



Meridian

Fall/Winter 2006

Magazine of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) - Gateway to success

Greetings from your president

I am honored and excited by the opportunity to serve as your President and lead an organization that is focused on the professional development of young officers.

One of the most important truths I have learned as a naval officer is that leadership is leadership, no matter where you go or what you do. Times change, technology marches forward, cultures vary from place to place, but the true principles of leadership are constant. Whether you are looking at the citizens of ancient Greece, the Hebrews in the Old Testament, the armies and navies of the last two hundred years, the rulers of modern Europe, the pastors in local churches, the heads of our academic institutions or the business leaders of today's global economy, success is based on good leadership. I am grateful to Rear Adm. Manson Brown USCG, for his outstanding leadership and wisdom in guiding NNOA these past two years. I have the conn and I am excited at the opportunity to lead NNOA. We are uniquely positioned to support the leadership and to improve diversity in the Sea Services in the years to come. As the deputy director, Military Plans and Policy Division, I play a direct role in the management of over 420,000 Active and Reserve Officers and Sailors. I intend to use my manpower and personnel experience as a critical enabler in growing diversity in the Sea Services.

I commend Lt. Col. Robert Clements and the members of the Quantico Chapter for a professional and well organized annual training conference this past July. Active duty and retired members enjoyed excep-



Capt. Jackson

tional professional development and mentoring opportunities. We had a conference of diverse, motivational topics and speakers culminating in a banquet which honored one of our finest, Captain Donald Flowers and his wife Callie.

I recall with vivid memory my first National Conference, 1983 in Memphis Tennessee. The conference was at the Peabody Hotel (yes I saw the ducks). I was overwhelmed and ecstatic to see so many senior officers who looked like me with gold on their shoulders. Seeing senior Black officers who were willing to mentor and simply talk to a young Lieutenant was a turning point in my career and a key reason I decided to remain in the Navy for at least one more tour. Well, that one more tour turned into 27 great years. I share my story with you to illustrate the importance of junior officers and senior officers attending to the National Conference. Your

mentor does not have to be of the same ethnicity. Junior officers should not miss out on the opportunity to meet senior Leadership up close and personal. I especially challenge every junior officer to attend next year's conference. I challenge each member who attended the conference this year to bring a junior officer with you next year. The 2007 National Conference will be held in San Diego, 16-20 July.

The plan for this year's Board is to continue organizational discipline by focusing on the principles, procedures, and processes contained in our Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and the Chapter Operations Manual. I am confident if we adhere to the guidance outlined in the aforementioned articles, we will improve information flow and improve our ability to document and measure the outstanding achievements of NNOA chapters and individuals around the world. The ability to measure our effectiveness with clear metrics is critical in our efforts to enhance the diversity of the Sea Services. The Regional Vice Presidents will be reaching out to the chapter presidents as part of this effort. The Board will also be reaching out to longstanding NNOA members to serve with the Executive Board Committees. Please contact us via our website, www.nnoa.org if you are interested in serving. Additionally, please sign in to the website and verify or update your contact information, so we can reach out to you.

Regards,

Captain Bernard Jackson, USN
Executive Board President
President@nnoa.org

NNOA Board of Directors

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NNOA Mission Statement

National Naval Officers Association actively supports the Sea Services in the development of a diverse officer corps through recruitment, retention, and career development. NNOA is essential in maintaining operational readiness by providing professional development, mentoring, and support of cultural awareness. NNOA establishes and maintains a positive image of the Sea Services in communities and educational institutions.

NNOA Vision Statement

NNOA is the "Gateway to Success" in the Sea Services. We are innovative thinkers committed to a shared vision of leadership, professional exchange and networking. We are the premiere professional development organization in the Sea Services. Our members are empowered with the skills necessary to achieve their full potential. We are an invaluable partner in the Sea Services in the achievement of their recruitment, retention and readiness goals. We recognize our responsibility to our community as we promote and foster American ideals.

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*** NNOA Fundraiser Trip ***
Save the date. June 7-11, 2007, NNOA
fundraiser trip to Negril, Jamaica, West Indies.
More details to follow on the website and
future issues of the Meridian.

Immediate Past President Rear Adm. Manson Brown

Congratulations to Capt. Bernard Jackson, USN, and the dedicated volunteers of the 2006-7 NNOA National Board of Directors. The installation of this new leadership team closed one of the most successful Annual Training Conferences in NNOA history.

I appreciate and commend the hard work, dedication, and leadership of Lt. Col. Robert Clements, USMC, and his team at Quantico Chapter for their superb performance as host chapter. I also appreciate and commend Capt. Patricia Jackson, USN, and the talented members of the 2005-6 National Board of Directors for doing all things big and small to orchestrate another very successful conference. Combined with the phenomenal support of the host commands and Sea Service leaders, the active participation of our members made the 2006 Quantico Annual Training Conference very special. The turnout of junior officers

was particularly noteworthy.

I commend all of the members of the 2004-5 and 2006-7 Board of Directors for their magnificent work during my tenure as National President. Building on the tenure of Col. John Boggs, USMC, and his teams of board members, we continued to strengthen NNOA in terms of membership base, reputation, and financial standing. Our members are talking about the last two training conferences in New Orleans and Quantico in "best ever" terms. We are aligned and engaged with our Sea Service leaders, with all three Service Chiefs having expressed their personal commitment by joining us as members. Through the support of our members, Sea Service leaders, and our sponsors, NNOA is well positioned for greater success in the future as the premier professional development organization for the Sea Service officer.

I was honored to serve as your National President and plan to continue my passionate commitment to enhancing career opportunities for our junior officers.

Rear Adm. Manson Brown takes command of Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific

By Lt. Cmdr Anthony Gordon, USCG,
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Rear Adm. Manson Brown, the past immediate National President of the NNOA, officially relieved Rear Adm. Jody Breckinridge as the commander, Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific on June 22, 2006 on Coast Guard Island in Alameda, Calif. The ceremony was presided over by Vice Adm. Charles Wurster, commander, U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area. The ceremony was attended by many senior officers, including retired Navy Rear Adm. Robert Toney and retired Navy Capt. Don and Mrs. Callie Flowers.

Brown's legacy and contributions are well known within the NNOA organization as he has been an active member for more than 27 years and has served in a number of positions in addition to serving as the National President for the past two years. He is currently serving as a member and Senior Advisor in the San Francisco Bay Area chapter.

Change of Command scheduled

Navy Cmdr. Bernadette Semple

will be relieved by Navy Cmdr. William Boozer, as the director, Naval Communication Security Material System (NCMS), on December 1, 2006 at 1000 at Andrews Air Force Base, Hangar 8.

Semple's follow-on assignment is to the Combined Joint Force Task Force Horn of Africa (CJTF HOA), J6 directorate.



Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area Vice Adm. Charles D. Wurster, looks on as Rear Adm. Jody A. Breckenridge congratulates Rear Adm. Manson K. Brown after officially handing over command of Coast Guard Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific today during a change of command ceremony at Coast Guard Island in Alameda, Calif. The Maintenance and Logistics Command provides support to Coast Guard units and people located west of the Rocky Mountains and across 73 million square miles of the Pacific Ocean to ensure Coast Guard vessels and shore activities are fully capable of meeting their assigned missions by providing a broad range of support. Breckenridge took the helm of the co-located Eleventh Coast Guard District on March 30, 2006. Brown recently transferred from Honolulu, Hawaii, where he was commander of Coast Guard Sector Honolulu. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer Mariana O'Leary.



Aboard USS IWO JIMA LHD 7 -- Capt. Sinclair Harris addresses the group during the change of command ceremony for Commander, Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) FOUR aboard USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) September 8. In his remarks, Harris urged the Sailors and Marines to continue the Navy-Marine Corps teamwork. Official U.S. Navy Photo by U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist Christopher L. Clark.



Above right - Capt. Sinclair Harris receives the Legion of Merit during the change of command ceremony for Commander, Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) FOUR aboard USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) September 8. Harris' next tour of duty will be as part of the CNO's strategic studies group in Newport, R.I. Official U.S. Navy Photo by U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist Christopher L. Clark.

Iwo Jima hosts change of command

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Mike Jones, USS Iwo Jima Public Affairs

USS IWO JIMA, At Sea - Capt. Brad Kyker relieved Capt. Sinclair Harris as Commander, Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) FOUR/Commander, Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) in a ceremony aboard USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7), Sept. 8.

"I ask you all to continue to take care of each other," Harris remarked to the assembled group during the ceremony. "Look after each other both professionally and personally."

During the ceremony in the multi-purpose, amphibious assault ship's forecabin, Harris was presented the Legion of Merit for his service as PHIBRON and ESG Commander. "This has been an outstanding tour for me," He remarked following the event. "There's nothing better than serving with the Sailors of the Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group and the Marines of the 24th Marine

Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable)." Harris, who departed the command following the ceremony, will next serve as part of the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group in Newport, R.I.

Kyker, who arrives after a successful tour in Washington D.C. as Coalition Affairs Division Chief in the Joint Staff, Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J-5), says he's excited about taking command of the ship and its outstanding crew members. "I am extremely proud to be a part of this outstanding team," said Kyker, a native of Pomona, Calif. "I have been nothing but impressed with this outstanding organization since I arrived here."

Iwo Jima serves as the flagship for the Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG), which includes USS Nashville, USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41), USS Cole (DDG 67), USS Philippine Sea (CG 58), USS Bulkeley (DDG 84), and USS Albuquerque (SSN 706). Additionally, the Iwo Jima

ESG includes the 24th MEU(SOC) as well as various supporting elements from Assault Craft Unit Four, Beachmaster Unit Two, and Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 26.

Iwo Jima left its homeport of Norfolk, Va., June 6, and began a regularly scheduled six-month deployment to the U.S. European Command and U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) area of responsibilities (AOR) to conduct Maritime Security Operations (MSO).

MSO help set the conditions for security and stability in the maritime environment, as well as complement the counter-terrorism and security efforts of regional nations. These operations deny international terrorists the use of the maritime environment as a venue for attack or to transport personnel, weapons, or other materials.



NAVY NAMES NEWEST ARLEIGH BURKE CLASS SHIP USS GRAVELY

The Department of the Navy announced today that the Navy's newest Arleigh Burke class guided-missile destroyer will be USS Gravelly (DDG 107), honoring the late Vice Adm. Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr. The USS McCampbell (DDG 85), USS Lassen (DDG 82) and USS Shoup (DDG 86) are shown below. Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. John Harvey announced the honor during remarks at the National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Conference.

"It's fitting that this type of ship be named after a man who was able to set a true course for our nation's Navy, and at the same time transform challenges into accomplishments and lead the way for a future generation of Naval war fighters," said Harvey.

Samuel Lee Gravelly Jr. was born in Richmond, Va., June 4, 1922. After attending Virginia Union University, he enlisted in the Naval Reserve in September 1942. In 1943 he partici-

pated in a Navy program (V-12) designed to select and train highly qualified men for commissioning as officers in the Navy. On Dec. 14, 1944, young Gravelly successfully completed midshipman training, becoming the first African American commissioned as an officer from the Navy Reserve Officer Training Course. He was released from active duty in April 1946, but remained in the Naval Reserve.

Gravelly was recalled to active duty in 1949. As part of the Navy's response to President Truman's Executive Order to desegregate the Armed Services, his initial assignment was as a Navy Recruiter, recruiting African Americans in the Washington, D.C. area. Gravelly went on to a Navy career that lasted 38 years and included many distinguished accomplishments.

Gravelly was a true pathfinder whose performance and leadership as an African American Naval officer demonstrated to America the value and strength of diversity. Gravelly's accomplishments served as watershed events for today's Navy. He was the

first African American to command a warship (USS Theodore E. Chandler); command a major warship (USS Jouett); to achieve flag rank and eventually Vice Admiral; and to command a numbered fleet (Third).

USS Gravelly (DDG 107) will provide a dynamic multi-mission platform to lead the Navy into the future. Utilizing a gas turbine propulsion system the ship can operate independently or as part of carrier battle groups, surface action groups, amphibious ready groups, and underway replenishment groups. The ship's combat systems center on the Aegis combat system and the SPY-ID, multifunction phased array radar. The combination of Aegis, the Vertical Launching System, an advanced anti-submarine warfare system, advanced anti-aircraft missiles and Tomahawk, the Burke-class continues the revolution at sea.

For more information on Arleigh Burke class destroyers, visit <http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/factfile/ships/ship-dd.html>



NNOA Operations Manual Revision

The NNOA Operations Manual is being revised. The Revision Committee is soliciting chapter/individual member inputs to assist with the revision. The submission(s) must be sent to retired Navy Cmdr. Denise J. McCallaCreary of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter at email address mccalldj@sbcglobal.net with a copy to yourself unless you do not want to see the inputs by close of business on October 30, 2006.

An electronic copy of the most current operations manual is dated July 2001 and is posted on the organization's website at www.nnoa.org. That version should be used as the basis for your input recommendations.

E-mail subject line should read: "Ops Man Input."

The format for the submission is:

1. Identify page, Chapter, paragraph, sentence, etc you wish revised/changed. Provide the item (s) as it is now written in the manual and then provide proposed rewrite.
2. If they are no proposed rewrite, provide the Chapter, paragraph, etc. and what the problem is with the particular area/subject/policy matter and a little discussion about the problem. The Operations Manual Revision Committee will do the rest.

All inputs will be reviewed by the committee and appropriate action will be taken. BZ to the following members who have volunteered to work on the Revision Committee:

Chapter I - Introduction - Capt. Julia Barnes, Philadelphia Chapter

Chapter II - NNOA Organization - Captain Nancy Sanders, San Francisco Chapter

Chapter III - Membership - Cmdr. Greg Sawyer - Tidewater Chapter

Chapter IV - Internal Communications - Captain Ayres, Quantico Chapter

Chapter V - Awards and honors Cmdr. Malone - Tidewater Chapter

Chapter VI - Public Relations - Capt. Ayres - Quantico Chapter

Chapter VII - Lieutenant Commander Cedric Jessup - Oklahoma Chapter

Chapter VIII - Chapter Organization, Management and Activities - Cmdr. Ernie Taylor - D.C Chapter

Chapter IX - Fiscal Matter - Lt. Cmdr. Bea Henderson - D.C. Chapter

Chapter X - Meetings - Lt. Col. Clemens - Quantico Chapter

Chapter XI - Format & Prep of Resolutions - Lt. Cmdr. Bill Shelton D.C. Chapter

Chapter XII - Guidelines for Elections of Members - Lt. Cmdr. Bill Shelton

Chapter XIII - Sample Constitution and Bylaws - Lt. Cmdr. Bill Shelton

Annexes A, B, C, D - Lieutenant Junior Grade Kishia Mills - Philadelphia Chapter

TAB B in Chapter IV, page IV-4 - IV-6 Web site Privileges - Webmaster, LCDR Jamel Weatherspoon

McCalla Creary is the chair for the Revision Committee and can be reached at 408-268-2933 if you have any questions.

USCG CHANGE OF COMMAND

By Lt. Cmdr. Tony Gordon

U.S. Coast Guard Cmdr Adolph Keyes was relieved of command as the commander, Electronic Systems Support Unit (ESSU) Alameda, on August 3, 2006, in a change of command ceremony at Integrated Support

Command, Coast Guard Island, Alameda, Calif.

Keyes assumed duties as the section chief, Command, Control, Computers and Communications Information Technology Workforce Manager, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C. This transfer also marked the end his tenure as president of the San Francisco Bay Area (SFBA) chapter of NNOA.

The change of command ceremony was officiated by Coast Guard Rear Adm. Manson Brown, commander, Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific, and the immediate past National President of NNOA. There were more than 200 persons in attendance at the ceremony which included a 28-person honor platoon in Keyes' honor. Keyes received the Meritorious Service Medal for his achievements.

Keyes' accomplishments with the SFBA chapter were significant to include increasing membership, overseeing the successful awarding of the first SFBA scholarship and garnering two awards for the SFBA chapter during the recent 34th Annual NNOA National Training Symposium at Quantico, Va.; the 2006 Membership Growth Award and the 2006 Outstanding Chapter Award. His efforts and leadership will be missed.

Coast Guard assumes National capitol region air intercept mission

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Coast Guard officially assumed responsibility for air intercept operations in the nation's capital from U.S. Customs and Border Protection in a recent ceremony at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

See Intercept. page 8



NNOA honors Capt. (ret.) Flowers

Retired Navy Capt. Donald "Don" H. Flowers was recently honored at the 34th Annual National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) Training Symposium held in Quantico, Va. This distinguished honor was bestowed on him for his many years of dedicated and devoted commitment and service to the Sea Services through his long-standing military career and relentless work in NNOA.

The third of four sons, Flowers is a native of Chicago, Ill. He was born September 5, 1942 to James W. Flowers, Sr. and Dorothy Mallory. Flowers attended grade school at Forestville Elementary and Dewey Elementary, both small integrated schools in Chicago. Even smaller was Westcott Vocational High School, one of the smallest schools in Chicago with only 43 total peoples in his graduating class.

Receiving solid moral values from his mother, Dorothy, and receiving excellent guidance from his stepmother Mary Flowers, Flowers learned at an early age how to cope with the tyranny of racism and social isolation. When not challenged by normal courses of instruction, Flowers discovered his own methods of expanding his mind. He often completed special projects to receive extra recognition, making him a standout in the class.

Flowers' leadership was noted during his youth in Chicago. He assumed the position of student council president at Dewey Elementary, while also being recognized by the Kiwanis Club of Chicago for contributions in the community. He was president and vice-president of his high school student council, and vice-president of his graduating class. Little did he know that this early involvement in leadership would help prepare him for a long and illustrious Navy career that began immediately following high school graduation in 1962 when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and began a

career that spanned more than 38 years of enlisted and commission service.

Flowers' military career was legendary. He is one of the few that have served as a seaman recruit to chief petty officer and from ensign to captain. His first commands after boot camp and Electrician "A" School were the USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64), where was the only African American in a division of 168 men, and the USS

Never forget where you come from, and the significances of those who came before you. Always reach back and help someone exceed to get where you are today. There is much work to do, to make 'Diversity a Reality ...' The playing field is not level.

-Flowers-

BORIE (DD-704) as a Maintenance Electrician.

Somewhere in between these two assignments, Flowers met his future wife Callie Parker of Alto, Texas in 1964 at a bus stop on 4th and Broadway in San Diego, Calif. Within a few weeks of meeting Callie, Flowers asked her to marry him. In his own words, Flowers says "I just knew she was right for me, can't put my finger on one thing, however, 42 years later, here we are...still on our honeymoon." They have seven children: Barbara, Wallace, Maurice, Yolanda, Ana, Orion, and Donald, Jr.

During the mid-60s, Petty Officer Flowers saw action in Vietnam while assigned to the Assault River Squadron 15 as Staff Electrician. Subsequent to a tour in Vietnam, Flowers served as a river warfare instructor at Naval Inshore Operation Training Center Mare Island in Vallejo, Calif. When he returned to sea it was aboard the USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) as an Electrical Supervisor.

Flowers became a member of the NNOA in 1979. He understood early the vital role of NNOA and the need to assist others, especially minorities

in the Navy and local community. His and Callie's stellar work in NNOA began with the San Diego Chapter, where Don served as Vice-President and President from 1980 - 1985. He volunteered for Hometown Navy Recruiting Duty, working with the Chicago, Ill., Regional Navy Recruiting Command for two weeks in 1981. In June of 1985, Flowers transferred to the USS Norton Sound (AVM-1) in Port Hueneme, Calif. He established the first NNOA Chapter in Port Huenemme. He transferred back to the San Francisco Bay Area in late 1986 to the USS CARL VINSON (CVN-70) and became actively involved in the Bay Area Chapter of NNOA.

Transferring from the West to East Coast, he once again volunteered for Hometown Navy Recruiting Duty, working with the Chicago, Ill., Regional Navy Recruiting Command for three weeks. During this period he talked to some 20,000 youth

in the Chicago Area. In early 1991, Flowers, then a commander, reported on board the USS WASP (LHD-1) in Norfolk, Va., where he became a member of the Tidewater Chapter, and served as president from 1993-97. Transferring in October 1997 to the Afloat Training Group San Diego, as director of Engineering Training, Flowers again volunteered Hometown Navy Recruiting Duty en route to California, and spent 21 day assisting the Chicago, Ill., Recruiting Command in their recruiting effort. Upon reporting to San Diego he immediately got involved in the San Diego Chapter and became president in 1998. With NNOA at a crossroad, national leadership asked Flowers and the San Diego Chapter to host the annual conference in 1998.

Upon retirement from active duty in June 2000, Flowers continued his active involvement with NNOA, coordinating and putting on a superb conference in San Diego in 2000. In 2001, Don was the guiding force behind the reestablishment of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.

Continued from page 7

Over the 38 plus years of active duty military service, Flowers and his lovely wife Callie have helped to motivated and mentor numerous officers and their wives, their families and enlisted personnel. His concern for others continues today. He frequently counsels active duty personnel and receives calls on career related issues. He makes himself available to share his tremendous wealth of experiences and knowledge to all whom seeks and needs it.

Flowers enjoys a second career as the Maintenance Supervisor at Marin Community College. He is also a member of the Classified Senate, Facilities Planning Committee and District Modernization Committee. He and Callie still reside in Vallejo, California where Flowers is a deacon at Good Samaritan Mission Baptist Church in Vallejo, Calif.

Flowers' significant contributions to the National Naval Officer Association include:

- A Saturday's Study Problem
- A Scholarship Program, with awards banquet
- A Valentine Day, Sweetheart Dance Fundraiser
- An Armed Forces Day Breakfast
- A Camp Pendleton Partnership
- A Church Visitation Program
- A Spousal Support Program
- Navy Regional Recruiting Headquarters Partnership
- Established a \$15k Scholarship program
- Dori Miller Award winner in 1989.
- National Chapter of The Year in 1989
- Member Awarded the Pen Award in 1989
- Bay Area Federal Employee of the Year for 1990
- Established Senior Flag Officer Monthly
- Local youth tutoring program
- Established a partnership with the Tidewater Chapter of NNOA and the Tidewater Tides a professional baseball organization, work-

ing the concession stands. Taking the Chapter Treasurer from \$300 in 1993 to \$25,000 in 1997. This relationship continues today

Established "Evening With The Star"

Coordinated the 1995 National Conference in the Norfolk

Naval Base Norfolk Youth Summer Program

Hosted the 1998 and 2000 National Conferences

Honored Captain Thomas Parham, CHC, USN (ret) and Vice Admiral Samuel Gravely, USN, (ret) in 1999 and 2000 Black History Month celebrations in San Diego

The San Diego Chapter received numerous awards during his tenure which included: Chapter President Award, Recruiting Award, Pen Award and Best Chapter Awards

Intercept, from page 6

"At today's ceremony we recognized Customs and Border Protection's outstanding work performing this mission over the past several years," said Rear Adm. David Pekoske, the Coast Guard's assistant commandant for response. "I appreciate the strong partnership between the Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection that ensured this transition was a very smooth one. The Coast Guard is fully ready to support NORAD in providing air defense in the National Capitol Region."

The Coast Guard will support the North American Aerospace Defense Command's mission with its rotary wing air intercept capability. Coast Guard HH-65C helicopters and crews will be responsible for intercepting unauthorized aircraft which fly into an air defense identification zone surrounding Washington.

Coast Guard aviators have conducted rotary wing air intercept operations at the 2006 Super Bowl, the 2004 Republican and Democratic national conventions, the G-8 Summit, in support of space shuttle launches, and for other special events where airspace security is crucial.

Fair Winds and Following Seas

Congratulations to the following Navy Officers on their retirements! Capt. Glenn Flannigan retirement ceremony was held October 5, 2005 at the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Cmdr. Gary Baker's retirement ceremony will be held on November 30, 2006 at 1000 at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Md.

Camp Lejeune NNOA Mess Night Postponed

The upcoming Camp Lejeune/Cherry Point NNOA Chapter Mess Night scheduled for 28 October 2006 will be postponed at this time due to essential operational commitments for the Guest of Honor.

The chapter has planned to reschedule the event for early February 2007 in conjunction with Black History Month celebrations. The exact date will be forthcoming once schedules are confirmed.

The chapter members hope this gives you plenty of time to mark your calendars and make preparations to attend this event. They appreciate your support in helping to make this occasion both enjoyable and rewarding.

Please email Lt. Cmdr (Dr.) Elizabeth Thomas, MC, at Elizabeth.thomas@med.navy.mil if you have any further questions.

Change of Command Announcement

Navy Cmdr. Bernadette Semple will be relieved by Navy Cmdr. William Boozer, as the director, Naval Communication Security Material System (NCMS), on December 1, 2006 at 1000 at Andrews AFB, Hangar 8.

Semple's follow-on assignment is to the Combined Joint Force Task Force Horn of Africa (CJTF HOA), J6 directorate.