



NEWS

naval meteorology and oceanography

Oct. 10, 2013

Commander's Corner

New Fiscal Year Is a Chance to Reflect on the Victories of the Old Fiscal Year

By Rear Adm. Brian Brown

October marks the beginning of a new fiscal year, one that already looks to have challenges similar to the last. While it would be easy to focus on the negatives, I want to take a moment to look back at FY13 and review what you've accomplished this past fiscal year in spite of all the turbulence.

First, and most importantly, we continued to conduct forward deployed operations, provide ready-to-operate forces, enable warfighting operations, and keep the fleet safe from destructive weather. Despite the furlough, hiring freeze and restrictions on travel, conferences and overtime, this fantastic Naval Oceanography team pulled together to ensure safe and effective fleet operations whether deployed or preparing to deploy. You championed our role as critical pillar of Information Dominance and DoD's authoritative source for predictive battlespace awareness of the physical maritime environment. Simply put, you did an exceptional job despite the challenges we faced!



Further, our ability to turn data into decisions for the warfighter continued to make great strides. Our ocean and atmospheric modeling saw advances through the operationalization of the Navy Global Environmental Model (NAVGEN), the Hybrid Coordinate Model (HYCOM), fully-coupled Coupled Ocean/Atmosphere Mesoscale Prediction System (COAMPS), and the COAMPS Tropical Cyclone (COAMPS-TC). The Navy Department of Defense Supercomputing Resource Center received a significant upgrade with three new systems that provide for high-resolution modeling and simulation of global-scale oceanography and meteorology in support of Navy and DoD operations worldwide.

Naval Oceanography developed an Operational Application of Ensembles course to integrate ensemble and probabilistic modeling into our forecasting. Additionally, we secured full funding for the WindSAT/Coriolis Ocean Surface Wind-vector (OSVW) satellite, which delivers the sole U.S.-owned OSVW capability to the world. The U.S. Naval Observatory (USNO) operationalized four Navy Rubidium Fountain Clocks that feed the Master Clock, the designated timing reference for all DoD precise timing requirements. USNO also updated the Earth Orientation Program by the operationalization of the electronic Very Long Baseline Interferometry (e-VBLI) correlation capability.

Our IT team continued to smooth the way for effective operations. The team managed and accommodated significant IA challenges, and maintained pace with enterprise certification and accreditation tempos. It completed the Human Systems Interface (HSI) Analysis for the Navy Enterprise Portal-Oceanography (NEP-Oc) and provided recommendations on how to improve overall NEP-Oc usability and the user experience. The

IT team also completed the initial release of the Meteorology and Oceanography Community of Interest Formal Metadata Vocabulary, which will support the interoperability of Naval Oceanography resources across DoD.

On the financial side of the house, we exceeded execution benchmarks for all appropriations, and made significant progress toward audit readiness under the Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness (FIAR) program. Our human resources team tackled numerous manpower challenges, but managed to keep us afloat in the most critical areas.

Operationally, our ASW teams hit new benchmarks for operational support, supporting every deploying DESRON and Theater ASW Commander. Listening to the fleet, we implemented CONUS-based local forecasting support at naval air stations to improve operational and training availabilities. Our MIW teams continued to demonstrate UUV expertise and operational savvy in some of the harshest environments our fleet operates in, paving the way toward the turnover of MK 18 MOD 2 KINGFISH to our forces in FY15. Our Fleet Survey Team demonstrated new expeditionary capability for our forward deployed amphibious forces, creating a new demand signal from the fleet. Our embedded forces with NSW expertly participated in numerous special forces operations around the globe, ashore and at sea, and, combined with the other Information Dominance specialties, provided the asymmetric advantage to our operational forces in the field.

And ... we launched USNS *Maury* (T-AGS 66) and are outfitting her to join our fleet in FY15.

These are but only a few of the success stories from across Naval Oceanography; there are many more. I remain humbled to be a part of a team that continues to innovate and perform admirably as a critical member of our Navy's warfighting team, even when faced with additional challenges and stresses. You are an inspiring group of professionals whose work is tremendously valued by me, our Navy and our nation. Thank you and Bravo Zulu. Let's take on FY14 with the same vigor!

From the Deputy/Technical Director

Be A Futurist

By Dr. William H. Burnett

Capt. John Okon, commanding officer of the Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC), recently released his command philosophy. His motto for the center continues a theme for what is critical in these times and how we have succeeded in attacking past, current or future challenges, "Don't just survive, thrive." There are opportunities in many situations; the key is to have the strength and fortitude to see past the obstacles to forge a new path ahead. The future is up to us, and we have always succeeded and enabled Naval Oceanography to thrive.



The current fiscal environment should not be a surprise to anyone. Mr. Rich Kren, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (NMOC) N8, gave a presentation in January 2010 to the NMOC Executive Council that described the perfect "financial" storm." Using federal budget trends, Department of Defense (DoD) outlooks and external drivers, Kren accurately predicted the current fiscal environment.

Now is the time to think about our "community-next." We can use this DoD budgetary downturn to reshape our community to more effectively and efficiently support the fleet and our forces. One of Kren's slides showed the cyclical nature of the DoD funding profile since 1948. Using those cyclical trends, it was clear that there would be a major funding decrease starting in 2011 through 2015 and out. However, with each downturn is an upturn, and that is where we should now direct our focus. We need to develop the catcher's mitt for improved funding streams and make convincing arguments on why Navy Oceanography is a solid investment.

We need to start thinking about the NMOC-next, Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVO)-next, Naval Observatory-next, Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center-next, Naval Oceanography Operations Command (NOOC)-next and Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center (PDC)-next.

In the NMOC News we've talked about how to leverage unmanned underwater vehicles to support the Navy's objectives for undersea warfare. We are the experts in that field – what are the Navy investments in the future to ensure tactical success? We've talked about leveraging large amounts of high performance computing to operate the Navy's atmospheric and oceanographic numerical models. We are the experts in that field – what are the Navy investments in the future to ensure their tactical success? We've talked about developing and operating improved precise time and time interval instruments to support the Navy and Department of Defense precise time requirements. We are the experts in that field – what are the Navy investments in the future to ensure tactical success?

A futurist is someone whose specialty is to attempt to systematically predict the future, whether that of human society or institutions, based on statistically highly probable processes of change. Fortunately, we do not have to spend much money to hire outside futurists when we all have one inside. Whether you're an enlisted or officer Sailor, a civilian scientist, or a support specialist, you have the experience to recognize emerging opportunities amidst the churn. Help us define our future – our NMOC-next – by channeling your inner futurist.

News

Prikasky Relieves Gabriel as NOMWC CO



Capt. Tony Miller (l), Naval Oceanography Operations Command commanding officer, congratulates Cmdr. Chris Gabriel, outgoing Naval Oceanography Mine Warfare Command (NOMWC) commanding officer, after Gabriel relinquishes command to Cmdr. Ivo Prikasky (r), incoming NOMWC commanding officer, during change of command ceremony on Sept. 20 at Stennis Space Center. (U.S. Navy photo)

Cmdr. Ivo Prikasky relieved Cmdr. Chris Gabriel as commanding officer of the Naval Oceanography Mine Warfare Center (NOMWC) at Stennis Space Center in a change of command ceremony on Sept. 20.

Capt. Tony Miller, Naval Oceanography Operations Command (NOOC) commanding officer, was the guest speaker. NOMWC is an Echelon V command under NOOC.

Prikasky came to NOMWC from Fleet Weather Center Norfolk, where he was operations officer.

Gabriel, who was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, will move to Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center in Monterey, Calif., to serve as executive officer.

Personnel

JTWC Sailor Skippers Women's Sailing Team to Bronze Medal



Skipped by Lt. Trisha Kutkiewicz (left) the US Women's Sailing Team celebrates as it secures the Bronze Medal in a close battle with Germany on the last day of racing. (Photo by Carl-Axel Ingemansen - Askøy Yacht Club)

and second place finisher, Brazil.

Said Kutkiewicz: "Norway provided the most beautiful landscape for such an amazing event. It was a great honor to be selected and be able to represent the United States. My crew and I worked extremely hard against some very stiff competition throughout the event and in the end it paid off as we made it on the podium."



Lt. Trisha Kutkiewicz of the Joint Typhoon Warning Center in Pearl Harbor skippered the United States Armed Forces Women's Sailing Team to a bronze medal at the 46th Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) World Military Sailing Championship in Bergen, Norway, this summer.

Kutkiewicz and the crew of Lt. Elizabeth Tufts (USCG) and Lt.j.g. Krysta Rohde (USCG) competed in 17 races during the four days of racing, including a first place finish in the final race of the competition, just ahead of fourth place finisher, Germany. The first place clinched the overall third place finish behind first place finisher, Poland,

The motto for CISM is "Friendship through Sport," and this year's men's and women's sailing competition included 18 teams from 14 nations competing in "Yngling" sailboats manned by three-person crews.

Lt. Trisha Kutkiewicz, skipper of the U.S. women's team, receives a Bronze Medal at the 46th World Military Sailing Championship. (Photo by Carl-Axel Ingemansen - Askøy Yacht Club)

Lt. Trisha Kutkiewicz, skipper of the U.S. women's team, receives a Bronze Medal at the 46th World Military Sailing Championship. (Photo by Carl-Axel Ingemansen - Askøy Yacht Club)

IHMEP Graduates



Cmdr. Mark Butler (l-r), commanding officer of the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center; Lt. Gregory Klosterman, Lt. Matthew Wiggins, Lt. Jason Ehlenberger, all of Fleet Survey Team; and Capt. A.J. Reiss, executive officer of the Naval Oceanographic Office (l-r); pose at the International Hydrographic Management and Engineering Program (IHMEP) graduation. Klosterman, Wiggins and Ehlenberger were in the graduating class and are now internationally recognized as Category B hydrographers. Reiss spoke at the ceremony. (U.S. Navy photo by Becky Eckhoff)

Items of Interest

NAVO Acquires New DC-3 Aircraft for Airborne Coastal Surveys program

The Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVO) has acquired a new Basler BT-67 survey aircraft (a turbine DC-3) for the NAVO Airborne Coastal Surveys program.



The airplane has been outfitted with the new Coastal Zone Mapping and Imaging Lidar (CZMIL) system to enhance the reach and capabilities of the Airborne Coastal Systems program. It will allow NAVO to collect data more efficiently and in more remote locations.

The BT-67 (tail number C-FBKB) is a reconstructed 1943 DC-3 with enhanced 12-hr endurance and payload capability allowing the airplane to mobilize to survey locations carrying the sensors, data processing equipment, and spare parts. It improves on the original high efficiency design of the DC-3 with modern enhancements that were installed during a 10-month reconstruction in Oshkosh, Wis.

The aircraft, after being outfitted with a CZMIL system, was tested in June 2013. C-FBKB deployed to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to conduct a safety of navigation hydrographic survey mission on the Bahama Bank in support of NORTHCOM and NGA charting requirements.

Command Spotlight: Fleet Survey Team

The Fleet Survey Team (FST) is a rapid-response team with the capability to conduct quick-turnaround hydrographic surveys anywhere in the world.



Comprised of approximately 65 military and civilian members, FST, An Echelon-V command since 2005, is collocated with the Naval Oceanographic Office and the Commander, Naval Meteorology and

Fleet Survey Team personnel and assets.
Oceanography Command at Stennis Space Center, Miss.

FST is tasked with performing an unparalleled function within the U.S. Navy. The command enables combatant commanders access to the littoral regions through safety of navigation hydrographic surveys and expeditionary surveys. When forces are armed with detailed descriptions of the environmental conditions they could face, operations have a greater chance of being safely and efficiently executed. FST performs environmental assessments via self-contained hydrographic surveys in response to combatant commanders' requests. The command provides timely products to the warfighter, including the best possible graphic depiction of potential hazards to navigation. Team members can quickly deploy to areas around the world outfitted with equipment to perform surveys from FST small boats, expeditionary survey vessels, or various boats of opportunity. Frequently, these requests are for areas where Navy operations will take place or where chart accuracy is uncertain.

Because of these unique capabilities and multiple successful surveys world-wide, FST has been recognized by combatant commanders as an extremely valuable asset for performing near-shore surveys directly supporting the safe navigation of U.S. forces and supplies. FST members have played significant roles in charting areas affected by natural disasters such as the south Asia tsunami of 2004; hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike in the Gulf of Mexico; hurricane Sandy off New York; and the Haiti earthquake relief effort in 2010.

Command personnel offer a blend of military and civilian knowledge and experience. Enlisted Sailors routinely qualify as military hydrographers and survey technicians through a robust certification process. In addition to their strong backgrounds in math, science, and engineering, officers and civilians frequently obtain master's degrees in hydrographic science through an on-going program with the University of Southern Mississippi. This course is recognized by the International Hydrographic Office as a Category A Hydrography program.

Spotlight Employees

Kevin Thrash



Mr. Kevin Thrash, the Training Department head, directs the administration and overall execution of FST's training policies, programs, and formal schools, ensuring all the members of the command have the technical and equipment training necessary to perform FST's unique missions. His department of seven military and civilian personnel along with a dedicated training RHIB aids with the professional development of FST's 65 personnel, as military hydrographers, survey technicians, boat officers, coxswains, and

in-rate aerographer's mate training. He ensures FST's team leaders receive strong hydrographic science backgrounds through regular contractor training as well as Category B Hydrographer certification through the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center and select Category A Hydrographer certification offered by USM. With over 28 years of experience in the field spanning from the Naval Oceanographic Office's Ocean Survey & Hydrographic Cooperation Programs to present with FST, Thrash continues to be a valued leader deploying overseas as a Hydrographer in Charge. In the last year he has lead a safety of navigation survey in Pireaus, Greece, where he had the pleasure of conducting a survey in the birthplace of cartography.

AG2 (IDW) Nathan Glaubitz

After graduating A-School and arriving at the Fleet Survey Team in March 2011, Aerographer's Mate Second Class (IDW) Nathan Glaubitz has surged through his qualifications as a boat coxswain, survey technician, expeditionary survey vessel (ESV) operator, and Enlisted Information Dominance Warfare Specialist. Now as a boat division leading petty officer, he leads a division of six Sailors in operating and maintaining a \$1 million hydrographic survey vessel (HSV), and two ESVs ready for deployment across the world. He headed a comprehensive review of the command's ESV Planned Maintenance System identifying efficiencies to reduce supply costs, equipment down time, and increased worker safety. He's proved himself as an invaluable asset on five safety of navigation surveys to PACOM and SOUTHCOM AORs; and a fly-away team survey to New Jersey for Hurricane Sandy. Glaubitz's contributions have greatly improved FST's operational capability, training and maintenance programs positively impacting mission success for fleet requirements.



Command Spotlight: Naval Ice Center

The Naval Ice Center (NIC), located in Suitland, Md., is a part of the National Ice Center (NIC), a jointly manned organization between the US Navy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) that provides global ice and snow (including the Great Lakes, Chesapeake, and Delaware Bay systems) analysis and forecasting services for the maximum benefit of United States government interests. The NIC serves over 140 national and international customers, including SUBFOR, Office of Naval Intelligence, USCG, NOAA, National Weather Service, National Science Foundation, U.S. Navy Military Sealift Command, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

The NIC is manned by 24 Navy military and civilian personnel, eight NOAA personnel and contractors, and one USCG petty officer. The operations watch floor provides 365-day-a-year support for ice zone coverage.

The NIC maintains several international partnerships, including the North American Ice Service (NAIS), the International Arctic Buoy Program (IABP), the International Ice Charting Working Group (IICWG), and the WMO Expert Team on Sea Ice (ETSI). NAIS is a multi-agency partnership between the NIC, the Canadian Ice Service, and the International Ice Patrol that leverages the organizational strengths into a unified source of ice information and meets all marine ice information needs and obligations of the United States and Canadian governments. IABP is a conglomeration of global participants working together to maintain a network of drifting buoys in the Arctic Ocean for real-time operational requirements and research purposes, including support to the World Climate Research Program and World Weather Watch. IICWG was formed in 1999 to promote cooperation between the world's ice centers on all matters concerning sea ice and icebergs. ETSI is a formal coordination of sea activities on the level of WMO/IOC; it is a closed membership and provides technical direction to WMO Secretariat.

Spotlight Employees

Thomas Holden



Thomas Holden, a senior ice analyst/forecaster and quality control technician, is NIC's special support liaison. As Web Liaison Officer, he fields all inquiries for products and information from individuals and agencies. He also is the conduit for support requests from all U.S. government agencies, vessels and commands as well as the person who ensures that the NIC support satisfies each unit's specific needs. He works to ensure that more than 11,000 NIC products are completed in a timely manner. Holden came to the NIC in August 2003 for a twilight tour to complete his active duty career. After retiring, he returned to NIC in June 2006.

Jessica Tavernier

Within in the last year, Jessica Tavernier earned qualifications in forecasting and quality control as well as taking on a leadership position at NIC. In addition, she volunteered to be the command's training officer and has maintained all command training requirements and kept them up to date. Tavernier joined the command as a NOAA contractor in 2010, after graduating college. In her first year she was an interactive multisensory snow and ice mapping system (IMS) analyst, tracking snow and ice melt and growth in the Northern Hemisphere. While working as a contractor, she took the initiative to qualify as an ice analyst, contributing to the production of sea ice charts in the Arctic and Antarctic. With a qualification under her belt, she became a full time Navy employee.



Social Media

Follow Naval Oceanography on Facebook and @navyoceans on Twitter to keep up with all the latest news and images from the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography community.

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