



NEWS

naval meteorology and oceanography

January 31, 2012

Commander's Corner

By Rear Adm. Brian Brown



op-por-tu-ni-ty *noun* \,ä-pər-'tü-nə-tē, -'tyü-\

1: a favorable juncture of circumstances

I wanted to start out this NMOC News with a positive word that is often forgotten as we take on the challenges we face every day in the execution of the Navy's Operational Oceanography Program, especially in these fiscally tough times. It's easy to get lost in reacting to the myriad of issues presented; it's sometimes hard to see the proverbial "silver lining." I like to believe, based on our track record, that we are one of the best communities in the Navy in finding and capitalizing on opportunities even in the darkest of circumstances.

In the aftermath of several fleet navigation incidents, we found opportunity to educate Navy leadership on our survey capabilities, leading to better fleet understanding and advocacy, better partnering with our fleet customers, and ultimately better resourcing of our capability. Out of operational impacts stemming from leap second adjustments to the atomic clock, we found opportunity to champion DoD advocacy and funding to better disseminate assured time to critical command and control nodes. As a result of a devastating earthquake and tsunami, we found opportunity to work with our NOAA partners to provide critical tsunami data and impact assessments to our fleet and shore infrastructure to better protect our Navy's resources. In the heat of commerce-crippling piracy activity, we found opportunity in the fusion of environmental data and intelligence to not only help manage today's problem but set the path toward the realization of information dominance and the creation of true holistic, predictive battle space awareness across all warfare areas. Out of a refocus of our Navy in response to acts of terrorism, we found opportunity in key areas like riverine warfare, special operations, and mine warfare to provide true warfighting capability. And let us not forget, in the aftermath of potentially devastating fiscal cuts, cuts that would have crippled or potentially killed any other community, we found opportunity to reinvent ourselves as a leaner, more focused science-based force – and have found universal recognition for our positive impact on fleet safety and operational effectiveness. We are in demand.

Simply put, we are problem solvers. It's in our blood as the Navy's operational science experts and culture across the entire operational oceanography workforce. It's what we must continue to do.

As we tackle 2013, I challenge each of you to continue to find opportunities for Naval Oceanography to excel in our mission. When the flak gets too thick, don't put your head down, but rather look up and help find that silver lining. There is opportunity out there, let's find it.

From the Deputy/Technical Director

Turbulence

By Dr. William Burnett

I'm currently at 36,000 feet and two hours delayed on my flight from Chicago to New Orleans. The plane is a small jet that has no room for luggage and tiny seats that won't allow you to move. Since we are delayed, the pilots have decided to fly at a higher altitude to gain us some time and get to New Orleans faster. The problem is, flying at a higher altitude also makes you more susceptible to clear air turbulence--the kind of turbulence that hits suddenly, when you least expect it.

That just happened to us while I was typing a trip report. We flew right into some clear air turbulence about 30 minutes into the flight. The turbulence was so bad that the flight attendant had to sit down, and everyone had to hold onto their drinks. I held on to my little iPad so it wouldn't get lost and captured by another passenger.

The feeling isn't too dissimilar from what we are experiencing in the Department of Defense and the government writ large--lots of uncertainty, fluctuations every day, everyone just holding things down and the general feeling, wondering when will this all end. We can't say that the turbulence we are going through in DoD snuck up on us. The end of two wars. Sequestration. The economy. Uncertainty. All these appeared on the horizon, and we knew it was going to be bumpy. We just don't know how long it will last and how bad the bumpiness will be.

Fortunately, in the airplane, as bad as the turbulence can get, the pilots do have ways to smooth the ride. One of the simplest ways is to descend to a lower altitude. The penalty you pay is that the flight takes longer, but usually it is smoother.

To ride the turbulence we are feeling at CNMOC, our admiral and leadership are also mitigating the impacts of uncertainty. At headquarters, we have frozen hiring and slowed our spending. We gathered our leadership (Executive Council) together via VTC to discuss options to reduce the impacts of any budget cuts we might receive. Our admiral is challenging the leadership to not focus on budget cuts but to find opportunities where we can grow and better optimize the Navy. We are also working with U.S. Fleet Forces to ensure they understand our options and to keep our services and support operational.

It is still too early to state what will happen in the next few months. Just like on the plane, we have to ride the turbulence out and not panic. Naval Meteorology and Oceanography is absolutely critical to the fleet, and everyone will do his or her best to mitigate any impacts. Just sit tight and buckle your seatbelt for what could be an interesting ride.



From the Command Master Chief

By Master Chief Aerographer's Mate (IDW/AW/SW) Ken Walker



NMOC Team,

CPO 365 has undergone significant change, but it remains a positive and professional process to develop first class petty officers into chief petty officers through challenging mental and physical activities. The CPO Mess has been charged with developing a CPO 365 execution plan which encompasses the MCPON's guidance and all aspects of continuous training and mentorship for the FCPOs, as well as the enhanced development of chief selectees. MCPON stated that his number one priority is developing the leadership skills of every FCPO, and I believe that goal to be fully attainable. We need to work through the challenges and stay committed to the process as we help build the future leaders of the Navy.

I ask that each CPO Mess review the entirety of the guidance and engage in a discussion about the challenges associated with the changes. There are likely common themes that we can work on together and come up with solutions. In addition, I would also like to draw your attention to the following quote from MCPON's Guidance: "Provide your TYCOM FORCM /ISIC CMC an after action report on how training was conducted, lessons learned and best practices to ensure we continue to evolve our training and tradition. The reports should be forwarded to the respective fleet master chiefs via your ISIC and chain of command. Through this effort we will continue to grow as leaders."

I couldn't emphasize the importance of this enough. There will be a full range of feedback after the first year under the new guidance. We need to place a strong emphasis on characterizing the positive aspects of the changes, the challenges we met and how we overcame them, and the things that simply did not work. Feedback from this year's training will be critical to continuing to improve the process. I am completely confident in our ability as a community to implement these changes and overcome the challenges that we have ahead of us.

Keep up the great work and keep the fleet safe!

From the Detailer

By Capt. John Okon

OCEANO Warriors,

Greetings from the cold and wet cotton fields of Millington, Tenn.!

It should be well-known within our community that the 6401P/6402P METOC Subspecialty Code is required to maintain career progression. The only approved process to earn this code is to attend the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and complete the Meteorology and Operational Oceanography Program, which results in a master's degree in meteorology and physical oceanography (6401P) or to be selected for the highly competitive MIT course of instruction, which will result in a master's degree in oceanography (6402P). Since this milestone is required by NMOCINST1524.1, all oceanography officers should have a calculated APC. If you haven't done so already, you can easily have your APC calculated by applying to NPS online at: <https://www.nps.edu/Admissions/AMS/Login.aspx>

As the Department of Defense goes through "what if" financial drills, your detailers are going through the same process. PCS funding, especially TDI (intermediate stops), continues to be looked at very closely. If enroute training is not absolutely mandatory (by law or instruction) there is a high probability

you will not receive the training as part of your PCS orders. Please remain flexible as we continue to work through the coming adventures. Once we know what (if any) impacts we have, they will be communicated to our leadership and out to those of you that may be impacted.

One final note...during my recent command visits, I've been continually impressed by the professionalism of our folks, and your desire to ultimately do what the Navy and our nation needs you to do. I appreciate your candor and your desire to serve where and when called. A special thank you to those who continue to say, "I'm ready to answer all bells."

Upcoming Job Opportunities:

O5	FWC Norfolk	Norfolk	JUL13
O5	NRL	DC	Available
O5	USNWC (Instructor)	Newport	JUL13
O4	PEP Offutt (AFWA)	Omaha	Available
O4	USMC C&S College (student)	Quantico	JUL 13
O3	COMOPTEVFOR	Norfolk	JUL13
O3	USNWC (student)	Newport	AUG13
O3	PEP UK-Devon	England	SEP13
O3	USNAVCENT	Bahrain	DEC13

If you are interested in any of these jobs, please contact Lt. Cmdr. Coke or myself.

Keep Charging!

Personnel

Lt. Cmdr. Brown Retires

Lt. Cmdr. Stuart A. Brown retired after 30 years of active duty service in a traditional Navy ceremony on Jan. 10.

Brown joined the Navy in 1982 and became an aerographer's mate. He rose through the ranks to chief petty officer and was commissioned as a limited duty officer in 1998.

He has served in a variety of billets overseas, at-sea and in the U.S. His last tour was at the Naval Oceanography Operations Command (NOOC) at Stennis Space Center where he served as Deputy Director of Weather Services.

Capt. Van Gurley (l), Naval Oceanography Operations Center commanding officer, presents Lt. Cmdr. Stuart Brown with a Meritorious Service Medal during Brown's retirement ceremony. Looking on is Capt. A. J. Reiss, Naval Oceanographic Office executive officer and the guest speaker at Brown's ceremony.



Sailor Pursues Higher Education on Active Duty

By Kelly LeGuillon, CNMOC Public Affairs



Pursuing higher education while on active duty is no easy feat. However, Chief Aerographer's Mate Will Davis proves that it is possible.

Davis is the Leading Chief Petty Officer, Operations Administrative and Meteorology Divisions, USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77), at Fleet Weather Center Strike Group Oceanography Team (FWC-SGOT), Norfolk.

Davis received his bachelor's degree of geosciences in operational meteorology from Mississippi State University while serving as a forecaster in Rota, Spain.

He says it was when he transferred to the Naval Oceanography Antisubmarine Warfare Center at Stennis Space Center, Miss., that he fell in love with the meteorology and oceanography community and decided to pursue a master's degree.

"Weather forecasting is nice but truly applying the environment to the mission is where it's at," Davis said. "Sensor performance and capability, tactical asset allocation and resource protection is a tough but rewarding experience AGs are privileged to have. An understanding of the geospatial realm is a wonderful knowledge base for applying the environment and providing a detailed accurate analysis for the Navy's decision makers."

In just over four years, Davis completed a master's of geography in geographic information technology from the University of Southern Mississippi and earned the Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) designation from the American Meteorological Society.

However, his academic achievements did not come without obstacles.

"The biggest challenge for anyone, especially in the Navy, is proper time management," Davis said. "The master's degree and CCM certification programs are very demanding and attempting to complete them while on sea duty proved a difficult task. Finding additional time during a very busy day or underway schedule to complete the required work was very difficult but doable."

His passion for knowledge motivated him to overcome those challenges.

"I feel it's necessary to keep up with what's out there. The good thing about that is I can then apply that knowledge to support the warfighter."

Davis isn't done just yet.

"I am currently enrolled in the graduate dual degree program of environmental management and business administration at the University of Maryland University College and am on track to graduate in December of 2013," he said.

An 18-year Navy veteran, Davis plans to use his education to mentor young Sailors.

"By passing my knowledge and experiences to the younger AGs, my hope is to increase their knowledge and ability and to utilize the best resources available to provide a detailed, accurate and sound understanding of the battle space," he said.



Young Retires

Rob Young, Counsel for the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (CNMOC), retired Jan. 10 after serving the command for 27 years. Rear Adm. Brian Brown (left), Commander, CNMOC, presented Young with a Naval Oceanography farewell mat signed by members of the command.

Naval Postgraduate School December Graduates

Lt. Thomas Mills and Lt. Cmdr. Eric Daley (L-R) earned a Master of Science degree in meteorology and physical oceanography from the Naval Postgraduate School, December 2012.



Items of Interest

Flight Meteorologist Program

By Lt. j.g. Alaina Bussell

The Naval Oceanography Anti-Submarine Warfare Detachment (NOAD), Whidbey Island, Wash., recently established the Flight Meteorologist Program (FMP).

The program gives AGs the opportunity to support tactical flights on P-3s and gain first-hand experience on maritime patrol reconnaissance aircraft (MPRA).

Lt. j.g. Jason Ehlenberger was the first to qualify and earn his Naval Aviation Observer (NAO) badge. Five others in his detachment are working toward their qualification, logging over 100 hours of flight time.

“Watching Lt. j.g. Ehlenberger earn his wings made me want mine even more,” said Aerographer’s Mate 3rd Class Emmanuel Pensongravel.

Personnel must complete water survival training, qualify as naval air training and operating procedures observers, and fly a minimum of 60 hours to qualify.



Naval Oceanography Anti-Submarine Warfare Detachment, Whidbey Island, Wash., Fleet Meteorologist Program 2012: (L-R) Chief Aerographer's Mate (EXW/SW) Steve Giannaris, Aerographer's Mate 1st Class Ashley Hudson, Aerographer's Mate 3rd Class Daniel Jones, Aerographer's Mate Airman Daniel Rees, Aerographer's Mate Airman Corey Logan, Aerographer's Mate 3rd Class Emmanuel Pensongravel, Aerographer's Mate 2nd Class Justen Knaebel, Chief Naval Aircrewman-Operator (NAC/AW) Mike Cook and Lt. j.g. Jason Ehlenberger.

Senior Chief Moore Memorial Run

Sailors from Fleet Weather Center San Diego (FWC-SD) participated in a 5K run along Breaker's Beach in memory of Senior Chief Aerographer's Mate Vincent Harris Moore on Dec. 11, 2012.

Over 60 participants paid tribute to Moore on the two-year anniversary of his passing.



Command Spotlight: NMOPDC

NMOPDC

2012 was another banner year for the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center (NMOPDC). Several new training initiatives were accomplished as well as the administration and

operation of both the Joint International Hydrographic Applied Science Program (JIHASP) and the International Hydrographic Management and Engineering Program (IHMEP), which transferred from Fleet Survey Team (FST).

Eight new training courses and modules were added to the existing library of 26 formal instructor-led courses and over 150 courses were maintained and delivered. Five new courses were added to the COMET and MetED computer-based training modules including Basic Radar Fundamentals, Meteorology Dynamics, and the U.S. Naval Observatory. Two course modules were added to the Reserve Aerographer's Mate School (RAMS), designed to support delivery of initial core competencies to the reserve METOC enlisted force.

The transfer of the JIHASP and IHMEP activities to NMOPDC were a culmination of several months of detailed planning and coordination among the CNMOC N5 Staff, Naval Oceanographic Office, NMOPDC, and FST. The JIHASP supports international military and government students who attend the University of Southern Mississippi's year-long master's degree in hydrographic science program. Upon completion of the JIHASP, students are awarded the International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO) Category "A" Certificate.

The IHMEP program consists of a six-month course of study in academic and practical hydrography, nautical cartography, mathematics, and geodesy for both international and U.S. military personnel. This program continues the Naval Oceanography legacy and over 50 years of international hydrographic training. Upon completion of IHMEP, students receive the International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO) Category "B" Certificate.

Aerographer's Mate 1st Class (SW) William D. Herin



Aerographer's Mate 1st Class (SW) William D. Herin is the Leading Petty Officer at the Command's Atlantic detachment and was selected as the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center's (NMOPDC) Sailor of the Year.

He taught over 350 active duty and reserve students in over 20 different courses of instruction. He is a subject matter expert in the use of the METOC TDAs and is sought to provide weekly on-the-spot advance training and instruction to the reach-back support unit of Fleet Weather Center Norfolk. Herin also received his Master Training Specialist Qualification. He is active in the community through the Kempsville Baptist Church and the Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed (AWANA) program, working with over 20 children ages five to eight.

Chris Olsen



Selected for the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center (NMOPDC) Civilian of the Year, Chris Olsen is recognized as an outstanding instructor and subject matter expert in tactical oceanography and undersea warfare. He taught over 100 students in seven courses of instruction and qualified six instructors while serving as the training lead for both the Mine Warfare and Anti-submarine Warfare Directorates.

Olsen completed a Bachelors of Science degree in operational meteorology through Mississippi State University. He graduated Magna Cum Laude and was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society for his outstanding academic achievement. Olsen is also active in the community through the West Jackson County Soccer Club, St. Martin Dixie Youth Girl's Softball and serves as his Neighborhood Watch coordinator.

New NMOC News Deadlines

Please note, NMOC News deadlines have been changed.

Deadline	Publication	Command Spotlight
2/15/13	2/28/13	NAVO & FNMOC
3/18/13	3/28/13	FWC-Norfolk
4/15/13	4/25/13	NOAC Stennis & Yoko
5/20/13	5/30/13	FWC-SD
6/17/13	6/27/13	NOSWC
7/15/13	7/25/13	NOMWC
8/19/13	8/29/13	JTWC
9/16/13	9/26/13	FST & NAVICE

Social Media

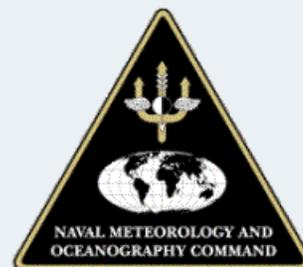
Follow Naval Oceanography on Facebook and @navyoceans on Twitter to keep up with all the latest news and images from the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography community.

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