



providing the **Battlespace on Demand**  
naval meteorology and oceanography **news**

1100 Balch Boulevard, Stennis Space Center, MS  
Tel: (228) 688-4384 • Fax: (228) 688-4880 • Email: cathy.willis@navy.mil

**Rear Admiral David Titley**  
Commander,  
Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command

January 26, 2009

## Items of Interest



### 2009 CNMOC SAILORS OF THE YEAR:

Aerographer's Mate 1st Class Victor Gonzalez (seated second from left) was named Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (NMOC) Sea Sailor of the Year (SOY) and Aerographer's Mate 1st Class Robert Vonggonthong (seated second from right) was named NMOC Shore SOY in a ceremony at the command headquarters on Jan. 23. Also pictured are (seated L-R) Aerographer's Mate 1st Class Clayton Corbin, Shore SOY finalist; Gonzalez; Vonggonthong; Storekeeper 1st Class Earl Jay Navarro, Shore SOY finalist; (standing) Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Brian Wells, Naval Oceanographic Office

Command Master Chief (CMC); Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Ken Walker, Naval Oceanography Operations Command CMC; Aerographer's Mate 1st Class Theresa Schultz, Sea SOY finalist; Information Systems Technician Mathew Smith, Shore SOY finalist; Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Mark Burton, NMOC CMC; Ed Gough, NMOC Deputy/Technical Director; Storekeeper 1st Class Christopher Harding, Shore SOY finalist; Yeoman 1st Class Jim Handley, Shore SOY finalist; Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Mark Shaffer, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center CMC; Command Master Chief Mike Conran; Undersea Surveillance CMC. Not pictured is Sea SOY finalist Storekeeper 1st Class Ryan Barrett, who was deployed.

**CNMOC AT AMS:** Dr. Fred Lewis, director of Air Force Weather, congratulates Rear Adm. David Titley, commander of the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command, on being selected a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) at the AMS annual meeting in Phoenix on Jan. 12. While at AMS, the admiral reached out to a group of educators of minority students to help him diversify the naval oceanography workforce. Read the full story at [http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story\\_id=42073](http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=42073).





**CNMOC CELEBRATES MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY:** Rear Adm. David Tittley, left, made a presentation to Rev. Buddy Peters, founder and pastor of Gateway Baptist Church in Lumberton, Miss., and a retired U.S. Air Force master sergeant. Peters spoke at the Stennis Space Center celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan. 23.

**PHOTO CONTEST:** As a community on the cutting edge, Naval Oceanography military and civilians perform exciting jobs around the globe. NMOC News wants to showcase these activities as seen through the eyes of those on the forefront. Beginning in January, NMOC News will feature a winning photo each month, taken by Naval Oceanography community members on the job.

To be considered, photos should show compelling action of oceanography professionals doing what they do best. Be safe! Please ensure that personal protection devices (safety goggles, life vests, etc) are used when required, and activities photographed are publicly releasable. The quality of the photo should be of high resolution (300 dpi or higher), as the picture will be resized for framing. Except for routine cropping, sizing and color balance and contrast adjustments, photos may not be altered in accordance with DoD Instruction 5040.05 "Alteration of Official DoD Imagery." (<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/504005p.pdf>)

Photos will be judged by the PAO and Front Office staff. Sailors who submit winning photos will receive 72 hours of special liberty. Civilians will receive an eight hour time-off award. Winning photos will be displayed at the Headquarters, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command building for an indefinite amount of time. Selected submissions may be provided to the Navy's Visual Information News Service for possible inclusion in official Navy visual information databases.

Please send photos along with the photographer's name, rank (if applicable) and date of photo to Jenni Ervin at [jennifer.ervin.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:jennifer.ervin.ctr@navy.mil).

#### **THIS WEEK'S "ARMED WITH SCIENCE" ON BLOGTALKRADIO:**

**Who:** Mike Jeffries, Technical Director/Chief Hydrographer, Fleet Survey Team, Stennis Space Center, Miss.

**What:** Mike will discuss techniques and tools of ocean bottom mapping; the use of expeditionary Fleet Survey Teams; and how the data they collect are used to build precise nautical navigation charts.

**When:** Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1400 ET (1300 CT).

**Live toll-free call-in number:** (866) 588-9257

**Online:** Download audio files and transcripts from current and archived shows at: <http://www.defenselink.mil/Blogger/Index.aspx> and <http://www.pentagonchannel.mil>

**From non-NMCI computers :** <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/ArmedwithScience>

Armed with Science is a bi-weekly audio webcast, hosted on BlogTalkRadio.com that discusses cutting-edge scientific research and development, and applications of science and technology to military operations sponsored by various defense offices.

**PUBLIC FACING NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHY PORTAL DEBUTS:** On Jan. 15, the Naval Meteorology rolled out its public facing U.S. Naval Oceanography portal, <http://www.usno.navy.mil> <<http://www.usno.navy.mil>> . The portal, which is still being populated, will be the single access point for all public facing meteorology and oceanography products and services. In the near future, non-DoD users will be redirected to this portal. DoD customers can access all operational data, products and services via the NIPRnet Naval Oceanography Portal site at <https://oceanography.navy.mil> <<https://oceanography.navy.mil>> (CAC required). Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command is consolidating the command's web presence in accordance with Department of Defense (DoD) and Navy guidance.

**AUVs IN THE NEWS:** The article "AUV Systems and the United States Navy" by Randy H. White, Naval Oceanographic Office, appears on pp. 6-9 of the January/February 2009 issue of International Ocean

Systems magazine. The article gives an overview on the background of autonomous underwater vehicles, recent technological advances and the future of AUVs in NAVOCEANO's deep-ocean surveying effort.

---

## New Comet Module

The COMET Program is pleased to announce the publication of "S-290 Unit 4: Basic Weather Processes". This 45-minute distance learning module summarizes atmospheric structure and composition, the Sun-Earth radiation budget, weather elements used to describe the atmosphere, the greenhouse effect, and temperature lags observed both daily and seasonally. The content introduces the concepts of pressure, atmospheric heating, and temperature and provides a basis for understanding weather topics that are explored in more detail in related modules. This module is the first to be released of the thirteen units that will make up the Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior Course. The entire course will be available by early 2010.

The intended audience for "S-290 Unit 4: Basic Weather Processes" includes fire personnel, fire managers, fire weather forecasters, and others seeking to complete the S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior course offered through the National Wildfire Coordinating Group. The course content is required for those planning to work as a Fire Fighter Type 1 or Fire Effects Monitor on wildfires, fire use fires, and prescribed burns. Please follow this link to start the module: <http://www.meted.ucar.edu/fire/s290/unit4/>

---

## Detailer's Corner

*From: Capt. Jim Pettigrew, PERS 449*

The selection board season is officially underway with the O-6 selection board finishing up last week. To reinforce the great job you are all doing, here is a short thought from Rear Adm. David Titley: "As I have mentioned many times before, I am amazed and humbled by the exceptional talent you represent, and am excited about the strategic future of Naval Oceanography that belongs largely to you," he said. "Having just sat on the O-6 selection board, I can assure you that the senior officer talent in the 1800 community is well recognized (and envied) by the larger Navy Flag Officer community."

Additionally, we have finished slating our O-5 command and numbered fleet billets for 2009. Congratulations to Cmdr. Marc Steiner, NOPF Dam Neck; Cmdr. John Okon, NOAC Yokosuka; Cmdr. Troy Tworek, NAFC Norfolk; Cmdr. Brett Martin, SGOT-W, San Diego; Cmdr. Matt Borbash, NOMIWC Stennis Space Center; Cmdr. Chris Arends, C3F; Cmdr. Sean Memmen, C2F; Cmdr. Greg Ireton, C5F; and Cmdr. (sel) Wendy Chicoine, C7F. Good luck to all on this well deserved opportunity.

We appreciate all who continue to step up to fill our high-priority billets. Here are some additional ones. Remember, I can usually go one-up or one-down in rank. If you're interested, give Cmdr. (sel) Chicoine or me a call.

O-5	NGA	VA
O-4	DIA	VA
O-3	NAVICE	MD
O-4	CNMOC	MS

That's it for now from Millington. Keep Charging!

---

## About NMOC News

*NMOC News is a biweekly electronic internal newsletter, distributed by the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command Public Affairs Office. To obtain guidelines for contributing information to NMOC News, please contact the CNMOC Public Affairs Office at (228) 688-4384, DSN: 828-4384, e-mail: [cathy.willis@navy.mil](mailto:cathy.willis@navy.mil).*