

WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

August 21, 2014



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SCHOOL'S OPEN!



Husband & Wife team sail into Titanic Cup history

Story & photos by Rod Hafemeister

It was a small “fleet” of challengers Aug. 9 for the 2014 Titanic Cup – only four entries, marginally seaworthy at best.

But one, “The Lost Viking,” took the lead from the start and never let up - even though it had broken an outrigger on the trip to the starting line.

ET2 Trevor Mireles, from Naval Air Station Corpus Christi’s Ground electronics branch, and his wife, Robin, even dressed for the part with something akin to Viking costumes.

And they kept their boat together until a few yards past the finish line – then, in keeping with what is fast becoming a tradition, the boat began coming apart as they attempted to bring it to shore.

Equally fascinating was “The Jibe Ho!” – a cardboard boat somewhat reinforced with pieces of foam.

It almost made it to the finish line, and probably would have if it had used a larger sail.

But even deploying an umbrella for extra wind propulsion wasn’t quite enough; it started sinking a few yards short of the finish.

Too little sail probably hurt Training Air Wing 2’s “Commodorable II” as well, resulting in a distant second place.

The final entry, a clever design of an inflatable bed, a tarp and PVC pipe, moved rather well – but the lack of a rudder meant it moved everywhere except where the crew wanted it to.

Regardless, laughter filled the air from both racers and observers as another Titanic Cup capped the first day of the 2014 Navy Regatta with dinner at the Catalina Club.

See more Regatta photos on pages 8 & 9.

ET2 Trevor Mireles and wife Robin accept the 2014 Titanic Cup ‘trophy’ from Capt. Steve Banta, NASCC commanding officer.



‘Mission Employment’ Job Fair a major success



More than 300 job seekers filled the Catalina Club Aug. 14 for the ‘Mission: Employment’ Job Fair, which brought about 50 employers to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. The job fair, sponsored by USO South Texas, the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Veterans & Families Committee, and Texas Veterans Commission, was open to separating, retiring and retired military members, military spouses and family members and others with base access. Some of the employers conducted interviews on the spot and some job seekers walked out with solid job offers.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Skipper's Column

by Capt. Steve Banta



Banta

As Labor Day approaches, we should all remember that in addition to the extra day off and barbeques, this is the start of what has historically been the busiest part of hurricane season.

It's easy to get lulled into a false sense of security because of the relatively good weather we've had so far, as well as the lack of any significant hurricanes in South Texas in recent years.

Here are a few things to keep in mind this season:

- Before a storm, move or secure any objects that could become airborne during high winds. Bring any outdoor furniture, decorations, trash cans, hanging plants, etc., inside.
- Move furniture, electronics, and other valuables to the highest level of your home in case of flooding.
- Fill vehicles with fuel in case it is necessary to evacuate.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings and open only when necessary if power fails.
- Review your evacuation plan and evacuation routes. If you don't have one, make one.
- If you are ordered to evacuate, ensure you take along essential papers and records.
- Active Duty Sailors and Navy Civilians are required to muster under

Be Prepared, Have a Plan

the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System at: <https://www.navyfamily.navy.mil/>

- Check with your chain of command, the NASCC website, and local media for instructions on when to return.
- If there's no evacuation, be smart - stay inside and stay out of flood waters.
- Don't try to drive through high water, even a few inches can wash you away.
- Don't go near downed electrical lines.

For more detailed information, check the Emergency Management section of our website:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/nas_corpus_christi/om/emergency_management.html

As a Commanding Officer, my first priority is the safety of our Sailors, Civilians, and Families.

You can help with that by being prepared.

Wingspan

NAS Corpus Christi

"Exceeding Expectations Through Pride In Performance"

Commanding Officer

Capt. Steve Banta

Acting Public Affairs Officer

Editor

Rod Hafemeister

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Wingspan is an authorized publication for members of the military services, civilian personnel and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, Department of the Navy or the Department of the Army, and do not imply endorsement thereof.

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All news releases should be sent to the above address.

Please call (361) 961-2674 for deadline information.

Chaplain's Message

by Fr. John Vidal

A few years ago the office supply store "Staples" had a commercial on TV with a father dancing down the aisles of the store with the Christmas song, "It's the most wonderful time of the year."

The joke was that it was not Christmas but the end of summer and the beginning of the school year. His two children were looking on with consternation.

Those who have children know that towards the end of summer vacation, when most kids are starting to get bored, they can be a real challenge to their parents.

So the idea of having a break during the day while they are in school is appealing.

However, all joking aside, the commercial points to a problem in our society that, at least in my opinion, is having a detrimental effect on families.

More and more we see families where the mother comes home from work, feeds two of the kids a quick dinner and races off

with them to ballet, soccer, martial arts or any number of activities.

In the meantime the father arrives and does the same with another child or two and races off with them to their activities.

This, combined with an obsession with texting and social media, is seriously depriving families of important quality time together.

I fear that this causes families to be fragmented and the commitment to family is weakened and is a contributing factor to the very high rate of single parent households and family strife.

Over the centuries the best social interactions, personal or social, have been over a meal. We see this in birthday parties, weddings, office parties and even sad occasions such as funerals where extended families get together over a meal to reminisce and share their grief.

The same is true of the nuclear family;

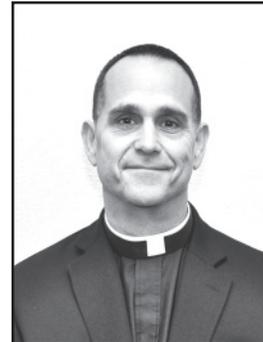
The Family that Dines Together

when a family eats together regularly their bond becomes stronger because every day conversation at the dinner table connects the life of one member of the family to another.

This interaction, in its various configurations, makes the life of the individual members a direct part of the others.

I believe that through this kind of interaction the essential bond of marriage is strengthened and the love between parents and their children is solidified. The same is true amongst the siblings.

Chaplain continued on page 10



Vidal

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

Unless you have an interest in military history, you may not have noticed two recent historical commemorations.

The reference to Barbara Tuchman's "The Guns of August" may have tickled a memory. If not, it refers to August,

1914 – the month that really marked the beginning of World War I.

The road to WWI began when Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the Austro-

Hungarian throne, was assassinated with his wife on June 28, 1914 by a Bosnian Serb.

A month later, July 28, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Russia, which supported Serbia, mobilized. July 31, Germany warned Russia to stop; they didn't, and on Aug. 1 Germany declared war on Russia and signed a secret alliance treaty with the Ottoman Empire.

August 2, Germany invaded Luxembourg – the other direction than Russia, but the way to France through Belgium.

Aug. 3, Germany declares war on France; Aug. 4, Great Britain declares war on Germany.

Before long, everyone was at war with somebody, with battles in the East and West, at sea and in colonies.

The Guns of August - 1914 & 1814

Even Japan got into it, declaring war on Germany on Aug. 23 and on Austria-Hungary on Aug. 25.

A day later, British and French forces defeated German forces and took over Togoland, a German protectorate in West Africa. And on Aug. 30, New Zealand occupied German Samoa.

It was the "war to end all wars" – and clearly, it didn't. Instead, it dragged on for more than four years and set the stage for World War II, which many historians argue was simply the continuation of World War I.

There have been commemorations in Europe, but little in the United States so far, largely because we didn't get fully involved until 1917.

Editor continued on page 10

Worship Services

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Catholic Chapel
Daily Mass Wed-Fri: 11:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.
Religious Education: Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Protestant Chapel
Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.

JEWISH WORSHIP SERVICE

Temple Beth El (4402 Saratoga Blvd.)
Friday at 7:30 p.m.
(with dinner to follow)
For further information call
Temple Beth El at 857-8181

ISLAMIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Islamic Society of South Texas
(7341 McArdle Rd.)
Jumah Service – 1:30 p.m.
For other worship service times, call 992-8550

Cmdr. Devine departs VT-27; Cmdr. Hanson assumes command - Aug. 15

VT-27 held a change of command ceremony Aug. 15, with Cmdr. Jerrod Devine turning the command over to former executive officer Cmdr. Jeffrey Hanson. Right, Devine is presented his command pennant by Lt. Spencer Weber. Below, Hanson's wife, Courtney, pins on his command insignia and Courtney helps to open a gift presented to their daughter Ella.

Photos by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA



We're in peak hurricane season; are YOU ready?

by Rod Hafemeister

It's been a very calm Atlantic Hurricane Season so far, with only two named storms (and a possible third forming).

But don't let that lull you into complacency.

Statistically, we're just getting started: according to the National Hurricane Center's records, the peak season for hurricanes is mid-August to late October, with a major spike in early September.

In 1919, a hurricane made landfall on Corpus Christi on Sept. 14, with the eye going inland on what is now the southside of the city.

This unnamed storm was the fourth most intense and deadly storm of the 20th century. Tides rose 16 feet above normal and 287 lives were lost.

More recently, in September 2008, the Corpus Christi area avoided most of Hurricane Ike, which hammered the Texas Coastline – in particular Galveston.

While Corpus Christi has not been directly hit by a major hurricane in a number of years, it is often impacted by tropical storms, which can also have significant storm surge, the latest in 2007 with Tropical Storm Erin.

Earlier this year, the Air Station and tenant organizations conducted a hurricane exercise that included a simulated direct hit by a Category 5 storm and a 15-foot storm surge.

In such an event, virtually every building on the base would have been flooded – if they had survived the wind.

And don't assume that just because you are not listed as being in a flood zone that your home is safe.

It may not be.

In 2011, CoreLogic, a provider of

consumer, financial and property information, analytics and services to business and government, conducted a residential storm surge exposure study of 10 cities, including Corpus Christi.

“Coastal storm surge is one of the most destructive natural flooding catastrophes that can occur in areas prone to tropical storms,” the study stated.

“In addition to the property damage and lives lost to flood waters, the impact of high-speed waves crashing over the coast often significantly heightens geographic and economic damage in hurricane disaster areas.”

The report points out that Federal Emergency Management Agency flood maps only cover a portion of the areas that could be subject to a storm surge in the event of a major storm.

“Storm surge is triggered primarily by winds associated with cyclonic storms. The high winds and low pressure created by a hurricane cause water to amass inside the storm, gaining energy as the hurricane moves toward the coast and releasing as a powerful surge over land when the storm moves on shore.

“Storm surges can cause extensive property damage as the seawater is pushed inland, breaking through structures and carrying with it dangerous debris.

“The height of a storm surge and the extent of inland inundation in coastal areas can be influenced by both off-shore characteristics, such as wind speed, atmospheric pressure, forward speed, tide, bathymetry (water depth) and the angle of coastal impact and on-shore characteristics like elevation, levees and barriers, bays, rivers and canals.”



The 2011 study found that a Category 5 hurricane could expose almost \$4.7 billion worth of residential property – more than 44,000 homes – to storm surge damage, with more than 70 percent of those homes not considered to be in federal flood zones.

Even a Category 1 storm could affect more than 6,100 homes and inflict more than \$593 million in damages.

And those estimates are based on construction that existed in 2011 and 2011 dollars; both the number of residences and the dollar damages likely have increased.

Even if your home is likely to escape a storm surge, you still could find local flooding caused by the heavy rainfalls lapping at your house.

And the wind is another factor, regardless of your elevation above sea level.

A Category 5 hurricane is defined as one with sustained winds of 157 mph or higher.

According to the National Hurricane Center, a high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse.

Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for

weeks to possibly months.

Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.

Even a Category 1 – sustained winds of 74-95 mph – could do serious damage to your home.

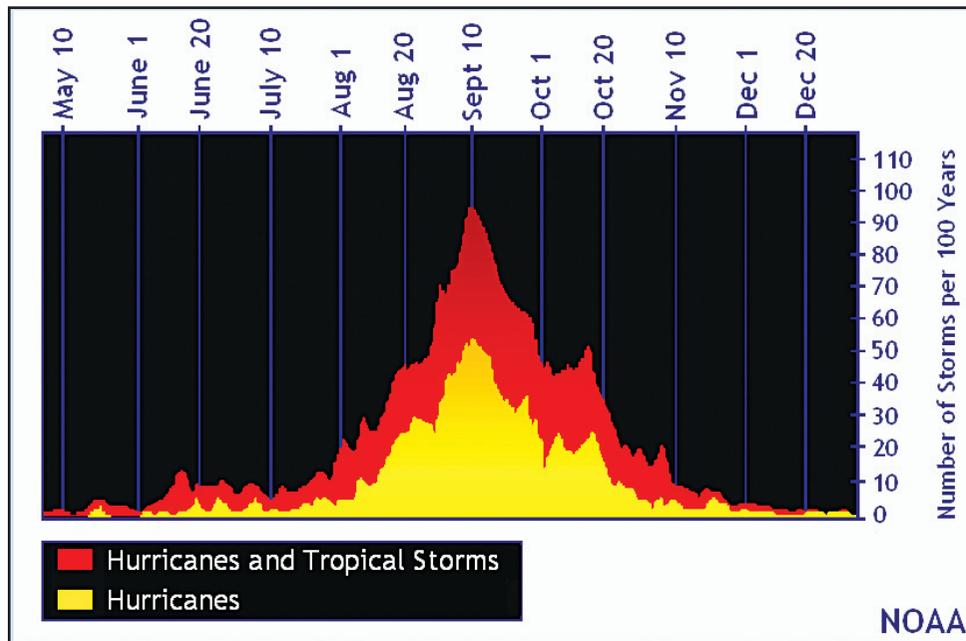
Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters, according to the Hurricane Center.

Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.

The time to start thinking about what you would do is now – not when a storm is approaching.

The Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Emergency Management Department has detailed information on how to prepare and plan for storms, including how to prepare a disaster supply kit and how to plan to evacuate, if necessary.

Check it out at http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/nas_corpus_christi/om/emergency_management.html



The official hurricane season for the Atlantic Basin (the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico) is from 1 June to 30 November. As seen in the graph above, the peak of the season is from mid-August to late October. However, deadly hurricanes can occur anytime in the hurricane season.

Saffir Simpson Scale of Hurricane Strength (Hurricane Categories)

Category 1 (minor)

- Winds of 75 to 95 mph
- Storm surge of 4-5 ft
- Minimal structural damage

Category 2 (minor)

- Winds of 96 to 110 mph
- Storm surge of 6-8 ft
- Moderate structural damage

Category 3 (major)

- Winds of 111 to 130 mph
- Storm surge of 9-12 ft
- Extensive structural damage

Category 4 (major)

- Winds of 131 to 155 mph
- Storm surge of 13-18 ft
- Extreme structural damage

Category 5 (severe)

- Winds greater than 155 mph
- Storm surge greater than 18 feet
- Catastrophic structural damage

(Note that wind speeds are sustained; gusts can be much greater.)

Don't leave behind your Best Friend - Prepare your pets for hurricanes



Don't forget your furry friends when making emergency plans.

Navy photo

from NASCC Veterinary Clinic

With hurricane season upon us again, most people are preparing their homes and developing emergency evacuation plans.

Have you remembered to include your pets as part of your household disaster planning?

If you must evacuate, you will likely want to bring your pet with you. Planning is essential as many shelters may not accept pets.

If you have a trained service dog, check with local emergency management to ensure they will be allowed to stay in the shelters with their owner.

Prepare a pet survival kit. Make sure you have a secure pet carrier, leash, or harness for your pets so they will not be running loose.

You will need a pet carrier that your pet can stand in and turn around inside. Train your pet to become used to the carrier prior to a disaster by feeding it in the carrier or placing a favorite toy or blanket inside.

Make sure your pet has a properly fitted collar with an up-to-date identification tag, license, and rabies tag.

If your pet normally wears a chain link or choke chain collar, you will need a nylon or leather collar that can be left on your pet for several days.

Pets could become tangled, trapped, or strangled if left alone with a chain collar.

Include a current picture of your pet in your home emergency kit to aid in identifying them later.

Microchipping your pet is strongly encouraged prior to a disaster. It is most often the best method of positive identification.

Include in your pet's kit a week's worth of food, water, kitty litter, and any medications, to include flea, tick, and heartworm preventatives.

Also, remember to pack a first aid kit, food and water dishes, a litter pan and a

can opener, if needed. Include emergency numbers (vet, animal control, Red Cross, etc.) and a copy of your pet's medical record to include current vaccinations.

If your pet dog has to be sheltered or boarded, it will require a current Bordetella vaccination.

Bordetella, often referred to as kennel cough, is an upper respiratory infection that can spread quickly through boarding and grooming facilities and any place dogs congregate.

Bordetella vaccinations are effective for six months. Do not wait till the last minute to get vaccinations or copies of your records. Remember, during an emergency, your local veterinary staff may be preparing to evacuate as well.

Before a disaster, contact your local animal shelter, humane society, veterinarian or emergency management center to see if any shelters will be set-up for pets in an emergency.

If no shelters will be available, check with local veterinarians and boarding facilities to see if they will accept pets in an emergency. This is a risky option since the boarding facilities or veterinary hospital may not be any safer than your home.

Do not wait until the last minute to evacuate with pets. Once disaster is imminent, the only way out may be by official rescue transport and officials may not allow you to bring pets with you.

Call ahead to motels and hotels in safe areas to see if they will allow you to bring pets.

If you and your pet cannot stay together when you evacuate, contact family, friends, veterinarians and boarding kennels in safe areas to arrange for care.

Don't forget your pet's medical records for proof of vaccination.

Hurricane Evacuation Routes



For more information on pets and hurricanes, visit these websites:
<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/animals.shtm>
<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/disaster/Pages/Hurricane-Preparedness.aspx>
http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2012/10/0335.xml&navid=NEWS_AUSUMS&navtype=RT&parentnav=SAFETY&deployment_action=retrievecontent

Awards and Achievements

Winging — August 15



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Cmdr. Jason Wood, Commanding Officer, Training Squadron 35; Lt. Col. Kevin Heartwell, Executive Officer, MATSG-22; Col. John Rahe Jr., Commanding Officer, MATSG-22; Capt. John Kelsey, Commodore, Training Air Wing 4; Cmdr. Matthew Foster, Commanding Officer, Training Squadron 31.

Wingees, in alphabetical order: Ensign Jack Alan Gutschlag; Lt. j.g. Stefan Alexander Menke; Lt. j.g. Andrew Walter Quiel; Lt. j.g. Jordan James Riggs; Lt. j.g. Matthew Thomas Rogers; Ensign Scott Shea Goodin; Ensign Blair P. Lightcap; 1st Lt. Keller David Ronney, USMC; Ensign Drew Randall Voshen.

VT-28 and VT-31 recognized with Naval Aviation Safety Awards



Chief of Naval Air Training, Rear Adm. Roy Kelley, left, and Commanding Officer, Training Air Wing Four, Capt. John Kelsey, on Aug. 1 present the Chief of Naval Operations Naval Aviation Safety Award the commanding officers of Training Squadron (VT) 28 and Training Squadron (VT) 31 for their outstanding safety



records during aircraft operations in the United States Naval Air Command during 2013. (left) Cmdr. Marc Christino accepts the award on behalf of VT-28. (right) Cmdr. Matthew Foster accepts the award for VT-31.

Photos by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA

VT-28 Recognized for Student Aviator Production



Cmdr. Marc Christino, commanding officer of Training Squadron (VT) 28, receives the Commander Theodore G. Ellyson Aviation Production Excellence Award for Fiscal year 2013 from Rear Adm. Roy Kelley, Chief of Naval Air Training, on Aug. 1 on behalf of the Rangers of VT-28. The award is given annually for outstanding

performance in the timely delivery of the highest quality Student Naval Aviators to Advanced Training Squadrons within the Naval Air Training Command. Capt. John Kelsey, commodore of Training Air Wing Four, looks on.

Photos by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA

Bellew Reenlists



Petty Officer First Class Kevin A. Bellew, Admin Clerk for Chief of Naval Air Training Reserve Component and an 18 year veteran, reenlisted August 11th at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Taylor Honored for NMCRS Support



Rear Adm. Roy Kelley, Chief of Naval Air Training, presents Lt. Cmdr. Donald Taylor a Letter of Appreciation for his support in the 2014 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Active Duty Fund Drive

2014 Navy Regatta - Aug. 9-10



AC2 Jamie Smith designed the 2014 Regatta shirt, front & back.



Yachts raced from downtown to inside the NASCC breakwater on Saturday, Aug. 9, with dinner at the Catalina Club that evening. Sunday was the Military Challenge, with active duty military at the helm of each yacht racing. Below, Rear Adm. Roy Kelley, Chief of Naval Air Training, socializes with Walter and Judy Crawford and their family on board a sailboat and Kelley and Capt. Steve Banta, NASCC commanding officer congratulate Military Challenge winners.

Photos by Rod Hafemeister and Richard Stewart.



2014 Titanic Cup Race - Aug. 9



A small field of challengers still meant great fun for the 2014 Titanic Cup. While 'The Lost Viking' sailed to an easy win, others battled uncooperative sails and water eating at their cardboard boat. That race against time brought out an 'umbrella spinaker' - but it fell just short of finishing.

Photos by Rod Hafemeister



Chaplain continued from page 2

I understand that the struggles of modern society sometimes make it impossible for families to dine together, but we should not let this important family time go away easily.

Fight for it. Make it a major priority and only let it go when there is no other way.

If this means dropping one activity, then do so. Family unity and cohesion is more important to your current family, and to your children's families as they grow into households of their own.

If regular family meals in the evening are truly impossible, I urge you to find substitutes (or just added opportunities for family bonding).

One idea might be to make breakfast that important time. Some families compensate by getting together regularly around a table to play cards or board games.

Of course, another critical opportunity to strengthen the family bond is to regularly attend the worship activities of your particular faith tradition.

If you don't have a faith tradition then my advice is to seek one out, but that is the subject of a future article.

In the meantime remember the adage, "a family that prays together, stays together."

The corollary that I'm proposing to you here is that "a family that dines together stays together."

Editor continued from page 2

There were some commemorations of August battles in the U.S. – ones that happened not 100 years ago, but 200.

Yeah, we call it the "War of 1812" – but some of the most memorable action took place in late August, 1814.

In mid-August, British troops sailed up the Patuxent River and began a march on Washington.

By the morning of Aug. 24, they were nearing Bladensburg, just six miles northeast of the Capitol.

Although there were some heroic actions by American defenders, the poorly trained militiamen were soon routed by the British, many of whom were veterans of the Napoleonic Wars.

That evening, the British marched unopposed into Washington.

And they set fire to the Capitol, including the chambers of the House and Senate, the Supreme Court and the Library of Congress.

From there, it was a walk to the White House – which also was set on fire, along with the Treasury and the War and State department building.

Then they left; within days President Madison and much of the government returned.

And the "spin" began, with the sacking of Washington being described by American officials as "vandalism."

A couple weeks later, Sept. 13-14, the British attempted and failed to take Fort McHenry – and prompted Francis Scott Key to pen "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The Treaty of Ghent, ending the war, was signed Dec. 24, but battles continued for months due to slow communications.

Including the Battle of New Orleans.

Annual Navy Ball Golf Tournament 2014

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 10, 2014

Gulf Winds Golf Course
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi
11001 D Street,
Corpus Christi, Texas



CORPUS CHRISTI COUNCIL

Entry Fee: \$35 per person
0800 & 1400 Shotgun starts

Entry forms will be
at the Gulf Winds
Golf Course Pro Shop

For more information
contact Andrea Drake,
Director at 961-3250.

RAIN DATE: 17 October 2014

Entry Fee Includes;
Cart, Green Fees, Meal (Burger, Chips and Drink)
and \$5 contribution towards the Navy Ball 2014.

Format: This is a 4-person Florida Scramble. Golfers may sign up as individuals or as a team. There will be prizes for Closest to the Pin as well as for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams. Event is open to the first 36 paid teams (or 144 players). For installation sponsorship/access details contact YN1(SW) Brian Herrera at (361) 961-2633 or by email at brian.herrera1@navy.mil. Deadline for entry is Friday, 3 October.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MORNING

0700: Check-In Begins
Driving Range Opens
0745: Announcements
Starters Briefing

0800: Shotgun Start

AFTERNOON

1300: Check-In Begins
Driving Range Opens
1345: Announcements
Starters Briefing

1400: Shotgun Start



"This is not an official DOD event. Neither the Navy, the Department of Defense, or the US Government endorse any non-federal entity, including the sponsors of this event."

Hosted by NAVY LEAGUE Corpus Christi Council