

MERIDIAN



SUMMER 2008 Magazine of the National Naval Officers Association "Gateway to Success"

www.nnoa.org



First African-American Female Graduates at the Top of Her Coast Guard Class

Southern California is Burning: A First-Hand Account from an NNOA Member

Individual Augmentee Assignment: Report to Afghanistan

NNOA

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****If you have questions or concerns about NNOA please contact the National PAO via email at pao@nnoa.org or via our Website at www.nnoa.org ****



Greetings! The National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) Annual Training Conference is fast approaching and I look forward to seeing you and record numbers of junior officers at the conference. This year the conference will be held in Portsmouth, Virginia at the Renaissance Hotel from July 23-25. We expect record attendance and I encourage all of you to please visit the NNOA website at www.nnoa.org and register at your earliest convenience.

The conference theme, "Developing America's Future Leaders to Enhance Mission Readiness and Cultural Awareness" was chosen to highlight the maritime strategy.

Many of the sessions during the conference will focus on the importance of diversity in mission accomplishment and readiness.

Captain Sinclair Harris, Eastern Regional Vice President, and the Tidewater Chapter of NNOA, led by Lt. Cmdr. Patricia Witherspoon have done a superb job to ensure this year's conference is one of the best ever, so make plans now to attend and bring a junior officer with you. Increasing junior officer attendance is our focus. To support this goal, the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps have authorized funding to support junior officer attendance at the 2008 conference. Please contact your respective NNOA sea service representative for additional details. I strongly encourage junior officers to review the following information and share it with their contemporaries.

What do you get from attending the NNOA National Conference?

* More than 21 hours of instruction and lectures by top leaders in the sea services and other U.S. government agencies and industries.

* More than four hours of dedicated mentoring by military and civilian leaders.

* Three professional luncheons with the sea service chiefs.

1. Coast Guard luncheon, July 23, 1200-1330 with Admiral Allen as the guest speaker.

2. Navy luncheon, July 24, 1200-1330 with Admiral Roughead as the guest speaker

3. Marine Corps luncheon, July 25, 1130-1300 with General Amos as the guest speaker.

* Award Banquet July 25, 1800-2300 with Secretary Winter as the guest speaker.

* Prayer Breakfast July 24, 0800-1000 with CAPT Ronnie King, USN (Ret.), Chaplain to the U.S. Senate and author of "From the Hood to the Hill," as the guest speaker.

* Spouse workshop will provide spouses valuable information and tools to benefit the entire military family.

* Youth Day: We anticipate more than 200 students from the Tidewater Region who will participate in college prep workshops and be exposed to sea service opportunities. A special session held July 24 1715-1815 will address best practices to improve our effectiveness in identifying individuals for commissioning programs.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the conference!

Warm regards,

**Captain Bernard Jackson, USN
(Ret.)**

**Executive Board President
(President@nnoa.org)**

African American Graduates at Top of Coast Guard Academy Class



Above: DeCarol Davis is congratulated on her achievement by Vice President Dick Cheney., and in the presence of Admiral Thad Allen. Photo by Bob Child

Source credit: Coast Guard Blog

The 2008 valedictorian of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy - the first black woman to graduate at the top of the class - has close ties to the Pee Dee.

Although she was born and raised in Virginia, Ensign DeCarol Davis' family is from Darlington. Her grandparents, Perry and Fannie Simon, own a quaint shoe shop there. Davis' mother is the Simons' daughter.

"I would say that my roots are in Darlington," Davis said during a telephone interview Tuesday. "My mom, dad, sister and grandparents gave me a solid foundation of love. They have always encouraged me to be the best I can and to set goals."

Davis attended the Coast Guard Academy on a full academic scholarship and maintained a 3.96 grade point ratio. She majored in electrical engineering.

She also gave the valedictory address wearing an omnipresent necklace with a quote from Mohandas Gandhi that reads: "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

Davis began her address by quoting Malcolm X: "We declare our right on this earth ... to be a

human being, to be respected as a human being, to be given the rights of a human being in this society, on this earth, in this day, which we intend to bring into existence by any means necessary."

She told her classmates that "we are a family of volunteers (a family whether we like it or not) here to preserve and protect our nation and humanity."

For the Coast Guard, "by any means necessary" is not a willingness to kill for humankind, but more so a willingness to die, she said. "This day marks our legacy. Let us make history.

"I know I'm up here today because I'm a nerd who managed to be the best number, the best piece of paper for the past four years," she said while delivering her graduation speech, "but I'd also like to think that I'm here because I respect humanity. I'm only 22 years old, so I'm not going to pretend to be some pseudo-righteous, overachiever who thinks she knows all the answers.

"But I am here to tell you that I believe in a history and a now that is ours, a history and a now filled with a consciousness of the human condition, filled with a respect for human beings.

"I need you to take this moment and see that I am black. See that I am a woman. I'm not going to

tell you to close your eyes and imagine anything because we need to open our eyes and look this reality dead in the face. I need you to see that I am human. I am just like you. No better, no worse. If we can accept each others' humanity, we can make history."

Davis said humanity was key to her address because it's a theme central to the service of Coast Guard men and women.

"My leaders here have supported me and I support them throughout all incidents whether race, gender or sex," she said. "We are going to be facing these things in the future and it's important we address them and I think we will.

"Today, we become the class that we set out to be four years ago. Today, we become officers and protectors of the United States Constitution. Today, we must acknowledge that we are all human beings and maintain that awareness by any means necessary. Our history is now. Shall we begin?"

Davis said her service in the Coast Guard protecting homeland security gives her many responsibilities. She has been assigned to a Coast Guard unit in Staten Island, N.Y., where she will work in marine inspections.

Individual Augmentation Assignment: Report to Afghanistan



By Dan Puleio

The terms "Successful Navy Recruiting" and "Challenging Assignment" might generally be considered synonymous. However in Cmdr. Keith Shockley's case these words take on an entirely new meaning.

In September of 2006 this former top Naval Reserve Recruiting Command Officer, Executive Officer, and former Recruiter of the Year (ROY), Diversity and Medical Recruiter of the Year, was offered the opportunity to become the U.S. advisor to the newly established Afghanistan National Police Force (ANP) under the Ministry of Interior.

His mandate was to mold the national recruiting structure and strategy to advertise, recruit, train and develop a 62,000-person organization governed by the Ministry of the Interior and increase the force to 82,000 work as the Afghan National

Security Force (ANSF) side by side with the Afghan National Army.

Now approaching 12 months later, Shockley reflects on the goals, challenges and situation going forward. "When one considers the language barrier and millenia old cultural bias overlayed with the ravages of past generations, the assignment is indeed daunting. Add to this mix the current resurgence of "Anti-Government Forces" such as various factions of Al Qaeda, the Taliban, drug traffickers, war lords and corrupt officials, my "learning curve" has been vertical," stated Shockley.

Shockley continued, "The sincerity and commitment of the ANP leaders is an inspiration to me daily. However, time is a constant enemy. The people of Afghanistan are watching and waiting to see if generations of internal and external oppressors can be unseated. They know in their hearts that this is the only way the country has a chance for stability and a future for their children."

Cmdr. Shockley added that this is a culture based upon the priorities of Self, Family and Tribe. Even the provincial govern-

ments led by Mullahs (religious leaders) and, by greater extension, a national government, is a functional concept far from the average citizen's understanding. Despite monumental strides this past year, long term success cannot yet be assured.

One of Shockley's greatest accomplishments has been the integration of women into the Police Force. His marketing strategy is to appeal to the privileged few literate female population with the message of "women protecting women," contributing to the rebuilding of Afghanistan and the opportunity for a career with decent pay and benefits. Here the inherent cultural bias must be considered. For example, women cannot spend even one night away from their family. As such, any centralized training facilities must include complete family quarters versus barracks.

Shockley travels the country with the Afghan Police in convoy vehicles fitted with specially tinted windows to maintain anonymity. He is in awe of the beauty of the country and its people.

"I've been to so many places that a U.S. convoy

would never dare go. My ability to 'touch' these people is deeply gratifying and I've made many a friend for life.

In my wildest dreams I never could have imagined myself following strict protocol in building trust and support among tribal leaders, elders and Mullahs. Also in working closely with two and three-star generals to provide 'unobtrusive direction' regarding a country's future.

Cmdr. Shockley was recently asked to extend for 3 months (until Army personnel arrives) to be the OIC of Kandahar airfield one of the most porous and Taliban areas aly, and frankly, my family supports my decision to extend past the 12 month point."

When asked his thoughts for the future Shockley stated, "We must remain optimistic. Much like Navy recruiting back in the USA, it's all about making a difference in the lives of people and the organization we care so deeply for. It's ultimately about the legacy that we pass on to our successors long after we have departed the playing field."

NNOA Sea Service Member in the Spotlight



Above: Capt. Travis Reeves escorts the Guest of Honor Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Clifford Stanley at 2006 NNOA National Conference. Photo courtesy

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Captain Travis T. Reeves graduated from Morehouse College in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration. While most midshipmen select their service option in their 3rd year of Naval ROTC, Capt Reeves decided, on Day 1, to take on the challenge of becoming a Marine Corps officer.

In August 2001, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant out of the Morehouse NROTC Program. Prior to a recent deployment, Capt Reeves had been overwhelmingly active in the NNOA. He has served on the Executive Boards for the Quantico and Camp Lejeune Chapters for five consecutive years and has twice received recognition at the National level, receiving the Distinguished Service Award.

Capt Reeves is excited about continuing his involvement with the Quantico Chapter. His current activities include assisting in fundraising and recruiting efforts as well as participating in various chapter functions.

Recently returning from deployment, Captain Reeves served as the Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM) Liaison Officer to the Marine Corps Central Command (MARCENT) staff. His duties included facilitating the fielding of Urgent Universal Needs Statements (UUNS) and newly fielded weapons systems.

He was intimately involved with the fielding of Up-Armored HMMWV's and Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles to include coordinating maintenance efforts of battle damaged

assets.

For his accomplishments in this billet, he was awarded the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal following his return.

In addition to being a Morehouse graduate, Capt Reeves completed the requirements for a Master's degree in Business Administration from Boston University in 2004. This accomplishment uniquely qualified him to serve as the Budget Officer for Deputy Commander C4I Integration within MARCORSYSCOM.

Capt Reeves has recently assumed duties in the Comptroller's office facilitating GWOT Supplemental budget formulation for all MARCORSYSCOM programs.

Quantico NNOA Chapter Creates a Tradition of Excellence



Above: Maj Taylor assists a 4th grade class with their Social Studies class work. Below: Capt. Lindo works with the boys during the small group mentorship portion of the school visit. Courtesy photos

The Mary F. Williams Elementary School houses Kindergarten through Fifth Grade and the following programs in: Special Education Preschool, Autism and Emotional Disturbances, Learning Disabled Resources, Speech, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), and an on-site Gifted Education Program.

The school also participates in Scholastic Reading Counts, a computerized reading program similar to the Accelerated Reader. The Elementary School integrates technology into the curriculum for Kindergarten through the 5th Grade. All students and teachers use applications technology in authentic ways throughout the school

day to improve their understanding of technology as a tool to solve problems, and increase educational achievement across all areas of the curriculum.

The Quantico Chapter of National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) formed a mentoring partnership with the Mary F. Williams Elementary School in the fall semester of 2006. The chapter's goal is to create a Tradition of Excellence that results in building a community of successful life-long learners and to motivate every student while preparing them for educational and personal success.

The NNOA team works collaboratively with the teachers to achieve each student's potential by facilitating and

mentoring students in the 4th and 5th Grade in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. The team members are not required to develop lesson plans, as they assist teachers in reviewing subject matter that is already been taught in class that week. On a typical school visit for example, an NNOA team member may be assigned to assist a 4th or 5th grade class in Social Studies.

The teacher would present an overview of the goals and objectives of the assignment to the NNOA team member prior to mentorship and then assign a small group of students to the Officer for that instructional period. During this period, the Officer reinforces the teacher's goals and objectives for the subject and then assists the students in a small group setting to increase their comprehension of the challenging areas the students may have with the subject.

Mentoring sessions are also conducted in a small group setting where the NNOA team member will facilitate discussions with students to encourage them to stay in school, transition to high school and eventually to college. Often times the mentoring sessions are focused on the career goals and objectives for each student to help them achieve their fullest potential.

The students look forward to our visits and are always excited and intrigued by the appearance of the NNOA team members in their military uniforms. As role models, we believe that by helping students achieve and identify themselves with success they will be able to further their own development and eventually be able to contribute back to their community and society.

We hope the partnership we formed with the Mary F. Williams Elementary School, faculty, staff, and students will continue to grow as we establish and maintain a positive image of the Naval Services in communities and educational institutions through this outreach program. To all, a job well done!



Medical Service Corps Commander Awarded Bronze Star: *Served as Mentor to the ANP*



(Above: Jimmy A. Bradley is awarded the Bronze star. Courtesy photo)

During a command award ceremony, Capt. Michael J. Krentz, Commanding Officer U.S. Naval Yokosuka, Japan presents the Bronze Star Medal to Cmdr. Jimmy A. Bradley, Medical Service Corps, USN, for exceptionally meritori-

ous service while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as Chief, Medical Branch, Acting Chief, Resource Division, and Mentor to the Afghan National Police (ANP) Surgeon General for Strategic Healthcare Systems Reform, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, Police Reform Directorate.

During Cmdr. Bradley's service in Afghanistan he consistently traveled on missions in and around Kabul Afghanistan on a daily basis conducting meetings to advance the Afghan governance and provide mentorship to the ANP Surgeon General and his staff. His mission sometimes took him into hostile areas noted for threats of Improvised Explosive Devices. Consistently in harms way and subject to enemy forces, he responded with great leadership during a rocket attack two blocks from his safe house. Displaying superb leadership, as House Commander he took charge of the 115 residents, quickly reporting 100 percent accountability for all residents to Base Defense Operations Center, while calming the house residents and getting them into their firing positions and out of immediate harm's way. Commander Bradley's performance of duty in a combat zone, exceptional meritorious service, and distinctive accomplishments reflected great credit upon him, the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, the United States Central Command, and the United States Navy.



We Grow Stronger: By Sharing

"When the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place: Acts 2:1"

This year we paused to celebrate the life and contributions of Capt. Ken Johnson. While in attendance at Capt. Johnson's funeral I learned about a man who through quiet persistence overcame many obstacles, and created many opportunities for a new generation of officers like myself. Capt. Johnson also created an environment for this new generation of officers to relate professionally and socially with one another allowing them thrive within one of the three huge organizations that comprise the Sea Services.

After rendering personal and military honors to Capt. Johnson, I saw some friends that I had not seen in years,

and I was keenly aware of many others in attendance that day were renewing old relationships as well. Our relationships with one another ultimately determine our success in life.

Luke, the author of the book of Acts begins his journal of the events that established the Christian church with this powerful statement "they were all on one accord in one place." All of the leaders and followers of Christ had the same vision, focus, desires and message. Because they were on one accord and in the same proximity, they shared the same energy to accomplish the mission at hand.

When I think about the time shared with other officers

at Capt. Johnson's funeral I envision how nice it would be to get together when it is not a sad occasion or special event. We can learn a valuable lesson from our first century brothers and sisters: Through our sharing of thoughts and time, we grow stronger. Let's make plans to fellowship together this summer at our annual conference; doing so will allow us to share the same vision, focus, desires and message concerning the future of diverse leadership within the Sea Services.

Peace and Blessings,

LT Philip Ridley
NNOA National Chaplain
chaplain@nnoa.org

Southern California Burning: Learning from a Shared Experience



On October 20, 2007 fires swept through Southern California burning from Santa Barbara County to the U. S. Mexico border. Before fire fighters were able to contain the fire, at least 1500 homes were totally destroyed, nine people died and 500,000 acres of land completely charred. Including in these statistics is one of our own NNOA members, Cmdr. Tyrone Gilmore. Cmdr. Gilmore is a Medical Service Corps Officer, currently stationed with Commander, Navy Medicine West in San Diego and President of the San Diego Chapter. **In this interview, Cmdr. Gilmore shares his thoughts, feelings after the fire and what we can do to prepare for such a devastating experience with Cmdr. McCallaCreary.**

Cmdr. Mc: Where were you when you first heard about the fire?

Cmdr. Gilmore: Having just returned from a temporary assigned duty that Friday, it was Saturday morning when I first heard the about the fire in Ramona, over 20 miles away and I could smell the faint odor of something burning.

Cmdr. Mc: Did you think or know at that time, your house was in any danger?

Cmdr. Gilmore: I did not think or expect my home to be at risk. We went about our daily routine I prepared to take my wife out for a Sunday evening out at the local theatrical theater. Sunday morning air was filled ash and smoke filled clouds in the distant mountain range. The wind had been gusting all day but after return-

ing from our date, the winds gust became constant and stronger. I recall Mayor Jerry Sanders announcing the Witch fire could reach the San Pasqual Valley at 1:00am Monday which is about 7 miles away and on the other side of a major freeway (I-15) from my home.

Cmdr. Mc: When you realize that your house was in danger, what were your thoughts and what action if any did you take?

Cmdr. Gilmore: After the Mayors announcement, my thoughts were to prepare to evacuate and gather those irreplaceable items first and where we would go until we could return home. At 2:00am there were no more news updates so I went to sleep and 3 hours later we received the reversed 911 call mandating immediate evacuation. As I took the first load of items to the car the air was thick with ash, the sound of crackling wood, hot gusting wind and smoke. It was then, that I realized the fire was two houses away and that Ashlee's comment of seeing the glow from the fire from her

bedroom window was no mistake. At that point the focus was to get my family out as quickly as possible, the house and stuff could always be replaced. As we departed a fire engine arrived which gave hope that our home might survive.

Cmdr. Mc: Can you describe your first reaction when you returned and found that your house was completely burned out.

Cmdr. Gilmore: It is difficult and the closest comparative reaction would be a combination between the death of a close family member and starting over. The loss of everything takes time to absorb and you quickly feel the absence of everything that is obvious and things that are not so oblivious until you need it. As we shifted through the ash and found some family heirlooms' it became a rallying point as we rebuild our family's life and another piece of the puzzle in the puzzle of life.

Cmdr. Mc: Please describe how you and



Above: Picking up the pieces after the fires hit Southern California. Photo by Cmdr. Tyrone Gilmore

Southern California Burning: Learning from a Shared.. Cont'd

your family are coping with this devastation?

Cmdr. Gilmore: Every day is better and better because of the support that our local family, community, NNOA and Navy family. They all helped us reestablish some sort of routine for me and my family. Having a place to call home, keeping our kids in the same school with friends that had a similar experience and most importantly doing the things that you would have normally done if our home was not lost,

Cmdr. Was this the first time you and your family had experience a disaster of this magnitude?

Cmdr. Gilmore: Yes, We survived earthquakes, typhoons with 150 mile a hour winds, no electricity or fresh running water for weeks, but none of them resulted in devastation of this magnitude.

Cmdr. Mc: What impact has this experience had on your wife and children?

Cmdr. Gilmore: The fire has impacted me tremendously. We no longer have those small memoirs that remind us of friends, family and those amazing trips across the country and different countries. Our children returning to school was difficult for them walking into school with nothing more than a pencil and 10 weeks of study notes gone. But the community, Navy and NNOA family was there for us. In light of this disaster we continue to grow closer and to keep a sense of humor during this adversity and to take the time enjoy life, friends and family. Realizing we were burnt out I commented to my family "look at it this way, we are PCSing to another area of San Diego, we don't have to worry about a household goods delivery, you don't have to make new friends and you will get almost everything back brand new. Being as positive as possible, there were still sleepless nights, moments of depression and frustration.

Cmdr. Mc: Looking back, do you feel you were prepared? If yes, please

describe how you prepared? If you were not prepared, please describe what you feel now you could have done to be more prepared.

Cmdr. Gilmore: I was well prepared in some areas and others I could have done better. I had a fire proof file box for those papers that you would need but I did not have all the right items in the file. The investment of portable external drive with a back up copy of pictures, taxes and house purchase documents, identity documents (marriage/birth certificates, military records, wills, accounts, and passwords) would have reduced the effort to re-acquire these items and preserved documents lost in the fire. Knowing where we would evacuate to and notifying other family members of our well being which was one less stressor for us. I thought I was prepared to deal with the home insurance process and limits but found myself learning more by being part of a group that has gone through the process before. For example your insurance policy may or may not mention the "scope of loss" which is very important part of your insurance settlement process which provides you with the cost basis to rebuild and ultimately tells you if you're underin-

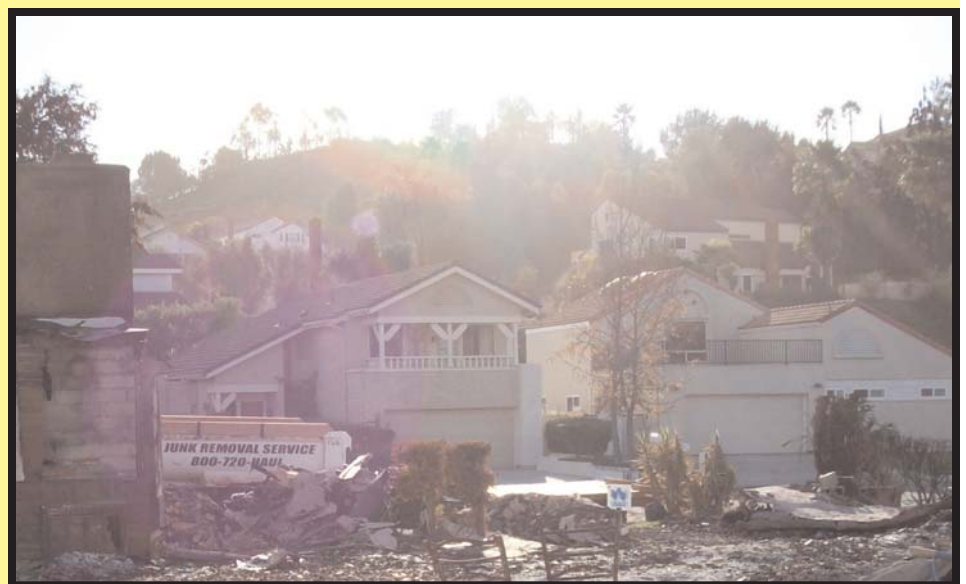
sured.

Cmdr. Gilmore: Any lessons learned or any advice for our members who may find themselves in a similar situation.

Cmdr. Gilmore: Keep your insurance coverage updated and have multiple copies of property inventory list stored outside of your primary resident and/or in a fire/waterproof container including keys to vehicles. Scan those pictures that are family heirlooms and irreplaceable and give family members a copy on cd. Have a family disaster plan, disaster kit with first aide, blankets, flashlight and water. Ensure all your family members know who to call and where to go when a disaster occurs.

Cmdr. Mc: Anything else you want to add.

Cmdr. Gilmore: The Lord has blessed us with our life, health and will continue to rebuild our lives and home. I appreciate having this opportunity to share my experience but more importantly I want to THANK YOU All who sent gifts, words of support and encouragement no matter how small because a little when you have



Above: Picking up the pieces after the fires hit Southern California. Photo by Cmdr. Tyrone Gilmore



Above: The San Francisco Bay Area NNOA Chapter sponsored an Officer Evaluation Report (OER) workshop conducted by Rear Adm. Manson K. Brown (far right), Commander, Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific. In his presentation "The Art of OER Writing" Rear Adm. Brown discussed every aspect of the

Officer Evaluation Report and provided

helpful hints in successfully writing an OER. After Rear Adm. Brown's presentation, individual OER counseling sessions were offered to officers in attendance.

Assisting Rear Adm. Brown with the counseling sessions were Capt. Douglas Wisniewski, Capt. Stephan Finton, Capt. John Long, Capt. Robert Day, Cmdr.

Michael Day and Lt. Cmdr. Charlene

Downey. The workshop was a great success and received outstanding feedback from the participants. The OER workshop will be an annual workshop conducted by the chapter and will serve as the foundation for our Professional Development Series.

Department of Defense Announces Campaign Stars for Iraq and Afghanistan

DoD announced the establishment of campaign stars for both the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM) and the Iraq Campaign Medal (ICM).

The establishment of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) campaign stars for Iraq and Afghanistan is designed to recognize support delivered to OEF for seven different service stages. In most cases, this will correspond to more than one deployment, but the stars were not created to honor subsequent deployments. This initiative is in keeping with NAVADMIN 141/08, which is the basis for awarding the stars.

Until now, based upon current criteria for either campaign medal, service members were only authorized one medal regardless of the number of times or the duration of time they served in either area of operation. Service members meeting

the criteria in NAVADMIN 141/08 are authorized to star wearing the star/s immediately.

Individuals meeting the criteria for the ACM or ICM shall wear one campaign star on the suspension ribbon of the medal, and on the bar in recognition of their participation in the campaign phase of which the medal was awarded. As such, the ACM and ICM will always be awarded at least one campaign star. An additional campaign star shall be worn for one or more days of participation in a designated campaign phase, but only one star is authorized for each phase regardless of the number of deployments made during any phase.

The designated and approved campaign phases for OEF and OIF are as follows:

Liberation of Afghanistan:
11 SEP 01- 30 NOV 01

Consolidation I: (Afghanistan)
01 DEC 01 - 30 SEP 06

Consolidation II: (Afghanistan)
01 OCT 06- TBD

Liberation of Iraq:
19 MAR 03- 01 MAY 03

Transition of Iraq:
02 MAY 03- 28 JUN 04

Iraqi Governance:
29 JUN 04 - 15 DEC 05

National Resolution:
16 DEC 05- TBD

NATIONAL NAVAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

36TH ANNUAL NATIONAL
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING CONFERENCE

***"WE MUST NOT BE LOCKED IN TIME... WE MUST ANTICIPATE
AND EMBRACE THE DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES OF TOMORROW AND
BUILD A NAVY THAT ALWAYS REFLECTS OUR COUNTRY'S MAKE UP"***

Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel
and
Waterfront Conference Center
Portsmouth, VA
July 23 - 25



TAKING NOTE



rank of rear admiral (lower half). Harris currently serves as Deputy Director, Expeditionary Warfare Division Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington.

U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

Navy CAPT Norman R. Hayes. Hayes serves as the commander for Center of Naval Intelligence, Virginia Beach, Va.

Navy CAPT Samuel Perez Jr. Perez is currently serving as assistant deputy director for regional operations, J3, Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.

Navy CAPT Maude E. Young. Young is currently serving as the major program manager for National Reconnaissance Office and National Remote Sensing System, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Space Field Activity, Chantilly, Va.

Navy Capt. Vincent Griffiths. Griffiths is now serving as the Force Supply Officer, U.S. Pacific Fleet, North Island, Ca.



Manson K Brown frocked to rear admiral upper half : Manson K. Brown, a native of Washington DC and a 1978 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy was frocked to his present rank in Change of Command Ceremonies May 8th at Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA. Brown addressing a crowd of well wishes, family and friends thanked his shipmates for their outstanding support throughout his career. Brown reported in May to his next assignment, Commander, Coast Guard Fourteenth District, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Silent Auction to be held at Conference:

Would you like to raise scholarship funds for your chapter? This year, at the national conference, chapters will have an opportunity to raise money for their respective scholarship fund. Chapter members are asked to solicit local businesses, anyone known with a home base for an item to be included in the 2008 silent auction. Items will be displayed during the conference and open for a silent bid. Chapters will receive 75% of the bid amount. Receive more details from your Regional Vice President.

The following officers have been selected for appointment to the rank of Rear Admiral (Lower Half):

Navy CAPT Margaret D. Klein. Klein is currently serving as commandant,

The Youth Day Program for this year's National Naval Officers' Association Conference, is going to be in full swing and a day of outstanding events. The Youth Day Committee has been working overtime to ensure this event is a success.

This year's theme is "Today's Thinkers, Tomorrow's Doers". We have structured activities, tours and educational workshops that will be presented by the Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Navy.

The workshop topics include "Goal Setting," "Overcoming Teen Issues: Peer Pressure, Health & Infectious Diseases, and On the Right Side of the Law", and "How to Prepare for College".

Guest Speakers include but not limited to Vice Adm. Jeffrey Fowler, Superintendent of U.S. Naval Academy, and Rear Adm. (ret.) Lillian Fishburne's (first African-American female to hold the position of Rear Admiral in the Navy) daughter Mrs. Cheresé Sullivan. There will also

be certificates and gift bags presented for each attendee's participation. The date for the event is July 25, 2008 from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm. The age group for participation is 12 and up. Look for more information on the national website once registration kicks off for the conference. To register your child for Youth Day or for more information, please contact Lt.Cmdr. S. Michelle Layne at sylvia.layne@navy.mil or at 757-417-6751 x4.



Navy Capt. Sinclair Harris has been nominated for appointment to the