

2012 Russell Egnor Media Award Winning Newspaper

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF USS MAKIN ISLAND (LHD-8)

AROUND THE ISLAND

APRIL 5, 2013

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

**Go Green
Celebrate
Earth Day Everyday**



STAYING GREEN IN THE FLEET

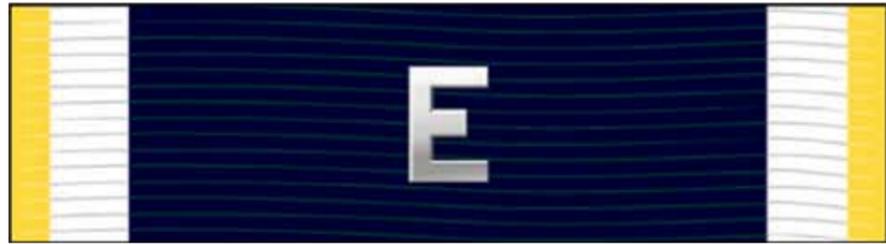
Green Team Continues Energy Conservation Campaign (Page 3)

MKI RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Team Raider Named Winner of Admiral Flatley Award for Aviation Safety (Page 4)

MKI SAILOR IS SURFPAC SOY

ABH1 Bland Selected as 2012 Sea Sailor of the Year (Page 5)



MKI Awarded Battle "E"

From USS Makin Island (LHD 8) Public Affairs

The amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) was named a recipient of the 2012 Battle Efficiency (Battle "E") award, marking the first time the ship has received the prestigious award.

Vice Adm. Thomas Copeman, the commander of Naval Surface Forces, and commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, made the official announcement via naval message traffic March 9.

The Battle "E" is the Navy's top performance award presented only to the ships that achieve the highest standards of performance readiness and efficiency.

Award criteria is designed to measure and recognize a command's sustained superior performance and battle efficiency in an operational environment throughout the competition calendar year.

Makin Island spent the first half of 2012 deployed to U.S. 5th and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility. Following deployment, the ship maintained a steady operational tempo with underway periods in support of Marine Air Wing aviation operations, San Francisco Fleet Week and midshipmen training periods.

Ships competing for the Battle "E" are evaluated and graded in five specific areas: maritime

warfare; engineering and survivability; command, control, communications and information warfare; logistics management, and ship safety. Makin Island received command excellence awards in all five categories for 2012.

"It's an honor for our team to receive this kind of recognition," said Capt. Cedric E. Pringle, Makin Island's commanding officer.

"The Battle "E" award is a result of the hard work of everyone on board," added Pringle. It validates our focus on continuous improvement across the entire spectrum of warfare readiness. This award will also strengthen our commitment to excellence in all that we do."

Every Makin Island Sailor who was a member of the crew during 2012 is now eligible to wear the Battle "E" ribbon on their uniform. Any Makin Island Sailor who already has a Battle "E" award from a previous command can now add an additional "E" device to the ribbon.

The Navy Battle "E" program was established July 1, 1974, by then-Secretary of the Navy J. William Middendorf in order to recognize ships and aviation squadrons who are the best in the fleet in all areas of battle readiness.

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF USS MAKIN ISLAND (LHD 8)

AROUND THE ISLAND

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ON THE COVER:

Earth Day is celebrated around the world every year on April 22. Recycling and energy conservation programs are emphasized to help preserve the planet. The 2013 Earth Day theme is "Global Reach -- Local Action." [Graphic Illustration by MC3 Daniel Walls.]

MKI Sailors Continue "Staying Green" in the Fleet

From USS Makin Island (LHD 8) Public Affairs

With this year's worldwide Earth Day events scheduled for April 22, U.S. Navy Sailors might be wondering what they can do to help protect the environment. However, Sailors serving aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) help to promote a cleaner environment every day, not just once a year.

The ship's hybrid-electric propulsion system is designed to run on auxiliary propulsion motors at low speeds and on gas turbines at higher speeds. This technology allows the Department of the Navy to reduce the use of fossil fuels that leads to reduced carbon emissions and cleaner air, one of the key themes of Earth Day.

Makin Island returned from a seven-month deployment June 22, making history as the first U.S. Navy ship to deploy using a hybrid-electric propulsion system. By using this unique propulsion system, the ship saved over \$15 million in fuel costs and the Navy expects to see fuel cost savings of more than \$250 million, over the course of the ship's lifecycle.

Since the ships return from that deployment, members of the Makin Island crew have worked hard to promote the 2013 Earth Day theme of "Global reach - Local actions."

"Since our return from deployment, Makin Island and our Green Team have continued to lead recycling and energy conservation efforts," said Ensign Kyle J. Holtz, Makin Island's Second Division Officer and Green Team leader. "Not only have we increased pier-side recycling opportunities, we are continually working to uncover new ways to lessen our footprint."

Members of the Green Team have continued efforts not just on the ship but also on the pier and on the ship's berthing barge. Extra recycling bins have been placed on the pier and close to the barge to encourage the sailors who are leaving the pier to recycle.

In addition to recycling, Makin Island will be taking the lead in joining shore commands on board Naval Base San Diego in a new energy conservation campaign.

"This spring we will be partnering with Naval Base San Diego's Resource Efficiency Department to be the first ship on the waterfront to employ the "Dog Zebra" energy conservation campaign," said Holtz. "The 'Dog Zebra' campaign works to remind person-

nel to secure lights, electronics, and equipment when not in use. We are hoping that this unique partnership will not only yield noticeable results, but also spread to other ships on the waterfront."

Makin Island's recycling and conservation efforts were first recognized in 2011, prior to the ship's maiden deployment, by Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Environment Donald Schregardus who visited the ship Oct. 18, 2011.

"Makin Island Sailors continue to support Earth Day and its global initiative for a sustainable future through our energy conservation, recycling, and plastic waste control programs," said Holtz. "Earth Day is an excellent reminder for Makin Island sailors, regardless of location or duties assigned, we have an obligation to preserve and conserve our earth and its natural resources."

As the U.S. Navy's first hybrid ship, Makin Island and its Green Team have a unique opportunity to celebrate Earth day everyday said Holtz.

"Makin Island is an operational, combat ready ship with a crew that is dedicated to environmental preservation and a sustainable future," added Holtz.

Due to its unique hybrid system, Makin Island has become one of the leaders in the LHD platform. The savings yielded during its maiden deployment allows for the Makin Island to remain on station longer than any other LHD, according to Lt. Cmdr. Brian Ponce, Makin Island's main propulsion assistant.

"When enabled, our electric drive emits zero emissions and consumes no resources," said Ponce. "This significant effort reduces fuel consumption, and saves energy that other LHD platforms must expend to sustain operations."

Sailors and their families may also not know that Makin Island also takes an environmentally friendly approach to making potable water.

"Makin Island uses an electronic disinfectant generator to disinfect our potable water," said Ponce. "Unlike other ships that use a chemical called Bromine, a form of chlorine, the solution we generate is called MIOX that is completely biodegradable and will not harm the environment."

Ponce added, In addition to continuous recycling efforts and reduced plastic material use onboard, Makin Island maximizes plan of the day notes to

Going Green continued on Page 9

MKI Earns Admiral Flatley Award for Aviation Safety

Sailor/Marine Teamwork Leads to Excellence

From USS Makin Island (LHD 8) Public Affairs

The amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) and the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) were named the recipients of the 2012 Admiral Flatley Memorial Award for aviation safety aboard LHA/LHD class ships, March 22.

Rear Adm. Kenneth J. Norton, the commander of the Naval Safety Center, made the official announcement to the fleet via naval message traffic.

The Flatley Award is based on a comprehensive assessment of contributions towards aviation safety and is presented to one amphibious assault ship with its associated MEU and one aircraft carrier with its associated carrier air wing each year.

Makin Island, along with the embarked 11th MEU, spent the majority of 2012 underway on the ship's maiden deployment conducting maritime security operations in the U.S. 5th and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility.

"The working relationship between the air department and the ACE [aviation combat element] was outstanding and began well before workups," said Cmdr. Mike Dowling, a strategic planner on the staff of Commander, Navy Region

Southwest who served as Makin Island's "Air Boss" during the 2011-2012 deployment.

Dowling said Makin Island personnel set up training with their Marine Corps counterparts at Camp Pendleton, Calif., prior to the first underway period. This training was important because the majority of ACE personnel had never deployed aboard a ship to conduct operations at sea.

"During the deployment, we operated for 72 days straight at sea with only three no-fly days and no mishaps," said Dowling. "Maintaining that pace of operations without a mishap was a testimonial to the hard work of the air department professionals and the ACE."

The teamwork between the blue and green personnel and their commitment to safety not only took place on the flightdeck, but also carried over into every department on board Makin Island during the deployment.

"Safety vigilance through ORM [operational risk management] saves lives," said Lt. Harriet Johnson, Makin Island's safety officer. "A positive safety culture means that our Sailors and Marines make the right decisions and the

raise the right questions in the haze gray of day-to-day operations."

Johnson said a culture of safety will lead any Sailor or Marine to make the right choice that gets the mission accomplished without collateral damage to people or equipment.

"All cruise long, there was a continued emphasis on the blue/green team and working together," said Johnson. "Each side took care of their own, but we made it happen through teamwork."

Additional Flatley Awards were presented to USS Peleliu (LHA 5) and the embarked 13th MEU as runner-ups in the LHA/LHD category. USS Enterprise (CVN 65) and embarked Carrier Air Wing 1 (CVW-1) were named winners of the aircraft carrier category while USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) and embarked CVW-9 were named runner-ups.

The Flatley Award is the second major award presented to Makin Island this year. Earlier this month the ship was awarded its first Battle Efficiency (Battle "E") Award. The Battle "E" is the Navy's top performance award presented only to the ships that achieve the highest standards of performance readiness and efficiency.

SURFPAC Sailor of the Year

Air Dept. Sailor Shows Hard Work Pays Off by Being Named One of the Top Sailors in the Fleet

By MC3 Kory Alsberry, Around the Island Staff

AUSS Makin Island (LHD 8) Sailor was named the recipient of the Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (SURFPAC) 2012 Sea Sailor of the Year (SOY) award during a banquet at the Hotel Del in Coronado, Calif., March 1.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 1st Class (AW/SW) Shawn-Patrick W. Bland, assigned to Makin Island's air department, was presented the award during the banquet which was sponsored by the Surface Navy Association.

"It was a surreal feeling to have the opportunity to stand next to some of the best Sailors in the Navy," said Bland. "Hearing my name being called as the winner was a huge honor."

Before the final selection, Bland had joined a group of seven other finalists to participate in oral board interviews, command events and community outreach activities. The group of Sailors and their spouses, many coming from outside the San Diego area, also met with several Pearl Harbor survivors as well as visited the USS Midway Museum and San Diego Zoo.

"I felt very humbled to even be named with some of the fleet's best Sailors," said Bland. "My wife and I felt very proud to be representing a command which takes excellence to a higher level."

While other Makin Island Sailors have competed for the award in the past, this was the first time a Makin Island Sailor was selected as the overall recipient of the SURFPAC Sea SOY award.

"It's not some impossible equation," said Bland. "A command that has great leaders with high standards will produce great leaders with high standards, and I

feel that is what we are doing on the Makin Island and the Navy as a whole recognizes it."

Bland, a native of Tampa, Fla., entered the Navy Oct. 25, 2000. He attended Recruit Training Command

with follow-on orders to Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) "A" School in Pensacola, Fla. His shore tour includes Recruiting Duty at Navy Recruiting District Ohio. His sea commands include USS Wasp (LHD 1) in Norfolk, Va., and USS Makin Island (LHD 8) in San Diego, where his collateral duties include serving as a Command Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor Assistant and Departmental 3M Assistant.

The awards banquet also served as an opportunity to recognize the numerous contributions of the Navy to national defense.

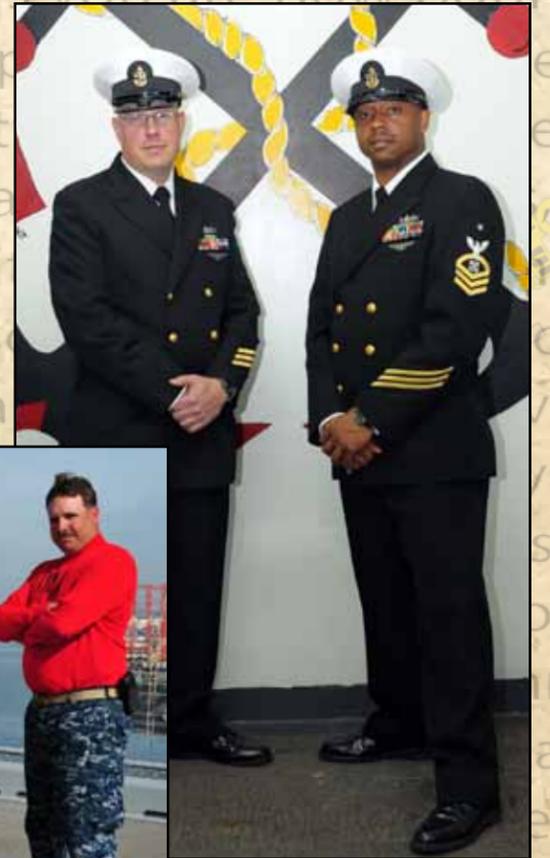
"Our nation is a maritime nation, one that began with six frigates. Today, we represent

70% of the fleet. I remain positive about where Surface Navy is headed; the oceans aren't getting smaller and the world isn't getting safer and our forces have a hard requirement to steam where and when needed and to be ready for anything—compassionate or kinetic," said SURFPAC Chief of Staff, Capt. Roy Kitchener during the ceremony. "One of the primary reasons for the positive outlook is because of the unprecedented quality of Sailors in our fleet. I look out and see tremendous talent and dedication, despite the challenges we face. The Sailors of the Year; the finalists; and the leadership from your respective commands give us great hope."

More than 400 guests, including spouses, command leadership teams, distinguished military guests, and



MI Goat Locker Celebrates 120 Years of Outstanding Deckplate Leadership



PFA Reminder

U.S.S. MAKIN ISLAND (LHD8)

Outstanding
Performance above or equal to top 10 percent

Excellent
Performance in top 25 percent, but less than OUTSTANDING

Good
Performance better than or equal to lowest 25 percent, but less than EXCELLENT

Satisfactory
Performance in bottom 25 percent, but above lowest 10 percent

REQUIREMENTS

Run Male: 17-19 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49
 Female: 11-30 11-30 11-45 12-00 12-08 12-15 12-20

Swim: 17-19 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49
 Male: 7:05 7:30 7:35 7:43 7:50 7:58
 Female: 8:20 8:25 8:30 8:35 8:40 8:45 8:50

Sit-ups: 17-19 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49
 Male: 102 98 95 92 88 85 81
 Female: 102 98 95 92 88 85 81

Push-ups: 17-19 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49
 Male: 47 44 41 41 39 37 35
 Female: 47 44 41 41 39 37 35

U.S.S. MAKIN ISLAND (LHD8)

*Any time above Satisfactory is Failure for the run and swim. Any score below Satisfactory is Failure for sit-ups and push-ups.

PFA Timeline

06May13 BCA 0800-1600 Medical P-Ward EXEC, CHAP, NAV, SAFETY, ENG, WEPS, OPS, DECK	0800- OPS ALL SWIMMERS NBSD Admiral Prout Gym 0900-1000	Swimmers NBSD Admiral Prout Gym 0900-1000
07May13 BCA 0800-1600 Medical P-Ward FSA, SUPPLY, AIR, AIMD, MED, DEN ,C5	10May13 PRT Run NBSD Track & Field Fitness Site 0700- FSA, AIMD, MED, DEN 0800- C5	15May13 BCA for Machines 0800-1600 Medical P-Ward
08May13 PRT Run NBSD Track & Field Fitness Site 0700- EXEC, NAV, SAFETY, CHAP 0800- DECK 0900-ENG	13May13 PRT Run NBSD Track & Field Fitness Site 0700- FSA, SUPPLY 0800-AIR	16May13 PFA for Machines 0800-1000 Ships Gym
09May13 PRT Run NBSD Track & Field Fitness Site 0700- WEPS	14May13 PRT Run NBSD Track & Field Fitness Site 0700-0900 Straggles/ Bad day	27May13 BCA for Stragglers on leave 0800-1600 Medical P-Ward
		28May13 Straggler PFA for those on leave PRT Run NBSD Track & Field Fitness Site 0700-0900 FINAL STRAGGLERS

Staying Green (cont.) from Page 3

remind Sailors to conserve energy and highlights lessons learned.

Beyond the environmental and energy-saving advantages of Makin Island's propulsion system and all-electric design, the ship uses a stern flap to improve fuel economy, anti-fouling coating to minimize hull drag, and solid-state lighting to reduce energy costs.

Makin Island's current maintenance period includes the addition of even more technology to assist with energy conservation.

"The upgrades installed to Makin Island's engineering plant will improve fuel efficiency to our ships service diesel generators that just received major overhaul, including a newly replaced gas turbine engine to operate at peak efficiency, and various improvements and special maintenance that will enhance performance and reduce resource consumption," said Ponce.

Earth Day was first celebrated in 1970 as a way to focus attention on the need for cleaner air and water as well as promoting renewable energy sources and recycling. More than 190 countries celebrate Earth Day and more than one billion people take part in Earth Day activities each year.

SURFPAC SOY (cont.) from Page 5

community supporters attended the ceremony.

Makin Island's 2012 Blue Jacket of the Year, Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Angela D. Rushworth, was also invited to the banquet as an honoree and said she enjoyed being able to support a shipmate.

"Being there was an honor," said Rushworth. "It was an example for any junior Sailor of what could happen if you keep a straight path and try your best, you could actually get there yourself one day."

Rushworth said the experience inspired her to become a better Sailor and hopefully a more effective leader.

"Seeing ABH1 in a similar work environment to my own makes me realize the possibilities of being Sailor of the Year are there for everyone," said Rushworth. "As long as you are motivated, a hard worker, and make the best of each situation you could make the biggest impression on a junior and a senior Sailor."

Bland will now compete in Hawaii against Pacific Fleet nominees vying for the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) Sea Sailor of the Year title. The sea and shore-based commands of COMPACFLT represent more than 200,000 Sailors. The top COMPACFLT Sea Sailor will be eligible for meritorious promotion to Chief Petty Officer.

2013 Active Duty Fund Drive to support Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

Please consider giving at least \$10 per month

IT TAKES ALL HANDS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



www.nmcrs.org

Last year, we contributed \$51,000, and MKI received \$105,000 in assistance.

This year's fund drive will be held from March 1st until April 30th.

For more information, contact:
EMC Kumar x2940



OPINION ISLAND

What would you be willing to do to help conserve planet Earth?



"I would volunteer to help clean up beaches and highways."

-CS2 Nichole Campbell

"Eating less processed food and make an overall better effort to stop people from littering."

-HT3 Jesse Sternberg



"I would make sure people pay attention to where they put their trash and try to recycle more."

-SN Cynthia Carrillo



"I could ride my bike to work more, instead of driving."

-CSSA James Lochner



LOCAL AREA APRIL RUNS

Sat. April 6
0900 Run or Dye 5k
(Qualcomm Stadium)

2200 After Dark Dash
(Petco Park)

Sat. April 13
0800 NAMI 5k Walk
(NTC Park @ Liberty Station)

Sun. April 14
0730 Sharon's Ride.
Run.Walk for Epilepsy
(De Anza Cove Park)

0800 Peace-Love-Run
5k/10k
(NTC Park San Diego)

Sat. April 20
0700 5k Step by Step
(NTC Park @ Liberty Station)

Sun. April 21
0800 10k/5k Run/walk
for life
(Embarcadero Marina
Park North)

1500 Tehyathon 5k
(Homewood Suites,
Del Mar)

1900 Fast Times 5k
(De Anza Cove Park)

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

SAT. 6 APR.

0900 Mountain Madness Hike
(NBSD)

1930 Rhapsody Open Mic
Showcase
(The Creative Center)

TUE. 9 APR.

1800 Black Ops Tourney
(NBSD Recyrd)

1930 Arlo Guthria Concert
(Balboa Theater)

THUR. 11 APR.

1930 Rihanna Concert
(Valley View Casino Center)

2030 80's v. Rockabilly v.
Rock-n-Roll
(Flame)

WED. 17 APR.

1000 MWR & DAPA "Dont be
that Guy" 5k Run
(NBSD)

2130 Open Mic/ Jam
(710 Beach Club)

SAT. 20 APR.

1930 Keyshia Cole Concert
(Humphreys Concerts by the
Bay)

2000 Preservation Hall Jazz
Band & Trey McIntyre
(Balboa Theatre)

THUR. 25 APR.

1800 Comedy Show
(NBSD Recyrd)

2000 Pageant, The Musical
(Coronado Playhouse)

FRI. 26 APR.

1900 MKI Family Day at the
Ballpark
(Petco Park)

2000 Etta James Tribute
(98 Bottles)

SAT. 27 APR.

0800-1300 Creek to Bay Clean
up
(NBSD)

1000-1700 San Diego Kids
Expo and Fair
(Del Mar Fairgorunds)

72 for 72

hours of
special liberty

days without an
alcohol-related incident

- **THINK BEFORE YOU DRINK!**
- **NO UNDERAGE DRINKING!**
- **DRINK RESPONSIBLY!**
- **USE YOUR 511 CARD!**

YOU CONTROL

**THE COMMAND'S
LIBERTY!**

Don't be THAT Sailor!