

Commander, Naval Air Forces (CNAF) Vice Adm. Tom Kilcline is a 1973 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He was designated a Naval Aviator in 1975.



Deputy Commandant for Marine Corps Aviation Lt. Gen. George Trautman is a 1974 graduate of Pennsylvania State University. He was designated a Marine Corps Aviator in 1976.

Commander, Naval Air Forces Reserve (CNAFR); Deputy Commander, Naval Air Forces Rear Adm. Patrick McGrath is a 1979 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He was designated a Naval Aviator in 1981.



Coast Guard Chief of Aviation Capt. Mike Emerson is a 1984 graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy. He was designated a Coast Guard Aviator in 1989.

We Are Naval Aviation.

Our core competency is the projection of combat power, whether from a flight deck or a forward base.

We are the men and women of Naval Aviation.

We influence events in this unsettled world by engaging forward with our presence and power.

Our Naval Air Force can deliver unmatched, persistent and precise combat power, hundreds of miles inland from our expeditionary airfields and sea-bases.

And just as easily, we can flex our force to perform humanitarian aid and disaster relief efforts.

Our service puts us in harm's way, far from our families, often for significantly long intervals.

What we do is hard and oftentimes dangerous, but it is bigger than all of us, so we do it as a team.

Hardships are shared.

All of us are part of a competent and professional Naval Air Force that has no equal in air combat.

What drives us is the richness of life and experience that can be found nowhere else.

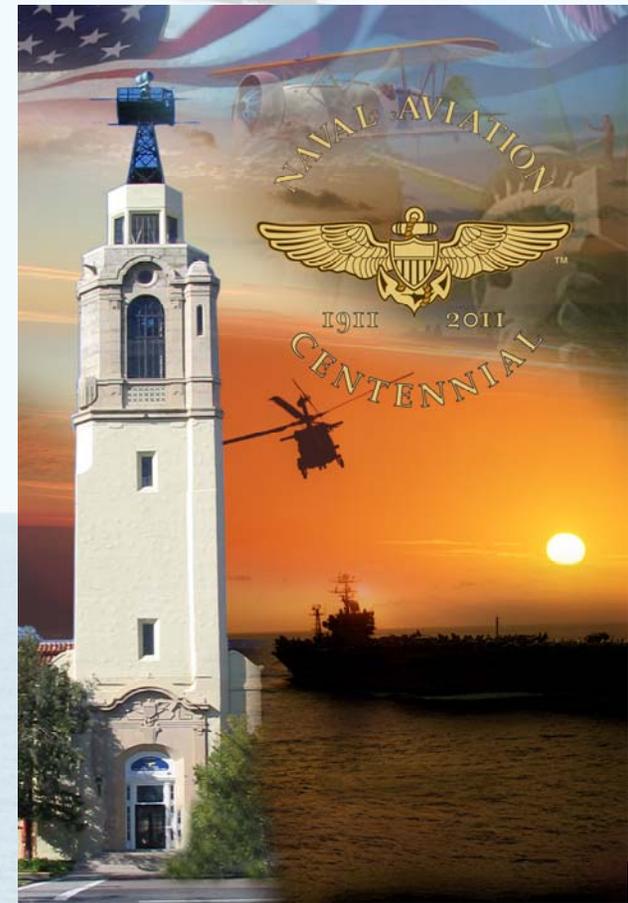
We serve our country.

Our duty is mission accomplishment.

We lead our men and women with compassion.

We excel in the air. We make a difference.

Fly, Fight, Lead.



The Centennial of Naval Aviation kicks off January 2011 and continues as a year-long celebration with a variety of events worldwide!

Visit local aviation museums to enjoy past and present Naval Aviation culture, view the educational displays and help us honor the men and women who forged Naval Aviation into the military might it is today!

Enjoy many events scheduled throughout 2011, including air shows, fly-overs, special demonstrations, static displays and industry booths.

For the latest information, rich culture and educational materials, visit Commander Naval Air Forces' website: <http://centennial.ahf.nmci.navy.mil/>.

The official Centennial of Naval Aviation patch, was recently selected. The patch, which will be worn on the right shoulder of the standard flight suit, was designed by Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 21's LT Ian Espich.

The gold braid surrounding the logo represents the 236 years of seafaring tradition of the United States Sea services, with the founding of the Continental Navy on 13 October 1775, the formation of the Continental Marines a month later at Tun Tavern on 10 November 1775, and the founding of what would become the Coast Guard on 4 August 1790.

The light blue inner circle - horizon and water represent sea and sky, the two mediums that we treasure as maritime aviators. The wake in the water is a retrospective look at where we have been in Naval Aviation.

The Golden wings represent the human aspect of Naval Aviation. We are the men and women of Naval Aviation, who have all worked hard to earn our wings. The Naval Aviation Pilot wings were selected because they were the original naval aviation wings.

The A-1 Triad and F-35 Lightning II represent the old and new of Naval Aviation.

The clouds in the sky symbolize that not everything in our profession is easy. What we do is difficult and often times dangerous, and this represents those shared hardships.

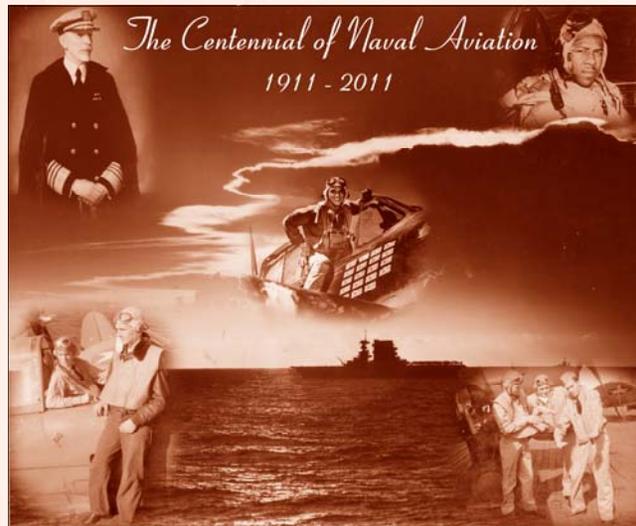


Centennial Contact Us

For questions, comments, information on news and events, article submissions or any other Centennial related queries, please contact:

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Mission:

To honor a century of mission-ready men and women and recognize unique aviation-related achievements through event driven celebrations.

Vision:

A year long celebration of 100 years of Naval Aviation, covering the scope of all Naval Aviation activities, including aircraft, people, ships, innovations and significant events. This nationally sponsored series of events is scheduled to kick off Jan 2011 and continue throughout the year.

Intent:

- To raise public awareness of Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and NASA aviation operations.
- To commemorate 100 years of Naval Aviation across the world, while concentrating on key geographical areas of the country due to their specific historical events and activities.

Pioneers of Naval Aviation:



Glenn H. Curtiss - Father of Naval Aviation. A visionary whose efforts convinced Navy leadership in the viability of the aircraft as a weapon of war. His persistence led to the purchase of the first Navy aircraft on May 8, 1911.

Eugene Ely - Civilian pilot. Demonstrated Naval Aviation application completing the first flight from a ship on Nov. 14, 1910 from the USS Birmingham. Jan. 18, 1911 he successfully landed onboard USS Pennsylvania.



CAPT Carl Von Paulsen, USCG - Designated a Naval Aviator in 1920. Credited for reestablishing USCG Aviation after successfully providing aerial surveillance for liquor smuggling interdiction by establishing a makeshift Air Station using borrowed planes.



MajGen Marion E. Carl, USMC - Winged Dec. 1939. A record setting test pilot, notable aviator, and the first Marine Corps ace in WWII, finishing as the Corps' seventh ranking ace with 18.5 victories.



ENS Jesse Brown, USN - Oct. 1948 made history becoming the first African American to complete flight training and be designated a Naval Aviator. ENS Brown served with Fighter Squadron 32 until shot down during the Korean War.



RADM Alan Shepard, Jr., USN - A former test pilot, RADM Shepard was one of the original seven astronauts chosen by NASA for its Mercury program. He became the first American (second overall) in space on May 5, 1961 when he went aloft in the Freedom 7 capsule for a 15-minute sub-orbital flight.



LCDR Barbara Allen Rainey, USN - Designated the first female Naval Aviator during ceremonies on Feb. 22, 1974. LCDR Rainey continued her career as a flight instructor assigned to VT-3 at Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

