming edition as well as on our social media pages.

Deadline for this month's submission: **April 15, 2016** by noon (EET) to **Heather.Judkins@eu.navy.mil**

*Please read these rules before entering our competition. By submitting an entry, you agree that you will be bound by these Official Rules and you acknowledge that you satisfy all sweepstakes eligibility requirements.*

### **How to Enter.**

Photo submissions must be shot with a resolution larger than 3 Megapixels (3MP = 2048 x 1536 pixels) and compressed in high quality JPEG format only. Most cameras offer a quality option to set varying levels of compression.

Higher quality = larger files. More compression = smaller files. File size per photo should be larger than one megabyte but the overall email size should not exceed five megabytes. To be considered a 'photograph,' no photo illustrations or other significant alterations may be made to any photographs per DODINST 5040.02.

Include a caption: the description should be short, but complete and accurate.

### **Eligibility.**

Anyone with base access except Public Affairs employees and their immediate family members.

**Remember,**

***Photography is PROHIBITED on base***



**Your photo  
could be next!**



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**MC3 Anaid Banelos Rodriguez on your  
amazing "Whatever the Weather"  
photo! Great shot!**

**Some of the awesome submissions we have been receiving for our photo competition... keep sending them in!**



Photo courtesy of PO1 Timothy Willhite



Photo courtesy of UT2 Rommel Bundang



Photo courtesy of LTJG Chathuranga Abeywickrama



Photo courtesy of Marisol Rosales



Photo courtesy of Carol Amorosi

Photo courtesy of Lindsay Baker

# #USOCconnects with #Military



# NSA Souda Bay for Appreciation



Photo by Heather Judkins



The United Service Organizations (USO) and Vice Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff (VCJCS), Air Force Gen. Paul Selva, recently paid NSA Souda Bay a visit to celebrate the USO's 75th anniversary! Sailors were thrilled to see performances and participate in question and answer sessions with UFC stars Donald "Cowboy" Cerrone and Anthony Pettis, Carolina Panthers cornerback Charles "Peanut" Tillman, current Miss America Betty Cantrell and country music singer Craig Morgan. According to GlobeNewswire, "...the USO is on a mission of connection and is committed to strengthening America's service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country."

We appreciate the visit and wholeheartedly agree that the *#USOConnects!*

Photos by Heather Judkins







Tweet us with your photos from the show! We may feature your tweet in an upcoming edition!





# Women in Higher Education

Colleges used to be substantially male, but starting in the 1990s female students started becoming the dominant gender on campuses. Partly this is a result of computerization and the internet – a young mother as recently as 1990 couldn't take her two year-old to class, and many young females were shut out of college until distance education came along in the mid-90's. The Internet changed everything, and by 2025 there are predicted to be 50 percent more female students than male counterparts in higher education\*.

Women are also doing better once they get to college. Black women currently earn about two thirds of all African-American bachelor's degree awards, 70 percent of all master's degrees, and more than 60 percent of all

doctorates. Black women also hold a majority of all African-American enrollments in law, medical and dental schools. Women of color are outpacing white female students, who outpace white males, who outpace minority males. That's the broad outline of the success in higher education.

Everybody should be interested in getting as much education as they can, and while the Navy offers opportunities FOR FREE through tuition assistance, folks should be taking advantage.



Jerry Glover -  
Education coordinator  
for UMUC & CTC at  
NSA Souda Bay.

\*<http://www.forbes.com/sites/ccap/2012/02/16/the-male-female-ratio-in-college/#7e15085a1525>

## Furthering Your Education While at NSA Souda Bay

The basic promise I make is that if you are interested in education, I can keep you busy. Every class University of Maryland University Collage (UMUC) and Central Texas College (CTC) offers in the classroom here can be used towards a degree. Much of what is offered is directly applicable to the General Education Requirements (GER) of any college/university, so you can take classes here and transfer the credits as you wish, or stack them up towards either a CTC or UMUC degree.

I also handle Tuition Assistance (TA) training, and I am the link between you and the Navy's Virtual Education Center (VEC) in Norfolk and to the Education Services Officer (ESO) in Sigonella, Italy.

If you want to register for classes but have not received TA before, you *must* allow two to three weeks of admin time to ensure you're eligible.

My office is directly opposite Training Room A, in the Coffee Bar Courtyard. I am available 0900-1400 daily. If you have questions, concerns, queries or comments, come see me. If you find the office empty, phone me at 693-991-9906.

And sorry, there is NO testing at Souda for CLEP or DANTES. Questions concerning exams should be addressed to Mr. William Garcia, Sigonella ESO via DSN 624-4514 or email [william.r.garcia@eu.navy.mil](mailto:william.r.garcia@eu.navy.mil)



# Chap's Chat

I typed 'confession guilt hotline' into a search engine and read about a man in New York who operates a hotline for anonymous callers who feel the need to confess. It's a sort of 'dial-a-chaps' for civilians. In my time as both a local church minister and as a Navy Chaplain, I interact with individuals from varying faith positions who are weighted by this invisible 'back pack of guilt.'

There is this emotional baggage laden with regret due to decisions and traumatic consequences from the past or habits and addictions that plague them in the present. These individuals made choices, were traumatically inflicted by someone else's choice, or caught up in habits they can't stop and they feel – GUILTY!

We talk and I can hear the weight speaking from their backpack of guilt:

“If only I didn't...”

“I wish I wasn't there at the time and in that situation when...”

“I feel so bad I try not to think about it but it haunts me...”

“I want to stop but I can't...”

As I listen, I sometimes hear, “And God is angry with me because I keep giving in! He looks at my past and is disgusted with me - with who I am. I'm just not good enough!”

Easter is supposed to be a time where a weighted, 'backpacked,' burdened life, filled with guilt, pain and regret is left to experience the relief of a new life. It is supposed to be an emotional/spiritual New Year's celebration! Instead of fireworks igniting at midnight, it's the history that God in Christ exploded out of a tomb 2000 years ago to ignite a movement where people live with a new

way of life. The major theme of Easter and the Bible is grace! Grace is the fact God knows your past and accepts you as if you had not made those decisions. He sees your addictions and accepts you as if you didn't! He knows the traumatic event(s) and wants you to experience emotional and spiritual healing.

He is not mad, disgusted or angry. He wants to provide you a place where you can lift that guilt, stored the baggage somewhere where you don't have to carry it anymore - you walk away from it! Maybe that is a phone line, maybe it's in a letter you send to someone, or you write just for your computer. Maybe it's in a group like Alcoholics Anonymous, maybe it's expressed through one of the many faith positions celebrated in a country where you are free to believe whatever you choose.

My mantra is, “I care more for you than what you believe.” I hope you know if you ever have the desire to deal with your past I am here for you. Regardless of how it happens, I do hope this Easter or this year is the year where you can leave anything that is weighing you down emotionally and walk a little lighter from your past baggage.



Written by LT Aman J. Grant,  
Base Chaplain, Naval Support  
Activity Souda Bay

# BZ to the March



## **CONGRATULATIONS AIR OPS AWARDEES :**

**LS1 Pauldon - Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal**

**ABH1 Rodriguez - Letter of Commendation**

**ABHAN Buchner - Letter of Commendation**

**ABHAA Cervantes - Letter of Commendation**

**ABHAR Johnson - Letter of Commendation**

**LS2 Daily - Community Service awards**

**ABH2 Borchick - Community Service award**

**ABH3 Jackson - Community Service award**

**ABHAR Davis - Community Service award**

**BZ Aircraft Director (Yellow Shirt) Qualifiers:  
ABHAR Growney, ABHAR Aguilar, ABHAN Turner,  
ABHAR Davis & ABHAR Johnson**

# 2016 Awardees!



**CONGRATULATIONS AWARDEES (from left to right) :**

**MS. Charlotte Lawson- Civilian Award**

**ABHAA Cervantes - Letter of Commendation**

**ABHAA Clark - Letter of Commendation**

**ABHAA Cardwell - Letter of Commendation**

**ABHAN Gonzales - Flag Letter of Commendation**

**Far left: CAPT Mike Moore, NSA Souda Bay Commanding Officer**

**Far right: Executive Officer  
CDR James R. Bird and CMDCM(SW/AW) Kurtis Szyszka**