

AROUND THE ISLAND

MAY 3, 2013

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4



MKI HOSTS FIRST CPO 365 SYMPOSIUM

Makin Island strives to improve senior leadership (Page 4)

EARTH DAY BASE CLEAN UP

Makin Island Sailors help to maintain the beauty of the base (Page 3)

MKI HOLDS ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR

Pier 13 Sailors come together to promote health and wellness (Page 8)

Navy Embraces Inclusion During 2013 Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

By Navy Office of Diversity and Inclusion Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy joins our nation in celebrating the contributions of generations of patriots during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month throughout May. The Navy announced April 29 in NAVADMIN 115/13, this year's national theme is "Building Leadership: Embracing Cultural Values and Inclusion."

Inclusion is a recognition that diversity of ideas, experiences, areas of expertise, and backgrounds contribute significantly to the Navy's ability to fulfill its variety of missions both today and in the future. USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81) exemplified this year's theme of embracing cultural values and inclusion by utilizing the talents, language skills, and cultural backgrounds of three Sailors to further their mission in the US Navy's first bilateral anti-piracy exercise with China's People's Liberation Army (Navy) (PLA(N)).

In September 2012, USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81) and the Chinese Frigate Yi Yang (FF 548) conducted visit, board, search, and seizure (VBSS) drills near the Horn of Africa to enhance cooperative anti-piracy efforts. During the exercise, three Churchill Sailors were utilized as translators.

Ship's Serviceman 2nd Class Junwen Liang, Ship's Serviceman Seaman Qing Su, and Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Guo Rui Liu, all Chinese immigrants, played

an integral role in the success of the exercise by bridging both the language and the cultural gaps between the two crews.

Liang, who immigrated to the United States from China at age 20, said he came to America speaking almost no English and joined the Navy after pursuing further education in New York. During the exercise, Liang performed as translator for Cmdr. Chris D. Stone, commanding officer of USS Winston S. Churchill.

"This is a unique opportunity to use both my native and adopted languages in service of my country," said Liang.

According to Stone, "On-site translation and briefing on customs helped ensure solid communication between U.S. Navy and PLA(N) Sailors, along with aiding us in understanding the cultural nuances that help both sides better understand each other."

"My opportunity to take part in this exchange, and in the Navy itself, reminds me that I serve a country that accepts people from many different parts of the world," said Liang. "No matter where and how I serve, I'm still serving for my freedom and my country."

Asians and Pacific Islanders of various nationalities and ancestry have been serving in our Navy since the early 19th century. Asians and Pacific Islanders have continued to be at the forefront as leaders in every aspect of American life, including Senator

Asian Heritage Continued on Page 9

AROUND THE ISLAND

COMMANDING OFFICER:

CAPT CEDRIC E. PRINGLE

EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

CAPT ALVIN HOLSEY

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF:

CMDM(SW/AW) STEVEN ALT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER:

MCCS(SW/AW) DONNIE RYAN

DEPUTY PAO/LCPO:

MCC(SW/AW) JOHN LILL

LEAD EDITOR:

MC3 PRINCESS L. BROWN

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

MC1(AW) ANDREW WISKOW

STAFF:

MC1(SW/AW/SCW) RONALD GUTRIDGE

MC3 KORY ALSBERRY

MC3 DANIEL J. WALLS

MCSN ETHAN TRACEY

ON THE COVER:

Makin Island Sailors watch the San Diego Padres play against the San Francisco Giants during the family fun day at Petco Park. [Photo by MC1(AW) Andrew Wiskow]



Photo by MC1 (SW/AW/SCW) Ronald Gutridge

MKI Sailors Participate in "Earth Day" Base Cleanup Project

By MC1 (SW/AW/SCW) Ronald Gutridge, Around the Island Staff

More than 40 Sailors assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) took to the streets on board Naval Base San Diego (NBSD) for a special "Earth Day" cleanup project April 22.

During the base-wide event volunteers from dozens of shore and afloat commands located aboard NBSD divided into sectors to remove trash and other non-biodegradable debris, enhancing the overall appearance of the base as well as promoting environmental awareness.

According to Ens. Kyle Holtz, Makin Island's second division officer and "Green Team" coordinator, the worldwide theme for this year's Earth Day celebration was "Global reach - location actions."

"The chance to participate in this base clean-up was not only to provide our Sailors with the opportunity to observe and educate them on Earth Day, but also to raise awareness on the importance of environmental protection and energy conservation throughout the base," said Holtz.

Holtz said Makin Island has a reputation for being environmentally conscious, not just because of the ship's fuel-saving technology, but because of the responsible actions of command personnel.

"Since our return from deployment, Makin Island and our Green Team have continued to lead recycling and energy conservation efforts," said Holtz. "Not only have we increased pier-side recycling opportunities, but we are continually working to uncover new ways to lessen our footprint."

Earth Day Continued on Page 9

Makin Island holds 365 Symposium

By MC1 (SW/AW/SCW) Ronald Gutridge, Around the Island Staff

Nearly 200 first class petty officers and chief petty officers (CPO) assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) gathered at the base theater on board Naval Base San Diego to take part in the ship's first CPO 365 leadership symposium, April 4.

Makin Island's symposium served as a forum to help the ship's first class petty officers improve their leadership skills, learn more about Navy history and heritage and gain an insight on what is expected from them by the ship's senior leadership.

"The state of the Navy is based on the state of the nation, and here on Makin Island we must all lead by example and treat all with respect regardless of pay grade, race or gender," said Makin Island Commanding Officer Capt. Cedric E. Pringle, whose opening remarks kicked off the half-day event. "Excellence is always our standard and we as leaders are in complete control of our environment and must train our young Sailors by the book, with precision. None of this comes without hard work."

Command Master Chief Rosa Wilson, the senior enlisted leader for Expeditionary Strike Group 3, also spoke to symposium participants during the opening session.

"As first class petty officers, you will be tested, tried and accepted during your 365 training," Wilson told the group. "You must expand your knowledge and leadership skills, take ownership of your actions and believe in yourself. If you apply these things everyday, you will continue to see positive

results throughout your Navy career."

The CPO 365 training program was first launched in 2010 under then Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West. Current MCPON Michael D. Stevens revised the program for 2012-2013, amending course curriculum and reinforcing a year-round training schedule for all first class petty officers.

"Excellence is always our standard and we as leaders are in complete control of our environment and must train our young Sailors by the book, with precision. None of this comes without hard work."

- Capt. Cedric E. Pringle

"Training on the 'Brilliant on the Basics' concept, core values and high standards should be, and will be, non-stop on the road to becoming a Navy chief," said Makin Island Command Master Chief Steven Alt, who organized the symposium. "Being proactive and constantly engaged in your Sailor's lives, both on and off duty, will allow you to gain responsibility, accountability and respect which are very important key elements of being a successful CPO."

Alt said one part of Makin Island's CPO 365 program that is different from most of the fleet is that the ship's first class petty officers are divided into eight

teams. Each team is named after a famous CPO in naval history.

Each of the teams is also led by a group of master, senior and chief petty officers. Alt said the goal of this organizational structure is to make training more in-depth and give participants a smaller group in which to discuss Navy and command policies.

As party of the symposium, a member of each team presented the history of the team's namesake by telling the story of that particular CPO in naval history.

Training for the group during the symposium also focused on the Chief of Naval Operations' three tenets of "warfighting first, operate forward and be ready."

First class petty officers who attended said they enjoyed the training and format in which the information was presented during the event.

"This symposium offered a lot of important information and was a great stepping stone for leadership training, not only for junior first classes, but for all who attended," said Engineman 1st Class Jevaras Barber from Makin Island's engineering department. "I am also looking forward to future symposiums and training sessions because I think it is a great way to prepare for advancing to that next level of leadership."

CPO 365 is just one of the many personal and professional development programs available on board Makin Island. These programs have helped to create a "continuum of professionalism" for all Makin Island Sailors from the moment they receive orders to the ship throughout their entire time on board.

MKI Medical Holds Annual Health Fair

By MC3 Kory Alsberry, Around the Island Staff

Sailors from Medical and Safety departments on board USS Makin Island (LHD 8), along with volunteers from the guided missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59), hosted a "Health and Wellness Fair," April 30, for Sailors assigned to ships moored at Pier 13 aboard Naval Base San Diego.

The event was open to more than 2,000 Sailors and was designed to promote health and wellness by providing information on nutrition management, command fitness programs, men's and women's health, smoking cessation and stress management.

"In order to maintain a culture of fitness in the Navy, Sailors must focus on every aspect of health," said Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman Omar Azmitia, assigned to Makin Island's Medical department. "Regular medical checkups, healthy eating habits and avoiding substances such as tobacco will contribute to a healthier lifestyle. Makin Island's Health Fair provides education for Sailors to work towards that goal."

More than a dozen booths and displays not only promoted overall health awareness, but provided Sailors with information on the benefits of TriCare, Military OneSource, the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, and the San Diego Fleet and Family Support Center.

Volunteers manning the booths handed out



Photo by MC3 Daniel Walls

informational pamphlets and provided training on their specific topics and programs. A team of hospital corpsman were also available to take blood pressure readings and provide information on healthy oral hygiene.

"We have a display to show how important brushing and flossing your teeth is," said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Alexandria

Gretterman, assigned to Makin Island's Medical department. "People don't realize how not having proper hygiene affects Sailor's readiness."

The booth sponsored by the local commissary was a favorite for many Sailors because it not only provided information about the benefits of shopping at the commissary but also provided healthy fruit snacks including bananas, apples and oranges.

"The commissary's booth gave me helpful tips on saving some money," said Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Paul Ludlam. "I'm going to use the knowledge I gained from the booth the next time I go to the commissary with my family."



Photo by MC3 Daniel Walls



MAKIN ISLAND FAMILY FUN DAY AT PETCO PARK

Photos, Layout and Design by MC1(AW) Andrew Wiskow



NPC Provides CPO Board Package Confirmation

From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) --

Sailors who submitted a board package to the Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) Active Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Selection Board can confirm its receipt at Navy Personnel Command (NPC) by clicking on the "Selection Board Status" link on www.npc.navy.mil, officials said April 30.

"I encourage all candidates to review their record for completeness," said Navy Personnel Command (NPC) Force Master Chief (SW/AW/EXW) Leland E. Moore. "There is no requirement to submit a package unless something is missing from your record that you want the board to consider."

Per NAVADMIN 294/12, the selection board will review the Official Military Personal File (OMPF) of all candidates. If documents are missing from a candidate's OMPF, they may submit those documents, along with a cover letter to the selection board president, to be reviewed by the board.

Because of volume, certain documents for enlisted Sailors including training, education, qualifications, and awards are only submitted to the OMPF when a Sailor reenlists or separates. So, Sailors, who have recently achieved a warfare designator, college degree, significant qualifications or other pertinent achievements, may want to submit a letter to the board with supporting documents.

Packages submitted to the active-duty CPO board must be received by the NPC Customer Service Center (CSC) by May 28.

Packages must include a cover letter and each document in their package must include the member's full social security number. Candidates may not send classified documents.

Refer to the NAVADMIN 294/12 for guidance and mailing information for candidates who wish to submit a package through traditional mail or encrypted e-mail.



Photo by MCSN Chase C. Lacombe

ATLANTIC OCEAN (April 21, 2013) Members of the chiefs' mess aboard the aircraft carrier **USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)** conduct a package review workshop to review board-eligible 1st class petty officers. The workshop teaches Sailors to evaluate the individual's service record and identify any missing information before the E-7 selection board in June.

Documents reviewed by the CPO board can include:

- * Procurement, enlistment/reenlistment data;
- * Navy Enlisted Classifications and Warfare Designations;
- * Evaluations and Fitness Reports;
- * Administrative remarks;
- * Training and education;
- * Decorations, medals, and awards.

Letters sent to a selection board for consideration will not be added to a service member's OMPF permanently. BUPERSINST 1070.27 outlines all items that should or should not be submitted by service members and how to submit those documents.

The FY-14 Active CPO Selection Board is scheduled to convene June 17. The active duty CPO selection board is the largest selection board conducted in the Navy. The board typically lasts five weeks, with results forwarded to the Chief of Naval Personnel for final approval.

For more information, visit the NPC Selection Boards Web Page at <http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/BOARDS/Pages/default.aspx> or call the NPC CSC at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC.

Asian Heritage (cont.) from Page 2

Daniel K. Inouye, Hawaii's first Congressman and the first Japanese American to serve in Congress. Having enlisted in the US Army at age 17 and serving during the Second World War, Senator Inouye was a great champion of all the armed forces throughout his career. He received the Medal of Honor for his extraordinary heroism and indomitable leadership during an engagement in World War II. On Dec 17, 2012 Senator Inouye passed away, leaving behind a noted legacy of leadership and a drive to enhance inclusion in our Armed Forces and across our country.

In 2013, Sailors of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage comprise 6.5 percent of our active duty Naval force. Over 20,000 active duty Sailors, 4,000 Reservists, and 18,900 Navy civilian employees identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander, including 10 flag officers, 9 members of the Senior Executive Service (SES), and 176 master chief petty officers. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders encompass over 50 ethnic and language groups, representing a vast array of cultures, nationalities, and historical roots.

Directed by Congress in 1978 and established by Presidential Proclamation in 1979, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week was first observed the week of May 4, 1979. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush expanded the observance to encompass the entire month, and in 1992, Congress passed a law permanently designating May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.



Motorcycle Safety Month : May



Earth Day (cont.) from Page 3

"Earth Day is an excellent reminder for Makin Island Sailors, regardless of location or duties assigned, that we have an obligation to preserve our planet and its natural resources," said Holtz.

Sailors who participated in the NBSD Earth Day project said they enjoyed the opportunity to make a difference on board NBSD.

"This was a great opportunity not only to improve the appearance of our base, but also work together with the many Sailors from our partner commands," said Ship's Serviceman 1st Class Wilson Brown. "All the work done here is by volunteers and the work that these Sailors did today will make a huge difference."

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.

OPINION ISLAND

What are you doing for Mother's Day?



"I am taking my mom out to breakfast and getting her flowers."

-MA2 Jaqualin Johnson

"I am taking my mom to the Botanical Garden in Balboa Park."

-LS3 Denise Williams



"I am sending my mom a bundle of flowers for Mother's Day."

-MA3 Bryan Watson

"I am sending my mom an edible arrangement."

-SN Andy Breunig



CORNER

Looking ahead to June ...

Sat. 8- July 4
2013 San Diego County Fair

Fri. 14
Makin Island Command picnic at Sea World

Sat. 15- Sun. 16
Sesame Street Live: Can't stop laughing at Valley View Casino Center

Sat. 15
Madagascar Live! Operation Vacation at Sea World

Sat. 29
Mission Beach Getaway with the Hub, NBPL

San Gorgonio Backpack wih Liberty Rec., NASNI

MWR EVENTS IN MAY

FRI. 3 MAY

1700 Iron Man 3 (NBSD Recyard)

SUN. 5 MAY

1700 Cinco de Mayo Celebration (NBSD Recyard)

FRI. 10 MAY

1800 Breakers Beach Bonfire and BBQ (NASNI)

SAT. 11 MAY

0500 Deep Sea Fishing with Liberty Adventure Program (NBSD Recyard)

WED. 15 MAY

1100 Summer Kick-off Aerobathon (NASNI)

FRI. 24 MAY

1700 Yosemite Adventure (NBSD Recyard)

MON. 27 MAY

1700 Pre-Payday Grub (NBSD Recyard)
1500 Memorial Day BBQ (NASNI)

FRI. 31 MAY

1900 Green Day's American Idiot (NBSD Recyard)

LEADERSHIP

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

BUILDING LEADERSHIP:
EMBRACING CULTURAL
VALUES AND INCLUSION