



# WINGSPAN



2015 Russell Egnor Navy Media Award winning newspaper

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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

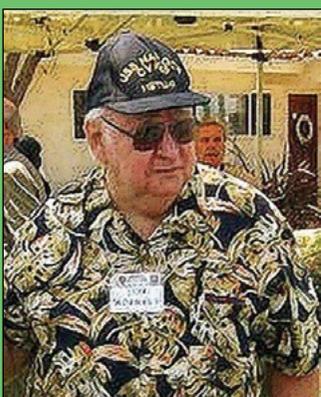
September 22, 2016



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## VCNO visits NASCC, talks leadership, future

by Jason Kucera  
NASCC Public Affairs

The 39th Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Bill Moran, spent time aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Sept. 10-12.

Touring around the base nestled along the Texas Gulf Coast, Moran spent time talking to personnel during three All Hands calls at various facilities he visited.

When asked during his talk with TW-4 students about achieving success in the Navy, Moran told the group, "It's about timing, some luck and staying the course." He answered questions on civilian education value to the Navy aviation community as well as the importance female pilots staying Navy.

"We need more of you," Moran said speaking to the female pilots in the room, "and we need you to stay with us."

He alluded to female leaders who are providing great leadership across the Navy in various positions including the incumbent VCNO he inherited the position from, Adm. Michelle Howard. Howard is the first female in the Navy to attain that rank and serve in that previous role.

Moran then made his way across the



Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Bill Moran speaks to Sailors during an all hands call at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi. Photo by Bill W. Love, NHCC Public Affairs.

base taking a look at the Child Development Center and Child and Youth Activity Center. There he met with Patti Barclay, child & youth activities director, along with Meghan McLean, Youth director, among a few other personnel. The admiral said he really liked what they were doing at the centers.

Stopping off for a walk-through of family housing and then unaccompanied housing,

Gilbert Roque, director, Navy Gateway Inn & Suites, briefed the vice chief on some of the infrastructure challenges the barracks buildings currently have.

Capt. Steve Banta, commanding officer, NASCC, briefed Moran about some of the reconstruction options the base may have for repairing and even replacing the barracks in the near future.



## Colors not flying at Bldg. 1, first time in 75 years

Ensigns Dawn Chumley and Quoc Duong, student duty officers for Chief of Naval Air Training, lower the American flag at CNATRA headquarters, Building 1 on Sept. 16. For the first time in 75 years, the colors will not fly at Building 1, which has served as the CNATRA headquarters in the most recent past. The building is undergoing a in-depth renovation during which time CNATRA will be temporarily headquartered in Hangar 42. (Photo by Lt. J.G. Liz Feaster, CNATRA Public Affairs.)

## Command Master Chief's Column



CMDCM(SW)  
Jeffery Tidwell

Howdy!! If you are the type of person who desires to be a compassionate and effective leader, then I encourage you to read on.

Someone on this installation is suffering and is in pain. That pain may be a result of a death in the family, a mistake made, an embarrassing disclosure or simply a broken heart. The catalyst of that pain is unimportant but the one suffering surely is not. That someone may be you or someone you know and that something may be deeply personal.

A compassionate and effective leader needs to recognize when he, she or a subordinate is struggling. Within this recognition comes the courageous decision

to take a knee. Taking a knee does not imply giving up. Taking a knee is a point during an arduous trek, where one simply pauses for a brief moment to catch a breath and regain composure before finishing strong. Taking a knee can come in many forms but often it is as simple as the willingness to reach out to another and say, "I need someone to talk to."

Fortunately, we serve during a time when reaching out has become more acceptable and encouraged, to the point of nearly being repetitive through method. How many of us have frowned (when overseas) at the Armed Forces Network commercials about suicide awareness and thought, "Ah...I was not even thinking about suicide until I saw that commercial for the tenth time."

I believe we can all agree that, even though we operate in a more inviting atmosphere, we all struggle with how we will be perceived if we show weakness, or more appropriately, express vulnerability. That trepidation is not unfounded. For those of us who serve on an installation we know how the slightest misstep made in the morn-

ing can be broadcast to every corner of the installation by lunch.

There is also the risk where those we confess our pain to will be complacent with the things they are told or worse mock them. This is the reality of being human and is why I am encouraging anyone worrying about their reputation to seek the counsel of the chaplains or Fleet & Family Support Center counselors.

Regardless of your situation, the chaplains and FFSC counselors are a safe place to go and express your deepest pains and struggles. Both the chaplains and FFSC counselors will never be complacent with the things they are told nor will they mock your vulnerability. Be a truly compassionate and effective leader. If you are in pain then take a knee with them. Before you know it, you will be across the finish line and be a better leader for it. If one of your juniors are in pain, ACT and ensure they get the counsel they deserve and desire.

## Chaplain's Message



To those who  
remain

Lt. Kevin Jackson  
Command Chaplain

Allow me the opportunity to speak directly to the friends, colleagues and family members of persons who committed suicide. No one can ever understand the heart-felt pain you have endured and the longing you may still have for your loved one. That feeling and sentiment will not subside, but your love and

memories for that person will bring healing to your heart and emotions.

The solution is never to forget them, rather the solution is to remember all that made you smile, laugh and proud about them. Take some time in the company of family and friends and remember your son, daughter, father, mother, friend or fellow shipmate. Thrive off of the good times, the silly times, and the life lessons you shared together and allow their memory to live in you.

Take on a mission to inform, educate and assist others who may be struggling with the loss of a loved one to suicide. Join support groups within the community and get the message out, even if it is one person at a time. Take a very painful situation and turn it into

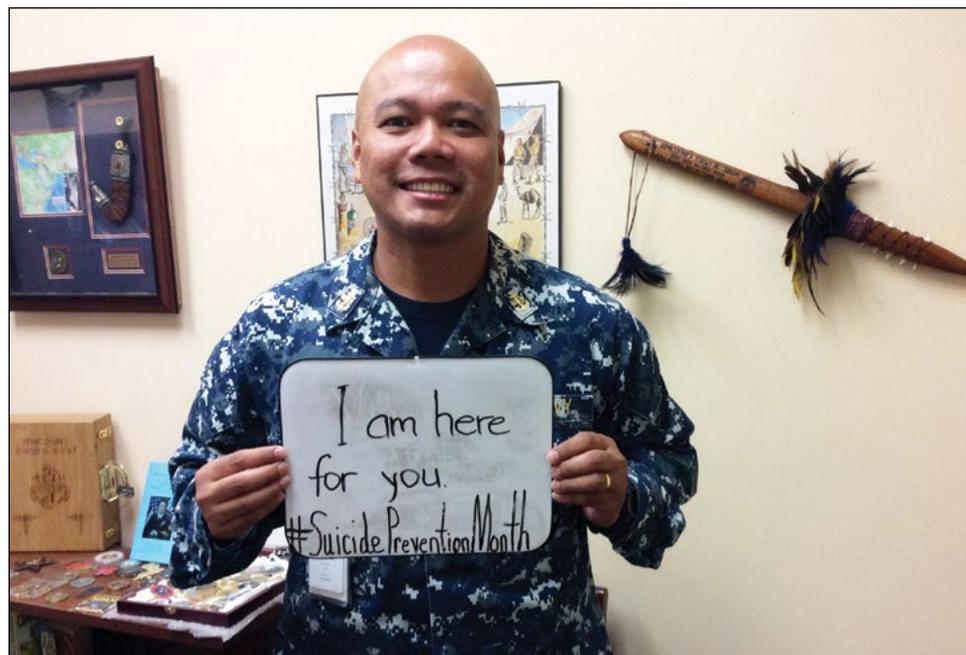
an opportunity to share with others how to discern the symptoms of persons who may be contemplating suicide.

To those who remain, grieve but live with purpose. Remember your loved one, but also seek to preserve the life of someone else. Cry if you must, but rejoice each time someone receives your message of suicide prevention and says, "Thank you!"

To those who remain, you are never alone. Look for strength from your spiritual beliefs, family and friends. It is in the midst of tragedy that powerful movements can begin. To those who remain, join the campaign of thousands of service members and civilians who are committed to share one small ACT to save lives. Ask-Be willing to listen. Care-Take it seriously. Treat- Seek professional help.

To those who remain, know that you will always remain in our thoughts and prayers. We are all in this together. "Life is worth living!"

Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-Talk (8255).



During Suicide Awareness/Prevention Month, the NASCC Chaplain Dept. posts an encouraging message through their Facebook page. Visit their page for more information.

## Wingspan

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**Capt. Steve Banta**  
Commanding Officer

**Fifi Kieschnick**  
Public Affairs Officer

**Jason Kucera**  
Editor



Wingspan



NASCC Facebook

## WORSHIP SERVICES ABOARD NASCC:

### CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Catholic Chapel  
Daily Mass Mon-Thurs & 1st Fri: 11:30 a.m.  
Sunday Mass: 9 & 11 a.m.

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Base Protestant Chapel  
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.



This paper is published for people like Chris Dwyer who manages the Marina and RV Park. Dwyer is a native of Jacksonville Beach, Florida and moved here this past April.

# NASCC, Fire & EMS host 9/11 ceremony in remembrance of those lost



John Morris, NASCC fire chief, speaks during the base's memorial ceremony Sept. 9, at the firehouse in remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001. (Photo by Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs)

**By Jason Kucera**  
**NASCC Public Affairs**

"It has been 15 years, the pain is still there and as raw as it was that day," is how John Morris, Fire Chief, NAS Corpus Christi, began his speech.

"We vowed then to never forget and, as time goes on, the emotional scars fade for some but for each one of those that was lost that day, there are wives, mothers, fathers and children that live with the loss each day," said Morris during the 9/11 memorial ceremony hosted by Fire & Emergency Services.

Sailors, fire fighters and Soldiers stood in formation inside of the fire house shoulder to shoulder throughout the ceremony.

During the ceremony, passages were read about the events that unfolded that September day recounting the magnitude that changed our country going forward for generations to come.

Col. Alan Lancetta, commander, Corpus Christi Army Depot, also spoke during the event, "We have been on a battlefield since that time and we have taken care of our brothers and sisters-in-arms. The Army will continue to fight the fight and have each other's back for many years to come."

"One day, we will welcome our first post-9/11 fire fighter who was not even born (yet) on Sept. 11, 2001," added Morris. "That day is not far off and could happen as early as

2021 just five years from now. A 20 year old will come into the firehouse, see a memorial in the front and will have no memory of what it means."

Nearly 3,000 men and women, including about 400 police and firefighters, along with 125 personnel at the Pentagon, perished that day due to the attacks. More than 10,000 military and civilian personnel have been lost to operations combatting terrorism according to reports obtained from the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Capt. Steve Banta, commanding officer, NAS Corpus Christi, said, "There are certain events that we can call life-altering because the world is different after they occur. Their effect on us can be lasting, and we will always remember how we were affected. 9/11 is most certainly one of those events. Each of us remembers exactly where we were that day. We remember exactly what we were doing. We remember our reaction and the reaction of our nation."

Each year fire houses throughout our country will 'ring the bell' in memoriam of their fallen brothers and sisters. Each year each branch of the United States Armed Forces will host ceremonies to recall the fallen. Each and every day, those who lost someone on 9/11 or any day proceeding will remember and never forget.

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## Beware of credit, bank fraud

by LN2 Kimberly Ellis  
NASCC Legal Services

Customers of Wells Fargo should look for fraudulent charges on their financial accounts as well as for new accounts opened without authorization. Wells Fargo, one of the country's largest banks, allowed 5,300 employees to create up to two million checking accounts, savings accounts, and credit card accounts without the permission of its customers for the past five years. As explained in the Washington Post, "regulators fined Wells Fargo \$185 million last week for a scheme in which employees created up to two million accounts, for services such as credit cards and savings accounts, that customers did not authorize."

Although Wells Fargo has declined to comment on this issue, federal prosecutors are launching an investigation into Wells Fargo's aggressive sales tactics and goals.

If a large company can do this with your accounts, it may be possible for anyone to open an account without your knowledge. Accordingly, I urge everyone to obtain a credit report at least annually.

Getting an annual credit report can be free, quick, and easy. By going to [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) and filling out some initial confirmation questions anyone can get a copy of their credit report in less than

five minutes.

Each credit reporting agency (i.e. Equifax, Experian, or TransUnion) allows one free view per 12 months so you can either get them all at once or space them out throughout the 12 months.

This service stems from the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), which gives the right to consumers to know what is in their credit report. The FCRA also affords consumers the right to know what is being held against them in the credit report. If the information being held against the consumer is incomplete or inaccurate then the FCRA gives us the ability to dispute the information. Anyone can go to [www.FTC.gov/credit](http://www.FTC.gov/credit) to dispute information free of charge.

Inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information is usually removed within 30 days after verification. It is our responsibility as consumers to maintain a vigilant eye on our accounts and credit score to ensure that we do not become a victim to inaccurate information ruining our credit score.

If you or someone in your family was part of the Wells Fargo incident or notice a discrepancy on your credit report please make a legal assistance appointment. Our legal team will be able to assist you and go over your options for these discrepancies.

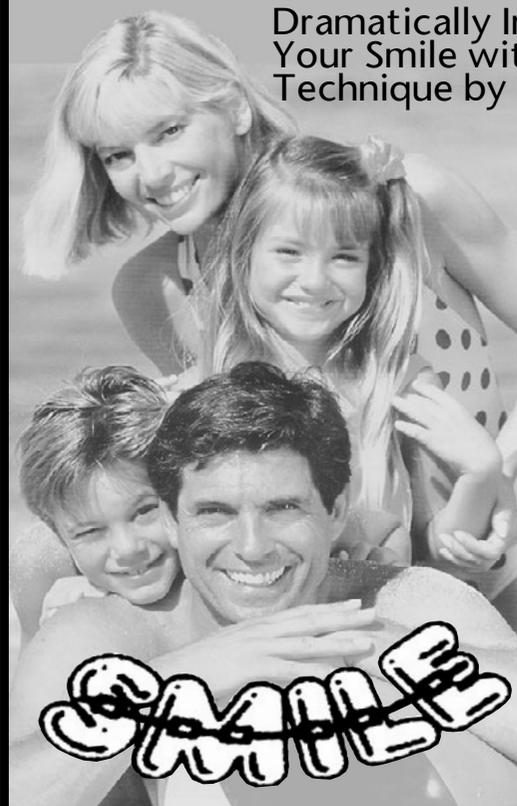
Call 961-3568 for more information.



## Naval Aviation History

### *F-4 Phantom II*

During the Vietnam War, the F-4 was used extensively; it served as the principal air superiority fighter for both the Navy and Air Force, and became important in the ground-attack and aerial reconnaissance roles late in the war. The Phantom has the distinction of being the last U.S. fighter flown to attain ace status in the 20th century. During the Vietnam War, the U.S. Air Force had one pilot and two weapon systems officers and the US Navy had one pilot and one radar intercept officer become aces by achieving five aerial kills against enemy fighter aircraft. The F-4 continued to form a major part of U.S. military air power throughout the 1970s and 1980s, being gradually replaced by more modern aircraft such as the F-15 Eagle and F-16 in the U.S. Air Force, the Grumman F-14 Tomcat in the U.S. Navy, and the F/A-18 Hornet in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps.



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## What's Happening?

1st & 3rd Friday of each month, CYP hosts open recreation for teenagers ages 13-18 at the Youth Activities Center. Child must be registered. Contact the center at 961-2355.

Masterpiece in a Day  
Saturday, Sept. 24 in the Marina Arts District, Downtown Corpus Christi.

A full day of artistic family entertainment and culture starting at 9 a.m. It's an all day live art competition where you get to be the judge! The day culminates with a parade.

30th annual Adopt-A-Beach

Fall Cleanup kicks off Saturday, Sept. 24. From 9 a.m. to noon, join thousands of volunteers on Padre Island National Seashore to help keep our treasure clean and safe.

Visit [www.texasadoptabeach.org](http://www.texasadoptabeach.org) to learn more.

2nd Annual Surftoberfest from 2 p.m. Oct. 1, downtown Corpus Christi at the 300 block of Chaparral St. & William St. Various vendors including food trucks and live music. Visit their Facebook page for more information.

The Catalina Club aboard NASCC is hosting NFL gameday action every Sunday throughout the season. They open their doors at 11 a.m. til 7 p.m.

### On-Going

Need exercise? Why not kick a box? Cardio-kickboxing class for adults at the Lindale Recreation Center on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m. The class helps build strength, endurance and flexibility. On-going registration. \$7 per class. Visit [www.ccparkandrec.com](http://www.ccparkandrec.com).

Volunteer opportunities via Coastal Bend Connection  
[www.cbvc.org](http://www.cbvc.org)

Wednesdays  
Downtown Farmers Market, 5-8 p.m.  
Art Center, free,  
[growlocalstx.com](http://growlocalstx.com)

Fridays  
Food Truck Fridays every last Friday of the month. North Bayfront Park  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,  
1590 N. Shoreline Blvd.



## Saturday, October 15, 2016 USS Lexington Museum

### 2016 Schedule of Events

1800-1900: Cocktail Hour  
1900-2000: Ceremony Begins  
2000-2100: Dinner  
2100-2300: Dancing/  
Socializing

### 2016 Ticket Prices

E4&below/guest : FREE/ \$35.00  
E5/GS5/NF3 and below: \$40.00  
E6/NF4: \$45.00  
E7-E9/GS6-GS7 \$50.00  
O1-O3/GS8-11/NF5: \$55.00  
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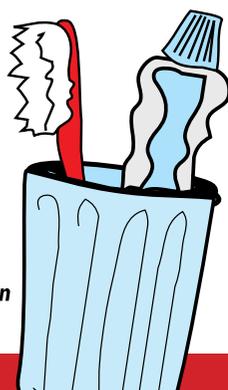
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# Newest chief petty officers pin on anchors at NASCC

by Fifi Kieschnick  
NASCC Public Affairs

Five Sailors were pinned to the rank of chief petty officer during a CPO Pinning Ceremony held Sept. 16, at Wings Auditorium.

LSC Monica Beasley, of Navy Operations Support Center Corpus Christi; ENG Dennis Bundy, of NOSC CC; YNC D.J. Humphries, of Training Air Wing 4; ABFC David LandiVittori, of Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville detachment Corpus Christi; and GMC Jonathon Stewart of Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, were pinned during the ceremony.

The ceremony is the culmination of years of the Sailors' hard work and proven superior performance.

Beasley, who has been at NOSC CC for nine months and the Navy for nine years, says that she loves being a logistics specialist.

"I love teaching junior Sailors everything I know about my rate," she said. "I love mentoring your Sailors in all aspects of life personally and professionally. And, I love seeing Sailors success and knowing I was a big part of their success.

The native of Romania advises junior

Sailors to love what they do and focus on job responsibilities without expecting recognition.

"When you do something because you love what you do," Beasley added, "the recognition will come.

Bundy, who has been at the NOSC for nearly 1.5 years and in the Navy for nearly 13, says he believes he has reached this point in his career because he has performed his job to the best of his ability and mentored others to do the same.

Advice to junior Sailors?

The Eureka, Nevada, native says, "Never give up – even when times get tough."

Humphries, who has been at TW4 for nearly 2 years and in the Navy for 14, believes that caring about others' successes rather than his own and the support of his wife have brought him to this point in his career as. The Newman, Georgia, native's advice to junior Sailors is, "Find your passion."

LandiVittori, who has been at FLCJ for six months and in the Navy for 14.5 years, believes that several things have brought him to this point in his career, but foremost, "The support of my wife and family, because

without them, I would not be here today."

He also tributes the fact that he was a Leading Petty Officer aboard a carrier for three years, earned an associate's degree, completed additional courses, trained Sailors in warfare and rate qualifications, took on many collateral duties, volunteered in the local community and has always had a good working relationship with his Sailors.

"Never cut yourself short and push to get qualified in your rate," advises the Manito, Illinois, native.

Stewart has been at NHCCC for the past three years and in the Navy for nearly 8.5 years. He believes her has reached this point in his career because he's always gone above and beyond what is required in the line of duty.

"I've helped others even when my job is incomplete and I've been a great mentor to junior Sailors," said the Kansas City, Missouri, native.

Stewart advises junior Sailors, "Just remember, you only get back as much as you put into the Navy. If you take care of the Navy, the Navy will take care of you."

Attaining the rank of Chief Petty Officer is a significant accomplishment in the U.S. Navy. The Chief Petty Officer rank is often referred to as the "backbone of the Navy," because of the vast experience and high caliber of the Sailors who comprise this cadre of seasoned professionals.



From left counter-clockwise, Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuels) David LandiVittori; Chief Engineman Dennis Bundy; Chief Gunner's Mate Jonathon W. Stewart; Chief Yeoman D.J. Humphries; and Chief Logistics Specialist Monica Beasley along with their family members and sponsors. Photos by Bill Love, NHCC Public Affairs and Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs.



## Honoring Our Veterans

# Lifetime of leadership, servitude for “Twimbo”

by Jason Kucera  
NASCC Public Affairs

For this writer personally, sitting down with veterans from what is often referred to as the Greatest Generation is nothing short of an honor. Tom Wimberly, retired Navy pilot, served from 1951-1982. The changes in American culture from technology and civil rights, just for starters that he has seen are nearly incomprehensible for me. I spent a couple of hours eating lunch with “Twimbo” at a local smokehouse in Corpus Christi only getting a small sample size of this great man’s journey from a small town in Louisiana through a long, storied career as a Navy pilot and now leading a more quiet life 34 years after his last tour as CNATRA chief of staff.

“Navy pilot training was dangerous back then,” Tom Wimberly said of his time early in the Navy. “In my six months I was training in Kingsville, we lost two pilots, one was a friend.”

As a new college graduate in 1951, Wimberly got the word he was possibly going to be drafted into the military. He took a proactive approach, looked into being commissioned although there was not enough time. He decided to join the Navy as an electronic technician, shortly after going to OCS and then flight training in Pensacola, Florida.

He said in the mid-50s when the Navy was just getting their jets, a lot of the jets did not have ejection seats that would work unless you were up in the air going a good speed. It wasn’t until 1956 that all of the jets had a rocket boost that would eject the pilot sitting still. He felt this made for a tough go

prior to that for any pilot to save themselves from an out of control aircraft they needed to escape.

Wimberly trained on many aircraft that carried a battle lineage and some that never made it past a training environment. The F4D Skyray, although it was in service for a relatively short time and never entered combat, it was notable for being the first carrier-launched aircraft to hold the world’s absolute speed record, at 752.943 mph. But as Wimberly notes, “It didn’t have a conventional tail and handled well with the landing gear up. With the landing gear down, it became directionally unstable.” Although they took the jets with them during a cruise in 1957 it was out of the fleet just seven years later.

Another aircraft he flew was the F-4 Phantom II, one of the early most-versatile aircraft American aviation introduced in came into service in 1960. The Phantom was in production from 1958 to 1981, with a total of 5,195 built, making it the most numerous American supersonic military aircraft.

“When going through the F-4 Phantom replacement pilot training at Oceana, Virginia and Key West, Florida, one of my classmates was a Lt. Junior Grade named Jon McBride,” Wimberly said. “He went on to be an astronaut and flew several missions. In 1992, his son was an instructor at NASCC.”

The younger McBride would be lost in a training accident while flying a T-34C that collided with an F-14. Wimberly recounted getting to see his friend again over the memorial service for Astronaut McBride’s son, but not having the words to speak.

He says his most significant assignments were command positions. He was com-



Tom “Twimbo” Wimberly and his wife Gay in a recent photo at NASCC. Wimberly served the U.S. Navy as an aviator from 1951-1982 retiring in Corpus Christi.

manding officer of Fighter Squadron 74, the *Be-Devilers*, and later commanding officer of Training Air Wing 3 at Chase Field in Beeville, Texas.

In July 1961, VF-74 began to transition to the F-4B Phantom II becoming the first deployable F-4 squadron, giving rise to their “First in Phantoms” motto. They deployed aboard USS Forrestal (CV59) in July 1967. Wimberly said during their first Vietnam cruise aboard the Forrestal, he was just about to be launched when an ordnance explosion on the flight deck caused a massive ensuing fire. VF-74 lost 42 enlisted personnel and three F-4’s. Overall, the largest and first completed supercarrier, lost 295 men that day with 134 perishing to their wounds and an additional 21 aircraft being destroyed. At the time, the eventual Arizona senator John McCain nearly lost his life on deck of the ship. Many squadron members were commended for their heroic actions while fighting the fires. He also remembers talking to each one of those men while he was executive officer.

Not long after, he became the executive officer of the USS Hancock (CV19) during two tours in support of operations in Vietnam.

After retiring from active duty in 1982, Wimberly eventually went to work for DynCorp which held an aviation maintenance contract for NASCC. He worked as a consultant to the company for a few years writing contract bids. Due to family medical reasons, he decided it was too difficult to

keep up with and expected to be terminated. “Instead, they didn’t. They kept me on call, they didn’t pay me much but for quite a while, they just kept paying me for doing nothing,” he said. “They kind of forgot about me and after a year or two they finally gave me a call to rectify that situation.”

Since, Wimberly has spent many years serving the Navy League and the Masonic fraternity, specializing in not-for-profit activity. He’s served as president of the local Navy League and was elected to serve on the national board of directors. He also served as the State Southwest Region Navy League President. In his 10 years as a national director, he never missed a convention or winter meeting.

He says he often reflects on all of the great air training and great pilots to happen upon South Texas.

He and his wife are also active members of the NASCC Protestant Chapel.

*\*This is one in an on-going series highlighting veterans in the Corpus Christi region. If you would like to recommend a veteran’s story, please e-mail jason.kucera@navy.mil.*



Tom Wimberly enjoys staying active with the Navy League in the Corpus Christi area.

# Air Force Reserve brings in the heavies during exercise at NASCC

by Jason Kucera  
NASCC Public Affairs

Planes flying in and out of NASCC are common. Planes the size of apartment buildings flying in the Navy airspace here are not as common.

When the 443rd Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, based out of Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland came down for an exercise, they brought with the largest military transport plane the Dept. of Defense has in inventory, the C-5 Galaxy.

The air wing rehearsed its capabilities in providing rapid transport cargo operations and moving personnel during contingencies

requiring that demand.

The mission of the 433rd Airlift Wing is to organize, equip, and train its approximately 2,400 ready reservists to achieve combat readiness according to training standards established by the Air Mobility Command and the Air Education and Training Command.

In addition, the 315th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve, from Joint Base Charleston, flew in their C-17 Globemaster aircraft.

According to the 315th, "The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force.

The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward



Above, a C-17 Globemaster takes off from NASCC on Sept. 16. Left, a C-5 Galaxy taxis in after landing at NASCC also on Sept. 16. The large military transport aircraft provides the Air Force with heavy intercontinental-range strategic airlift capability. As part of a multifaceted training exercise, the 433rd Airlift Wing from Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland showcased their flexibility to rapidly transport cargo and personnel during contingencies demanding airlift missions. (Photo by Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs.)

bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations when required.

The flexibility and performance of the C-17 force improve the ability of the total airlift system to fulfill the worldwide air mobility requirements of the United States."

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## Navy Education

# Navy medicine accepting applicants for 2017 enlisted to medical Program

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (NNS) -- The Navy is seeking five enlisted Sailors for its 2017 enlisted to medical degree preparatory program (EMDP2) cohort at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Science (USUHS) beginning September 2016.

EMDP2 is a two-year program for academically-promising enlisted service members to complete preparatory coursework making them competitive medical school applicants.

"This program is an opportunity for any enlisted Sailor, regardless of rate or specialty, to enter the medical field" said Lt. Cmdr. Jami Peterson, Navy and Marine Corps EMDP2 board president. "We're looking forward to seeing more qualified candidates apply this year."

The program convened in 2014 with a class of five Soldiers and five Airmen. In 2016, the program welcomed its first cohort of Sailors and Marines.

The application deadline is Nov. 1 and the selection board will convene in December 2016.

EMDP2 is a partnership between USUHS and the armed services. It is a 24-month, full-time academic program that includes intensive coursework, preparation, and mentoring for the student's medical school application. Once students complete the

program, they are eligible to compete for entrance into USUHS or any civilian medical school in the United States. Students are not guaranteed admission or commission upon successful completion of the program.

The program is open to all enlisted Sailors with less than 10 years of service. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited four year university. International bachelor degrees are accepted only if the applicant has a master's degree obtained in the United States or Canada. Applicants must also be citizens and Sailors of good standing with no record of court-martial conviction, nonjudicial punishment, or civilian felony charges. For a full list of application requirements, reference NAVADMIN 202/16 at [www.usuhs.edu/emdp2](http://www.usuhs.edu/emdp2), [www.med.navy.mil/](http://www.med.navy.mil/) or [www.public.navy.mil](http://www.public.navy.mil).

The selection process is a collaborative approach between the U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) and USUHS. Applications are vetted through a Navy and Marine Corps candidate selection board at BUMED, which carefully reviews each packet and applicant. Upon review, the BUMED EMDP2 candidate selection board recommends the top candidates to USUHS, which ultimately determines who is accepted for the program. The applicants will remain on active duty while pursuing

an undergraduate medical certificate at George Mason University-Prince William Campus in Manassas, Virginia. Pay and benefits at current pay grade will still be allotted and all educational expenses including tuition and books are paid for by the program.

Navy Medicine is a global health care network of 63,000 personnel that provide health care support to the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, their families and veterans in high operational tempo environments, at expeditionary medical facilities, medical treatment facilities, hospitals, clinics, hospital ships and



SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (Sept. 6) - Lt. Cmdr. Ebony Ferguson, a clinical nurse specialist assigned to Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and Cmdr. Tony Silveti, an OBGYN assigned to Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, demonstrate how to properly resuscitate a baby as part of a subject matter expert exchange with El Salvadorian health workers during Southern Partnership Station 2016 (SPS 16). SPS 16 is an annual series of U.S. Navy deployments focused on subject matter expert exchanges with partner nation militaries and security forces in Central and South America and the Caribbean. (U.S. Navy Combat Camera Photo by MC1 Torrey W. Lee.)

research units around the world.

For more news from Navy Medicine, visit [www.navy.mil/local/mednews/](http://www.navy.mil/local/mednews/).

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# Navy announces new suicide prevention program called SAIL

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- On Sept. 16, the Navy's 21st Century Sailor Office announced the new suicide prevention program known as Sailor Assistance and Intercept for Life (SAIL), aimed at supplementing existing mental health treatment by providing continual support through the first 90 days after suicide-related behavior.

"This program is designed to boost our existing efforts to prevent suicide across the Fleet by showing there is someone that will stay in touch with them and make sure they are doing well," said Capt. Michael Fisher, dir., Operational Stress Control and Suicide Prevention branch. "This is part of a wide range of actions we are taking to help our Sailors. Doing this will boost our suicide prevention work that's ongoing Navy-wide."

The SAIL program started in the Pacific Northwest Region on Aug. 29, 2016, with a phased regional rollout plan scheduled for completion by the third quarter of fiscal year 2017 throughout the Navy.

The program is designed to provide rapid assistance, on-going risk assessment and support for Sailors who have exhibited suicide-related behavior and was inspired by the Marine Intercept Program (MIP), a suicide prevention project with similar goals.

Navy Suicide Prevention Branch (OPNAV N171) is partnering with Navy Bureau of Medicine (BUMED), Commander Navy Installation Command (CNIC), and SAIL

Case managers who are serving as Fleet and Family Service Center (FFSC) counselors to run this new program.

Upon receiving information from commands about a Sailor who has demonstrated suicide-related behavior, Suicide Prevention Coordinators (SPC) will work with CNIC, and in turn an FFSC case manager, whose responsibility will be to reach out to the individual Sailor to see if they would volunteer to participate in the SAIL program. Case managers will contact Sailors in the 90 days following suicide-related behavior.

Suicide Prevention is a cooperative Navy-wide effort that takes leadership engagement and awareness at all commands and ranks. OPNAV, BUMED, CNIC work together to provide a range of resources to include: mental health treatment, spiritual counseling, personal wellness counseling, crisis intervention as well as financial education.

The Military Crisis Line offers confidential support for active duty and reserve service members and their families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online at [www.militarycrisisline.net](http://www.militarycrisisline.net) or send a text message to 838255.

For more information visit [www.suicide.navy.mil](http://www.suicide.navy.mil)



Lt. Kevin Jackson, NAS Corpus Christi chaplain, talks to local media about one of the current initiatives taken during Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month aboard the base. The chaplain's office has a daily social media campaign on their Facebook page. (Photo by Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs.)

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## Upcoming Community Events

**The Original Lobster Feast**  
The Corpus Christi International Seamen's Center is hosting a Lobster Feast Fundraiser from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at Brewster's Street Ice House. Enjoy fresh live Maine lobster with traditional New England sides for just \$30. All tickets are pre-sold. For tickets or questions, visit [www.corpuschristiseamencenter.com](http://www.corpuschristiseamencenter.com) or call 361-883-8405.

**TO HAVE YOUR EVENT INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION, EMAIL [AFRENCH@PLWAVE.COM](mailto:AFRENCH@PLWAVE.COM). THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT EVENTS IS 10 A.M. THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION. UPCOMING EVENTS ARE PUBLISHED AS SPACE PERMITS THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES AS TO HOW MANY TIMES AN EVENT WILL RUN. QUESTIONS REGARDING EVENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ASHLEY AT 361-746-4341.**



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