

Quantico Chapter Newsletter



EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: [Maj David Everly](#)
Chaplain: LTC Hugh Elmore
Treasurer: LtCol Michael Pitts
Membership: Capt Melissa Chestnut
Master-At-Arms: LtCol Greg King
Parliamentarian: Maj Stacey Taylor

Vice-President: [LtCol Patricia Johnson](#)
Public Affairs: Capt NaTasha McEachin
Secretary: Ms. Pamela Wilson
Webmaster: Capt Melissa Chestnut
Historian: Maj Jonathan Loney

Upcoming Events

- 09 July—GB meeting @ 1700
- 23-25 July—National Conference
- 09 Aug—Annual NNOA Picnic
- 13 Aug—GB meeting @ 1700
- 23 Aug—Adopt-A-Highway @ 0800
- 5-7 Sept—NASCAR Fundraiser

Message from the President...

As the NNOA year draws to an end the Quantico Chapter will finish the year as strong as it started. The last quarter has been an exciting and busy quarter for the chapter. We will unfortunately bid farewell to several members as the summer-PCS season approaches. Please see the list of hails and farewells in the Membership Director's Corner. A special farewell to CWO4 John Hawthorne, who has departed for Camp Pendleton, CA. John was

instrumental in the chapter's success and will be sorely missed. A hardy congratulations to the newest graduates of the Marine Corps University Schools, Majors Melvin Ferdinand and Jonathon Loney and Captains Steven Mays and Musa Samad. Job well done!

The month of May proved to be a hectic but fruitful month for the chapter. The chapter participated in the Richmond NASCAR Raceway Clean-up for the second time since September. Hat's off to all those who cleaned up the raceway grandstands well into the early AM hours. This fundraiser pushed the chapter over its financial goal for the year.

Thanks to Capt McEachin and CWO4 Hawthorne for organizing, yet another, successful event. May also marked the return of our immediate-past chapter president,



LTC Elmore (5th from left) delivers the closing prayer following the May general body meeting.

Col Robert Clements, from his tour of duty in Iraq.

The 2008 National Conference will be held at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel and Water Front Conference Center from 23 to 25 July 2008. All three service messages have been posted to the NNOA National website. The Marine Corps and Navy have both pledged to fund officers to attend the conference, please see your individual service message for details.

On May 31 at The Clubs of Quantico, approximately 130 attendees participated in the chapter's scholarship banquet. Thanks to LtCol Harrison and Capt McEachin the event was a smashing success. The chapter awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to 10 high school students selected

Inside this issue:

- Local Seniors Receive NNOA Scholarships 3
- Task Force NCR Returns 5
- Membership Lounge 7
- Washington D.C. Teams Successfully Defend Regional HSCC Title 8
- Member in the Spotlight 9
- Racist Recruiting? Marine Corps ad draws fire 10
- Chapter Photo Gallery 13
- Chapter Calendar 18

Message from the President Cont..

from 68 applicants. Bravo Zulu to every member, contributor and family member who made this year's scholarship efforts a colossal success.

Also, in May the chapter elected a new executive board for the 2008-2009 NNOA year. Congratulations to Colonel Grover Lewis as he takes the reins of Quantico Chapter President. I wish him and his executive board success in every endeavor. Lastly, I am saddened to say that this is my last message to you as Chapter President while I transition to Camp Pendleton. It has been my sincere privilege and pleasure to serve you as Chapter President; I'd like to personally thank every member, supporter and family member for their unwavering support of the tenants of NNOA.

Semper Fidelis and Farewell,

Major David R. Enerly
President
Quantico Chapter, NNOA



The basic job description is commanding all the fast track submarines and their crews on the East Coast.

Vice Adm. John J. Donnelly, commander of the Submarine Force, said the seven "serve as an inspiration and mentors to other minority submariners."

"They're role models," he said.

During the ceremony, Donnelly recited Haney's achievements at Submarine

Under New Management Submarine Group Two Changes Hands In Groton Ceremony

New London Day

By: Jennifer Grogan

Groton - A change of command ceremony at the Naval Submarine Base is not unusual. But it is rare for a majority of the "Centennial Seven" to be there.

Seven black officers have commanded a boat in the submarine service's first 100 years. They are known as the Centennial Seven.

Rear Adm. Cecil D. Haney is one. He commanded the USS Honolulu. Rear Adm. Bruce E. Grooms is another. He commanded the USS Asheville.

On Friday, three others - Anthony Watson, William Bundy and Joseph Peterson - were there to watch as Haney turned over his responsibilities as commander of Submarine Group Two to Grooms.

Group Two since October 2006, then pinned the Legion of Merit medal on him for outstanding service.

Haney does not like to say much about his own accomplishments. When asked, he usually changes the topic to the successes of his submarines and his sailors.

On Friday, he accepted the medal on behalf of the sailors of Submarine Group Two.

"It is their efforts that we applaud, and clearly those lists of achievements weren't done by me," Haney said. "They were done by the sailors of our submarine force."

About 250 people filled Wilkinson Hall on the Naval Submarine Base to

celebrate Haney's leadership and welcome Grooms to Groton.

Donnelly said there are not as many flag officers from diverse backgrounds in the Submarine Force as he would like.

(continued on page 12)

LOCAL SENIORS RECEIVE NNOA SCHOLARSHIPS

By: Sgt. Danielle M. Bacon



Ten students from the local area earned \$1,000 to put towards the cost of college. Front, left to right: Kaila Mulvey, Maria Jividen, Jessica Cerullo and Roshanda Warren. Back, left to right: Kenneth Nasse, Kathryn Mundi, William Smith, Kathryn Gerberth and Nathan Hagan.

MCB QUANTICO, Va. (May 31) – Paying for college has become a monumental task for parents, but for a few Quantico area high school students, it just got a little easier.

The Quantico Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association gave 10 deserving seniors \$1,000 each to put toward their hopes of achieving a college degree, during an awards banquet at The Clubs at Quantico Saturday.

“It was a difficult process,” LtCol Dawn Harrison said about the selection process. The 10 awardees were selected out of 60 applicants through a points-based selection process.

“You truly deserve these scholarships,” Harrison told the winners. “In many cases, it was down to a single point.”

For one of the students, the scholarship was another step toward her dreams.

“I am extremely thankful,” said Roshanda Warren, a senior at Garfield High School of Woodbridge, who aspires to be a New York Times journalist. “I want to work for a larger paper, because

I think it will offer more opportunities than a community-based paper.”

The president of the Future Educators Club and the Students Against Destructive Decisions Club also plans to give back to the community. As her eyes lit up, Warren explained that while on a trip to San Francisco, she learned about homelessness and now plans to start a non-profit organization to help teenagers.

Helping the community, volunteerism and leadership were common threads that bound the awardees together.

Kathryn Muni of Potomac High School in Dumfries participated in the Walk for the Democrats as well as helped plan Walk for the Homeless.

Also from Potomac, Jun Zhang, a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, volunteers by tutoring at her school.

Although he shares the same name as a famous actor, one Fredericksburg volunteer plans to do big things of his own and has earned enough scholarships to pay for his first year at the

Virginia Commonwealth University to become an anesthesiologist.

“There is always a way to accomplish your goals and dreams no matter what,” said William Smith, a student at Stafford High School in Falmouth. “No matter what, look at the good side of situations.”

On top of being involved in school organizations such as the Future Business Leaders of America and Young Republicans Club, Smith also volunteers in his community. He helped plan and participated in the Light the Night Walk for Cancer, collected food for Thanksgiving food drives, sponsored a child for the Angel Tree Christmas program and worked at the Thurman Brisbane Homeless Shelter in Fredericksburg.

Captain of the soccer team, Kenneth Nasse of Courtland High School in Spotsylvania also lettered in basketball. He is a member of the school band, the student council association and Awanas. Nasse plans on becoming a sports writer at the University of Georgia.

(continued on next page)

Guest speaker, RDML (sel) Sinclair Harris, passes his four keys to success in life to the scholarship recipients.



LOCAL SENIORS RECEIVE NNOA SCHOLARSHIPS Cont...

Also from Courtland, Kaila Mulvey, who participated in the school choir, dreams of becoming a developmental child psychologist.

Ranked first and fifth in their class, two Manassas Osborn High School students have made a difference in their communities by volunteering, participating in school activities and holding leadership roles.

Maria Jividen, who has a 4.55 grade point average, is the president of her school's National Honor Society and French Club, vice president of the Future Business Leaders of America club as well as a member of the German, Key and Students Against Destructive Decisions Club. The daughter of a retired airman, Jividian volunteers her time with the Association for Children with Cancer Project, the Valentines for Vets program, as well as several programs with her church.

"I am extremely honored to be here," said Jividian, who participated in varsity swimming and cross-country, as well as junior varsity soccer and plans on majoring in biomedical engineering at the University of Virginia School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Jessica Cerullo, who has a 4.46 GPA, volunteers with the Boys and Girls Club, the Help the Homeless program and her school tutoring program. Cerullo lettered in varsity track and is the captain of the cheerleading team. She plans to major in civil engineering at the University of Virginia.

Kathryn Gerbeth is ranked second at Colonial Forge High School in Stafford. Gerbeth has a 4.67 GPA and dreams of working on projects that impact the advancement of prosthetic limbs for amputees. She was a National Merit finalist as well as the Chemistry, German and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps' student of the year.

Co-captain of the First Robotics Team, Nathan Hagan of Battlefield High School in Haymarket is ranked 10th in his class with a GPA of 4.29. He is a member of the National Honors Society, Model United Nations, the Virginia Boys State organization and the drama club as well as a peer diversity trainer. Hagan plans to major in naval architecture and marine engineering at the Webb Institute in Glen Cove, N.Y.

Not only were the students receiving the awards excited, parents shared in the honor.

"We have tremendous respect for the military. They are our true heroes," said Lila Jividian, whose husband retired from the Air Force. "I think by them offering this scholarship, it's a tremendous service to our society. The students try to emulate the service members by giving back to their communities."

Giving back and continued learning were just a few pieces of advice guest speaker Rear Admiral (select) Sinclair Harris gave during his speech to the



Guest speaker, RDML (sel) Harris, and Quantico Chapter president, Maj Everly, present the NNOA scholarship to Nathan Hagan from Battlefield High School.

awardees.

"Never stop learning," said Harris, the deputy director of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, Expeditionary Warfare Division. "The world is complex and is getting more so all the time."

President of the NNOA, retired Navy Capt. Bernard Jackson left the awardees with the last bit of advice for the night, "In the future you will be challenged, but there is nothing you can't handle if you put your mind to it."



Task Force National Capital Region Returns

By: LtCol Dawn Harrison

On 6 May 2008, the Task Force National Capital Region (TF NCR) returned from their historic deployment. TF NCR deployed on 2 November 2007 for what was scheduled to be a seven-month deployment to Iraq in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. Under the leadership of their Commanding Officer, Colonel Robert Clements, former Quantico NNOA Chapter President, the unit was formed in the spring of 2007. The unit consisted of Marines from a cross section of military occupational specialties with Sailors in support as unit corpsmen. Most of the Sailors and Marines were volunteers, the majority of whom were assigned to units aboard Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Henderson Hall, and Marine Barracks 8th & I. While there were some Marines whose primary MOSs were combat arms, the majority of Marines were from combat service support fields to include administration, public affairs, communication, and the band. The Marines and Sailors received extensive training that included weapons handling, tactics and patrolling in preparation for their deployment which consisted of security missions at various locations around Iraq.

While the Marines and Sailors were deployed, the families had the support of the Key Volunteer Network (KVN) led by the Key Volunteer Coordinator, Gail Clements. The KVN's Key Volunteers insured the Marines' and Sailors' spouses were well informed and received any support that they needed while their service members were deployed. During the deployment, the KVN held activities for the families. Activities included a laser light show and an Easter Egg Hunt.



TF NCR Commanding Officer LtCol Robert Clements (center) with his wife Gail, son Bobby, LtGen James Amos, CG, MCCDC and his wife Bonnie on 6 May 2008.

CONGRATULATIONS To The New “Mighty” Quantico Chapter Executive Board Members

President: Col Grover Lewis

Vice President: Maj Tamia Gordon

Secretary: Capt Jacklynn Borrego

Treasurer: LtCol Michael Pitts

Membership: Capt Melissa Chestnut

Public Affairs: Maj Nadrian McGill

Historian: Capt Melissa Ayres

Parliamentarian: LCDR Elizabeth Thomas

Master-at-Arms: Capt Cory Holiday

Chaplain: LTC Hugh Elmore

*****The New Executive Board Members
Will Assume Their Positions after the
National Conference in July *****

Female Naval Academy Midshipmen Learn From Those Who Have Gone Before

By: LtCol Dawn Harrison

Female midshipmen from the US Naval Academy had the opportunity to get first-hand advice from former and current female naval officers. The event was organized by Captain Natasha Robinson, USMC, who currently works in the admissions office at the Naval Academy. The mentoring session gave the midshipmen a chance to ask questions on a wide variety of topics related to being a female in the naval service. For some in attendance, this would be their last opportunity to ask questions as midshipmen since graduation was only weeks away. There was lively discussion on the many issues and challenges women face in the military. Among the topics discussed were dealing with enlisted personnel, appropriate attire, and having a family while being in the military. The mentors included Ms Janie Mines, the first African American female to graduate from the Naval Academy '80; Captain Yolanda Reagans '83, USN; Colonel Simkins-Mullins '83; Lieutenant Colonel Dawn Harrison '88; Captain NaTasha McEachin, USMC '02; Lieutenant Nicole Paul '02 and the hostess Captain Robinson '02. Also in attendance was the Naval Academy's Command Master Chief Evelyn Banks who provided insight from an enlisted perspective.



Museum tells stories of minorities in WWII

By: Vernon Clark

The question stunned Althea Hankins, a Germantown family physician on a flight from California to Philadelphia.

"You're a Negro, aren't you?" asked an older white man.

Taken aback by the outdated term, Hankins said, she replied, "Yes, I guess so."

Hankins said the stranger on that 1999 trip then told her that he collected memorabilia, and showed her an old pamphlet bearing the headline "Negro soldiers party - 5801 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania."

"I told him, 'That's impossible. My practice is located there,'" Hankins said.

But, of course, she was curious. So later that year, she had a wall removed that blocked the third floor of the building at Germantown Avenue and Price Street.

She found a vintage ballroom with a wooden floor, hidden behind that partition for many years and clearly large enough to have hosted the soldiers' party.

"I couldn't believe it. I decided that we had an opportunity here to do something totally different," Hankins said.

What she did was launch the Aces Museum, a 3,000-square-foot facility spread over the second and third floors above her community medical practice. The museum - ad-

mission is free - tells the stories of black servicemen in World War II through photographs, military medals, and memorabilia that include historical uniforms and other artifacts.

"It's a museum that includes all the ethnic groups that were underrepresented in the battle against fascism in World War II," Hankins said.

Hankins said her late father, Tommy D. Hankins, who she said served four tours of duty in Europe and Japan during the war, was an inspiration for the project.

She named the facility Aces because as a child growing up in Detroit, she said, she once asked her father whether it was true that whites called blacks "spades." Her father told her it was, and she replied: "Well, Daddy, if you had to be a spade, I know you were an ace."

Solomon Williams, codirector of the museum, noted that individual rooms are devoted to Hispanic, Asian and Native American veterans of the war. Posters also honor minority recipients of the Medal of Honor.

Williams said the ballroom, which has been outfitted with vintage tables and chairs and murals of black soldiers, harks back to the 1940s.

"This is how it was," Williams said as he walked into the ballroom while jazz flowed from a period radio. The room also contains a piano from that era that was found inside

(Continued on page 12)

MEMBERSHIP LOUNGE

By: Capt Melissa Chestnut

Greetings members, this has been a very busy and productive NNOA year. The members, family, and friends of the Quantico Chapter of the NNOA have accomplished the following during the 2007-2008 NNOA year:

- 4 – Adopt-A-Highway Clean-ups
- 9 – Adopt-A-School Tutoring Sessions
- 4 – Church Visits
- 9 – James Farmer Scholars Events including a week-long summer program
- 3 – Professional Military Education (PME) sessions
- 2 - Worthwhile and lucrative NASCAR cleanups in September 07 and May 08
- Participated in the 3rd Annual Picnic
- Participated in the annual Holiday Social
- Supported the Black History Month (BHM) Committee's BHM Dinner
- Raised an astounding \$10,000 for the Scholarship Fund and were able to award ten deserving high school seniors each a \$1000 scholarship.
- Donated gift baskets to needy families for Thanksgiving.
- Donated more than \$800 in gift cards to a three-person family for the Marine Corps Community Service's (MCCS) Adopt-A-Family program.

These are only the highlights. Members of the Quantico NNOA Chapter participate in many other events that go unnoticed.

For all that you have done, do, and plan to do in the future, I thank you.

How about we tighten up our shoe laces and do it again!!! I'm ready, are you?

As of 1 July 08 the new NNOA year starts. You know what that means. If you are not a Life member or a 2- or 3-year member, then it is time to renew your membership and support the NNOA in its mission of minority recruitment, retention, professional development, and community involvement.

You can visit our website at www.quantico-nnoa.org, select the 'Membership' link for detailed information on how to join the "Mighty" Quantico NNOA Chapter or send me at email at membership@quantico-nnoa.org.

Although, only national dues are required to be considered a "paid member" of the NNOA, I respectfully request that you also pay your local dues of \$25 in addition to paying your national dues. Local dues assists with operating expenses and allow us to fund mentorship breakfasts and lunches, pay upfront costs for our two major social functions (annual picnic and holiday social) as well as pay for



gifts for departing members and guest speakers at certain events.

This year was a remarkable year for membership for the Quantico Chapter of the NNOA because we have five (5) new Life members:

Col Kenneth Dunn (Ret)
Major Rhonda Martin
Major Jonathan Loney
Major Rodney Tatum
Major Stacey Taylor

They achieved this status by paying four (4) equal installments of \$187.50 each quarter. If you know you will be apart of the NNOA for years to come, Life membership is the way to go.

Last but not least I would like to take this time to welcome some new members to the chapter and say farewell to members who have left the Quantico area or will be leaving soon because duty has called.

Hails:

Col Grover Lewis – Incoming Chapter President
LtCol Tommy Scott
Major Tamia Gordon – Incoming Chapter Vice-President
Major Carlos Jackson
LT Kennetta Smith
ENS Wilbert Dixon
Mrs. Kelly Martin-Rivers

Members who have returned from deployment:

Col Robert Clements – Congratulations on your promotion!!
Capt Robert Chapell

Farewells:

Major David Everly – Outgoing Chapter President
Major Rodney Tatum
Major Jonathan Loney – Outgoing Chapter Historian
LtCol Cliff McCullough
Capt Robert Chapell
Capt Kwabena Gyimah
Capt Steven Mays
Capt Musa Samad
CW04 Hawthorne – Outgoing Fundraising/Social Committee Head
1stLt Kerrissa Torres
2ndLt Askia Toure
2ndLt Reginald Thomas III
2ndLt Orlando Higgins
2ndLt Harrece Gassery

Deployed Members:

Major Ty Walls

Chaplain's Corner LT Cauble, CHC, USN

The Psalms: A Book for Warriors



Bible quiz time! "Who in the Bible, while as a young man protecting his family's flock of sheep, claimed to have killed both lions and bears (without the aid of a high-powered rifle)? This same young man also killed a Philistine military champion, a literal giant of a man, disabling him with a slingshot and cutting off his head with a spear? He also went on to become a great warrior king who ruled over the nation of Israel for forty years, becoming the national hero. Ironically, he was also a musi-

cian and a poet who wrote approximately half of the book of Psalms?" The answer is, of course, David, who lived from 1040 to 970 B.C. David knew a lot about two things: God and warfare. He is revealed in the Bible as a man of great passion who loved God intensely and served him valiantly as a man of warfare his entire life. Think with me about what war might have looked like during his day and the strain it must have placed on him and the warriors whom he led. Hand-to-hand combat, bloodshed,

and the stress of both killing the enemy and losing comrades must have taken its toll on his mental, physical and spiritual health. With our concern today over combat stress, one wonders how David was able to keep himself together well enough to lead Israel. For me, the answer to the question is found in many of his psalms that provide a window into his soul, vividly

(continued on page 10)

Washington, D.C. Teams Successfully Defend Regional HSCC Title

By: Mr. Perry Carter

Washington, DC—Bowie State University hosted this year's BDPA Regional High School Computer Competition (HSCC) and IT Showcase on Saturday June 21, 2008. Black Data Processing Association (BDPA) Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia chapters fielded four teams and co-hosted high school teams from Hartford, CT; New York, NY; and Philadelphia, PA chapters. "DC Team 3" captured first place, closely followed by "DC Team 1" and "New York Team 1".

BDPA's Regional IT Showcase featured undergraduate and high school presentations from BDPA Chapters serving Baltimore, MD; District of Columbia; New Castle, DE; Silver Spring, MD; Waldorf, MD; and Wilmington, DE. Seniors from North Carolina A&T State University and Bowie State University presented topics on Production Planning Tools and TeraGrid Outreach Through High-Performance Computing (HPC) Student Competitions, respectively. BDPA's National IT Showcase rolls into Atlanta this August.



Members of NNOA support the BDPA High School Computer Competition in Bowie, MD. From left to right: Capt Cory Holiday, Capt Melissa Chestnut, Mr. Perry Carter (President of the D.C. BDPA chapter), and Capt NaTasha McEachin.



Capt Holiday and Capt Chestnut are guest judges for the oral test portion of the BDPA HSCC competition.



The DC BDPA team enjoys lunch following the first two rounds of competition.



1stLt Kerrissa Torres

1st Lieutenant Kerrissa Torres is a 2006 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. While at the Academy, she studied International Relations and French. Lt Torres participated in club rugby, intramural cross country and half marathon, as well as the Naval Academy Gospel Choir and Midshipmen Black Studies Club. Upon graduating, she reported to The Basic School for training.

“Member in the Spotlight”

First Lieutenant Kerrissa Torres

While awaiting training, 1stLt Torres joined the Quantico NNOA chapter. Having heard about NNOA through fellow Naval Academy graduates who were stationed in Quantico, 1stLt Torres began attending local chapter meetings and attended the national conference in Coronado, California in July 2007. She was willing and ready to help with all chapter events from highway cleanups to adopt-a-school visits. Over the last year, she has participated in almost every event that the chapter has sponsored. After picking up with Bravo Company (BOC 2-08) at The Basic School, 1stLt Torres continued to support the chapter in many ways. She served as the chapter representative for the Quantico Black History Month Dinner Committee, assisted with the scholarship banquet planning and set-up, as well as participated in every scholarship fundraiser that the chapter conducted.

Participating in Quantico Chapter NNOA functions has helped 1stLt Torres gain professional guidance and mentorship interaction that some junior officers struggle to find

throughout their first years in the Marine Corps. She believes that the lessons she has learned and the relationships she has built both professionally and personally will remain with her throughout her career and beyond. 1stLt Torres credits her drive and motivation to her family who lives in the DC metro area, including two retired SNCOs. Their love, encouragement, and support continue to be a stabilizing force in Lt Torres' life.

1stLt Torres will graduate from The Basic School on 3 July 2008. She will attend the Basic Communications Officer's Course in Quantico, Virginia and plans to stay actively involved in the Quantico NNOA chapter until she relocates and links up with the local chapter at her next command.

1stLt Torres is currently pursuing a Master's degree in National Security from American Military University.

36th Annual

Professional Development Training Conference

Portsmouth, VA

Make your plans now to attend the 36th NNOA National Conference July 23–25, 2008 at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel in Portsmouth, VA. This year's theme: “Developing America's Future Leaders to Enhance Mission Readiness and Cultural Awareness.”

Chaplain's Corner cont...

describing his emotions and how he dealt with some of the weightier matters in his life. These psalms reveal, particularly, his confidence in his cause, and especially, his great trust in the Lord God of Israel. Below are a few examples.

First, David believed wholeheartedly that it was God himself who placed him over the nation of Israel as king. Having been anointed with oil by the prophet Samuel, David firmly believed in his calling as king and his cause of defend-

ing Israel against her enemies. Notice how David easily calls on God to defeat the enemy in Psalm 35.

"Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me!" David knew that the enemy he was fighting was also God's enemy. This confidence allowed him to lead his warriors and kept him from second-guessing himself when times were difficult. Second, David had an unshakeable trust in the Lord God and knew that safety was

found only in Him. David writes in Psalm 18, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies." Notice the concrete nouns he uses of the Lord - rock, fortress, deliverer, refuge, shield, and stronghold. For David, the Lord is everything he needs. Because of this, he makes

knowing and serving Him the most important thing in his life. I believe David's resilience during wartime has everything to do with his close relationship to the living God. Read through the Psalms and think about the warrior who wrote them and his circumstances. I firmly believe it is a book with which today's warrior can identify.



Racist Recruiting? Marine Corps ad draws fire

Marine Corps Times Staff

The Marine Corps' newest recruiting commercial aimed at targeting minorities tackles a long-running and often-controversial debate involving black American youth: swimming ability.

Called "Leap," the commercial shows a young black man standing at a high diving platform overlooking a swimming pool.

"I faced one of the toughest challenges of my life right here," the narrator says. "I couldn't swim."

Encouraged by his drill instructor's urging not to give up, the man goes for it.

"So I jumped in," he says. "Unsure, apprehensive and scared out of my mind. But I came up a Marine."

The man emerges not from a swimming pool, but from open water, in face paint and combat gear. A rubber boat filled with Marines zooms by and pulls the man inside.

DISCUSSION

[Do you think this video is racist?](#)

The ad reflects the real-life story of Staff Sgt. Thomas Hill, a senior drill instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris

Island, S.C., according to a Marine recruiting Web site, [our.marines.com](#).

Hill volunteered to tell his story when he heard the Corps was looking for ideas for a new commercial, according to the site. "He wants others who approach life the way he did to understand what being a Marine can do for them."

The popular blog Gawker.com, however, derided the ad as "subtle stereotyping."

"The Marines send a simple, straightforward message: 'Hey, black people. We know you can't swim. That's okay! We'll teach you how, and then let you ride in a cool boat, if you just sign up for the Marines now. Okay?'"

In 1993, then-Commandant Gen. Carl E. Mundy Jr. launched a storm of controversy by telling an interviewer on "60 Minutes" that whites outperform blacks in objective military tests, including swimming.

"In the military skills, we find that the minority officers do not shoot as well as the non-minorities... They don't swim as well. And when you give them a compass and send them across the terrain at night in a land navigation exercise, they don't do as

(Continued on next page)

Health Corner

SUMMERTIME HEALTH

By: LCDR Elizabeth Thomas

Summertime is a great time for military members to stay happy and healthy and focus on fun in the sun. Watching out for a few summertime health pitfalls can keep you on track for the rest of the year!

Summertime is the peak season for outdoor parties, barbecues, and picnics! With fitness tests out of the way for a few months, we can be tempted to overindulge. Help maintain a trim waistline by keeping at least half your plate full of fresh fruits and vegetables and look for light and summery desserts that may carry fewer calories than traditional cakes and pies. Alternating rounds of drinks of soda or alcohol with water can help you minimize calories as well as maximize your hydration. Also give diet soda a try if you want to maintain a refreshing beverage while limiting your total calories. Remember, portion control is everything – you can take a taste of most everything at the table *in moderation!*

Still having difficulty with self-control over tasty foods? Summertime is a great time to step up your exercise! You don't need to be in the field or deployed to remember that 6-8 glasses of water daily is recommended to maintain necessary hydration and keep you from being a heat casualty. Also, don't forget sunscreen! A minimum of SPF 15 is recommended for anyone planning prolonged sun exposure even if you have a dark complexion. While you may not be prone to sunburns, repeated sun exposure over time can lead to skin disease and skin cancers with advancing age. Any significant burns should be evaluated in the medical department as soon as possible. If you do find yourself enjoying some time in the field, the use of proper long-sleeved clothing, personal protective equipment, and DEET-based insect repellent is key to minimizing your exposure to annoying insect bites or potentially life-threatening ticks. At the end of the day, always be sure to check for bites while in a well-lit area! If you find a tick that you cannot remove or a recent tick bite results in a large (over 5 cm diameter) circular bulls-eye rash, seek evaluation at your local medical facility.

Thank you Letters

Dear Quantico NNOA,

My name is William A. Smith, and I am the recipient from Stafford Senior High School of the 2008 NNOA Dollars for Scholars scholarship. I would like to not only on behalf of me, but also on behalf of my family say thank you. This scholarship has not just lowered my tuition but has helped start my future. The opportunity that was placed before me to apply for this scholarship was remarkable, however the fact that I received it is truly a blessing. I will keep in touch with you all on my academic success at Virginia Commonwealth University, and on all other endeavors in the future that you have helped open doors for. Once again thank you and your generosity will never be forgotten.



William Smith receives the Quantico NNOA Scholarship.

Sincerely,

William A. Smith

Dear National Naval Officers Association,



Jessica Cerullo receives the Quantico NNOA scholarship.

I would like to thank you for choosing me as a recipient for the NNOA Scholarship. I cannot express how grateful I am to receive this award. Your generous scholarship of \$1000 will provide significant assistance for my college education and will allow me to pursue a career in medicine. I ensure you that I have ambitious plans for the future, and your investment will not be a disappointment! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jessica Cerullo

Marine Corps ad draws fire cont...

well at that sort of thing.”

More recently, a retired Army reserve officer running for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2006 was videotaped at a Christian Coalition making similar comments: “I grew up in Alabama and I understand and I know this from my own experiences that blacks aren’t the best swimmers or may not even know how to swim.”

The comments cost Tramm Hudson his shot at winning the Republican nomination for Florida’s 13th District.

Under New Management Cont...

Enlisted sailors are representative of the general public, but officers are not, he said. His diversity program aims to correct the imbalance through recruiting and retention.

Haney initiated an effort to re-establish an organization locally that tries to bring more racial and ethnic minorities into the officer corps of the sea services. Grooms said he is committed to increasing diversity and plans to work with that group, the New England Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association.

Haney will become the director of the Submarine Warfare Division, N87.

Grooms arrived in Groton from the Pentagon, where he served as director of the same office and helped build the budget for the Submarine Force.

Haney read his orders aloud and told Grooms, "I am ready to be relieved."

Grooms read his orders aloud and told Haney, "I am ready to relieve you.

Admiral Haney, I relieve you as com-

mander, Submarine Group Two."

As Haney said, "I stand relieved," his command in Groton ended.

Between traveling to the Pentagon to learn about his new job, going under way on the USS Virginia for a day and attending a conference for submarine flag officers, Haney said in an interview after the ceremony that there wasn't a lot of time for him to think, "Oh, I'm losing the best job in the United States Navy."

He always knew this job would be finite.

"So, as my wife would say, 'Get over it,' " he said, laughing.

Haney's wife, Bonny, said she likes these ceremonies because they give her a chance to find out what her husband does.

"He doesn't talk about himself," she said. "But he is so proud of the

sailors and what they do."

Grooms stressed that the most difficult part of his job will be following in Haney's footsteps.

"Admiral Haney is one of the most humble people I've ever known. He

downplays everything that he does and I think there is something to be said for letting other people speak to your accolades," he said after the ceremony. "In his case, he's an amazing leader, he's the smartest person I know and he's as down to earth as they come."

Donnelly said he was confident that Grooms is up to the challenge of running Submarine Group Two, calling him a "top performer" in every job he has had in the Navy so far.

Museum tells stories of minorities in WWII cont...

the building.

Researchers at the Germantown Historical Society identified the museum's ballroom as Parker Hall.

"It was a nightclub. It was like a USO place" for black soldiers, said Iris Fairfax, an official with the Germantown Historical Society.

Eugene Stackhouse, a past president of the society, said researchers found a few photographs of Parker Hall and an article about a serious fire there in 1903.

The museum is also the headquarters for the Philadelphia chapter of the National Association of Black Veterans, an advocacy group.

Since October, Hankins said, the museum has offered an

educational program for children. The program, which features puppets and other play activities, "is exceeding our expectations. We've taken kids who were unruly, and now they say 'please' and 'thank you,' and they share."

Hankins declined to say how much it cost to create the museum, other than that "I put my heart and soul and every penny I have into this building."

Quantico Chapter Photo Gallery

Chapter Farewells and Appreciations



Quantico Chapter Photo Gallery cont....

Adopt-A-Highway

Over 20 members and family show up for the June adopt-a-highway clean-up.



Church Visit to Grace Church

(Front row, left to right): 2ndLt Owens, Caren Owens, LtCol (ret) Harrison, First Lady Yeromitou Grier, Capt Chestnut, LtCol Johnson, LCDR Thomas, 2ndLt Torres, Marcus Johnson. (Second Row, left to right): Capt McEachin, Maj Williams, Luke Torres, Senior Pastor, Dr. Derek Grier, Col Lewis, Capt Ayres, Capt Reeves.

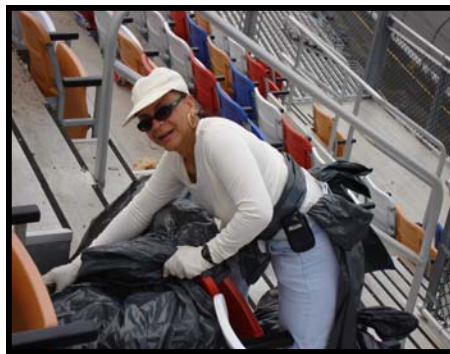


Quantico Chapter Photo Gallery cont...

NASCAR CLEAN-UP

Scholarship Fundraiser

2 & 4 May



Quantico Chapter Photo Gallery cont.... Farewell Barbecue for Maj Everly



YOU



WILL



BE



MISSED!



Quantico Chapter Photo Gallery cont.... James Farmer Scholars Program

Quantico Chapter members pose with other James Farmer Scholars volunteers after a one-hour career panel.



The JFS Summer program is a week-long workshop that includes a daily two-hour PT session.



Quantico volunteers lead these sessions, coaching the students through different sports and activities each day.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

July Schedule of Events

- 4—4th of July Holiday
- 9—General Body Meeting @1700
- 11—Adopt-A-School
- 23-25—National Conference hosted by Tidewater Chapter
- 30—Executive Board Meeting

July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

August Schedule of Events

- 9—Annual NNOA Picnic @ Lunga Reservoir
- 13—General Body Meeting @1700
- 23—Adopt-A-Highway
- 27—Executive Board Meeting

August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September Schedule of Events

- 1—Labor Day
- 5-7—NASCAR fundraiser
- 10—General Body Meeting @1700
- 14—Church Visit
- 28—Executive Board Meeting

September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



National Naval Officers Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 812

Quantico, VA 22134

Website: <http://www.quantico-nnoa.org>



About NNOA

National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) actively supports the Sea Services in the recruitment, retention, and career development of minority officers.

We are an essential element in maintaining operational readiness. We provide professional development and mentoring and support cultural diversity. We establish and maintain a positive image of the Sea Services in communities and educational institutions. National Naval Officers Association (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 dedicated to achieving a diversified workforce. We are the premier 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 of 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.

We are an inclusive organization that seeks diversity in our membership. We value all members and are committed to treating everyone with dignity, respecting individual differences, and affirming organizational and personal strengths. We are "TEAM NNOA" composed of active duty, reserve and retired officers and civilians. We achieve our mission and vision through enthusiastic support and dedicated service at the national and local levels. We are an organization of professionals whose accomplishments are attained through teamwork and accountability. We are dedicated to the professional development of our members. We promote an atmosphere conducive to self improvement and forward thinking. We promote honest, effective, and open communications. We communicate and process information using the best resources and technology available. We recognize achievements and maintain our valued reputation.

General Body meetings are held at 1700 on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Officer's Club.