Naval Station Guantanamo Bay’s (NSGB) Command Master Chief, CMDT Tom Mace, and other Master Chiefs from different commands around NSGB met for their monthly Coffee with the Master Chiefs event, Jan. 25, at Caribbean Coffee and Cream. Coffee with the Master Chiefs is a relaxed forum that happens once a month for anyone on base to voice concerns, issues, and a chance to socialize.

“Coffee with the Master Chiefs came about because I was realizing various questions and complaints through multiple forums,” said Mace. “Having this at Triple C provides an atmosphere for conversation in a neutral environment that someone would feel comfortable attending.”

Mace added that while NSGB is the only base that he knows of using this type of forum, it leads to more communication and an exchange of ideas.

NAVSTA Sailor of the Week. Master-at-Arms Seaman Jordan I. Morales. MASN Morales is being recognized as Sailor of the Week for his selfless hard work and dedication. He assisted the Military Working Dog Division in the certification of a MWD team on Patrol, enhancing the Security posture of the Command, while also working on his Explosives Qualification/Certification—a qualification usually held by a seasoned Third Class. He volunteered two hours at the Fitness Enhancement Program (FEP) during his off time to assist service members in reaching their physical goals. Finally, MASN Morales began in on his off days to work an extra shift to support the MWD division in the health and care of the Military Working Dogs. MASN Morales maintains impeccable military bearing while volunteering two hours at the FEP. He was the first to arrive on scene and immediately took action. Without hesitation, he established a perimeter who played an essential role in responding to a chlorine leak at the Desalinization Plant on 08FEB2018. MASN Morales is a dedicated Sailor who played an essential role in responding to a chlorine leak at the Desalinization Plant on 08FEB2018. MASN Morales was the first to arrive on scene and immediately took action. Without hesitation, he established a perimeter and cleared the area, ensuring the safety of all workers at the plant. Once the Fire Department arrived on scene, MASN Morales assisted the Incident Commander to ensure all additional entities that were needed were in place, all while maintaining fluid communication with dispatch to keep them updated of every step that occurred. MASN Munoz aided medical in establishing a triage location and ensuring they were ready to go prior to the Fire Department entering the facility. Once Fire entered the plant, they were able to locate the leak and secure it. In addition, MASN Munoz assisted in the decontamination process and with the Fire Department personnel. Because of his swift actions and assistance, medical was able to evaluate all Fire personnel in a timely manner, ensuring no one suffered from heat exhaustion or stress. Once the situation was deemed clear by the Incident Commander, MASN Munoz remained on scene until all entities left the location. MASN Munoz performed outside of his normal duties and extended helping hands to anyone and everyone that needed it. Due to MASN Munoz’s quick actions and assistance, no one was injured and the preservation of life was maintained. MASN Munoz performance was outstanding and he is highly recommended by his Section Chief and Watch Commander for Sailor of the Week. Bravo Zulu, MASN Munoz!

Driving Miss GTMO
By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Philip Wagner, Jr., Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay’s (NSGB) Public Works Office offers drivers license examinations on base so that anyone, including third country nationals and teens, can get their driver’s license here.

While obtaining a license here in GTMO is great, it’s only good for four years and only valid while on the base.

“It makes me feel good to be able to help the third country nationals be able to work,” said Ritchie Delores, C-Pool Licensing Agent. “It also makes me feel good to help the young people of the base have more freedom to get around the base and become more responsible, driving is a big responsibility.”

Spencer Yeich, son of NSGB Operations Officer, Cmdr. Timothy Yeich, said that having his GTMO license allows him to get more practice in an environment that’s not as high speed as back in the U.S.

“I believe that it is a huge achievement seeing that I have a GTMO license, but it also helps me get started on the basics of driving,” said Yeich. “It also makes the time go by a little faster since I can go hang out with my friends a little easier.”

Delores added that according to Naval Station policy, young people of driving age can get a student permit when they turn 15 and a half years old with the guidance of their parents or any guardian so that they can fill an in the liability form. They must take a written test and whenever they pass the written test we issue them a student permit. When they turn 16 they have a chance to take the actual drivers test and receive the GTMO driver’s license.

“The written test for GTMO is based more on safety,” said Delores. “For example, if you are following a vehicle carrying explosives you need to be 100 feet behind the vehicle, but here we want people to follow 200 feet behind that same vehicle.”

Delores added that when third country nationals come to the C-Pool for their license, they need to have a foreign country driver’s license showing that they already know how to drive and obey the traffic rules and regulations of their native country.

“Once you get your license, there are still rules of the road that must be followed: for example, obey the speed limits and give right of way to pedestrians in cross walks,” said Delores. “Driving is a privilege. Don’t abuse the privilege that you have been given to drive here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.”
Pier Charlie Comes to Life

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Philip Wagner, Jr., Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (NSGB) and Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville (FLCJ) Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) hosted the first ship at the new fuel pier, Pier Charlie, Military Sealift Command petroleum tanker USNS Lawrence H. Gianella (T-AOT 1125), Feb. 2. The pier was completed almost two and a half years ago in June of 2015 and is scheduled to be commissioned on Feb. 27.

Cmdr. Timothy Yeich, NSGB operations officer, described this pier as backup and an enhancement to mission capabilities.

“Having Pier Charlie available gives us redundancy,” said Yeich. “Not only can we fuel at Wharf Bravo, but also have a fueling pier at Charlie, so we can do two ships at the same time or if something happens to one of them we have a backup.”

FLCJ personnel have been looking forward to this day for a long time.

“We are very excited – it’s been a long time coming,” said Tony Ramirez, fuels officer, FLCJ. Pier Charlie is a state-of-the-art pier that allows the base to supply any fuel type a ship might require.

“This is an amazing opportunity,” said Cmdr. Shane C. Dietrich, supply officer, FLCJ. “We now have a capability that we didn’t have before to bring more ships online and also conduct repair operations to our other pier.”

Dietrich added that Pier Charlie is a deep draft pier so the bigger ships can pull in as well as smaller ships, increasing our capabilities to provide more services to the fleet and also the Coast Guard.

In 2017, FLCJ dispensed more than 11 million gallons of fuel (consisting of diesel, JP5, and gasoline) and they fueled 116 ships, 1,502 planes and 41 emergency diesel generators.
Approximately 200 Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents participated in the annual Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) GTMO Mudder, Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Lateral Hazard Golf Course. During the event, residents ran a 1.7 mile loop, where participants could run one to four laps, tackling eight obstacles that included a tire run, tire flip, burpee station, log carry and, of course, MUD!!!
Growing Girl Scouts in the Garden

Photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Monique Meeks, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office

The Guantanamo Bay Girl Scout Daisies visited the Guantanamo Bay Plant Nursery to earn their gardening patch, Feb. 3.

“Our Girl Scout Daisies had an amazing time at the Guantanamo Bay plant nursery today planting coral bush seeds, learning about the importance of plants, and even sharing lunch with Admiral, the plant nursery iguana,” said Michelle Mattingly, Daisy troop leader.

The girls, all second graders, were active participants in the gardening process throughout their morning at the nursery and had no qualms about getting a little dirty to help their community and the environment.

Catherine Clevenger Alvizo, who volunteers a great deal of her time on base running the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Plant Nursery, provided the girls with information on the importance of volunteering, what they would be doing that day and how their efforts help both on base and beyond. Alvizo, an avid gardener, was highly knowledgeable and enjoyed answering all of the girls’ questions about what they were seeing and doing around the nursery.

Mattingly and the Girl Scouts wanted to include a special thank you to Alvizo for helping the day be a great success.

Marine Corps Security Force Company Guantanamo Bay hosted Cub Scouts Pack 3401 for their annual “Cub Scout Day with the Marines” event, Feb. 3.

During the event, the Cub Scouts were able to don body armor, handle various weapons and navigational tools, explore the inside of a Humvee and complete the Marine Hill Obstacle Course.

The Pack was extremely grateful that the Marines coordinated such an outstanding event.

“This is a great opportunity for our sons and daughters who participated,” said Nick Neumann, Pack Leader. “The Marines were great with the kids. They provided a lot of information and kept the kids interested throughout the event. We are lucky to have these positive role models on base that can help us lead our children in the right directions.”

“Cub Scout Day with the Marines” is just one of the many events the pack holds throughout the year. Each month, there are several den meetings and one pack event such as the Christmas Parade, two campouts, the Downhill Derby, a Raingutter Regatta, and a Crossing Over ceremony at the end of the year.

Membership in Cub Scout Pack 3401 is open to all boys in Grades 1-5 and activities take place from October to May each year, as well as some optional events in the summer to keep the boys’ interest. If you are interested in having your son join the pack either this year or during the next school year, please contact the Pack Leader at nueumann05@yahoo.com.
Making Your Move: Tips and Hints
By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Phillip Wagner, Jr., Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office

As winter in the Caribbean and Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (NSGB) transitions into spring, there will be many Sailors and residents making plans to transition to our beautiful community and transitioning back into the continental United States and other places around the world.

While this migration from south to north isn’t as epic as some bird species as they migrate thousands of miles to get away from the cold, our friends and colleagues are becoming part of PCS season or permanent change of station season. A season that is chock full of hazards, snares and pit falls you want to avoid.

One of the biggest recommendations to those PCS’ing is once you receive your hard copy orders to change duty stations, go to Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville (FLCJ) Guantanamo Bay Personnel Property Office and schedule your household goods move.

Here are a few other recommendations: Plan – It’s never too early to plan your move. Decide what items you are taking with you. Visit with a Relocation Representative at Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC).

Know your entitlements-
Weight allowances, what can and can’t be shipped. Here is a short list of things that CAN’T be shipped or stored at government expense as part of your household goods:
- Auto/Trucks/ vans and similar motor vehicles, airplanes, and camper trailers
- Flammables, combustibles explosives or batteries
- Giders
- Loaded Firearms
- Live animal, includes birds, fish, and reptiles
- No propane tanks
- This is only a small portion of the list

Decide the type of Shipment – Depending on your new Permanent Duty Station (PDS) you may be entitled to more than one type of shipment.
- Basic Household Goods (HHG) shipment
- Personally Procured Move (Formally known as DITY)
- Combination or Split shipment

Unaccompanied Baggage (UB)
Non-Temporary (TFS or long term) Storage

How do I start a Household goods Move -

1. Go to Move.mil and complete a new move
2. Print 3 forms
   a. DD 1299
   b. DD 1797
   c. DD 1252
3. Take the above 3 forms plus your orders (mobilization and/or demobilization) to Personal Property to schedule your Move.

On your pack out date
1. Must be present from 8am-5pm
2. Must be in proper attire
3. Must be sober

If you are planning to travel from NSGB with a pet, here are some more helpful tips, first and most important is to ensure that your furry family member is on your PCS orders.

Here are a few other tips for your furry friends:
1. Health Certificate: Pets need a health certificate (DD 2209) and an airline letter of acclimation within five days of travel. Call the Vet Clinic 2212 or 2101 Call at least two weeks in advance to schedule an appointment.
2. Pets must have current rabies vaccination certificate (DD2208) in order to travel
3. Microchip: A chip is required to international travel and is also required by government travel
4. Kennel Requirements: The Kennel must be big enough to allow your pet to stand up without their head touching the top of the kennel

Please contact the Base Veterinary Clinic at 2212 or 2101 and give yourself plenty of time.

For more information on these topics and more, contact the Fleet and Family Support Center at 4141 for the Smooth Move Seminar that is required for military members and the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville (FLCJ) Guantanamo Bay Personnel Property Office at 4495.

NHGB Sailors Participate in Drill
By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Phillip Wagner, Jr., Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office

Sailors assigned to Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay participated in First-Receiver Operations Training (FROT) course, Jan. 25. The two-day course taught Sailors how to respond to medical situations that involve chemical, biological, radiological/nuclear (CBRN) or other hazardous materials. The 2-day course provided instruction on life saving skills required to triage, initiate field treatment, decontaminate and save victims from chemical, biological, radiological/nuclear or hazardous materials. The course culminated with a timed exercise in which participants dawned protective gear, erected a decontamination tent and decontaminated mock casualties.
NSGB Children Start Smart in Sports
By Chief Mass Communication Specialist Monique Meeks, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office

Children residing on Naval Station Guantanamo Bay have boundless opportunities to get outdoors and be active. One such opportunity is the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Child and Youth Programs (CYP) Youth Sports & Fitness (YSF) program. While there are numerous sports available for children in K-12 throughout the year, including programs such as dance, football, cheer, basketball, soccer, baseball, golf and more, many may not be aware that there is also a program called Start Smart aimed at children under the age of 5 that is free to all participants who sign up.

This season, our youngest athletes, who are all just three or four years old, are learning the basic soccer skills through various drills and exercises that will help them be better team mates and better players in their future sports involvement.

Other Start Smart sports programs offered throughout the year include tumbling, football, and baseball.

The YSF program plans, organizes, and conducts sports leagues, skills clinics, camps, fitness/health classes, special sporting events, and outdoor recreation activities for children and youth through the age of 18. The YSF program ensures that the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional needs of youth and teens are addressed and provided for through a variety of engaging and appropriate programs. Our sports programs are affiliated with the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS). It is important to note that all youth under the age of ten must be in compliance with the Base Supervision Policy in order to participate unless the participant is affiliated with School Age Care (SAC). Registration is required prior to participation in all activities.

If you are interested in putting your children in any of the YSF program offerings, be sure to visit SAC (Youth Center) to fill out a registration packet early as spaces do fill up quickly. For more information, contact the YSF director, Waylend Reed, at 757-458-5194/4092 or waylend.f.reed.naf@mail.mil.