

SEABEE COURIER

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December 17, 2015



Left: Vice Adm. Dixon Smith, Commander, Navy Installations Command, and Rear Adm. Mary Jackson, Commander, Navy Region Southeast, receive a briefing prior to observing a Judgment-based Engagement Training exercise as part of the Expeditionary Combat Skills course on board the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Gulfport, Dec. 10. Above right: Lt. Zach Guthrie, NCBC Food Services Officer, greets Vice Adm. Smith at the Colmer Dining Facility while Rear Adm.



Jackson, right, and Capt. Cheryl Hansen, NCBC commanding officer, look on. Kiki Smith, (center, stripes) wife of Vice Adm. Smith, listens while Betty Hart, a Stennis Child Development Center teacher, leads children in singing Christmas carols. Smith is accompanied by (from left to right) Shelly Lutz, NCBC Ombudsman, Jean Golden, Stennis CDC director, and Debbie Brockway, NCBC Morale Welfare and Recreation director. (U.S. Navy photos/Released)

CNIC visits NCBC and Stennis during Southeast Region tour

By Rob Mims
NCBC Public Affairs Officer

Vice Adm. Dixon Smith, Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC) and Rear Adm. Mary Jackson Commander Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) visited Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport and Stennis Space Center Dec. 10, as part of a multi-base trip throughout the Southeast Region. Vice Admiral Smith's wife, Kiki, along with Navy Installations Command Force Master Chief Andrew

Thompson and Navy Region Southeast Command Master Chief Michael Jackson, were also in attendance.

Vice Adm. Smith began his tour at Stennis visiting several organizations including Naval Small Craft Instruction and Technical Training School, the Navy Exchange and Child Development Center. After making their way to NCBC, the entourage, which included Capt. Cheryl Hansen, NCBC commanding officer, Mark Ashley, NCBC business operations manager and Cmdr. Brian Nottingham, public works officer,

toured the base stopping multiple times to receive briefings, get a closer look at facilities and to speak with tenants ensuring they are receiving support from the installation.

Ms. Smith was also busy touring the installations and receiving briefings. Her tour made more than 15 stops at Stennis and NCBC primarily focusing on family welfare and recreation programs.

The trip was Vice Adm. Smith's first visit to Gulfport since assuming command of CNIC in October 2014.



Seasons Greetings to You All

NCBC

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Capt. Cheryl Hansen

Public Affairs Officer

Rob Mims

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BCUN Samantha Opyoke

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By Capt. Cheryl Hansen
NCBC CO

Wow, what a year! Where did it go? We have been very busy around this base, with much to be proud of and much to be thankful for!

Our Seabees deployed to more than 30 countries this year, and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 is currently deployed to more than 21 countries including Spain, Kenya, Niger, Israel, Honduras, Guam and Ukraine. Many of these missions are the same ones NMCB 11 was working on earlier this year. NMCB 133 is busy preparing for their next deployment and over the last several months sent Seabees to support projects in Columbia, Montana and Colorado.

Key to the success of our Seabees in performing these missions is the work that the homeport staff across NCBC Gulfport performs to support them. For FY15 this included processing more than 5,200 deploying personnel and 5 million pounds of cargo. Additionally over 50,000 Seabees, Sailors, Airmen and Soldiers received valuable training from Naval Construction Training Center Gulfport, Naval Construction Group Two and Expeditionary Combat Skills this year. All of these activities require efficient and effective facilities and training areas and I certainly believe that NCBC Gulfport provides some of the best in the nation!

I'm very proud of the many NCBC Gulfport programs that were recognized this year for excellence in operations. Our Morale Welfare and Recreation Youth Activities Center was reaccredited and the Navy Gateway Inns and Suites earned the Admiral Zumwalt Award. The Colmer Dining Facility earned their Ninth consecutive "Five Star Accreditation." Two of our civilian employees from our Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) earned significant awards; Ms.

Gerri Warden received the 2015 Mississippi Veterans Small Business Champion of the Year Award from the Small Business Administration and Ms. Karen Williams earned the 2015 Public Service Award to Victims of Domestic Violence from the Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence. Several of our Fire Department personnel received the CNIC Navy Fire and Emergency Services (NFES) Award Certificate of Significant Achievement and the CNIC NFES Award Certificate of Life Saving. NCBC also earned the 2015 Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention Innovation Award for the "Responsible Advertising and Bystander Intervention Training" campaign which provided training for local recreation establishments to identify potentially dangerous situations and intervene. All of these awards and recognition prove we have a special blend of people on this installation who are committed to the mission, customer service and who know how to get things done right.

Energy and water conservation is another area in which NCBC Gulfport has excelled. We were recognized with the Secretary of the Navy Small Shore Installation energy and water conservation award Platinum level, which is the highest benchmark attainable. We've worked hard to reduce energy consumption by 37 percent and water consumption by 31 percent since 2003, exceeding the targets set. This doesn't mean we can rest easy though; energy security is a national imperative that requires each of us to continue to find ways to conserve energy and water both at home and at work. We need you to take an active role in identifying and resolving potential areas of waste, as well as submitting innovative ideas to help us to reach a "net zero" goal,



meaning we don't consume more than we can produce.

NCBC Gulfport enjoys tremendous support from our local community and our success has been recognized by them as well. We collectively contribute more than \$850 million in economic value to the community and our employees provide over 15,000 volunteer hours to various worthy charities and organizations. Earlier this year, in recognition of the many contributions that Seabees have made to the city, Gulfport Mayor Billy Hewes signed a proclamation proclaiming the city of Gulfport as "SEABEETOWN, USA."

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for participating in our Base clean-up efforts during the month of November. The base is looking great as a result and we should all be proud of where we work. The Commander, Navy Installations

Command, Vice Adm. Dixon Smith, recently visited NCBC Gulfport and said it was one of the best looking and well-kept bases in the Navy. High accolades!

As this year comes to a close, let's remember that each of us can and do make a difference to those we live with, serve with and support. Supporting and caring for each other is very important; not just during the holidays, but always. I hope you will take this time to enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship of family, friends and your shipmates.

While the holiday season can be a joyous time of the year, unfortunately, it is also a stressful and emotional one for some, especially families of deployed personnel. Please know that there is a wealth of resources and caring folks ready to assist you. Our Chaplains/Pastors, FFSC counselors, your command/department leadership, mentors, family, co-workers, friends/Shipmates, all care and will help you!

My husband, Mark, and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Be safe, we look forward to serving with you in 2016! And always remember ... "What you do matters" and "You make a difference"!

NCBC Holiday Gate Hours of Operation



Pass and ID:
Dec. 23, **Normal Hours**
Dec. 24, 6 a.m. - Noon - **OPEN**
Dec. 25, **CLOSED**
Dec. 28 - 30, **Normal Hours**
Dec. 31, 6 a.m. - **Noon, OPEN**
Jan. 1, **CLOSED**

28th Street Gate:
Dec. 23, 6 a.m. - Noon, **OPEN**
Dec. 24 - 25, **CLOSED**
Dec. 28 - 30, **Normal Hours**
Dec. 31, 6 a.m. - Noon, **OPEN**
Jan. 1, **CLOSED**

Pass Road Gate:
OPEN 24 hours, 7 days a week

Broad Avenue Gate:
Dec. 23, **Normal Hours**
Dec. 24 - Jan. 1, **CLOSED**



Congratulations to the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 Flag Football team for winning the 2nd annual Navy vs. Army flag football tournament aboard NCBC Gulfport, Dec. 12. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



Students at the Naval Construction Training Center's Equipment Operator Crane School practice using the clam shell and the drag line at the Crane Yard on board NCBC Gulfport, Dec. 3. Several of the students are taking the course prior to reporting to their next duty station. (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)



Jocelyn Albrecht, a recreation aide at MWR's Information Ticket and Travel office on board NCBC, Gulfport, helps a customer, Dec. 8. ITT provides competitive airline tickets, assistance booking cruises and resort stays, and sells tickets to local attractions. ITT is also a Ticketmaster sales location and currently has 2015 and 2016 Disney Military Salute tickets in stock, as well as the Universal Studios Military "Buy 1, get 2 days free" ticket specials. ITT offers free quotes to all their customers and is open to active duty, reserve, retirees and family members. (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)

NEX, Mini Mart Holiday Hours of Operation

NCBC Gulfport Navy Exchange (NEX) Holiday Hours of Operation are: Dec. 24, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Dec. 25, CLOSED; Dec. 31, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Jan. 1, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mini Mart Holiday Hours of Operation are: Dec. 24, 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Dec. 25, CLOSED; Dec. 31, 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Jan. 1, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

NCBC Commissary Holiday Hours of Operation

Dec. 21, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Dec. 22, 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m., Dec. 23, 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., Dec. 24, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Dec. 25, CLOSED, Dec. 26, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Dec. 27, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Dec. 28, CLOSED, Dec. 29, 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m., Dec. 30, 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., Dec. 31, 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m., Jan. 1, CLOSED

PWD Mentor-Protege Program in Action



Equipment Operator Constructionman Caleb Bernier, left, (orange excavator) and Equipment Operator 2nd Class Peter Weise, right, attached to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, use rented equipment to clear out drainage ditches on board the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Dec. 3. The two equipment operators are on loan to the Public Works Department (PWD) to help with manpower. It also gives them "stick time" as an extension of the public works Mentor-Protégé program, which matches Seabees with tradesmen in PWD for on-the-job-training dur-

ing their homeport. The operators are under the mentorship of Terry Kershaw and Curtis Fick from PWD. This allows for much more work to be accomplished while providing valuable training to homeport Seabees. PWD will employ the Seabees until they run out of ditches to clean but not longer than 45-days. The ditches silt up over time and reduce the surface storage capacity of storm water on base; this results in an increased risk of flooding. Keeping the ditches clean and clear improves storage, run-off, and reduces flooding risks. (U.S. Navy photos by Rob Mims/Released)

December 17, 2015

Still time to pledge



Steelworker 1st Class Michael Brackett from the Naval Construction Training Center changes the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) sign on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Gulfport, Dec. 15. The base has raised just over \$25,000 for CFC, with an overall goal of \$45,000. The deadline has been extended until Dec. 31. Those who wish to donate online can go to <http://www.greatermcscfc.org/> (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)

Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline: Due to limited IG resources throughout the Southeast Region, all Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline work will now be handled by the Region. To report Fraud, Waste and Abuse, contact the Region at: Toll Free 1-877-657-9851, Comm: 904-542-4979, DSN 942-4979, FAX: 904-542-5587, Email: CNRSE_HOTLINE@navy.mil



9-1-1 is the number for on base emergencies

Have an emergency? Please remember to dial 9-1-1 instead of 2333 when reporting an emergency on board NCBC Gulfport. Make sure you identify your location by stating, "My location is NCBC Gulfport" before proceeding with detailed emergency information.

Seabee Courier

SOCIAL MEDIA RESPONSIBILITY

The more you know



★ Keep sensitive information safe
Dangerous Safe

I work as an intel officer at 6th Fleet in Naples. I am in the U.S. Navy, stationed in Naples.

Our battalion is heading back to Gulfport in 12 days! I'm with NMCB 133, can't wait to get home soon!

On the USS Mahan, pulling into Dubai tomorrow. Excited for our upcoming port call!

We want YOU to be aware of your social media presence

It's your choice to have an online social media presence. It's your duty to make sure you are responsible and you maintain good OPSEC practices

✓ DO

- ~ Check your privacy settings often
- ~ Be aware of your family's social presence. Talk to them about OPSEC and what details they can share socially.
- ~ Follow and share:
 - Official U.S. Navy accounts
 - Ombudsman
 - Command

✗ DON'T

- ~ "Friend" strangers
- ~ Post information you wouldn't share in other social media settings.
- ~ If you wouldn't say it, don't post it.
- ~ Share U.S. Navy information that has not been officially released.
- ~ Post details about unit or ship movements or taskings.

Specific questions regarding your social media presence should be directed to your command Public Affairs Officer

FORCE PROTECTION IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING IMMEDIATELY!

If you see something suspicious, make the right call – tell a law enforcement official or person of authority. Call 228-871-2361 or 911.

Suspicious Activity is any observed behavior that could indicate terrorism or terrorism-related crime.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- ~ Unusual items or situa-

tions – A vehicle is parking in an off location, a package/luggage is unattended, a window/door is open that is usually closed, or other out of the ordinary situations occur.

~ Eliciting information: A person questions individuals at a level beyond curiosity about a building's purpose, operations, security procedures and/or personnel, shift changes, etc.

~ Observation/Surveillance: Someone pays unusual attention to facilities or buildings beyond a casual or professional interest. This includes

extended loitering without explanation (particularly in concealed locations), unusual repeated, and/or prolonged observation of a building (e.g., with binoculars or video cameras), taking notes or measurements, counting paces, sketching floor plans, etc.

Report SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY to law enforcement or a person of authority

Describe specifically what you observed including:

- ~ What or who you saw
- ~ When you saw it
- ~ Where it occurred
- ~ Why it is suspicious

Buzz on the Street

By Rob Mims
NCBC Public Affairs Officer

"What new recreational facility or outlet would you like to see come on base?"

"I would like to see a Starbucks."



SW3 Shumeckea Dears
NMCB 133



"I would love a better choice of food for lunch; more variety."

Jason Thompson
Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center

"I think the base is pretty good; they've got the Liberty Center, MWR and Seabee Lake."



Staff Sgt. Robert Verry
Student, Naval Construction Training Center

NMCB 133 Seabees construct quality of life improvements

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, install sidewalks near building 317 on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, Dec. 14. The battalion is completing a series of base improvement projects for the base Public Works Department. (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)



Back in Time: Seabee History - Vietnam Era

Dec. 13

1963: Opening ceremonies were held for a 6,000-foot military airfield located at Nakhon Phanom in northeast Thailand. The airfield was near the Mekong River which divides Thailand and Laos. The construction of this airfield was the first major project undertaken by the Seabees in Southeast Asia.

1966: Four members of NMCB 8 were wounded in an enemy mining and booby trap incident, approximately 10 miles south of Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam (RVN) on Route No. 1. Two men were wounded when the five ton wrecker in which they were riding was blown up by a command detonated mine. Two other NMCB 8 personnel were wounded at the scene when a Vietnamese detonated a booby trap believed to be a fragmentation grenade. All four casualties were air evacuated to the First Medical Battalion Hospital in Chu Lai, and were stabilized in good condition.

Dec. 14

1967: Detail Foxrot of NMCB 5 came under enemy fire while deployed at site A-3, RVN. The resultant enemy action resulted in Builder (Heavy) Constructionman Roger E. Huestis being killed in action, and Builder (Concrete) 2nd Class William D. Thompson



Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3 unloading cargo at DaNang, Republic of Vietnam in 1966. Photo by NMCB 3, courtesy of U.S. Navy Seabee Museum)

wounded in action. Thompson later died as a result of wounds received in this action on Dec. 15, 1967.

Dec. 15

1944: One of the heroes of the World War II was Seabee Machinist Mate 3rd Class Malcolm Peppo. While unloading stores from an LST during the

assault on Mindanao, Philippine Islands, Peppo's ship was attacked by a Japanese kamikaze plane. Because the ship was being unloaded, its bow doors were open and its ramp was down. It was helpless to maneuver. When the gun crew looked up and saw the suicide plane, headed straight for the beached vessel, the men instinctively jumped down from their positions and scattered. However, Peppo of the 113th NCB, jumped into the vacated gun emplacement and started firing at the oncoming plane. He continued to fire until the plane crashed. For his courageous actions, Peppo was awarded the Silver Star.

Dec. 16

1970: Camp Kinser, Okinawa was officially rededicated as Camp Marvin G. Shields, in honor of Seabee Medal of Honor winner Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Marvin G. Shields. Rear Admiral S.R. Smith presided over the ceremony. Honored guests included Mrs. Virginia Castellery, petty officer Shields' mother, and Brig. Gen. R.H. Barrow, commanding general of USMC Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa.

Dec. 18

1942: 49th NCB commissioned at Camp Allen, Norfolk, Virginia; 57th NCB commissioned at Camp Endicott, Davisville, Rhode Island.

Energy \$avings Tip

Install a light timer ... When decking your house in holiday lights, use timer controls to lower energy consumption and save money. Timer controls allow you to turn lights on and off at specific times, while staying in the holiday spirit. Indoors, plug holiday lights into power strips. Even when you aren't using lights and electronics, they still draw small amounts of energy when plugged in. Be sure and use a power strip that allows you to turn the power off easily.



Seabee Gift Store Holiday Special

The Seabee Gift Store has memorabilia, books, coins and other unique gifts for all of the Seabees and Seabee families in your life! The gift store is located in the Seabee Heritage Center Training Hall, Building 446, and is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Right now, customers will receive 15 percent off the total price of their purchases just by mentioning the Holiday Special ad! Stop by today or call 228-871-4779 for more information.



NMCB 1, NMCB 27 continue to fulfill mission requirements overseas



Top Left: U.S. Navy Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 27, construct huts at Camp Simba at Manda Bay, Kenya, Dec. 8. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Equipment Operator Brendan Warner/Released) Right: U.S. Navy Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 lay tile in a new classroom on Marine National in Dakar, Senegal, Dec. 8. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 3rd Class Bryan Rodriguez/Released) Bottom left: U.S. Navy Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 27, excavate the foundation on a project to extend the apron at Chebelley Air Field at Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, Dec. 8. (U.S. Navy photo by Engineering Aide 1st Class Jose Soto/Released)

PHIBCB 2, NCG 2 employ 'Crawl-Walk-Run' tactics during BTX

By MCSN Kenneth Gardner
PHIBCB2 Public Affairs

Amphibious Construction Battalion (PHIBCB) 2 completed a Battalion Tactical Exercise (BTX), Fort A.P. Hill, Va., Nov. 18. The exercise was a critical portion of the battalion's homeport training cycle and tested the ability of Seabees and Sailors to defend against enemy attacks in a contingency environment.

"Our Sailors exceeded my expectations throughout all phases of the exercise," said PHIBCB 2 Command Master Chief Keith Lefebvre. "Last week we had boatswain mates operating watercraft. This week they're digging fighting positions and employing crew served weapon systems alongside their fellow Seabees without missing a beat!"

To help with the execution of the BTX, Naval Construction Group (NCG) 2, stationed at the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi, acted in a supportive role to help oversee PHIBCB's training.

This was accomplished by working with PHIBCB 2's training department to set up white and red cell support elements and break down the BTX into a two-phased approach consisting of classroom instruction and tactical field training.

"At the PHIBCB BTX, we employed a crawl, walk, run method to the field training," said Lt. Cmdr.



Seabees from Amphibious Construction Battalion (PHIBCB) 2, use a litter to evacuate a simulated casualty during PHIBCB 2's Battalion Tactical Exercise (BTX), Fort A.P. Hill, Va., Nov. 17. (U.S. Navy photo by Engineering Aide 2nd Class Larry Winer/Released)

Daniel Lutz, training officer, PHIBCB 2. "We started with the crawl phase with some block training in the barracks for the first half of the training to learn the basic building blocks and to make sure we were all on the same page fundamentally."

The classroom phase consisted of in-depth instruction where PHIBCB 2 'Bees sat down with instructors to learn about different situations they could encounter in the field and the proper way to handle each one.

"At first I thought that I wasn't going to like it, but I actually ended up having a good time," said Boatswain Mate 1st Class Robert Cooke, craft master under instruction for PHIBCB 2. "Overall I did a lot of patrols and learned stuff about patrols that I didn't know before."

Once the classroom instruction phase was complete, the battalion then started preparing for the tactical field environment phase of the BTX. The enabled the battalion to take what they learned in the classroom and apply it to possible hostile scenarios.

"We transitioned from block training out to the field portion of the BTX, where we continued to walk through the initial steps and then straight into a run as we got into the training," said Lutz. "Overall, it was a very successful event, and I think folks learned a lot from our time at A.P. Hill."

The red cell consisting of NCG 2 personnel playing the part of aggressors, would randomly present the battalion with possible scenarios to test the PHIBCB 2's effectiveness in areas such as personnel/ vehicle searches, patrols, communications, mass casualty drills, convoy training, first aid and entry control point (ECP) operations.

The white cell was a conglomeration of NCG 2 personnel, PHIBCB 2 training department personnel and support from Naval Beach Group (NBG) 2's Gunnery Sergeant Lopez. The main goal was

See BTX page 12

Focus on Education

NCBC volunteers help out at Gulfport school

Utilitiesman 1st Class Mohammed Islam, assigned to Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, constructs a wood panel for PreK4Ward at Central Elementary School, Dec. 15. PreK4Ward is an early childhood education pilot program for 3 and 4-year-olds in Mississippi. After learning that the program needed help preparing for their Christmas program, Islam and two other Sailors volunteered to lend their time and talents to the school. (Photo courtesy of Central Elementary School)



Builder 3rd Class Casey Hampton, middle, and Steelworker 2nd Class Iesha Chong, right, assist with the installation of lattice panels that will be used during a PreK4Ward Christmas program at Central Elementary School in Gulfport. Anyone interested in volunteering is encouraged to contact their command volunteer coordinator or Public Affairs Office for information about opportunities that are available in the local community. (Photo courtesy of Central Elementary School)

New Chart the Course Training set for 2016

By Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

The Chief of Naval Personnel announced Dec. 9 new training for 2016 that expands on existing efforts made through Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) and fleet-wide training.

The training is called Chart the Course (CTC) and will emphasize positive professional behavior and decision-making. Scenario-based videos and facilitator-led discussions will help Sailors determine how to make the right decisions and behave professionally when facing difficult situations.

"We want our Sailors to live and act, on and off-duty, on and offline, according to the Navy's Core Values and Ethos, as professionals who treat each other with dignity and respect. With videos and peer-led discussions in Chart the Course, Sailors are going to see difficult moments, tough decision points, and learn what to do," said Rear Adm. Ann Burkhardt, director, 21st Century Sailor Office.

Burkhardt described the training as opportunity to focus on making the right choices, understanding the consequences, and how it impacts readiness. Leaders expect that discussions among peer groups

will cover a spectrum of behaviors and emphasize the importance of leaders at every level to "step up, and step in."

The training details are outlined in NAVADMIN 280/15. The training topics include professional behavior, alcohol's impact on decision making, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and retaliation.

Training will be delivered to all active and reserve personnel by facilitators selected by their commands and will begin in early 2016. New facilitators will be certified by Master Mobile Training Teams (MMTT) from the CTC Task Force and will then deliver the interactive video and facilitated face-to-face (F2F) sessions in small groups to their peers within the command. Since the training methods are similar, command facilitators certified to instruct the training delivered in 2015 will remain certified to instruct CTC.

CTC satisfies General Military Training requirements for Hazing, Operational Risk Management (ORM), and Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Awareness Command-Assigned Readiness-Enhancement (CARE) General Military Training.

Training must be completed for all Sailors no later than Sept. 30, 2016.

NCBC Gulfport School Liaison Officer
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Phone: 228-871-2117
email: kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil

Register to Vote ... Don't miss your opportunity to vote in upcoming primary elections! Complete a registration application and find out more at FVAP.gov. The Voting Officer for NCBC Gulfport is Lt. Zach Guthrie, Building 1, Room 225, 228-871-3460/2890.



'The Meat & Potatoes of Life'

By Lisa Smith Molinari
Special Contributor

Finding Goodness and Light

Less than two weeks until Christmas, and I haven't sent out our annual photo cards. I haven't finished buying gifts for my various relatives, friends, family, neighbors and pets. I haven't baked Francis' favorite Cranberry Pin-wheels or Hayden's favorite Onion Swiss Bread or Grammy's favorite Cheese Ball. I haven't moved the Elf on the Shelf from his original spot in a box in our basement.

And I'm embarrassed to say, we haven't even bought a tree yet.

I'm way behind this year, but I won't panic because I already did the one thing that keeps me grounded through the holidays.

No, I didn't put a shot of Jamesons in my morning coffee. I didn't book a flight to Cancun to hide out until the kids go back to school. And I didn't convert to Buddhism to avoid the holiday altogether.

All I did was plug in an old ceramic Christmas tree.

If you were born before 1985, you know what I'm talking about. Our moth-

ers, aunts and grandmothers made them at local ceramics shops back in the day. When I was a kid, it seemed there was a ceramic Christmas tree glowing in the window of every split-level, double-wide, and brick ranch in town.

Problem was, we didn't have one in our brick ranch. Why? My mother thought they were tacky. Sigh ...

Sometimes, we visited our friend's house who had a huge ceramic tree in the front window. I couldn't stop staring at it. The vivid colors of the plastic pegs, glowing from the light bulb within, seemed impossibly pure. Cobalt blue, emerald green, golden yellow, ruby red and hot magenta. It was an irresistible feast for my ceramic-tree-deprived eyes.

To me, that lighted tree somehow symbolized everything good about the holiday season.

Twenty years later, I was pushing our stroller through a seedy indoor flea market in an old strip mall in Virginia Beach, when I saw it.

Francis was gone on



some kind of military duty and I had three kids under the age of five. Needless to say, I was stressed. I have no idea what possessed me to wander into the flea market, but three isles in, past the creepy dolls, the handbag knock-offs, and the suspicious electronics, there it was -- a beautiful 1971 ceramic Christmas tree gleaming like a beacon in that broken down strip mall.

"Eleven dollars," the tiny Filipino woman barked at me from behind the table heaped with old junk. I counted out the paltry sum and took my prize home. There on my kitchen counter, radiating precious jewel tones beside my toaster, was my sanity.

The mesmerizing sight

of the vintage tree transported me away from the mayhem. Away from the obligation to spend hundreds on meaningless gift cards for people we hardly know. Away from the photo cards mailed out to so many recipients, there's no time to even sign our names. Away from the minute-by-minute distraction of cell phones. Away from the 24-hour line-up of holiday television programming clogging up our DVRs.

Instantly, the lighted tree catapulted me back to my childhood. To a time before the Internet, digital photos, virtual reality, Black Friday, Cyber Monday, and Throwback Thursday.

When we scratched the frost off of our windows with grubby fingernails, and couldn't wait to get outside. When we ate all our peas at dinner because "Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carol" was airing at seven o'clock. When Christmas cards were special because we only got 10. When candy canes were a pretty big deal. When we called to thank our aunt for the crocheted hat from the rotary phone

on the kitchen wall. When we laid under the tree in footed pajamas, gazing into the saturated colors of the dangerously hot incandescent bulbs, our bellies full of chocolate chip cookies and our heads full of gratitude.

When the holidays, and life in general, were simple and sweet.

Nowadays, the first thing I do to prepare for the holiday is plug in my ceramic Christmas tree to remind me of the simple joys of the season. But there's no need to run out to a seedy indoor flea market in search of a handmade relic like mine. Just find the simple things that bring goodness and light to your holiday.

*A 21-year Navy spouse, Lisa and her family are currently stationed in Newport, RI. Her self-syndicated columns appear on her blog, www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com, and she recently co-authored *Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life*. Follow Lisa @MolinariWrites."*

Buy a Brick for the Gulfport Seabee Heritage Center Memorial Plaza

Show your support for those who gave of themselves in the U.S. Navy Seabees with a commemorative brick at the new Seabee Memorial Plaza. The Plaza will be built at the east end of the Seabee Heritage Center in Gulfport. The Memorial Plaza will also serve as the new entrance to the Seabee Heritage Center. The Memorial Plaza will have over 10,000 paving bricks available for engraving.

Each brick is individually crafted of the finest quality. Customize your brick with your own special message. It can be a tribute to a former or current Seabee, a Seabee unit, your own service or any other appropriate text.

~ Each brick can have three lines with up to 20 characters (including spacing) per line

~ Lettering will be centered on bricks in capital letters

~ Letters are laser etched in black for durability and beauty

~ Order now and save \$25 per brick. Special introductory pricing through Dec. 31, 2015 of \$100

per brick. Regular price \$125 per brick. Offer valid for Gulfport only!

The first bricks will be placed when the Memorial Plaza is completed in 2017 and unveiled at an event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the creation of the Seabees. Subsequent placements will be made once a year.

For more information and to order a brick, visit: <http://www.seabeehf.org/museum/buy-a-brick-for-the-gulfport-seabee-heritage-center-memorial-plaza/>. Please contact the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation at 228-865-0480 or via email at info@seabeehf.org.

NCBC Helping Hands

TNT RANCH RECOVERY HOME - Volunteers are needed to help build a new residential treatment facility on the TNT Ranch property at 11373 Allen Road in Gulfport. The foundation has already been completed and labor help is needed to assist the contractor with framing and drywall. Information about the Ranch can be found on Facebook by searching "XX TNT RANCH XX". Point of contact is Tony Stapleton, 228-669-7859.

GULFPORT SCHOOLS NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS - The Gulfport Battalion of Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) is looking for adult volunteers willing to help the area's youth succeed in life. NSCC is a non-profit, nautically oriented, youth training and education organization which is run by the Navy League with support from the United States Navy. Although a great plus, no prior military experience is required; all we need are adults who are passionate about mentoring America's youth. Point of contact is Lt. Cmdr. Thomas O. Klomps, NSCC, at Region63@juno.com or 850-890-6792.

USS ALABAMA ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELP - The Navy is looking for volunteers with construction expertise for a rewarding experience. The battleship USS Alabama anchored in Mobile Bay needs help from individuals that can work with wood, steel, and concrete for work aboard ship and around the grounds. Point of contact is Owen Miller, 251-433-2703 or cell 251-767-0157.

DISABILITY CONNECTION - Disability Connection provides support to individuals with disabilities, including military veterans.

Volunteers are needed to build ramps and provide home inspections for needed material lists. Point of contact is Ms. O'Keefe, 228-604-4020 or office@disabilityconnection.org.

COAST SALVATION ARMY - Volunteers are needed for various projects throughout the year. Point of contact is Shawna_Tatge@uss.salvationarmy.org.

HELP SENIORS AND DISABLED CITIZENS - Harrison County RSVP needs retired plumbers, electricians, carpenters, skilled and unskilled laborers to join a team of handymen/women. Point of contact is Mag Holland, 228-896-0412.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY - The NMCRS Thrift Store is experiencing a severe shortage of volunteers. Call 228-871-2610 to volunteer.

USO GULF COAST - Interested in volunteering? We need volunteers every day to assist at our centers throughout the military community. To become a USO volunteer, you'll need to create a volunteer profile through www.usovolunteer.org.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME - Volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of activities at AFRH. Please contact volunteer coordinator Jennifer Briley at 228-897-4417 or jennifer.briley@afrh.gov to find out more information.

FEED MY SHEEP - Feed My Sheep, 2615 19th Street in Gulfport is looking for volunteers to help feed the homeless who are in need of a hot meal. Point of contact to volunteer is Christina Lipke, 228-731-4883.

GULF COAST USO
901 CBC 3rd Street, Building 114
228-575-5224

Office hours: Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Free services:
FAX, Send and Receive:
228-575-5225, Copies, United
Through Reading program,
Computers with web cams,
Internet/email access, X-Box



Seabee eCourier/Inside the Gate Holiday publishing schedule

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the Seabee eCourier and Inside the Gate will not be published Dec. 24 or Dec. 31.

The next edition of the Seabee eCourier will be published Jan. 7. A holiday edition of Inside the Gate will be published Dec. 22.

Readers are reminded that the weekly deadline for both publications is close of business Friday. All material should be sent to seabeeecourier@navy.mil.



NCBC Public Affairs
228-871-3664
Stay in Touch
with NCBC Gulfport

Inside the Gate:
tinyURL.com/NCBCITG
Seabee Courier:
tinyURL.com/CBCCourier
Facebook:
NCBCGulfport
Twitter:
@SeabeeCenter

Seabee Memorial Chapel

What's happening at the chapel?



Protestant

Sunday

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Protestant Service
11 a.m. - Children's Church

Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Praise Break (20 minutes of praise and worship through music)
11:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study
Noon - 1 p.m. - Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study

Christmas Eve

**Protestant
Candlelight
Service:**
Dec. 24, 5 p.m.

Catholic

Sunday

9 a.m. - Mass
10 a.m. - CCD Class

Monday, Tuesday & Friday

11:15 a.m. - Mass

Thursday

5 p.m. - Holy Hour
6 p.m. - Mass
6:30 p.m. - Fellowship

Christmas Eve Mass:
Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

New Year's Eve Mass:
Dec. 31, 4 p.m.

Please join us at the Chapel of Choice for Christmas Eve Services. Please bring a Christmas dish to share for our potluck. Chapel Fellowship - 5:30 p.m.

Please visit the Seabee Memorial Chapel Facebook page for updates on chapel events at: <https://www.facebook.com/ncbcchapel>. We may be reached by email at gulfportchapel.fct@navy.mil or by phone at 228-871-2454.

NCBC Command Chaplain: Lt. Cmdr. Ammie Davis

DEC 18- JAN 7

MWR

BELINGRATH GARDENS

Magic Christmas in Lights

View the Gardens in the day and return the same night for the lights and dinner!

Lights & Home: \$23(a) / \$13(c)
 Lights: \$14(a) / \$7(c)
 Dinner: \$11(a) / \$8.95(c)



Call ITT at 228-871-2231 to purchase yours!
 Magic Christmas in Lights open through January 2, 2016 5-9pm.
 Closed Christmas and New Year's Day



Calling All Bakers!
 Liberty is in need of your home-made holiday goodies to provide a **Taste of Home** for Liberty patrons unable to go home for Christmas!

Deliver to Liberty
 Bldg. 365
 Dec 18-223

Call 228-871-4684 for more info

USA A

Paid sponsor. No Navy or federal endorsement implied.

January Special at The Grill

Bacon cheeseburger topped with fresh cole slaw & fried pickles

Taste of Summer Burger \$6.50

Served with side of potato chips & fountain soda

Call 228-871-2494 to order!

CHOOSE TO LOSE
ANNUAL WEIGHT LOSS COMPETITION

JAN. 18-MARCH 11

Join Team NCBC Gulfport as we face off against Keesler Air Force Base in our annual weight loss competition!

FREE TO PARTICIPATE!
 SIGN UP JAN. 4-15 AT THE FITNESS CENTER

Boost your weight loss by joining classes at the Fitness Center- Cycling, Zumba, Circuit Training, Virtual Training & Fitness Incentive Program!

Questions? Call 228-871-2668

Stop into the Fitness Center for complete rules

General Maintenance Classes

Learn to do-it-yourself and save money!

FREE

By Appointment
 OPEN:
 Wednesday - Friday 2-5 pm
 Saturday & Sunday 10 am- 5 pm
 Call 228-871-2204 to schedule

At the Auto Skills Center Bldg 397

Open to All Hands

Open on Christmas & New Year's Day!

MWR LIBERTY
 NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER
 GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

12/18 – 5 p.m., Star Wars Episode 7 ‘The Force Awakens’ at IMAX, \$14
 12/19 – 12 p.m., Tacky Sweater Christmas Party, Tackiest sweater wins a prize!
 12/20 – All Day, NFL on the Big Screen
 12/22 – 6 p.m., Tournament Tuesday; Black Ops III!, 1st Place Prize
 12/23 – 12/27 – Taste of Home Enjoy free Homemade Treats!
 12/23 – All Day, Wrapping Wednesday, Free wrapping paper to wrap gifts
 12/24 – 1 p.m., Risk Board Game, 1st Place Prize

Call for more information 228-871-4684

Stop in to see what's going on Dec 25- Jan 7!

SEABEE CINEMA

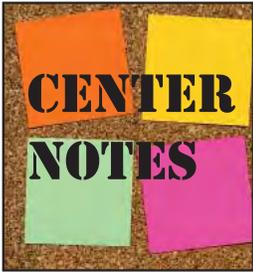
Regular movie showings Thursday- Sunday of every week!
 Showing this weekend: The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2, The Night Before, The Peanut Movie, Our Brand is Crisis
 Showing Soon: The Good Dinosaur, Creed
 For more information, call the 24-hour Movie Hotline at 228-871-3299 for show times

MWR Program Telephone Numbers

Facility Name	Phone	Facility Name	Phone
Anchors and Eagles	871-4607	MWR Admin	871-2538
Auto Skills Center	871-2804	Outdoor Recreation	871-2127
Beehive	871-4009	School Liaison	871-2117
Fitness Center	871-2668	Shields RV Park	871-5435
Aquatics	871-2668	The Grill	871-2494
Child Development	871-2323	Youth Activities	871-2251
Seabee Cinema	871-3299	Liberty Center	871-4684
ITT	871-2231		

December 17, 2015

Seabee Courier



SUPPORT

NMCB 1 Family Readiness Group (FRG) invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Monday of every month at the Youth Activities Center, building 335. Meetings are from 6 - 8 p.m. Children are welcome and baby

sitting is provided during deployment.

NMCB 11 FRG invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the last Monday of every month at 6 p.m. The meetings are held at the Youth Activities Center on board NCBC Gulfport. Children are always welcomed and child care is provided at no cost. Please join us for fun, food, and to meet and socialize with other NMCB 11 families and friends. For more information, please contact us at nmcb11frg@gmail.com or like us on our Facebook page, NMCB 11 FRG.

NMCB 133 FRG invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Activities Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information, contact FRG President Jaime Royal at 317-730-4064 or email NMCB133fsg@gmail.com Log on to the FRG site, <http://www.wix.com/NMCB133FSG/133frg>.

FOCUS - Families Overcoming Under Stress provides resiliency training to service members and their families by teaching practical skills to help meet the challenges of military life, including how to communicate and solve problems effectively and to successfully set goals together. Confidential and free with family-friendly hours, contact FOCUS today! Call 228- 822-5736 or email Gulfport@focusproject.org

Gulfport Officer's Spouse Club is a social organization that has FUN while helping our community. We meet monthly and have special interest groups for almost everyone! For more information, email goscgulfport@gmail.com or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/gosc.gulfport>. We hope to see YOU soon!

Navy Wives Clubs of America, Inc., is interested in reestablishing a club in the local area. If you are interested in joining an organization that promotes the health and welfare of any enlisted member of the

Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, please contact Darlene Carpenter at 228-342-2271 or Tina O'Shields, 228-357-0513. Visit www.navywivesclubsof-america.org for more information on NWCA.

NMCRS - The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop is located in building 29 on Snead Street. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers, and child care and mileage are reimbursed. Retail hours of operation are Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome. Visit the NMCRS offices at the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 30, suite 103 or call 228-871-2610 to find out how to become a part of the NMCRS volunteer team!

Gamblers Anonymous The Fleet and Family Support Center offers GA meetings every Thursday at 11 a.m. GA is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other. All meetings are confidential and facilitated by GA. Come to a meeting or call Jim Soriano at 228-871-3000.

TRAINING

Naval Sea Cadets

The Gulfport branch of the Naval Sea Cadets are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nationwide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 1, 2nd floor conference room. Point of contact is Lt. Cmdr. Thomas O. Klomps, NSCC, at Region63@juno.com or 850-890-6792.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association is always looking for new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m., at the Fitness Center classroom. For more information, contact Association president, CE1 Daniel Shaver, 228-871-2145.

NCBC Multi-Cultural Diversity Committee is seeking members. Meetings are held weekly on Wednesdays at noon at the ECS, building 122 in the second floor conference room. Contact MCDC President, PS2 Handley at natashia.handley@navy.mil or Vice President, BUCN Miller at tarigah.miller@navy.mil for info.

VFW Post 3937 Long Beach - Open Monday - Thursday, noon - 8 p.m., Friday, noon to 10 p.m., Saturday, 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. Steak Night is every Friday, 5 - 8 p.m., and breakfast is available every Saturday, 7 - 10 a.m. VFW meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at

7 p.m. New members are always welcome. For more information, contact Post 3937 at 228-863-8602.

Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW 3937 Long Beach now VFW Auxiliary - Ladies Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars 3937 Long Beach, Miss., now invites men to join. The Auxiliary is now the **VFW Auxiliary**. Our organization supports veterans, their families and current service members. We help in VA Hospitals, have voices in Legislation, help promote patriotism in our youth, offer scholarships to youth, teachers, and members. Members must be directly related to a veteran who has served in a foreign war. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at 213 Klondyke Road, Long Beach, MS Contact Carol Feters, President at 228-832-4893 or email cfeters@cablone.net for more information.

VFW Post 4526 Orange Grove is open daily from Noon to 10 p.m. and located at 15206 Dedeaux Road, Orange Grove. Meetings are the second Saturday of the month at 1 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call 228-832-0017 for info.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. To become a member or for links to historical sites, visit: <http://nmcb62alumni.org>.

D.A.V. - Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 5 invites Veterans and future Veterans to monthly meetings held the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Call Service Officer, Silva Royer at 228-324-1888 to find out more information.

Navy Seabee Veterans of America (NSVA) Island X-1, Gulfport is always happy to welcome new members. You do not have to be retired to be a member. If interested, contact Eugene Cowhick at eugene.cowhick@navy.mil or 228-871-3877. Please join us on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 5 building, 2600 23rd Ave., Gulfport, for the monthly Island X-1 business meeting and see what we're all about. For more information, visit www.nsva.org.

HERITAGE

The Seabee Gift Store is located in the Seabee Heritage Center Training Hall, building 446. Hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, books and DVD's. Contact them at www.seabeesmuseumstore.org or call the gift store at 228-871-4779.

From BTX page 7 not only to grade the battalion's effectiveness during the scenarios, but also train, guide and oversee the execution of their training. The success of this training exercise was in large part due to the efforts and support of NCG 2 and Naval Beach Group (NBG) 2.

The BTX proved to be more than just another training exercise. Through the cooperative efforts between NCG 2 and PHIBCB 2, it also served as a staging ground to build and bolster future relations between the two commands.

Through ongoing training and preparation, PHIBCB 2 is able to combine small craft expertise of the surface Navy with the construction capabilities of the Naval Construction Force to support NBG 2 in amphibious force projection with fully trained, combat-ready forces.

Mini Mart Gas Pump Closure - The pumps at the Mini Mart will be closed to customers at 9 p.m., Dec. 21 for mandatory inspections and reopen at 6 a.m., Dec. 22.