

October 17, 2010

PELENEWS



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FROM THE DECK PLATES



By CMDMCM
(SW/AW/SS)
Brent Williams

Hello and welcome and to another edition of the PeleNews. It has been a great week and a lot of great things have been happening, both on the ship and back on the home front. This month has also been filled with many great things as well.

We have started planning for the Tiger Cruise, the FRG held a very successful mid-cruise celebration, and the Navy celebrated its 235th birthday, just to name a few. The crew enjoyed a nice break and was able to get off the ship, relax, and do some shopping and sightseeing.

So as the PELELIU gears up for its return to home port, AMMO offload, and more work, it is important to look now at the goals of this next chapter - not only in the ship's life but yours as well.

The Navy has and continues to provide us with the ability to be very successful. The Navy has, over the past two centuries, become the finest force on earth. Below is a snapshot of today's Navy:

- October 13, 1775–Present
- 433,500 personnel
- 289 ships
- 3,700+ aircraft
- 11 Aircraft carriers
- 10 Amphibious assault ships
- 9 Amphibious transport docks
- 12 Dock landing ships
- 22 Cruisers
- 55 Destroyers
- 30 Frigates
- 71 Submarines

The Navy has come a long way over the course of the 235 years. We're proud to continue the traditions and service to the American people. The greatest asset in the Navy has been, and always will be, its phenomenal Sailors. Without your commitment and dedication, all the ships and aircraft would just be useless stuff. It's the Sailors who bring life to all this stuff and make us the most powerful Navy in the history of the world.

As we continue to serve, we should all really look at our careers and how we are doing business on a daily basis. I think, for the most part, we do a pretty good job, but as we start heading back home, many of us will not properly prepare for the changes that will occur. It will be uncomfortable for some and others will have no problem at all. For our younger Sailors, you need to start now thinking of leave plans, getting that new apartment, or going out and buying that first car. You are going to be faced with many decisions. Please take the time to talk with your mentor, a family member, and most definitely your Chief!

The PELELIU is a small part of the Navy, as shown above, but a very successful part. Take the next few weeks and start your planning to be a successful part of the overall team. You cannot afford to allow yourself to become financially unstable, receive a DUI, or not properly plan your career path. If you look at the entire Navy, there are many that are planning and will ensure that all is in order to be able to stay Navy. The Navy is smaller than it has been in many years, and the competition is

ferce. So use your resources and remember this is your job; you are a Sailor!!!

Go Navy, and "Keep Charging PELELIU"

On the Cover



The cover shot is a night view of the skyline of Dubai as seen from the Emirates Club's Faldo Course, a golf course in Dubai.

Photo by MC3 Ian Campbell

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FRG UPDATE

Greetings to our Sailor, Marines, and families! October is in full swing and we have a lot on the agenda in the coming weeks to keep us busy and help pass the time as we move into the home stretch!

First up is the kid's Halloween celebration on 20 October from 4-6 p.m. at Oma's Pumpkin Patch in Lakeside; here is the link www.omaspumpkinpatch.com.

Also on the 20th is our first diner's night fund raiser at Hooters of Mission Valley, the flyer will be sent out via email on Sunday, if you are not on our email list or did not receive it and would like to join us, contact us at peleliufrg@gmail.com.

Next is the FRG general meeting on the 21st at the Navy Base San Diego bowling alley on the dry side. If you do not have base access email us at peleliufrg@gmail.com so we can get you on the access list. We have set up babysitting for any children in attendance; just let us know if you are bringing children, and their ages. The meeting will start at 6 p.m., and we have a

guest speaker from Fleet and Family Services. We will also be hearing from our

Ombudsmen, they have some Tiger Cruise and preliminary homecoming information to pass on! (Feel the excitement!)

The adults' only Halloween costume party is on the 23rd from 6-10 p.m. at El Dorado Clubhouse in Tierrasanta. Our e-vite went out, so if you did not receive it, please email us so we can get it to you. This is going to be a fun way to show off your creative side!

Our second diner's night is the 28th at Pick up Stix in Mission Valley, this one goes from open to close, all you have to do is give them the flyer, we'll email it out the week before.

If you are unable to attend a diner's night, but have friends or family that can, please send them the flyers. Each diner's night will earn the FRG 20% back on all sales.

At the meeting on the 23rd, and all official FRG events (excluding diner's night fund raisers) we will be selling First Kiss raffle tickets. Your first one is free and you can buy up to 4 more at \$2 each or 4 for \$7. Our awesome homecoming T-shirts will be available for pre sale as well. We do have a small quantity on hand and if you pre-paid for one at the half way party, we will have them for you at the meeting. For all of you that are not local to San Diego, but will be at the homecoming, there will be one chance to buy raffle tickets in November, details to follow in the coming weeks.

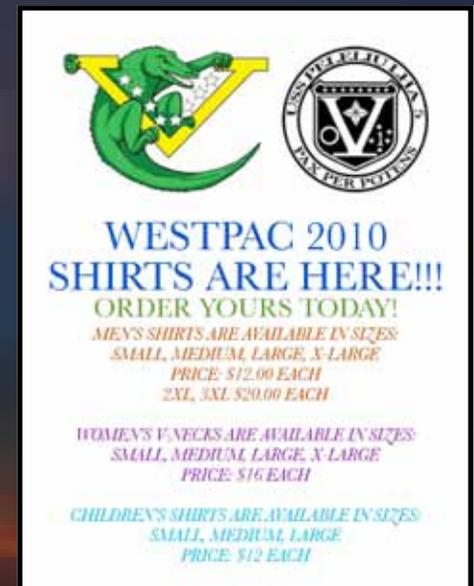
We are taking orders for t-shirts from now through November 1st. If

you are local to San Diego, you may pick up your shirt at the November meeting, if you are out of town, we will ship them to you for an additional fee.

Lastly, if you purchased a raffle ticket for the prizes at the halfway party, we will be drawing for them at the beginning of the meeting on the 23rd, if you are not in attendance, we will contact you for pick up.

Be safe and have a great week!

Your command spouse/significant other leadership team.



The advertisement features two logos at the top: a green and yellow logo on the left and a circular seal on the right. The seal contains the text 'UNITED STATES OF AMERICA' and 'NAVY PERIODICAL'. Below the logos, the text reads: 'WESTPAC 2010 SHIRTS ARE HERE!!! ORDER YOURS TODAY!'. It then lists three categories of shirts with their respective sizes and prices: 'MEN'S SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE IN SIZES: SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE, X-LARGE PRICE: \$12.00 EACH 2XL, 3XL \$20.00 EACH', 'WOMEN'S V-NECKS ARE AVAILABLE IN SIZES: SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE, X-LARGE PRICE: \$16 EACH', and 'CHILDREN'S SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE IN SIZES: SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE PRICE: \$12 EACH'.

Navy, Marine Corps Team Participates in Sports with Special Athletes

**By MC1 (SW/AW) R. David Valdez
Staff Writer**

Sailors and Marines stationed aboard amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu (LHA 5) engaged in a variety of athletic events with members of the Dubai Special Sport Club, Oct. 11 and 12.

The Sailors and Marines were all members of the ship's First Class Petty Officers'/Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Association (FCPOSNCOA), and they played soccer, badminton, table tennis, and basketball. They also participated in weight training with the local athletes.

Staff Sgt. Luke Revell, the intelligence chief for Battalion Landing Team 1/4, led the charge to initiate a community relations project manned strictly by First Class Petty Officers and Staff Sergeants.

"It's really important for us to show that we lead even when we have an opportunity for liberty, not just when we're on the ship or in the field," Revell said. "Volunteering isn't done during working hours."

Revell explained that engaging with the local population in a positive way isn't just something Sailors and Marines should do for self-promotion or the interest of feeling good for helping others.

"We have a personal opportunity to improve the image of the U.S. and show that we're not here to just take and take and take," Revell said. "By coming out and spending time with people here, we're showing that we want to promote the global neighborhood concept and we're giving back to our community, even if we live on the other side of the planet."

According to Yeoman 1st Class (SW/AW) Lakeitha Snow, leading petty officer for Tactical Air Control Squadron 11, these events didn't just provide assistance to people in Dubai.

"Events like these build unity in the mess," said Snow. "We worked as a team, and teambuilding is very important in our organization."

Snow was quite impressed by the level of skill demonstrated by the special athletes.

"They are really good athletes who've done a remarkable job overcoming their disabilities," she said.

While the FCPOSNCOA came to the Dubai Special Sports Club to provide assistance, they were met by friendly smiles and sportsmanship.

"The people at the club were really gracious hosts," Revell said. "They wanted us to be part of their group, and I think both groups were helped by our interaction."



Fiesta in the Sandbox

By MC2 **EdUARdo Proano**
Staff Writer

The USS Peleliu (LHA 5) Diversity Team hosted a celebration in the Oasis in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month during a port visit Oct. 8.

The celebration highlighted different countries' cultures and contributions to the Navy and Marine Corps. "The importance of la fiesta was about celebrating cultural diversity," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Fernanda Velazquez. "We tried to give Sailors and Marines a taste of the different Hispanic cultures that we have aboard the ship."

The celebration opened with presentations and dances from different Latino countries like Puerto Rico, Colombia, Dominican Republic, and Mexico.

"The dancers were very committed through the practice," said Velazquez. "They practiced twice a week since July to put together all the performances, especially the Salsa dance."

Velazquez also expressed gratitude and admiration toward the dance instructor, LT Marcos Delgado, for his dedication and patience with all the participants.

A live band from Colombia made Hispanics and non-Hispanics alike dance to the rhythm of the music. The band played special requests before saying adios.

Following the band, a DJ took over and continued motivating la fiesta to the end.

Aviation Machinist's Mate Airman Kristal Coffey danced to the Spanish music all night long.

"It was fun," Coffey said. "Last night, I learned to dance Salsa, Merengue, Bachata, Cumbia, and Ranchera."

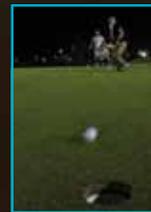
For most of the Sailors and Marines la fiesta was a break after being out to sea for 98 days.



October 17, 2010

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MWR TOURS Dubai



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MC3 Foster Bamford

MC3 Ian Campbell



KIDS' HALLOWEEN PARTY!!!

This isn't a trick
You're in for a treat!
There'll be pumpkins,
hayrides, and yummy sweets!

Join us for some FRG Fun at
OMA'S PUMPKIN PATCH!!!

14950 El Monte Road Lakeside, CA 92040
www.omaspumpkinpatch.com

COME IN COSTUME!!!!

Wednesday, October 20th, 2010
4p.m. to 6p.m.

Each child will receive a Jack Patch Pumpkin!

This is a FREE event sponsored by:
USS Peleliu & Peleliu FRG

